

Online Data Distribution and Data Accessibility – The Clinton County GIS Approach

When our GIS Department began more than a decade ago, there were very few tools by which folks could gain access to GIS data. Over the last few years, with the advent of easy to use and easily accessible GIS and mapping applications there is now a plethora of ways that people can gain access to this data. My career in GIS has spanned more than two decades and I have spent the vast majority of this time answering the age-old question of “How can I get this stuff out of my office so people can use it?”

My presentation will focus on how Clinton County distributes and uses GIS data through a multi-tiered approach, utilizing interactive mapping web pages, through the use of applications such as Google Earth, ArcGIS Explorer, ArcReader, etc. and through making all of our data available to the public for download, including thousands of scanned maps ranging from 1810 through to the present. We are all about getting people in a position where they can help themselves answer the questions that they have using the products, tools and support that we provide

We have also gone to great lengths to offer our data in formats such as intelligent PDF files, shapefiles, GeoDatabase, and in LiDAR specific data formats, to name but a few. We have found through experience that providing data is not the end of the consumer – government relationship; it is the beginning.

My presentation will outline how we have been very successful in accomplishing the missions that each and every GIS Department creates and inherits in regards to leveraging GIS Data to squeeze the most benefit out of our products through cleverness and innovative techniques.