Change Log

Version 2 Wisconsin Statewide Parcel Database

Last update: December 23, 2016

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 Most current publicly available version. A main focus of developing this statewide parcel layer is to preserve the authoritative nature of data created by counties and municipalities. In keeping with this concept, 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 2 Statewide Parcel Map Database Project (V2 Project) is a collaboration between the State Cartographer's Office and the Wisconsin Land Information Program (WLIP). The V2 Project is the secondary 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 publically 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 the first MAJOR update to the layer and is known as *V2.0.0_Wisconsin_Parcels_2016.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 3.0.0 will be known as *V3.0.0_Wisconsin_Parcels_2017.gdb*.

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 here:
http://www.sco.wisc.edu/images/stories/publications/V2/data/.

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 1st and August 31st 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 1st and August 31st 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 1st and August 31st 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) will be 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 (*V2_Wisconsin_Statewide_Parcels_Schema_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 general 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:

Unresolved Geometric Errors

Issue Date: 6/30/16
Issue Description: There are geometric errors or anomalies that are known to exist in the 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: Unresolved – Currently under research.

Gaps and overlaps along county boundary
Issue Date: 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
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
Issue Description: Owner names have been redacted from some jurisdictions participating in the parcel layer.
Issue Status: Unresolved - for the V1 Project, contributing jurisdictions were offered an "opt-in" option for inclusion of their owner name information. Counties without owner name information displayed in the statewide layer chose not to opt into this option. Counties without owner name in the statewide parcel layer are listed in the attribute schema.