



Planning Perspectives

A Newsletter from the York County Planning Commission

July 2010

Regional GIS Web Mapping Application

www.myregisonline.com

In 2008, York County became a strategic partner in the Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor (CSSC) in order to plan for the expected growth from the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) efforts taking place at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, just 20 miles south of the York County line. The potential influx of people and businesses into the area created the need to develop a tool that would assist with growth management and land use planning in the region. This tool would also help people moving into the area find adequate housing and amenities that suited their needs. The tool that was developed is a GIS-based web mapping application called "MyReGISonline".

MyReGISonline Overview

The extent of this application covers seven counties and one city in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware, as shown in Figure 1. The application is unique in that it covers three states, although most of its data is pulled from the local data sources, mainly each county. This takes place by running local data through an intricate model that streamlines all database field names into common fields that are used within the application. All local data sets are merged together into a seamless regional layer and are updated on a quarterly basis.

This application was created with ease of use in mind for non-technical GIS users but with the flexibility for people with a GIS background to do some additional analysis. When the site is first accessed, it allows a user to enter a particular address or simply zoom into an area of interest. Then a user can browse through a variety of data themes and simply click on one of the many predefined questions to easily access information. For example, one predefined question asks "What is the slope of soils?"

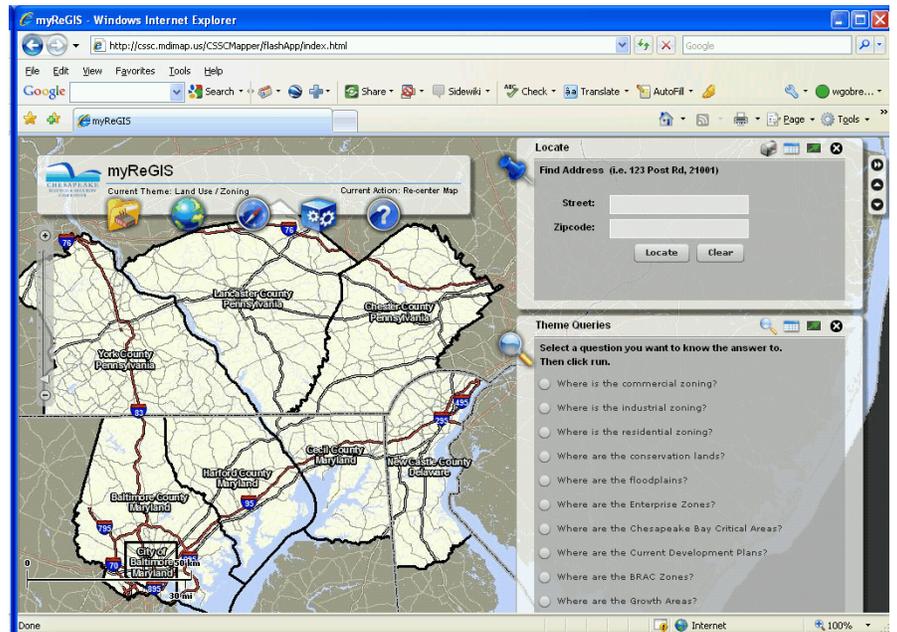


Figure 1

Once this request is processed a map comes back showing all of the soil slopes that are present in your current view, as shown in Figure 2. A user also has access to additional attribute information by selecting or identifying specific sections of the soils layer.

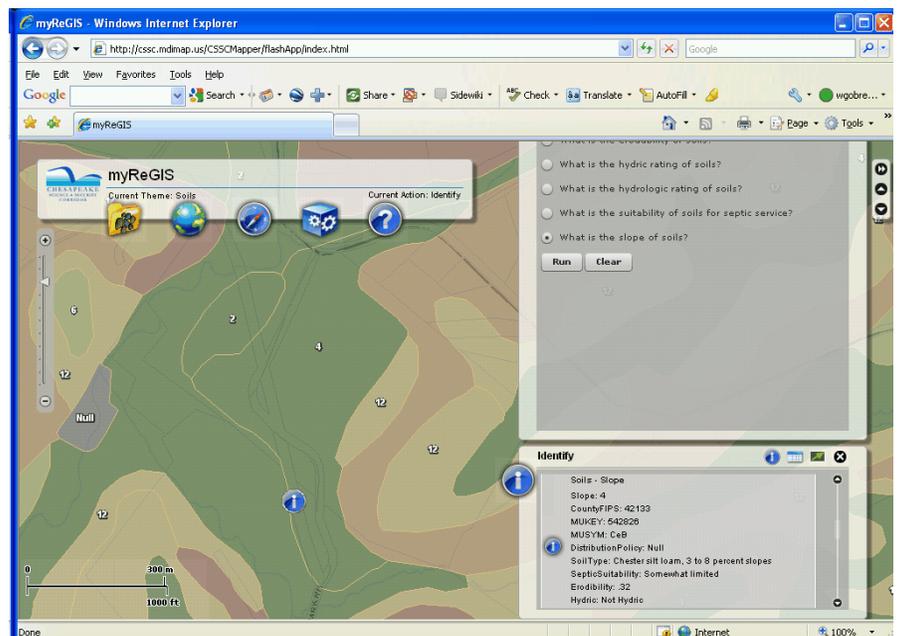


Figure 2



Figure 3

A full list of data themes are reflected in Figure 3. These cover a wide variety of categories including: demographics, public safety, zoning, topography and much more. Along with the data themes, a few base data layers can be accessed using the application including parcels, roads, streams and aerial photographs. Some of the base data can be viewed in Figure 4.

The **MyReGISOnline** application offers more than just data access. It allows a user to do some analysis with its buffering, measuring and querying capabilities. This application also allows for map creation, map markup and printing. County staff can register through the web application to gain authorized access that enables the printing of large-size maps (up to 34x44).

Other features of the application include; batch geocoding (plotting points based on a table of addresses), creating bookmarks (quicklinks to a saved view, such as a particular borough), creating detailed property reports and access to online help documents.

Accessing MyReGISOnline

The **MyReGISOnline** application can be found at the following URL: www.myregisonline.com.

It can also be accessed by selecting the On-Line Mapping link from York County's GIS website: www.yorkgis.org. This website also contains links to the York County Assessment Department's Parcel Mapping website and additional information regarding GIS activities within the county.

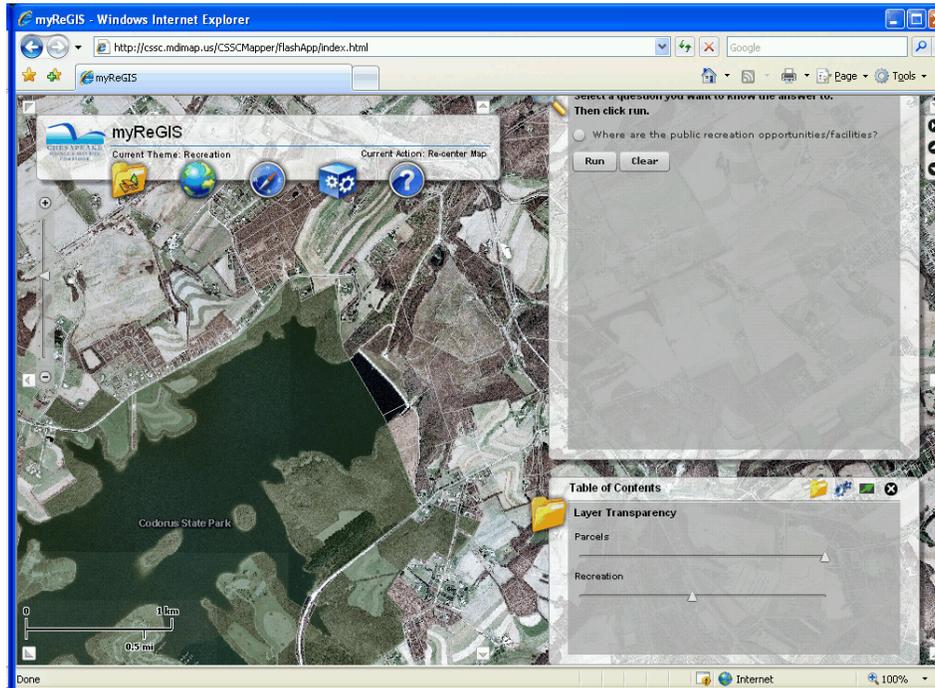


Figure 4

For additional information on MyReGISOnline or GIS in York County, please contact:

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Planning Perspectives is a newsletter created by the staff of the York County Planning Commission. It covers current topics of interest in the field of Urban and Regional Planning. If you have a suggested topic for future issues, please contact Felicia Dell at 771-9870.