

From '0 to 60' in a year, building a GIS from scratch in Eustis, Florida

The City of Eustis, Florida has identified GIS as a key tool to manage municipal assets. The city has invested time and money to hire a new GIS Specialist to support this effort. The city worked with Wright-Pierce to build this GIS using existing data sources. Prior to 2022/2023 the city did not have a working GIS inventory of water, wastewater, and signage assets. This information was primarily stored and accessed in CAD. Prior efforts by the city had produced GIS data that was more limited and did not provide comprehensive GIS coverage of the system. It was clear that a more complete layer needed to be generated for asset management purposes.

One of the key hurdles was to make attribute information stored as annotations within the CAD files accessible to GIS users. This key functionality required a good deal of experimentation and discussion between both parties. Ultimately it was determined to leverage the skillset of the GIS Programmer on staff at Wright-Pierce and the program FME (a GIS adjacent tool for data manipulation) to transform the annotations into attributes. This process utilized as much existing data and information as possible to generate 'the bones' of a GIS for asset management purposes maximizing efficiency of existing data sources. This session will highlight the process of converting that CAD data into a GIS Database of assets using a combination of manual entry, Survey123 and FME.

Bio(s):

Michelle Saxman has a B.S. in Historic Preservation and M.A. in History. She worked on GIS data for architecture and the FEMA Floodplain maps for South Dakota.

Michelle Saxman, M.A.
GIS/Engineering Specialist
The City of Eustis, FL
Phone No:352.483.5480
Email: saxmanm@eustis.org

Jackeline Amaya has been a GIS analyst at Wright-Pierce since August 2022. She graduated with a degree in environmental geoscience and her graduates in GIS from WVU. Her GIS experience includes collecting, creating, editing, and processing spatial data as well as map creation, data management, and flood maps.

Jackie Amaya
GIS Analyst
Wright-Pierce
Phone No: 813.337.7486
Email : jackeline.amaya@wright-pierce.com

Jonah Miller is a hybrid Programmer and GIS Analyst who has been with Wright-Pierce since January 2020. He has more than 5 years' experience with cartography and spatial analysis in GIS, as well as database management, scripting with Python, and driving data translations through Safe Software's Feature Manipulation Engine (FME). Originally focused solely on GIS, he particularly excels with opportunities to expand spatial data beyond its original constraints or limitations.

Jonah Miller, M.S.
GIS Analyst/Programmer
Wright-Pierce
207.319.1521
Jonah.miller@wright-pierce.com

Kean McDermott is a GIS Analyst who has been with Wright-Pierce since 2020. At Wright-Pierce he focuses on horizontal wastewater infrastructure. Prior to Wright-Pierce he worked for a university library helping students and faculty include GIS in their research and teaching. In his spare time Kean enjoys cycling to and from work and most other places.

Kean McDermott, M.S.
GIS Analyst
Wright-Pierce
603-570-7128
Kean.mcdermot@wright-pierce.com