

THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND

THE LEGACY OF THE PUBLIC LAND SURVEY SYSTEM IN WISCONSIN



Locations of PLSS Forums



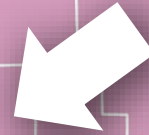
Eau Claire (2016)

Rothschild (2018)

Stevens Point (2015)

Wisconsin Dells (2017)

Darlington (2019)



Several hundred participants



AUDIENCE OVER TIME

Sector	
GIS/Geospatial professional	47
Professional surveyor	43
Real Property Lister	9
Other	6

2015

Sector	
GIS/Geospatial professional	28
Professional surveyor	25
Student	14
Real Property Lister	5
Other	18

2016

Sector	
Assessor	3
County Board	4
County Treasurer	1
GIS/Geospatial professional	23
Professional surveyor	11
Realtor	1
Retired	3
Register of Deeds	4
Real Property Lister	8
Student	2
Other [see Table 2]	18
Unknown	5

2017

Sector/Position	
Surveyor	15
Land Info Officer/GIS Director/GIS Coordinator	10
Real Property Lister & Staff	9
GIS Tech/Analyst	6
Register of Deeds & Staff	6
Forester	5
Property/Real Estate Specialist	5
Higher Education	4
Not specified	3
Attorney	2
County Board	2
Facilities Management	2
Planning	2
Emergency Management	1
Engineering	1
Foundation President	1
Grant Administrator	1
Historian	1
Sales	1
Student	1
Title Industry	1
Utilities	1

2018

Sector	
Surveyor	20
County Board	11
Real estate	11
GIS specialist	6
Real Property Lister	6
Business owner	5
Land owner	4
Accounting/tax	3
Engineer	3
Land Information Officer	3
Manager	3
University/College	3
Agriculture	2
Finance	2
County Treasurer	2
County land records	2
Register of Deeds	2
Town government	2
Architect	1
Attorney	1
Carpenter	1
County Conservation	1
Emergency management	1
Highway Commissioner	1
Insurance	1
Septic pumper	1
Student	1
Other	12

2019

Increased
diversity

PLSS WORK GROUP

- Organize and host the PLSS Forums
- Created in 2016, after the second PLSS Forum
- Formed to educate about and advocate for importance of PLSS
- Overall goal is to encourage state, county and municipal agencies to maintain, invest in, and improve PLSS statewide



<https://www.sco.wisc.edu/community/plss-work-group/>

PLSS WORK GROUP MEMBERS

WISCONSIN COUNTY SURVEYORS ASSOCIATION

Bryan Meyer, President & La Crosse County Surveyor

WISCONSIN SOCIETY OF LAND SURVEYORS

Jeff DeMuth, Professional Land Surveyor

Steve Geiger, Polk County Surveyor

STATE CARTOGRAPHER'S OFFICE

Howard Veregin, State Cartographer

Brenda Hemstead, Data Services Specialist

WISCONSIN LAND INFORMATION ASSOCIATION

Jeremiah Erickson, Monroe County Land Info Officer

WISCONSIN LAND INFORMATION OFFICERS NETWORK

WISCONSIN REGISTER OF DEEDS ASSOCIATION

Jodi Helgeson, Adams County Register of Deeds

WISCONSIN REAL PROPERTY LISTERS ASSOCIATION

Brannick Beatse, Monroe County Real Property Lister



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Mitch Moline, Enterprise GIS Architect

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS

Jason Poser, Buffalo County Land Info Officer

Chris Colney, Grant County Land Info Officer

PLSS WORK GROUP VISION

A FULLY RE-ESTABLISHED PLSS NETWORK IN WISCONSIN

- Every county should have an accurate, complete, up-to-date PLSS network
- Counties should make PLSS corner maintenance a funding priority
- County funding for PLSS maintenance should be consistent and predictable

A COUNTY SURVEYOR IN EVERY COUNTY

- PLSS maintenance should be overseen by a County Surveyor
- Counties should make County Surveyor position a funding priority
- Counties should not defund existing County Surveyor positions

COOPERATION BETWEEN COUNTIES

- Counties should resolve discrepancies in PLSS corner at county boundaries

EFFECTIVE USE OF RESOURCES

- WLIP grants can be used
- WCSA can be asked to make presentations to County Boards and committees



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THE LEGACY OF THE PUBLIC LAND SURVEY SYSTEM IN WISCONSIN

9:00-9:10 am :: Introduction/Overview (Howard Veregin, State Cartographer)

9:10-10:00 am :: The Public Land Survey System: A Dependable Network for Land Ownership (Bryan Meyer, La Crosse County)

10:00-10:30 am :: The Role of the County Surveyor (Doug Avoles & Laurence Johns, Vernon County)

10:30-10:45 am :: Break

10:45-11:15 am :: Breakout Session: Research Methods (Dan Frick, Dane County)

11:15 am-12:00 pm :: Field Trip: Walk to PLSS Corner

12:00-12:45 pm :: Lunch (included) *Sponsored by WSLs*

12:45-1:00 pm :: Results from Field Trip (Steve Geiger, Polk County)

1:00-1:30 pm :: Boundaries and Easements (Larry Austin, UW Platteville, Emeritus)

1:30-1:45 pm :: Break *Sponsored by WCSA*

1:45-2:30 pm :: Property Surveys and Legal Descriptions (Bryan Meyer, La Crosse County & Brannick Beatse, Monroe County)

2:30-3:00 pm :: Q&A Panel (all speakers)

A background image of a rural farm scene. In the center is a large red barn with a cupola. To its right is a smaller building with a green roof. The foreground is a grassy field, and the background shows a line of trees under a hazy sky.

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PLEASE FILL OUT EVALUATIONS
AND LEAVE IN BOX ON
REGISTRATION TABLE

PLAN TO ATTEND THE 2020
FORUM IN NORTH EASTERN
WISCONSIN

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**THANK YOU
for
ATTENDING!**

PLSS WORK GROUP



WISCONSIN
LAND INFORMATION
ASSOCIATION



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