

Session Abstracts

A GIS-Based Approach to Permit Management

Presented by Jeff DuMez, Brown County and Mike Nordquist, Pro-West & Associates

Description: Learn how Brown County modernized its state-mandated Shoreland Zoning Permit and Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (POWTS) program with a workflow that improves visibility, eases field data collection, and enhances reporting – using only the County’s GIS software. See how the County replaced legacy forms and scattered SQL files with an integrated GIS solution, allowing Zoning staff to quickly map and track compliance, identify properties needing reminders or enforcement, and generate clear, actionable reports. See the simple mobile forms enabling users to enter information in the field and the valuable difference it’s making in improving data accuracy.

We’ll walk through the implementation approach, share lessons learned, and discuss outcomes since go-live including what worked well, what we’d do differently, and tips for other counties looking to streamline the process with GIS.

Keywords: *county, public works, utilities, permit, mobile*

Driving Innovation: How St. Johns County Transformed Fleet Management

Presented by Summer Manestar and Olivia Testasecca, St. Johns County

Description: St. Johns County, FL has reimagined its fleet operations by integrating a range of smart technologies to boost efficiency, accountability, and long-term sustainability. This presentation will demonstrate how the County utilized Trimble Cityworks as a GIS-focused CMMS, Esri’s ArcGIS for spatial asset management, Verizon Connect Reveal for real-time AVL tracking, and the NAPA IBS system for more efficient parts warehousing.

This session will provide practical insights for public works professionals seeking to modernize their fleet operations through connected technologies, performance metrics, and strategic planning. Whether you’re dealing with technician shortages, increasing procurement costs, or the need to justify fleet investments to leadership, this presentation offers repeatable solutions based on real-world success.

Keywords: *Public Works; Fleet; Spatial Asset Management*

Powering Modern Utilities: Real-World GIS Solutions for Efficiency, Compliance, and Field Operations

Presented by Sarah Brenneman, Cultivate Geospatial Solutions

Description: GIS has become essential to modern utility operations — replacing paper-based workflows, improving field coordination, and ensuring regulatory compliance. This presentation explores how Cultivate Geospatial Solutions has partnered with Citizens Energy Group to modernize gas and water operations through real-world GIS solutions, including gas and water trace tools with integrated reporting, gas compliance applications built on Field Maps, and street cut and resurfacing workflow apps. Attendees will gain practical insight into how purpose-built GIS tools can reduce operational risk, streamline field workflows, and deliver measurable value across a utility enterprise.

Keywords: *Gas, Water, Utility, Utility Network, Tracing, Geoprocessing Services, Field Collection*