

Maps and Mapping Tools for Citizen Planners

Workshop for Regional Planning and Zoning Conference, November 10, 2012 (v.2)

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Workshop Goals:

1. Learn about several map resources available to NH municipal board members.
2. Become acquainted with the latest US Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps.
3. Become acquainted with GRANITView, New Hampshire's online interactive mapping tool, and its functions relative to land use applications.
4. Identify one scenario in your community where you could use maps to assist with decision-making.

Sources for Print-Ready or Hardcopy Maps:

- **Your Town/City Offices** – zoning maps, parcel maps, Master Plan maps, Natural Resource Inventory maps, maps from special studies or design charrettes
- **Your Regional Planning Commission's website** – maps included in hazard mitigation plans, transportation studies, watershed studies, etc. – <http://www.uvlsrpc.org>
- **UNH GRANIT Map Atlas** - <http://www.granit.unh.edu/MapLibrary/MapAtlas>

8-1/2" by 11" maps of whole state – available as PDFs

- a. State Base Map
- b. 4th-order and higher streams
- c. Conservation Lands
- d. Watersheds

Try these maps for:

- ✓ Developments of Regional Impact
- ✓ Orientation for new Board members

- **Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps** - <http://www.granit.unh.edu/dfirms/index.html>

36" by 26.5" maps – tiled for each town – scale 1 inch on map = 500 ft on the ground
Base map developed using aerial photography at scale 1 inch = 1,000 ft
Most useful for zooming into a certain area to review floodplain map information

Community officials may order hardcopy of the effective DFIRM panels from NH GRANIT. For communities participating in the National Flood Insurance Program, the fee is \$20 per printed panel + \$10 per order; if not, \$30 per printed panel + \$10 per order. For further information or to submit an order, please contact Chris Phaneuf at NH GRANIT (chris.phaneuf@unh.edu).

- **USGS Topographic Maps** - <http://nationalmap.gov/ustopo/index.html>
- available for online purchase of hardcopy maps or free download of digital PDFs

22.75" by 29" maps – tiled as quadrangles – scale 1 inch = 2,000 ft

The new USGS topo maps are published as digital interactive maps (“layered” PDFs)
– you can turn different features of the map on and off, and color aerial photos.

- ✓ Historic USGS topo maps (1890’s to 1950’s) – scanned and available through UNH Library at <http://docs.unh.edu/nhtopos/nhtopos.htm>

Sources for Interactive Online Mapping – “Make Your Own Map”:

- **Google Maps** - <http://maps.google.com/>
- **County Soil Surveys** – through US Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA NRCS) - http://soils.usda.gov/survey/printed_surveys/

The official, current soil survey maps are available through Web Soil Survey - <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Maps produced at scale 1 inch = 2,000 ft; mapping date depends on county

- **National Wetlands Inventory** – <http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html>

Maps produced at scale 1 inch = 2,000 ft; NH maps used 1980’s aerial photography

- **GRANITView** – part of NH GRANIT, the state’s GIS clearinghouse

<http://granitview.unh.edu/> or <http://www.granit.unh.edu/>

Items of Particular Interest for Municipal Land Use Boards -

- Cell towers
- Bridges and roads
- Recreation areas, boat launches and trails
- Soils – hydric, farmland, drainage, slope
- Wetlands and aquifers
- Floodplains and special flood hazard areas
- Topography

