

NJMC NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Brian Aberback, Public Information Officer
Phone: 201-460-4619 Cell: 201-615-8570 brian.aberback@njmeadowlands.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 13, 2012



NJMC Wins Top Honors at State Digital Mapping Competition

LYNDHURST, N.J. –Members of the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission’s (NJMC) Geographic Information Systems (GIS) team took first and second place in the Best Instructional Presentation category at the 25th Annual NJDEP Mapping Contest in Trenton. Stephanie Bosits and Brian Kennedy won first place for their presentation, “Meadowlands District Emergency Response Information System (ERIS).” Adam Osborn finished in second place for his demonstration of “Parcel Management within the New Jersey Meadowlands.”

“The NJMC congratulates Stephanie, Brian and Adam on their excellent showings at the State Mapping Contest,” said Marcia Karrow, Executive Director of the NJMC. “The GIS team’s pursuit of cutting-edge, digital mapping technology has helped the Commission provide Meadowlands District municipalities with invaluable tools that can help first responders better protect the health and safety of residents and allow town employees to work more efficiently.”

Bosits and Kennedy explained how the NJMC’s ERIS maps deliver precise information at the click of a mouse to first responders on the location and types of hazardous materials stored in every warehouse and industrial facility within District municipalities. Police, fire and emergency management departments can also use the maps to determine the locations of the nearest fire hydrants and turn around space for heavy firefighting equipment. Prior to GIS technology, first responders relied on paper maps and binders to find this critical information. The GIS team, which is part of the NJMC’s Meadowlands Environmental Research Institute, is currently digitizing floor plans for every business in District towns.

Osborn showed how the GIS team has mapped every property within District municipalities – nearly 100,000 parcels. By clicking on a parcel the public can view numerous data including block and lot, easements, address, zoning and land use, acreage, and building footprint. This web-based map can help building code and tax officials save time by generating property boundaries using the system’s buffer tool. The application quickly establishes which property owners need to be informed of variance requests or other proposed changes to surrounding properties.

The GIS team continuously maintains and updates its digital maps and offers year-round refresher and training courses on its mapping tools for municipal officials and first responders.

The New Jersey Meadowlands Commission is the planning and zoning authority for the 30.4-square-mile Meadowlands District. The District includes portions of Carlstadt, East Rutherford, Little Ferry, Lyndhurst, Moonachie, North Arlington, Rutherford, Ridgefield, South Hackensack and Teterboro in Bergen County; and Jersey City, Kearny, North Bergen and Secaucus in Hudson County.

###

