

SUBMISSION FORM

All submission forms must include the following information. Separate submission forms must be turned in for each eligible program. **Deadline: July 1, 2024.** Please include this submission form with the electronic entry. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your entry within 3 days of submission, please contact [Gage Harter](#).

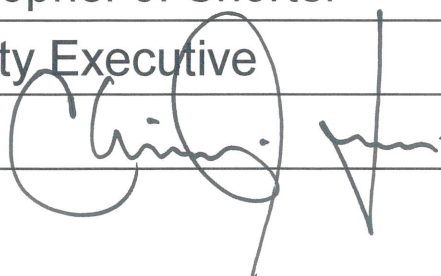
PROGRAM INFORMATION

County: Prince William County
Program Title: GIS Community Site
Program Category: Organizational Development

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Malcolm Echaluze
Title: GIS Program Manager
Department: Information Technology
Telephone: 703-792-6788 Website: pwcva.gov/doit
Email: mechaluze@pwcva.gov

SIGNATURE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR DEPUTY/ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Name: Christopher J. Shorter
Title: County Executive
Signature: 

Prince William County GIS Community Site

GIS in Prince William County is a division within the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) and currently operates in a hub-and-spoke model. We have a central GIS program that we call the our GTS program (Geospatial Technology Services). DoIT GTS is home to most PWC GIS Analysts. GTS administers the GIS database, software, platform infrastructure and creates/updates/curates the County's GIS data and standards. Several other County departments also have GIS staff (Analysts) dedicated to localized agency-specific GIS. For agencies without dedicated GIS analysts, DoIT GTS provides GIS services.

The rapid change of technology and the strong need for geospatial data and application solutions also requires a strong communications channel. This places a premium on the ability to simplify access for those who seek GIS data and services.

We decided to create a GIS Community SharePoint site that is linked to County and unique department GIS sites as an active and highly available GIS ecosystem. The central site is a hub for information, communication, and collaboration. The partner sites, while connected to and fed by the central site, are separate entities that can be customized to suit department-specific needs.

By engaging with departmental GIS Analysts in the Prince William County government, we are strengthening the quality and increasing the value of GIS to the County. The GIS Community site serves as both a go-to source for GIS resources and as a cooperative platform. GIS professionals within the County enrich the Community site as they create content to share. The system is an example of simplicity and constituent-centric methods of delivering information in more convenient ways for the community.

Other localities with access to SharePoint 365 or similar software could replicate this. The technology aspect of the system was easy to learn and relatively customizable using out-of-the-box tools. The only difficulty was in designing site structure and important content, which would differ for each locality. Not limited to GIS data, this concept could also apply to other shared interest groups.

DoIT GTS created the GIS Community site as a centralized location for information regarding GIS services and to provide information, resources, and guidance to GIS Analysts both within GTS and in other departments.

To enhance communication and collaboration with GIS Analysts within other departments, we established the GIS Community site as a self-service, one-stop shop for all things GIS within PWC. It offers specific information on standards, software, best practices, data, troubleshooting, announcements, training, new GIS employee resources, upcoming events, etc. Moreover, we designed customized sites for each department, linked to and incorporating critical information from the GIS Community site but tailored to each group's needs. GIS Analysts can further personalize these sites to serve as the central repository for GIS information related to their organization. This setup complements the 'Assigned Analyst' outreach initiative, where each department with dedicated GIS Analysts partners with a GIS Analyst from GTS for support and guidance.

The GIS Community site also functions as a central information hub for GIS Analysts within GTS, providing a one-stop shop for their GIS information/needs. In addition to Countywide information, it supplies information on each team's workflow processes, internal software and procedures, current project workspaces, a past project repository, and more. This user-friendly model fosters collaborative work on shared documents in project workspaces, easy upload of documentation for their team and the program, and quick access to the latest version of any needed information. The knowledge base also boosts work efficiency for the entire team by enabling users to access information independently, promoting self-sufficiency. This is a significant improvement from the previous system, where information was scattered across various locations, making it difficult to find or ensure its currency.

Finally, anyone in the County can access the GIS Community site to learn about GIS and the GTS department, see completed GIS projects to understand what GIS can do for them, and request GIS services.

Using out-of-the-box GUI tools, maintenance has been relatively easy. Adding news items, events, etc., is straightforward. Adding documentation involves uploading documents into the site's main library and applying appropriate tags so they filter to the correct location on the site. Creating project workspaces consists of creating a new page and setting up some basic structure.

Financing and Staffing - The sites are built in SharePoint 365, software the County already owns, so there were no out-of-pocket costs other than personnel time. A team of six GIS Analysts created this site over six months using approximately 120 personnel hours to research, design, develop, and test the sites.

Results - Prince William County now has an easily accessible, user-friendly way to access GIS information and start communicating with the GTS program. GIS Analysts also have a central location to access authoritative information and collaborate with other users. The site has become a valuable resource that we find ourselves pointing users towards and personally using more every day.

Executive Summary:

With the proliferation of Geographic Information System (GIS) use across Prince William County (PWC), effective communication and information sharing have become increasingly challenging and crucial. The GIS Community site, a centralized platform for information dissemination, communication, and collaboration, was created to address this challenge. The platform is a hub for all things GIS-related in PWC, with tailored department-specific sites connected to the central hub. The site has significantly improved access to GIS information and facilitated collaboration among PWC's GIS professionals. It represents a successful initiative in addressing the communication and collaboration challenges within PWC's GIS landscape, offering a scalable and sustainable solution using out-of-the-box software.

GIS Community site – central site main page

[About Us](#) | [FAQ](#) | [GIS Community](#) | [GIS Management](#) | [GIS Teams](#) | [Projects & Products](#) | [Resources](#) | [Edit](#)

[+ New](#) | [Page details](#) | [Analytics](#)

 Published 2/28/2024 | [Share](#) | [Edit](#)

Important News See all

+ Add

2023 Imagery Now Available
The 2023 imagery is now available as an image service via...
June 23, 2023

SDE Redesign Moves into High Gear
Activity on the SDE Redesign project has ramped up. A lot...
May 2, 2023

New Demographics Hub Site!
New Demographics Hub Site The demographics homepag...
April 4, 2023

Updated SDE Schema Standards are now available!
Hello GIS Users! Our updated SDE Schema Standards are...
February 10, 2023

Projects & Products
[Learn more](#) →

Resources

FAQ

Management

About Us

GIS Community

Environmental Management	Fire & Rescue	Health District
Mosquito & Forest Pest Management	Parks	Planning
Police	Real Estate Assessments	Transportation

Upcoming Events See all

+ Add event

Esi User Conference 2024
JUL 15-19
Mon, Jul 15, All day

GIS Pro 2024
OCT 7-10
Mon, Oct 7, All day

VAMLIS GeoCon 2024
NOV 6-7
Wed, Nov 6, All day

Prince William GIS Spotlight See all


THE BUZZ
County Mapper - Aerial Image Historical Update
Brimhall, Lisa
Edited Jan 11, 2023

THE BUZZ
Demographic Mapper
Brimhall, Lisa
Edited Aug 5, 2022

THE BUZZ
GIS Data Portal Site Launch
Brimhall, Lisa
Edited Aug 5, 2022

[Edit](#) | [PWC GIS Public Site](#)

GIS Community site – partner site main page




[PWC GIS](#) | [Home](#) | [Recycle bin](#) | [Edit](#)

Private group | ★ Following | 👤 13 members


+ New | 🔗 Page details | 📊 Analytics

Published 4/12/2024 | 🔗 Share | ✎ Edit | 🔗

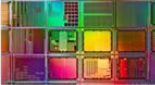


Important News See all


+ Add




Prince William GIS
2023 Imagery Now Available
The 2023 imagery is now available as an image service via...
June 23, 2023



Prince William GIS
SDE Redesign Moves into High Gear
Activity on the SDE Redesign project has ramped up. A lot...
May 2, 2023



Prince William GIS
New Demographics Hub Site!
New Demographics Hub Site The demographics homepag...
April 4, 2023



Prince William GIS
Updated SDE Schema Standards are now available!
Hello GIS Users! Our updated SDE Schema Standards are...
February 10, 2023

Upcoming Meetings & Agendas See all

+ Add event






Create an event
When you add an event, it will show here where your readers can see it.

Month 01 | **Title of event**
Tuesday 12:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Month 01 | **Title of event**
Tuesday 12:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Month 01 | **Title of event**
Tuesday 12:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Past Meeting Agendas/Presentations See all









Title	Modified
 GTS GIS User Meeting Presentation 2023 Q3	Oct 5, 2023
 GTS GIS Users Meeting Presentation 2023 Q1	Feb 13, 2023
 GTS GIS Users Meeting Presentation 2022 Q3/4	Nov 14, 2022
 GTS GIS Users Meeting Presentation 2022 Q2	Jun 24, 2022
 GTS GIS Users Meeting Presentation 2022 Q1	Jun 8, 2022

Past Meeting Recordings See all

Prince William GIS
Planning GIS Meeting 2024 Q1
Sharon Collins Edited May 9, 2024

Prince William GIS
Planning GIS Meeting 2023 Q3
Melissa Collins Edited Oct 9, 2023

Resources See all

Title	Modified
 SDE Schema Standardization	Feb 10, 2023
 SDE Redesign and Standardization Project	Jun 21, 2023
 Map Design Standards	Apr 7, 2022
 PWC GIS Metadata Standard	Jun 8, 2022
 Switching ArcGIS Pro License to ArcGIS Online	Jul 13, 2022
 Map Standards Template - Color 8.5 x 11	May 2, 2023
 Map Standards Template - Color 24 x 36	May 2, 2023
 SDE Standardization - GTS Data	May 1, 2024

Helpful Links See all

Prince William GIS
PWC ArcGIS Online Standards
Sharon Collins Edited May 3, 2023