

4TH AVENUE OCEAN OUTFALL

STATE PROGRAM: South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

ASSISTANCE RECIPIENT: City of Myrtle Beach

ASSISTANCE AMOUNT: \$12M



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Myrtle Beach received a \$12 million CWSRF loan to eliminate nine outfalls that discharged stormwater directly onto a beach used year-round by millions of visitors. The stormwater from downtown (a densely developed 87 acres of businesses and homes) is now discharged 1,100 feet into the ocean, protecting both public health and environmental quality along the Grand Strand coastline. This iconic stretch of beach has been plagued by elevated levels of enterococcus bacteria, resulting in numerous warning signs and media stories about unsafe water that harmed the critical tourist industry. The State and City expect the new ocean outfall to reduce bacteria levels and eliminate many of the swimming advisory signs. In addition to these critical improvements, another major benefit is the prevention of erosion caused by stormwater discharges at the beach.

To read more about this case study, please visit [epa.gov/sites/default/files/2017-11/documents/pisces_compendium_final2.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2017-11/documents/pisces_compendium_final2.pdf).