



PaMAGIC MATTERS **September 2010**

President's Corner

As summer comes to an end and students return to school, we anticipate the beginning of fall and all the events that occur across the Commonwealth. This is also the beginning of fair season in the rural portions of the state, a celebration of the bountiful harvests realized by the agricultural community. It's another school year for students, a fresh start, a chance to learn new things.

So we see that even though this season marks the end of summer and the many things we enjoy about it, it also is the beginning of many other events and activities that are equally important. That brings me to the topic on our minds now, one that is of utmost importance to the Geospatial community in PA, the formation of a Geospatial Coordinating Council. We hope that this will be a season of beginning for our community, that the legislature validates what many of you have been saying for years, that a Council will provide the structure and focus to move our industry forward and allow it to keep pace with many change and developments that are encountered on a regular basis.

The road toward passage of House Bill 2300 does not look like an easy one. The state legislature has a very busy slate to tackle when they return to their sessions over the next 2 weeks, with lots of competing legislation, including Governor Rendell's Solar Energy bill. However, we feel it is still possible, and don't want to see any loss of momentum from the last year. It is important that House Bill 2300 does not get lost in the stack of bills that the legislators will need to vote on. Read the update provided in this newsletter, and take some time to contact your representative in the next week or your senator the following week.

Other news is that our website has been migrated to a new development framework and has been updated and upgraded at the same time. We wish to thank CCAP for their work to make this happen. Please note that not all of the content has been moved yet, but that effort continues. Take a look at the results by going to <http://www.pamagic.org>

In other developments, we are adding a new PaMAGIC event this year. In response to what we heard from many of you at the PA GIS Conference last spring, one of our important roles as an organization is to facilitate collaboration within the state's geospatial community. On October 28th, we will be hosting a "PA Geospatial Town Meeting". This will be an interactive working session where you will help map the future of Geospatial technologies in PA. Find more detailed information in this newsletter. Thanks for reading, and we hope to see you at the Town Meeting, or one of the many other GIS events being held this fall.

Glenn Mohler
mohler@co.lancaster.pa.us

HB2300 Update – State Geospatial Coordinating Council

HB2300 was reported out of the House Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee before the summer recess. State House of Representatives will convene for the remaining fifteen days of the current session on September 13th. It is anticipated that the House will vote on the bill early in the session.

Once a vote takes place and, provided it passes, a companion bill could be introduced in the State Senate, which will convene on Monday, September 20th. The Senate would need to vote on the bill before the end of the session. If the State Geospatial Coordinating Council bill passes the House, and is reconciled with the Senate version, it will then move on to the Governor for signature.

PaMAGIC will provide an update next month to apprise membership of the outcome of the upcoming legislative session, so keep tabs at our website <http://www.pamagic.org> However, if you wish to check the progress of the bill, see the following link: [Pennsylvania General Assembly Session Information](#) and search on HB 2300.

PAMAPPS is tentatively scheduling an event at the capitol during the week of Sept. 20, to focus on Senate advocacy for the bill and to get "co-sponsorship" commitments. Check our PaMAGIC website for updates and details.

Final text of the bill:

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/CFDOCS/Legis/PN/Public/btCheck.cfm?txtType=PDF&sessYr=2009&sessInd=0&billBody=H&billTyp=B&billNbr=2300&pn=3860>

The PAMAP Program

Lidar Data (2008 Acquisition)

The Lidar data for Bradford and Susquehanna counties are complete and available through PAMAP services channels such as PASDA.

Lidar data for Philadelphia, Delaware, Bucks, Lehigh, Northampton, Carbon, Monroe, Pike, Columbia, and Wayne counties has been submitted for QA testing and edits. When blocks of data have been accepted, the data products will be made available through PAMAP services channels.

Lidar data production for Chester, Montgomery, and Northumberland counties is underway.

Orthoimagery (2008 Acquisition)

Orthoimagery for Bucks, Delaware, Lehigh, and Northampton counties has been accepted. These data products are now or will soon be available through PAMAP services channels.

Orthoimagery for Carbon, Philadelphia, and Chester counties has been submitted for QA testing and edits. When full county coverage of data has been accepted, the data products will be made available through PAMAP services channels.

Orthoimagery production for Chester, Montgomery, Bradford, Susquehanna, Wayne, Pike, Monroe, Northumberland, and Columbia counties is underway.

Services Channels

All PAMAP data products can be acquired from the Center for Geospatial Information Services, part of the State Data Center. Contact Jennifer Wootsick at 717-948-6558 for details.

Chris Markel, GISP, PAMAP Program Manager, cmarkel@geographIT.com

PASDA News Brief

PASDA is looking for input on the beta version of the new Pennsylvania Imagery Navigator. PASDA recently upgraded its architecture to ArcGIS server and redeveloped and deployed an updated version of the Navigator. We expect to continue to enhance the beta version of the Navigator so comments and suggestions would be welcome. You can reach the beta Navigator from the PASDA homepage at <http://www.pasda.psu.edu>

In addition, PASDA has received a number of new and updated data sets this month from our partners. These include:

- Updated health facility layers from the Pennsylvania Department of Health
- Allegheny County parcels for September (updated on a monthly basis)
- 2010 Updates to the PA Cleanways data
- Lancaster County Data quarterly update
- Sediment Thickness data from Allegheny College
- NEW LIDAR and imagery from the PAMAP program.

GIS Events

September 8th and 9th Save the date! **Pennsylvania National Hydrography Mini – Conference 2010**, Middletown, PA, registration is free, lunch is \$12.00. Contact Elizabeth Lyon (elyon@state.pa.us); or call her 717-702-2063 to RSVP or for details

Pennsylvania Data User Conference -- Early Bird Registration Extended! Discounted registration is now available until September 11 <http://pasdcconference.org> The Annual Data User Conference will be held on September 15, 2010, at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey

September 28 – October 1 **URISA’s 48th Annual Conference, GIS-Pro 2010** Orlando, FL: <http://www.gis-pro.org>

ESRI Seminar: Increase Productivity with ArcGIS 10:

Philadelphia	09/29/2010	Register
Pittsburgh	10/21/2010	Register

[5th Annual Northwest Pennsylvania GIS Conference](#) will be held on October 14-15, 2010, online registration is now open. This event will once again be hosted by Clarion University of Pennsylvania. Please visit www.clarion.edu/gisconference/ for more information or for registration to attend, present and/or exhibit. [Presentation](#) and [exhibition](#) registrations are due by **September 24th, 2010**. Mark your calendar. Please pass along this information to anyone who may benefit from attending this event.

SAVE THE DATE **PAFPM (PA Association of Floodplain Managers) Annual Fall Meeting:**
October 25 - 26 2010 Holiday Inn, Williamsport PA

GIS Day, "Going Green with GIS", Wednesday, November 17, 2010

On Wednesday, November 17, 2010, HACC, Central Pennsylvania's Community College, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will be hosting the 2nd annual GIS Day at HACC's Midtown site.

The goal of GIS Day is to create awareness about GIS technologies and how they impact us in our everyday lives.

As part of the day whose theme is Going Green with GIS, we will be having interactive workshops, demonstrations and exhibits geared to a variety of different audiences. The morning, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., will be devoted to high school students and educators while the afternoon, 12 p.m.-6 p.m., will be devoted to college students, GIS professionals, and the public.

As part of the day, we will be showcasing the entries for the 2010 GIS Day Map Contest. Submit [<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?HACC/c239ffc883/ef24754486/435b869540>] your maps to show off your work!

If you would like to have a FREE exhibit booth to show off what you are doing with GIS, please fill out the form [<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?HACC/c239ffc883/ef24754486/f9e091472d>] and submit to Nicole Ernst, nlernst@hacc.edu [<mailto:nlernst@hacc.edu>].

We hope to see you on Wednesday, November 17, 2010. Please put this day on your calendar so that you can join us for this very special event!

Join Esri and ArcGIS users from the Mid-Atlantic region November 30-December 1 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at the [2010 Esri Mid-Atlantic User Group Conference](#). Register now and take advantage of the early-bird rate.

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