

# CHANGE LOG

## Wisconsin Statewide Parcel Map Database Project

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# Change Log Overview

This document describes updates made to the statewide parcel layer, starting at Version 1.0.1 (V1.0.1) and ending at the most current publicly available version (**V4.0.1**). A main focus in developing the statewide parcel layer is to preserve the authoritative nature of data created by counties and municipalities. In keeping with this, during the development of this layer, alterations to the parcel and tax roll data itself was done only under the advisement of the original data contributors (counties and municipalities).

## The Statewide Parcel Map

The Version 4 Statewide Parcel Map Database Project (V4 Project) is a collaboration between the Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP) and the State Cartographer's Office. The V4 Project is the fourth development cycle within the Statewide Parcel Map Initiative. The Statewide Parcel Map Initiative was established by Act 20 of 2013. For more information, please see Statewide Parcel Project pages at [Wisconsin Department of Administration](#) and [Wisconsin State Cartographer's Office](#).

## Primary Data Release "V1"

The V1 Project successfully aggregated all known digital parcel datasets within the state. The resulting statewide GIS parcel layer totaling 3.34 million parcels was made publicly available online on July 31, 2015 as a file geodatabase download. This primary version of the geodatabase was titled *V1\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2015\_3.gdb* and was the first official version of the layer (V1.0.0).

## Version 2 Data Release "V2"

Following the semantic versioning scheme of MAJOR.MINOR.PATCH increments, the Version 2 parcel layer reflects the first MAJOR update to the layer and is known as *V2.0.0\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2016.gdb*.

## Version 3 Data Release "V3"

Following the semantic versioning scheme of MAJOR.MINOR.PATCH increments, the Version 3 parcel layer reflects the second MAJOR update to the layer and is known as *V3.0.0\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2017.gdb*.

## Version 4 Data Release "V4"

Following the semantic versioning scheme of MAJOR.MINOR.PATCH increments, the Version 4 parcel layer reflects the third MAJOR update to the layer and is known as *V4.0.0\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2018.gdb*.

## Subsequent Data Releases

When updates are required to be made to the statewide parcel layer, a new version will be released and titled with semantic versioning scheme of MAJOR.MINOR.PATCH increments. The scheme will be included in the file geodatabase name. For example, Version 5.0.0 will be known as *V5.0.0\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2019.gdb*. The next release of the statewide parcel layer, V5, is tentatively scheduled for June 30, 2019.

## Known Issues

There are some issues that will remain unresolved in the statewide parcel database. These issues may persist in the database due to various factors, including:

- Lack of a feasible solution
- Lack of authorization from data contributor to make change
- Conceptual-level anomalies

All known issues will be listed in the "**Known Issues**" section of this document below.

## Attribute Schema

The attribute schema for the most current version of the statewide parcel layer can be found [here](#). This document includes parcel attribute specifications and other documentation. If a change is made to the schema, the change will be noted in this change log and in-line with database changes.

## Current Download

For the most recent version of the statewide parcel layer, see the project's download page, [www.sco.wisc.edu/parcels/data](http://www.sco.wisc.edu/parcels/data).

# V4 Change Log

## V4.0.1

**Release Date:** 10/17/18

**Release Description:** The purpose for this release is to correct geometries existing in the V4.0.0 parcel layer that were shifted by approximately eight meters to east in comparison to V3 geometries. This issue was observed across all parcel geometries within Walworth County only.

**Database Name:** *V4.0.1\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2018.gdb*

**Changes (vs. V4.0.0):**

1. *Geometric improvements:* Error was discovered across the parcel geometries submitted by Walworth County. The geometries reflected in V4.0.0 were shifted from their maintained coordinates and were thus a flawed representation of the geometries. This was a systematic shift that affected all parcels across the County. V4.0.1 reflects the corrected geometries.

## V4.0.0

**Release Date:** 7/31/18

**Release Description:** Final deliverable release of the V4 statewide parcel layer. This is the first public release of the V4 parcel layer which was prepared between January 1<sup>st</sup> and July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

**Database Name:** *V4.0.0\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2018.gdb*

**Changes (vs. V3.0.2):**

*\*Note: This layer (V4.0.0) is a complete reconstruction of the Statewide Wisconsin parcel layer. All features represented within this layer have been directly submitted to the V4 parcel project by data contributors between 2/19/18 and 7/12/18. Nowhere within this layer has geometric or tabular data submitted to the V4 project been used or propagated.*

1. *Geometric coverage improvements:* It is also expected that geometric improvements exist. The V4 layer totals 3,491,037, which is 4,837 features more than that aggregated for the V3 parcel project, which totals 3,486,200 features (about 0.14% improvement in number of features).

*\*Note: Most counties have experienced an improvement or no change in total area of the county that is digitally parcel mapped, however there are a small number of areas across the state where parcelized areas have decreased. The nature of this digression can be attributed to ongoing re-parcelization within the subject areas.*

2. *Added attributes:* There are no added attributes since the V2 layer.
3. *ACCSSSURL:* While not an added attribute to the parcel layer schema, an "Access URL" document was produced as a result of county-submitted data access points associated with the statewide parcel layer data submission. This document can be accessed at [www.doa.state.wi.us/WLIP](http://www.doa.state.wi.us/WLIP).

# V3 Change Log

## V3.0.2

**Release Date:** 3/19/18

**Release Description:** The purpose for this release is to remove erroneous attribution for LNDVALUE (Assessed Value of Land) existing on some records within Iowa County.

**Database Name:** V3.0.2\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2017.gdb

**Changes (vs. V3.0.1):**

1. *Attribute improvements:* An error was discovered within the Assessed Value of Land attribution submitted by Iowa County. The error affected approximately 11,097 records distributed across all Iowa County jurisdictions. The attribute information reflected in V3.0.0 and V3.0.1 contains this issue. For the affected, this was a systematic error where CNTASSDVALUE (Total Assessed Value) values were erroneously duplicated within LNDVALUE (Assessed Value of Land) field. V3.0.2 will contain a <Null> value within all affected LNDVALUE attributes.

## V3.0.1

**Release Date:** 9/13/17

**Release Description:** The purpose for this release is to include corrected Net Property Tax and Gross Property Tax attribution for some records within Milwaukee County.

**Database Name:** V3.0.1\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2017.gdb

**Changes (vs. V3.0.0):**

1. *Attribute improvements:* An error was discovered within the Net Property Tax and Gross Property Tax attributes submitted by Milwaukee County. The error affected approximately 110,000 records across all Milwaukee County jurisdictions *except* records within the City of Milwaukee. The attribute information reflected in V3.0.0 contains this issue. For the affected, this appeared to be a systematic error that roughly doubled the value of Gross Property Tax and Net Property Tax. V3.0.1 reflects the corrected attribution.
2. Please see V3.0.0 for further changes implemented on this layer vs. V2.0.5.

## V3.0.0

**Release Date:** 7/31/17

**Release Description:** Final deliverable release of the V3 statewide parcel layer. This is the first public release of the V3 parcel layer which was prepared between January 1<sup>st</sup> and July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

**Database Name:** V3.0.0\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2017.gdb

**Changes (vs. V2.0.5):**

*\*Note: This layer (V3.0.0) is a complete reconstruction of the Statewide Wisconsin parcel layer. All features represented within this layer have been directly submitted to the V3 parcel project by data contributors between and 2/14/17 and 5/12/17. Nowhere within this layer has geometric or tabular data submitted to the V2 project been used or propagated.*

1. *Attribute improvements:* While it is expected that significant attribute improvements against the V2 layer exist in the V3 layer, especially with relation to attribute completeness, these improvements remain unquantified.
2. *Geometric error resolutions:* In past versions of the statewide parcel layer a large number of geometric problems were known to exist, such as *self-intersecting polygons* and *duplicate vertices on a single feature*. While some geometric errors may still exist, all known errors have been found and resolved.
3. *Geometric coverage improvements:* It is also expected that geometric improvements exist. The V3 layer totals 3,486,200 features, which is 19,841 features more than that aggregated for the V2 parcel project, which totals 3,466,359 features (about 0.6% improvement in number of features).  
*\*Note: Most counties have experienced an improvement or no change in total area of the county that is digitally parcel mapped, however there are a small number of areas across the state where parcelized areas have decreased. The nature of this digression can be attributed to ongoing re-parcelization within the subject areas.*
4. *Added attributes:* There are no added attributes since the V2 layer.
5. *Attribute quality improvements:* Several improvements are expected across various attribute fields, while these improvements are not feasible to quantify, the below list describes the nature of the expected improvements, per attribute:
  - ▶ STATEID, PARCELID:

- ▶ Inclusion of more robustly populated parcel labels on non-tax parcels, such as ROW, HYDRO. See schema documentation of PARCELID for more on parcel labels.
  - ▶ *PREFIX*:
    - ▶ Domain list for V3 PREFIX attribute have been expanded. Either standard abbreviations OR fully spelled out highway domains are accepted for V3. Such as:
      - ▶ CTH, or COUNTY HIGHWAY, or COUNTY ROAD
      - ▶ STH, or STATE HIGHWAY, or STATE ROAD
      - ▶ USH, or US HIGHWAY
    - ▶ Tax valuation data (several elements) more robustly and comprehensively populated.
6. *ACCSSURL*: While not an added attribute to the parcel layer schema, an “Access URL” document was produced as a result of county-submitted data access points associated with the statewide parcel layer data submission. This document can be accessed at [www.doa.state.wi.us/WLIP](http://www.doa.state.wi.us/WLIP).

# V2 Change Log

## V2.0.5

**Release Date:** 12/23/16

**Release Description:** The purpose for this release is to include corrected parcel attribution for Crawford County.

**Database Name:** *V2.0.5\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2016.gdb*

**Changes (vs. V2.0.4):**

1. *Attribute improvements:* A county-wide error was discovered across the parcel attributes submitted by Crawford County. The attribute information reflected in V2.0.1, V2.0.2, V2.0.3, and V2.0.4 were found to inaccurately tied to their geometries. This appeared to be a systematic shift that affected all parcel attributes across 99% of the County. V2.0.5 reflects the corrected attribution.
2. Note that the solution to this error required joining 2015 tax information to Crawford parcel geometries as of late 2016, which contains a significant number of newly digitized parcels in the north-west and south-west part of Crawford County. Due to the unavailability of 2015 tax information in late 2016 and due to the temporal incongruency between the tax and parcel datasets, the westernmost parcels in the county contain mostly <Null> attribution.
3. Please see V2.0.1 for further changes implemented on this layer vs. V1.0.1.

## V2.0.4

**Release Date:** 9/30/16

**Release Description:** The purpose for this release is to include improved parcel geometries for Waukesha County.

**Database Name:** *V2.0.4\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2016.gdb*

**Changes (vs. V2.0.3):**

1. *Geometric improvements:* Error was discovered across the parcel geometries submitted by Waukesha County. The geometries reflected in V2.0.1, V2.0.2, V2.0.3 were shifted from their true ground coordinates. This was a systematic shift that affected all parcels across the County. V2.0.4 reflects the corrected geometries.
2. Please see V2.0.1 for further changes implemented on this layer vs. V1.0.1.

## V2.0.3

**Release Date:** 9/9/16

**Release Description:** Includes Jackson County attribute update to the V2 statewide parcel layer – this is the third public release of the V2 parcel layer which was prepared between January 1<sup>st</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016. The purpose for this release is to include attributes for Jackson County that were intentionally annotated as <Null> in V2.0.2.

**Database Name:** *V2.0.3\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2016.gdb*

**Changes (vs. V2.0.2):**

1. *Attribute improvements:* Error was discovered across multiple fields within the attribute information provided for Jackson County. This release includes the geometric features for Jackson County and correctly verified attribute information, replacing the attributes that had been converted to <Null> within V2.0.2. As of the time of this release (9/9/2016) no known issues remain outstanding in the V2 parcel database.
2. Please see V2.0.1 for further changes implemented on this layer vs. V1.0.1.

## V2.0.2

**Release Date:** 9/6/16

**Release Description:** Final deliverable release of the V2 statewide parcel layer – this is the second public release of the V2 parcel layer which was prepared between January 1<sup>st</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

**Database Name:** *V2.0.2\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2016.gdb*

**Changes (vs. V2.0.1):**

1. *Attribute improvements:* Error was discovered across multiple fields within the attribute information provided for Jackson County. This release includes the geometric features for Jackson County, but attribute information has been converted to <Null> to remove known incorrect attribute information.
2. Please see V2.0.1 for further changes implemented on this layer vs. V1.0.1.

## V2.0.1

**Release Date:** 8/31/16

**Release Description:** Final deliverable release of the V2 statewide parcel layer – this is the first public release of the V2 parcel layer which was prepared between January 1<sup>st</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

**Database Name:** *V2.0.1\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2016.gdb*

**Changes (vs. V1.0.1):**

*\*Note: This layer (V2.0.1) is a complete reconstruction of the Statewide Wisconsin parcel layer. All features represented within this layer have been directly submitted to the V2 parcel project by data contributors. Nowhere within this layer has geometric or tabular data from the V1 project been used or propagated.*

1. *Attribute improvements:* While it is expected that significant attribute improvements against the V1 layer exist in the V2 layer, especially with relation to attribute completeness, these improvements remain unquantified.
2. *Geometric improvements:* It is also expected that geometric improvements exist. The V2 layer totals 3,466,359 features, which is 32,210 features more than that aggregated for the V1 parcel project, which totals 3,434,149 features (about 0.9% improvement in number of features).

*\*Note: Most counties have experienced an improvement or no change in total area of the county that is digitally parcel mapped, however there are a small number of areas across the state where parcelized areas have decreased. The nature of this digression can be attributed to ongoing re-parcelization within the subject areas.*

3. *Added attributes:* The following V2 attributes do not exist in the V1 layer:

- *ASSDACRES* (Assessed Acres)
- *LONGITUDE* (Longitude of Parcel Centroid)
- *LATITUDE* (Latitude of Parcel Centroid)

4. *Attribute quality improvements:* Several improvements are expected across various attribute fields, while these improvements are not feasible to quantify, the below list describes the nature of the expected improvements, per attribute:

*\*Note: For V2 data submission, it was the onus of the data contributor to define how their local-level data would field map to the attribute elements of the statewide parcel layer's attribute schema. Inherently, this improves the quality of the attribute data when compared to the V1 layer, which involved interpretation of data for the purpose of field mapping by the parcel aggregation team. This assertion is based on the presumption that local officials have the most domain-specific knowledge of the data.*

- *STATEID, PARCELID, & TAXPARCELID:* Vs V1, should be considered better harmonized with other business purposes the use county parcel or tax IDs. The IDs that exist in V2 and can be expected to be more stable for future versions of the parcel layer (less likely to change, semantically).
  - *SCHOOLDIST & SCHOOLDISTNO:* Significant improvements have been made to the completeness of both of these fields. Also the content of these two fields have been standardized to an authoritative list, maintained by Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI).
  - *AUXCLASS:* "Exempt" and "Special" classes now adhere to a standard domain scheme.
  - *Tax valuation data* (several elements) more robustly populated.
5. *Condo modeling:* The V1 layer did not attempt to model condos that exist in a relational context natively. The V2 layer models condos geometrically for each county across the state. Please refer to the schema documentation ([Wisconsin\\_Statewide\\_Parcels\\_Submission\\_Documentation.pdf](#)) for more information on how condos are modeled.

## V2.0.0

**Release Date:** 6/30/16

**Release Description:** Interim release of the V2 statewide parcel layer – as this is an interim release of the V2 parcel layer which was prepared for Department of Administration (DOA), this layer is not intended for public download. The forthcoming V2.0.1 layer will be the primary public release of the V2 layer.

**Database Name:** *V2.0.0\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2016.gdb*

**Changes:** This is an interim version of the parcel layer, it was not released to the public. All changes (vs. V1.0.1) are listed above, under V2.0.1)



# V1 Change Log

## V1.0.1

**Release Date:** 8/31/15

**Release Description:** Includes corrections to attribute information

**Database Name:** *V1.0.1\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2015.gdb*

**Changes:**

1. Alterations made to the following fields contributed by Waushara County:
  - NETPRPTA - previous value multiplied by 0.01
  - GRSPRPTA - previous value multiplied by 0.01
2. Alterations made to the following fields contributed by Buffalo County:
  - NETPRPTA - previous value multiplied by 0.01
  - GRSPRPTA - previous value multiplied by 0.01
  - DEEDACRES - previous value multiplied by 0.001
3. Alterations made to the CONAME field for parcels in Green Lake County, reflecting boundary changes amended through Act 66.
4. A separate full file geodatabase download has been provided in ArcGIS 9.2 file geodatabase form. The V1.0.1 release of this 9.2 database exists [here](#).

**Release Date:** 11/25/15

**Release Description:** Includes corrections to the Full Mailing Address field within Bayfield County

**Database Name:** *V1.0.1\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2015.gdb*

**Changes:**

1. Alterations made to the attributes within Full Mailing Address for Bayfield County. This field previously contained incorrect Mailing Addresses due to a field-mapping error by the data aggregators (not Bayfield County).

## V1.0.0

**Release Date:** 7/31/15

**Release Description:** Primary release of the statewide parcel layer

**Database Name:** *V1\_Wisconsin\_Parcels\_2015\_3.gdb*

**Changes:**

1. N/A - (primary release)

# Known Issues

## NETPRPTA greater than GRSPRPTA

**Issue Date:** 7/30/17

**Last Update:** (new as of V3.0.0)

**Issue Description:** The V3 data is known to infrequently contain records where NETPRPTA is greater than that of GROSSPRPTA. This condition has been identified the product of inclusion of additional non-property tax charges such as: delinquent charges, utility charges, and other non-tax charges. This condition exists in previous versions of the parcel layer in some areas, and is also infrequent. Future versions of this project will target the exclusion of such additional values within NETPRPTA.

**Issue Status:** Unresolved

## Unresolved geometric errors

**Issue Date:** 6/30/16

**Last Update:** 7/30/17

**Issue Description:** There are geometric errors or anomalies that are known to exist in the V3, V2 and V1 layers that could not yet be found or resolved to this point. These geometric errors are not identified by the "Check Geometries" tool. The following qualities are known about the nature of *some* of these erroneous features:

- Features with 3 or less vertices may cause a problem when performing geometric functions.
  - ▶ This includes segments of multipart features that might have 3 or less features
  - ▶ This also includes donut holes within features that might have 3 or less features
- When examining geometric nature of some features, some contain negative shape area values.
- Features with one point stacked multiple times (the exact same x/y) may cause a problem when performing geometric functions.



- ▶ This includes segments of multipart features that might have 3 or less features
- ▶ This also includes donut holes within features that might have 3 or less features

Note: to preserve the nature of the original data, parametric arcs exist within this layer (this layer is not “densified”).

**Issue Status:** Resolved—however some geometries may remain unresolved. The V3 development cycle has found and resolved about 36,000 geometries, however it is possible that unfound geometric errors still exist.

### Gaps and overlaps along county boundary

**Issue Date:** 7/31/15

**Last Update:** 7/31/15

**Issue Description:** The parcel layer will contain gaps and overlaps along county boundaries where two separate contributing datasets meet.

**Issue Status:** Unresolved—It is not in the scope of the statewide parcel mapping project to correct polygon geometries or boundary discrepancies via edge matching or other similar methods. Any resolution to this problem must begin at the county level by adjusting to the authoritative parcel datasets before being contributed to the statewide map.

### Sparse attribute information

**Issue Date:** 7/31/15

**Last Update:** 7/31/15

**Issue Description:** The parcel layer will lack attribute information in some areas, across all fields.

**Issue Status:** Unresolved—some contributing jurisdictions were unable to provide all attribute information requested for this project. It is anticipated that these attribute fields will be better populated in subsequent MAJOR versions of the parcel layer.

### Owner names missing

**Issue Date:** 7/31/15

**Last Update:** 7/30/17

**Issue Description:** Owner names have been redacted from some jurisdictions participating in the parcel layer.

**Issue Status:** Resolved—for the V2 Project and henceforth, contributing jurisdictions were offered an option to redact certain owner name information *IF* required by an existing county or municipal policy. Counties without owner name information displayed in the statewide layer should have the omitted data replaced with “NOT AVAILABLE.” Counties validly redacting *some* owner name information within the V3 statewide parcel layer are listed in as follows:

- BARRON
- COLUMBIA
- DANE
- JACKSON
- KENOSHA (complete owner name redaction)
- ONEIDA
- SAUK
- SHEBOYGAN
- VILAS

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