



PaMAGIC MATTERS December 2010

President's Corner

I attended the PAMAP Celebration on December 9th, and came away motivated about the possibilities for geospatial technologies in Pennsylvania. PAMAP was/is a great program that was ground breaking on a national scale and extremely valuable for the citizens of the Commonwealth. This event was a great opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of the program and hear some of the stories about how it got started. However, the prevailing message seemed to be that the success of this program will be measured by our ability to revive it so it can once again produce the high quality base map products that we have become accustomed to.

As a county GIS practitioner, it was easy to assume that PAMAP would continue well into the future, and would continue to provide valuable base map products. Lancaster County was able to benefit from 2 production cycles of high quality products. The PAMAP team responded to our concerns and addressed the few image quality issues that we brought to their attention. We truly don't appreciate what we have until it is gone, and I can hope the program will live again in some way.

I would encourage everyone that benefited from the program to stay engaged and to try to support any efforts to revitalize the program.

On another front, PaMAGIC and PA-MAPPS have teamed up to develop a transition paper to deliver to Governor-Elect Corbett. The intent of the letter is to highlight the need for statewide GIS leadership and coordination, and to ask that his administration provide leadership in this area. You can find this document on our home page at [Corbett Transition Team White Paper](#) .

How can you help, just follow our website or information from our list serve. Also see a summary of House Bill 2300 which failed to get voted out of the State House of Representatives during the final days of the legislative session.

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New Data on PASDA

- *The 2010 NAIP data is now available on PASDA. The NAIP covers all of Pennsylvania and was flown in the summer of 2010
- *Chester County has also provided a 2010 update
- *Lancaster County has updated its data on PASDA
- *Pennsylvania Department of Health has updated its hospital layer
- *The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection has updated its oil and gas well locations data (these are updated monthly) and provided three new data sets related to mining
- *The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources PAMAP Program has provided new data to PASDA

- *Allegheny County has provided updated parcel data to PASDA
- *Pennsylvania Department of Transportation has added two new layers--Part 77 Airport Surface Areas and Part 77 Airport Surface Lines

PAMAP Program News

Lidar Data (2008 Acquisition)

Lidar data for all remaining counties and blocks has been submitted for QA testing and edits. Lidar data for Northampton, Bucks, Philadelphia, Delaware, Lehigh, Carbon, and Pike counties has been accepted. Review and corrections on other areas will continue through December. When blocks of data have been accepted, the data products will be made available through PAMAP services channels.

Orthoimagery (2008 Acquisition)

Orthoimagery for Montgomery, Monroe, Pike, Wayne, and Northumberland counties has been accepted. These data products are now or will soon be available through PAMAP services channels. Orthoimagery for all remaining counties is in QA testing and is expected to be completed in December.

Orthoimagery

The PAMAP Program is finalizing procurement of spring 2010 imagery from iCubed (AerialsExpress) for Susquehanna, Bradford, Wyoming, Sullivan, Lycoming, Clinton, Centre, Allegheny, Washington, and Greene counties. This imagery can be used by all levels of government, education institutions, and non-profit organizations. It will be released for public use after a to-be-determined sunset period. Organizations wishing to acquire this imagery should contact the PAMAP Program.

The Program has taken delivery of spring 2009 imagery for Erie County, summer 2009 imagery for Beaver, Allegheny, Westmoreland, Washington, Greene, and Fayette counties, and fall 2009 imagery for Mercer, Lawrence, Butler, and portions of Armstrong counties. This is 30cm resolution imagery and can be used by all government agencies and other not for profit organizations. The spring and summer 2009 imagery will be released for public use in December 2010, and the fall 2009 imagery will be released for public use in March 2011. Organizations wishing to acquire this imagery should contact the PAMAP Program. Public release will be through PASDA and other PAMAP services channels.

The 2010 NAIP county mosaics (all counties) are now available through PASDA.

Vector Data

PAMAP vector layers of roads, railroads, hydrography, boundaries, building footprints, and building points will soon be released through PASDA and other PAMAP services channels. This data is from county sources and has been aggregated to statewide feature classes.

The PAMAP Program will be conducting a project in early 2011 to perform a needs analysis and requirements study for building data. The project will include a plan to develop building data with various sources, including existing data, Lidar, and imagery. In conjunction with the project, a new round of data collection will be conducted with counties to gather road and building data. A more robust review and loading procedure will be used to create updated statewide feature classes for distribution.

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House Bill 2300

House Bill 2300 came close to being passed during the final session of the State Legislature. After all the hard work by Representative Fairchild and legislative staff to guide it along, it simply ran out of time and was competing with many other bills.

The Bill was introduced to the House floor from the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee in September. As the session drew to a conclusion in early October, it looked close to being

voted on by the House, and we were being told that passage looked promising. Since the next action involved the State Senate, a strategy was quickly developed to help pass it through the Senate. Contact was made with the Senatorial chair of the committee that would most likely see the Bill after House Passage. Other plans were waiting in the wings if and when it made its way to the Senate.

The Bill was reported to the House floor for 2 considerations. However, before getting its third and final consideration, it was reported to the House Appropriations Committee. It never made it out of that committee as the session came to a close, and the Senate never had a chance to pass it.

Although House Bill 2300 came closer than previous attempts, it still fell short. We learned a lot through this effort, and had good momentum. However, since the State General Assembly will be starting a new legislative session, we will need to basically start over on this effort. Stay tuned as we figure out the next steps.

GIS Events

Save the date and consider presenting The **2011 PA GIS Conference** will be held on May 24-25, 2011 in Grantville, PA. Check soon for more information:

<http://www.pamagic.org/PAGISConference/Pages/default.aspx>

If there is something which you would like to have included in PaMAGIC *MATTERS*, please send it to kathryn.reed@allegHENYcounty.us