



2023 Annual Conference

“Navigating the Changing Tides”

November 8-10, 2023

Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center • Myrtle Beach, SC

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Tuesday, November 7th

8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	NREDA Board of Directors Meeting
11:00 a.m.	Pre-Conference Networking/Social Event: NREDA Masters Golf Tournament

Wednesday, November 8th

7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.	Conference Registration/Check In
9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.	Conference Sponsor Displays
8:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m.	Be Pro, Be Proud Mobile Workshop Experience
8:30 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.	CliftonStrengths Discovery Day , presented by Georgia EMC Community Development Presenters: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carrie Barnes, Community & Leadership Development Senior Strategist, Georgia EMC• Jenny Robbins, Manager, Community & Leadership Development, Georgia EMC• Araina Reaves, Community & Leadership Development Strategist, Georgia EMC
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	NREDA New Member/Conference First Timer Luncheon Presenters: NREDA Leadership
1:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m.	Annual Conference Welcome Presenters: Brittany Dickey, NREDA President-Elect and 2023 Annual Conference Chairperson; Sandy Davis, President & CEO, Myrtle Beach Regional Economic Development Corporation and Brenda Bethune, Myrtle Beach Mayor
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.	Keynote session: Inspirational and Influential Communications Presenter: Jeff Black, Founder and CEO, Black Sheep
3:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.	Networking Break/Visit Vendor Displays
4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	BREAKOUT SESSIONS: “Navigating Rural Economic Development Challenges” <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building Your Leadership Brand - Presenter: Jeff Black, Founder and CEO, Black Sheep• Rural entrepreneurship and building rural tech economies - Presenter: Molly Pyle, Head of Entrepreneurship, Center on Rural Innovation
5:00 p.m.-5:45 p.m.	NREDA Past President’s Gathering - led by Dan Boysel, NREDA Immediate Past President
6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.	NREDA President’s Reception at RipTydz Oceanfront Grille & Rooftop Bar

Thursday, November 9th

7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.	Conference Registration/Check In
7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.	Sponsor Displays
8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.	Networking Breakfast & NREDA Committee Updates

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Thursday, November 9th continued

9:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Mobile Classroom Experiences
12:15 p.m.-1:45 p.m.	Networking Luncheon & 2023 NREDA Awards Presentation
2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.	BREAKOUT SESSIONS: “Navigating Partnerships for Success” <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Housing Solutions for Success - Presenters: Beth Bilyeu, Executive Director at Forest City Economic Development; Mike Scheib, General Manager/CEO at Tri-County Electric Cooperative; Tucker Billman, Manager of Government Affairs at Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative Moderator: Allie Bennett, Manager of ED & Member Services, Northeast Missouri Electric Power Coop• Broadband Partnerships for Success - Presenters: Jim Lovinggood, President & CEO of Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative and Jeff Wilson, President & CEO of West Carolina Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.• Financing Partnerships for Success - Presenters: Bruce Nuzum, President & CEO, Iowa Area Development Group and Anna Walker, Economic Development Specialist, North Carolina’s Electric Cooperatives
3:00 p.m.-3:15 p.m.	Networking Break/Visit Vendor Displays
3:15 p.m.-4:15 p.m.	Site Selection Trends and Advice for Rural Markets Presenters: John Longshore, Senior Managing Director, Newmark Global Corporate Services; Ford Graham, Senior Vice President, McGuireWoods Consulting and Michaela Martin, Director, Industrial and Economic Development, Site Selection Group Moderator: Richard Blackwell, Vice President of Development, Southeast Office, Agracel, Inc.
5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.	Networking Reception at The Hangout

Friday, November 10th

8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.	Conference Registration/Check In
8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.	Conference Sponsor Displays
8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.	Breakfast and NREDA Annual Business Meeting
9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.	Strategies to Steal or Borrow - Real World Rural Economic Development Stories Presenters: James Chavez, President & CEO, South Carolina Power Team; Gary Person, President/CEO, North Platte Area Chamber & Development and Horton Hobbs, Vice President of Economic Development, Greater Springfield Partnership Moderator: Brad Thomas, Manager of Economic Development, Kentucky’s Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, Powered by East Kentucky Power Cooperative
10:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	Conference Closing Remarks Presenters: Brittany Dickey, NREDA President-Elect and Lisa Hurley, NREDA 2024 Conference Chairperson