

GIS Department

November, 2018

IN THIS ISSUE

Important GIS Department homepage updates.

If you have not been to the GIS Department's homepage lately, take a moment to check it out. In addition to department **news** and links to **web applications**, you will find two new sections, **Map Gallery** and **Links**.

The Map Gallery displays several of our most popular maps. If you need an elevation **map to print** out, need a printable election precinct map, or just a basic township map, you can **download a PDF** copy from the Map Gallery. New maps are added frequently so check back often!

Most of our frequent Tax Parcel Viewer users are involved in real estate. Everyone from appraisers, surveyors, lending institutions, and insurance adjusters use our tax parcel website on a regular basis to assist in their professions. A good majority of these people also regularly need tax parcel information for **neighboring counties**. To make GIS information easier to find,

we have provided **Links** to the tax parcel websites for neighboring counties. You will also find links to other County and City departments as well as links to the **Address Ordinance** which is upheld by the GIS Department.

As always, we update our homepage with any relevant **news** such as outages (planned and unplanned), Address Ordinance information, and other important changes. Links to several of our public-facing **web apps** are also provided.

Stay in the know by visiting our homepage frequently. As always, you are welcome to call us or come by our office Monday – Friday from 8:30 to 5.

Person County GIS Department

www.personcountync.gov/gis

Phone Number: 336-597-2242

Location: 325 S Morgan St,
Roxboro, NC 27573



Mapping Cemeteries

Learn about the Person County Cemetery Web App on page 2.



Preparing for Census 2020

See page 3 to read about how the GIS Department helps the US Census prepare for the decennial census.



Update: Project Marco Polo

See what the GIS Department is doing to improve the visibility of address signs across the County. We've increased our public presence and have developed a web app to track our progress. Check it out on page 4.

2018 in Review

It's been a busy year for the GIS Department! In a year we have:

- Added or verified over **2,732 addresses**
- Participated in the 2020 US Census **Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA)** project for Person County and the City of Roxboro
- Printed nearly **300 linear** feet of maps!
- Collected GPS information about our **disc golf** courses to create a series of maps.
- **Updated the Address Ordinance** to prepare for upcoming development and improve addressing procedures between County departments.
- Attended half a dozen public events to **educate** citizens about displaying visible and reflective **address signs**.



NCLGISA GIS Strike Team Members Sara Wray (NCDOT), Josh Norwood (Pender County), Sallie Vaughn

NCLGISA STRIKE TEAM

After Hurricane Florence visited the North Carolina coast, the NC Local Government Information Systems Association (NCLGISA) organized Strike Teams to assist other agencies with immediate IT and GIS needs. Person County sent Sallie Vaughn to assist in Pender County, NC. Together with Sarah Wray (NCDOT), Columbus Hawks (Rowan County), and Pender GIS Coordinator Josh Norwood, we created web apps and maps as well as paper maps for everything from a damage assessment dashboard, shelter location maps, road closure maps, search and rescue grids, and debris pickup routes. We also provided preliminary housing damage estimates to FEMA to expedite rehousing efforts and pinpoint areas hardest hit by excessive flooding.



GIS Department staff worked with Flat River Gravefinders to put over 300 cemeteries on the map in Person County. See it for yourself:

gis.personcountync.gov/Cemeteries

Mapping Cemeteries

With the help of the Person County Historical Society and Flat River Gravefinders, Zack Wynne, GIS Technician, developed a web app for cemetery information. The web app shows the locations of nearly 400 cemeteries throughout Roxboro and Person County.

The web app can be used on any computer or mobile device such as a smartphone or tablet. Turn on mobile GPS capabilities and the map will zoom in to your location. Users can mark a new cemetery they might encounter while exploring Person

County or update information about existing cemeteries.

Newly added or updated cemeteries are automatically reported to GIS Department staff where we check for accuracy with local historians. When possible, we link each cemetery to Find A Grave (an online public database of cemetery and burial records).

Our hope is to provide a way for our citizens to research their family history and preserve this important information for generations to come.

GIS INTERN

**Blake Baines**

We were fortunate this year to have Blake, a student intern from NCSU. Braving mosquitos, ticks, and poison ivy, Blake collected information about plant and animal species along the Flat River this summer for a North Carolina Wildlife grant funded project. He later used this information for a web map exploring the ecological diversity of Person County.

Blake also learned to use our GPS equipment to collect the layout of two of our disc golf courses (see photo above). Most recently, he's been working on some custom software to help us maintain GIS data integrity and improve our stormwater billing. Many thanks to Blake and we wish him the best on his GIS Career!

2020 US Census Information:

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 98% OF THE US POPULATION IS COVERED BY GOVERNMENTS PARTICIPATING IN LUCA.

PERSON COUNTY IS ONE OF **1,866** COUNTIES THAT PARTICIPATED IN LUCA. ROXBORO IS ONE OF **7,291** CITIES PARTICIPATING.

BY 2020, THE POPULATION OF NORTH CAROLINA IS EXPECTED TO SURPASS **10.5** MILLION PEOPLE.

2010 US Census Information:

93.5% OF THE US POPULATION WAS COVERED BY GOVERNMENTS PARTICIPATING IN LUCA.

16 MILLION PEOPLE WENT UNCOUNTED, **1.5** MILLION OF WHICH ARE **MINORITIES**.

RURAL AREAS ACCOUNTED FOR A MAJORITY OF THE UNDERCOUNTED POPULATION.

UNITED STATES POPULATION WAS ESTIMATED AT **308** MILLION AND THE POPULATION OF PERSON COUNTY WAS ESTIMATED AT **39,472**.

Coming Soon!

Disc Golf Maps

Person County is home to three excellent disc golf courses. But where are they? How are the courses laid out? Is there a map showing the tees and holes? Where is parking, and what about bathrooms?

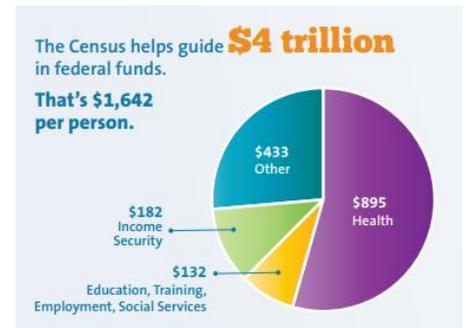
Over the course of Summer, 2018 GIS Department staff used high accuracy GPS devices to collect information about our disc golf courses. We are currently working on paper and digital maps which we be available to our avid disc golf community.

Preparing for Census 2020

Earlier this year, the GIS Department participated in the US Census Bureau Local Update Census Addresses (LUCA). Address lists for both Person County and the City of Roxboro were updated during the 120-day review period. LUCA is the only opportunity for local governments to update the address lists used during the upcoming Census.

Allocation of Federal funds relies on the decennial Census, which will be completed in 2020. The number of people in a county or city guides funding for Title 1 for schools (all public schools in Person County are Title 1), the State Children's Insurance Program, the Medical Assistance Program, and SNAP Benefits. The Census also helps determine eligibility for Community Development Block Grants and New Market Tax Credits. In total, 26 federal agencies base funding of local government programs on counts obtained during the Census.

On a State level, the 2020 Census will determine our number of Congressional representatives. Accurate Census information starts with accurate address lists.



Approximately \$1,642 of Federal funding is supplied for each person. Therefore, an accurate count of people during the 2020 Census will be crucial to the future of Roxboro and Person County. Undercounting by a few dozen individuals may result in a loss of tens of thousands of dollars in funding.

The 2020 Census will also tell us a lot about our citizens and how their needs are changing. This information allows local, regional, and state planners to make informed decisions about housing needs, transportation improvements, school renovation and construction, and public health initiatives including substance abuse programs. US Census information is also used by FEMA to allocate disaster recovery funds.

Update: Project Marco Polo

Phase 1 of Project Marco Polo is complete! Over the last 18 months, the GIS Department contracted with Geographic Technologies Group to create a snapshot of address visibility throughout the County. The result is an accurate photo inventory of locations where an address is required, but not visible. We refer to these as "No Shows."

Currently, No Shows account for roughly 10% of homes and businesses in Person County.

We are tackling this issue on multiple fronts including public education. This year we attended half a dozen events to promote awareness and spoke to approximately 175 individuals about the importance of a properly displayed address.

Also this year, we updated the County's Address Ordinance to prevent future No Shows and ensure that compliance begins at the start of a construction or renovation project. Changes to the ordinance now require a property owner to post their address prior to the first inspection performed by our Building Inspections department.

Other changes to the Address Ordinance encourage citizens to use reflective lettering which is visible in

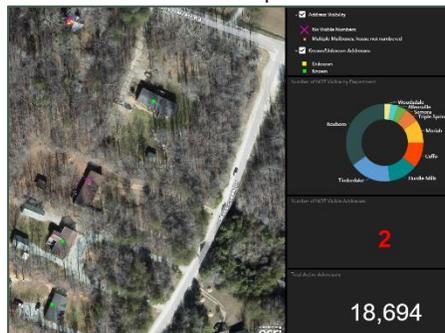


National Night Out with our friends at Person County Emergency Services.

all lighting and weather conditions.

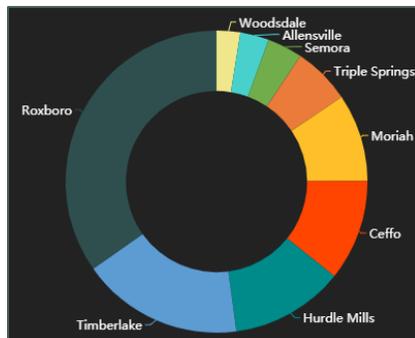
The GIS Department has also engaged our local volunteer fire departments to reduce No Shows. With help from 911, we have established a reporting system for No Shows and other address issues which empowers our volunteer fire fighters to relate issues back to the GIS Department.

To communicate address visibility issues and document our progress, the GIS Department has created a Bad Address Dashboard. This web application exhibits the No Show locations and breaks down the number of No Shows per fire district.



Bad Address Dashboard

As new addresses are added or the number of No Shows changes, the Bad Address Dashboard automatically updates to provide timely information to our volunteer firefighters. Dashboard users can also report new address issues to the



Number of No Shows by Department

GIS Dept. Our goal is to engage as many resources as possible in combating this issue.

Project Marco Polo Phase 2 is now underway! No Shows are not the only address visibility problem we have. Some are not technically no shows, but the numbers are hard to see (photos below). Phase 2 involves identifying ordinance violations and working with the property owner to improve their address display.



Call the GIS Department for more information about upgrading your address display.

Person County GIS Department
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www.personcountync.gov/gis
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