

GeoSpatial Advisor™

August 26, 2005

Volume 1, Number 5

In This Issue

- Kentucky Geological Survey Geologic IMS
- AGI Launches Custom Map Service
- Tips and Tricks – Setting Reference Scales
- Miscellaneous – Adapting Google™ Maps

Calendar of Events: September 2005

September 5: Labor Day

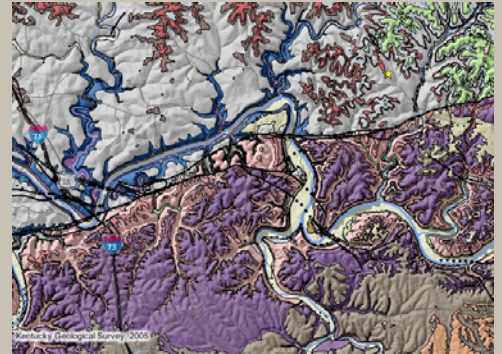
September 15-16: Georgia URISA Conference & Workshop, Helen, GA

September 19-21: Geospatial Information and Technology Association (GITA), 14th Annual GIS for Oil & Gas Conference and Exhibition, Houston, TX

September 30: American Water Resources Association – Florida Section Meeting, Cedar Key, FL

Kentucky Geological Survey Geologic IMS

It's been said many times, that Kentucky is one of the best mapped states in the nation. Now the Commonwealth of Kentucky is being touted as way ahead of the technology when it comes to capturing and sharing that data in a GIS format via internet map servers or IMS. Matt Crawford, GIS expert and geologist for the Kentucky Geological Survey, says, "Kentucky is probably one of the most advanced GIS states in the country. The cooperation between state, local, and private organizations in developing GIS data and Internet services is amazing." Kentucky's multiple online GIS interfaces have a lot to offer the public from the advanced analyst, to the casual GIS user. [Kentucky Geography Network, or KYGEONET, \(kygeonet.ky.gov\)](http://kygeonet.ky.gov) is the commonwealth's geospatial data clearinghouse. A huge selection of data is available through this site for download or exploration. One of our favorite links through KYGEONET is the Kentucky Geological Survey Internet Map Server, KGSGeoPortal, which is sort of a "one-stop shopping" site allowing the user to access a wealth of data from land use to detailed geologic information to transportation data. The geologic information service, though still in the preliminary (beta) stages, has the option to create detailed geologic maps as seen in the inset above. In addition, the site contains massive amounts of geologic data associated with the maps. One can download published cross sections, well data for oil/gas or water, detailed lithologic descriptions and stratigraphic columns, archaeology information, and economic information. This is highly usable for the geology professional or student by making so much data available in one website.



AGI Launches Custom Map Service

Responding to numerous client requests, AGI has launched a basic map service. While maps are an essential part of many of our projects, there has been a strong demand for a simple, but stand-alone map service. We are focusing on two main map types, Custom and Interactive.

Category of Links

Check our website when you get a chance, we've upgraded significantly this summer:
<http://www.adgeo.net>

U.S. Census Bureau indicates Texas is now a 'majority-minority' state:
<http://spatialnews.geocomm.com/dailynews/2005/aug/11/news5.html>

Take a geography quiz:
<http://www.lizardpoint.com/fun/geoquiz/>

Contact Us

Website:

<http://www.adgeo.net>

email:

awood@adgeo.net

2441 Monticello Drive
Suite 600
Tallahassee, FL 32303
850/580-4GIS



Custom Maps are developed in a GIS and delivered electronically in an Adobe PDF format (other formats are available). Just about any data layer imaginable is available for input into the maps. A custom map could include such layers as parcels, roads, sinkholes, lakes and rivers, geologic information, floodplains, well locations, political boundaries, and soils data.

Interactive maps are generated using ESRI's Publisher and designed to be viewed using the free ArcReader program. The advantages of this map type allow users to view and print custom maps, zoom in/out and pan, perform basic data and map analysis, complete a search, measure distances, set layer transparency, and export maps from their own PC.

Tips and Tricks - Setting Reference Scales

Have you ever noticed that the symbols and text on your printed map did not appear the same as they did onscreen in ESRI's ArcMap interface? Have you ever wanted to know what symbols and text will look like once the map is printed? The answer to those questions lies in defining or setting the reference scale in the "Data Frame Properties" dialog of ArcMap. When a reference scale is set, all feature symbology, labels, and graphics in the current data frame will be scaled relative to the reference scale. The symbol size is fixed to the scale and will increase as you zoom in and decrease as you zoom out. This essentially holds the display settings of your labels and symbols constant by defining the scale at which text and symbols will appear actual size.

Without a reference scale set, for example, 12 point symbols and fonts will be 12 point relative to the screen size regardless of map scale. By setting a reference scale at 1:24,000, ArcMap will preserve or freeze 12 point symbols and fonts so that they appear as 12 point only when the map is viewed at 1:24,000. The reference scale for a data frame is set by going to the "Data Frame Properties - General" tab and entering in the scale. However, you can disable scaling for individual layers in a data frame by double-clicking the layer, then the "Display" tab, and un-checking the "scale symbols when a reference scale is set" option.

Hint: ArcMap doesn't know monitor size so a 12 point symbol is based on a default 15" monitor. To change this setting, access the "AdvancedArcMapSettings.exe" in your "ArcGIS\utilities" folder.

Miscellaneous - Adapting Google™ Maps

There are several sites on the web that have been taking advantage of Google™ Maps. One example is <http://www.ahding.com/cheapgas/>, which is powered by www.gasbuddy.com. This site takes information on gas prices compiled from registered members and plots their locations on a convenient, easy to browse map.

Another site that utilizes Google™ Maps capabilities is <http://www.sueandpaul.com/gmapPedometer/>, which allows the use of a tool originally developed to aid runners and joggers in calculating distance covered. The site also allows the user to estimate calorie count and create a link to a route that can be shared with others.

The *GeoSpatial Advisor™* is an electronic newsletter published by Advanced GeoSpatial Inc. The *GeoSpatial Advisor™*, all of its contents and materials are Copyright © Advanced GeoSpatial Inc. 2005. All Rights Reserved.