



Helping communities plan for their future in Downeast Maine

Instructional Guidelines for using the

Public Parcel Viewer



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These instructions guide the use of the online Public Parcel Viewer prepared by Lynn O'Kane at the UMM GIS Laboratory and Service Center. The map application supports the GROWashington-Aroostook regional planning process which focuses on job creation, modern infrastructure, and healthy, affordable communities in the counties of Aroostook and Washington in northeastern Maine. More information is available at http://www.gro-wa.org/

Overview of map

The Parcel Map Viewer provides the general public and other interested parties with information on tax parcels, shoreland zoning, wetlands, and conserved lands. It supplements that information with public service information for a given town.

The map and application are for reference purposes only and not to be used for assessment or conveyance. Please refer to surveys or deeds for specific property line locations.

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Any questions, issues, or errors that arise while using the online mapping tools, please alert the UMM GIS Laboratory and Service Center via email at <u>giscenter@maine.edu</u>. We will respond as promptly as possible in order to provide the best service to our local communities.

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Instructions

1. Searching the map by clicking on a parcel

Click in the middle of a parcel to view the information associated with it in the pop-up window.

Tax parcel



Wetlands



Note: the pop-up window may obscure part of the parcel you have selected. Close the pop-up window to see the parcel again in full.

Conserved lands



Shoreland Zoning



2. Locating a parcel by using the search tool

Click on the magnifying glass in the toolbar:

Select the desired address or map/lot # from the search list. The map will zoom to this parcel and display the pop-up information.





Search by address or part of an address. Search by map and lot # or part of the number.

3. Changing the base map



Click on the base-map icon in the toolbar:

Choose a base-map: <u>Imagery</u>, <u>Imagery</u> with <u>Labels</u>, <u>Streets</u>, or <u>Topographic</u>. The map will then display the chosen base map.



4. Printing and Sharing a Map

Note: The share tool allows you to share a map on Twitter, Facebook or email via Microsoft Outlook. Using the print tool, you can save a PDF that can easily be shared with others not using Microsoft Outlook by uploading the document to an email or other social media.

Click on the Print icon in the toolbar:

Select portrait or landscape page orientation by clicking on either of the two pages displayed in the dialogue box. Enter a title and author in the appropriate text fields. Click the printer icon at the bottom of the tool window.

The printer icon will make a very subtle printing action while it processes your request. It will take a few moments to produce a document.

The map is ready to view when a page icon appears on the toolbar next to the printer icon.

Click on the page icon to display the map layout in a new tab window.

The map document can be saved or printed. Simply sweep your mouse cursor down to the right lower section of the browser screen to trigger the scrolldependent menu bar.

Click the floppy disc icon to retrieve options to save the map to the desktop as a PDF. Click the printer icon to print the map.

Note: Not all web browsers manage the online mapping tools effectively. If issues arise, try another web browser.





Limitations of the Parcel Map

- When exploring the imagery base maps, keep in mind that the parcel lines may not appear accurate with the landscape. The map and application are for reference purposes only and not to be used for assessment or conveyance. Please refer to surveys or deeds for specific property line locations.
- There is minimal difference between these base maps: Imagery and Imagery with Labels. The labels refer to labeled features on the landscape.
- When zooming in and out, the Parcel Map Viewer will not return to a previous extent or the original full extent. If you wish to return the map to its original size, cancel the map and click on the link to the map again.
- If the book and page number are not displayed for a tax parcel because they were not provided by the town, the "Book" and "Page" will still appear in the pop-up window but without any numbers following them. This means that the data are unavailable for this parcel. Contact the town office or town assessor to ask if this data can be added to the online maps.

5. To search for deed information on the website of the Washington County Registry of Deeds

Within the pop-up window for a tax parcel in the Public Parcel Viewer, note the book and page number of the parcel of interest.



Click on "Washington Real Property Records" in the pop-up window to search for deed information on the website of the Washington County Registry of Deeds. The website for the Washington County Registry of Deeds will open. Enter the book and page number of the tax parcel and access the deed for the property, as follows:



6. Use the Parcel Viewer on a Mobile Device

Use the locator tool when you access the Public Parcel Viewer on a smart phone, tablet or other mobile device in the field. Click the locator tool icon and the internal GPS will retrieve and zoom to your current location, displaying a blue marker point on the viewer screen*.

The point is stationary and will remain in place as you adjust the screen view. If you move, click the icon again to refresh and retrieve your new location.

*The first time that you use the locator tool, the device will ask for permission to use your device location before it will function.

