



The Vermont Center for Geographic Information, Inc.

VCGI is a public nonprofit supported in part by the State of Vermont (through the property transfer tax) and in part through grants and fees paid for the products and services it provides to clients (e.g. the VT Agency of Transportation and the VT Enhanced 9-1-1 Board).

The storage and provision of **free digital geographic data** created by members of the VT GIS community (VGIS) are two of the most important tasks that VCGI performs. Anyone can visit the VCGI web site to download this GIS data (see description below if you are not familiar with the term "GIS").

VCGI also does the following:

- 📍 Develops data standards, guidelines, and procedures
- 📍 Develops and assists in the development of essential statewide databases
- 📍 Develops and hosts interactive map applications to increase the public's access to information
- 📍 Performs outreach and training to current and potential GIS users
- 📍 Supports the VT Spatial Data Partnership (an informal membership organization)

The easiest way to learn more about VCGI and the available data is by visiting our web site at: www.vcgi.org

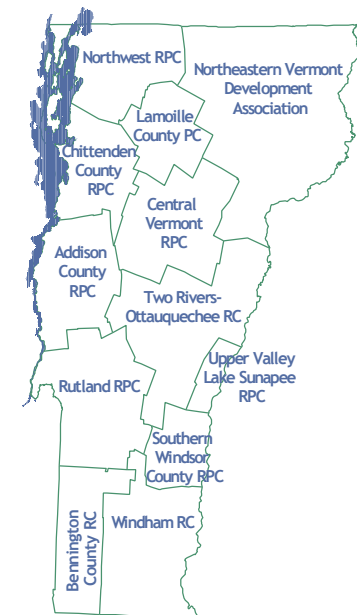
You can also contact us via phone or e-mail to ask specific questions, to request the VGIS Newsletter, or to request paper versions of some of our informational materials. We welcome your questions, suggestions and visits; please contact VCGI at (802) 882-3000 or geowiz@vcgi.org

What is GIS?

GIS stands for **geographic information system** and it refers to computer mapping tools and resources. When digital information is geographically referenced (meaning that the information is linked to specific places on the earth, using a system such as Latitude/Longitude) it can be used to create map layers as well as to perform analyses and even model hypothetical situations ("what if?" scenarios). GIS has been used by the defense, natural resources, and planning communities for many years, and is now being used by many more sectors including transportation, marketing, utilities, emergency management, sales, and education, to name just a few.

Other GIS Resources

Regional Planning Commissions (RPC) in Vermont provide assistance in obtaining GIS services and data. Every town in Vermont can turn to one of these regional service centers. Staffed with professionals in a variety of planning fields as well as GIS, these quasi-governmental Commissions provide technical guidance and support services to their member municipalities and the public. Visit the VCGI web page or give us a call to obtain contact information for your RPC.



In addition, **the private sector** offers Vermont businesses, citizens, and public organizations many engineering, surveying, planning, and/or mapping firms which can help with any stage of a project from data collection to analysis to mapping. You can contact VCGI for a current list of firms, or view a PDF of the list at the VCGI web site: www.vcgi.org

If you are a GIS Professional, VCGI can provide you with:

- Free VT GIS data
- Standards and guidelines for creating VT GIS data
- Assistance developing GIS data
- Technical assistance
- Networking opportunities

If you are a GIS Novice, VCGI can provide you with:

- Assistance learning more about GIS
- Free GIS data
- Mentors
- Networking opportunities

Wherever you are on the spectrum of GIS knowledge and skills ... VCGI has something to offer

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Resources for people using or interested in computer mapping

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Tel: 802-882-3000
Fax: 802-882-3001
Email: geowiz@vcgi.org
Web: www.vcgi.org