

BentonMaps Tutorial

Last Revised: July 24, 2007

Benton County provides a MapServer based web application for access to GIS information for the public and County staff. These applications are designed with the casual user in mind, but do require some familiarity with basic GIS & Mapping interface tools. The BentonMaps applications also include a standard help documentation that you may find useful as you use BentonMaps.

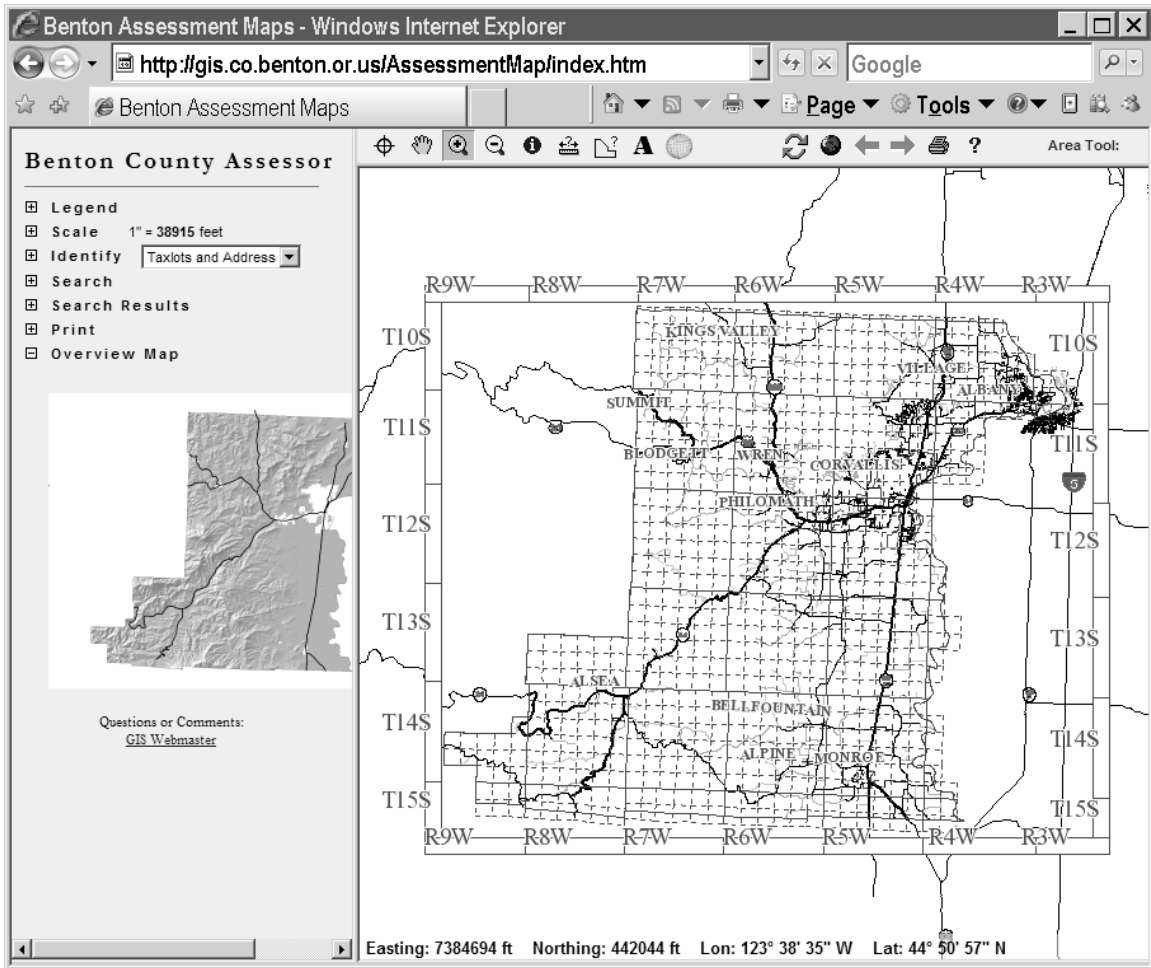
To access any of the applications, visit the main BentonMaps web page (notice also, a link to this tutorial)



While there appear to be several applications available, they are just different versions of the same interface, so learning one interface is usually sufficient for understanding all the versions. Pick the version that suits the type of data you are most interested. For this tutorial, we will use the Assessment Maps application.

Assessment Map:

After clicking on the Assessment Maps link, your browser should show:



Note the tools above the map and the expandable menus on the left side frame. Generally, as you see the '+' sign it indicates that the menu can be expanded to view more options and functionality.

Typically, a user will know some criteria upon which to search. Often times, land ownership (Taxlots) are the dataset they want to search. By clicking the '+' next to the work 'Search' on the left side, several options for search appear:

The screenshot displays a web browser window titled "Benton Assessment Maps - Windows Internet Explorer". The address bar shows the URL <http://gis.co.benton.or.us/AssessmentMap/index.htm>. The page content includes a sidebar for the "Benton County Assessor" and a main map area.

Legend:

- Legend
- Scale 1" = 38915 feet
- Identify Taxlots and Address
- Search

Search:

Clear All Inputs

- Taxlots and Address
- Survey Index
- RoadNames

Search Results:

- Print
- Overview Map

Questions or Comments: [GIS Webmaster](#)

The main map area shows a grid of taxlots with labels for ranges (R9W to R3W) and townships (T10S to T15S). Town names such as Kings Valley, Village, Alsea, and Bellfountain are visible. The map includes a search bar at the top right with the text "Search: All". At the bottom of the map, the coordinates are displayed: Easting: 7522519 ft, Northing: 195582 ft, Lon: 123° 05' 46" W, Lat: 43° 52' 14" N.

By clicking the plus sign next to 'Taxlots and Address' we are able to search for four different attributes of a taxlot. We will search for 'Situs Address'.

The screenshot shows the 'Benton County Assessor' web application. The search results table is as follows:

MapTaxlot	Serial/Account	MapNumber	OwnerName	Site Address
11535CD04000	126932	11535CD	CITY OF CORVALLIS & BENTON CO	180 NW 5TH ST CORVALLIS, OR 97330-4728

You can also search by owner's name, last name first. Often, it is most effective to search for the owner by only the Last Name. Be specific with your search, but you can be less specific and receive up to 25 results – this can be useful when you are unsure as to how a name or address may be represented in the database. Here is an example of a compound query, using a partial name and just a street name (no address number) to find the Benton County properties on 4th street:

Benton Assessment Maps - Windows Internet Explorer

http://gis.co.benton.or.us/AssessmentMap/index.htm

Benton Assessment Maps

Benton County Assessor

Legend

Scale 1" = 76 feet

Identify Taxlots and Address

Search

Clear All Inputs

Taxlots and Address search

Site Address: 4TH

Owner's Name: BENTON

Map Taxlot:

Serial/Account Number:

Survey Index

RoadNames

Search Results

MapTaxlot 11535CD04500

Print

Overview Map

MapTaxlot Serial/Account MapNumber OwnerName Site Address

MapTaxlot	Serial/Account	MapNumber	OwnerName	Site Address
11535CD04500	126881	11535CD	BENTON COUNTY	120 TO 190 NW 4TH ST CORVALLIS, OR 97330
11535DC06600	123434	11535DC	BENTON COUNTY	133 NW 4TH ST CORVALLIS, OR 97330

To zoom to either of these properties, highlight and press the  zoom to record tool.

Benton Assessment Maps - Windows Internet Explorer

http://gis.co.benton.or.us/AssessmentMap/index.htm

Benton Assessment Maps

Benton County Assessor

Legend

Scale 1" = 76 feet

Identify Taxlots and Address

Search

Clear All Inputs

Taxlots and Address search

Site Address: 4TH

Owner's Name: BENTON

Map Taxlot:

Serial/Account Number:

Survey Index

RoadNames

Search Results

MapTaxlot 11535DC06600

Print

Overview Map

Eastings: 7482291 ft Northing: 339724 ft Lon: 123° 15' 45" W Lat: 44° 33' 52" N

MapTaxlot	Serial	MapNumber	OwnerName	Site Address
11535CD04500	126981	11535CD	BENTON COUNTY	120 TO 190 NW 4TH ST CORVALLIS, OR 97330
11535DC06600	123434	11535DC	BENTON COUNTY	133 NW 4TH ST CORVALLIS, OR 97330

Benton Assessment Maps - Windows Internet Explorer

http://gis.co.benton.or.us/AssessmentMap/index.htm

Benton Assessment Maps

Benton County Assessor

Legend

Scale 1" = 14 feet

Identify Taxlots and Address

Search

Clear All Inputs

Taxlots and Address search

Site Address: 4TH

Owner's Name: BENTON

Map Taxlot:

Serial/Account Number:

Survey Index

RoadNames

Search Results

MapTaxlot 11535DC06600

Print

Overview Map

Eastings: 7482553 ft Northing: 339914 ft Lon: 123° 15' 41" W Lat: 44° 33' 55" N

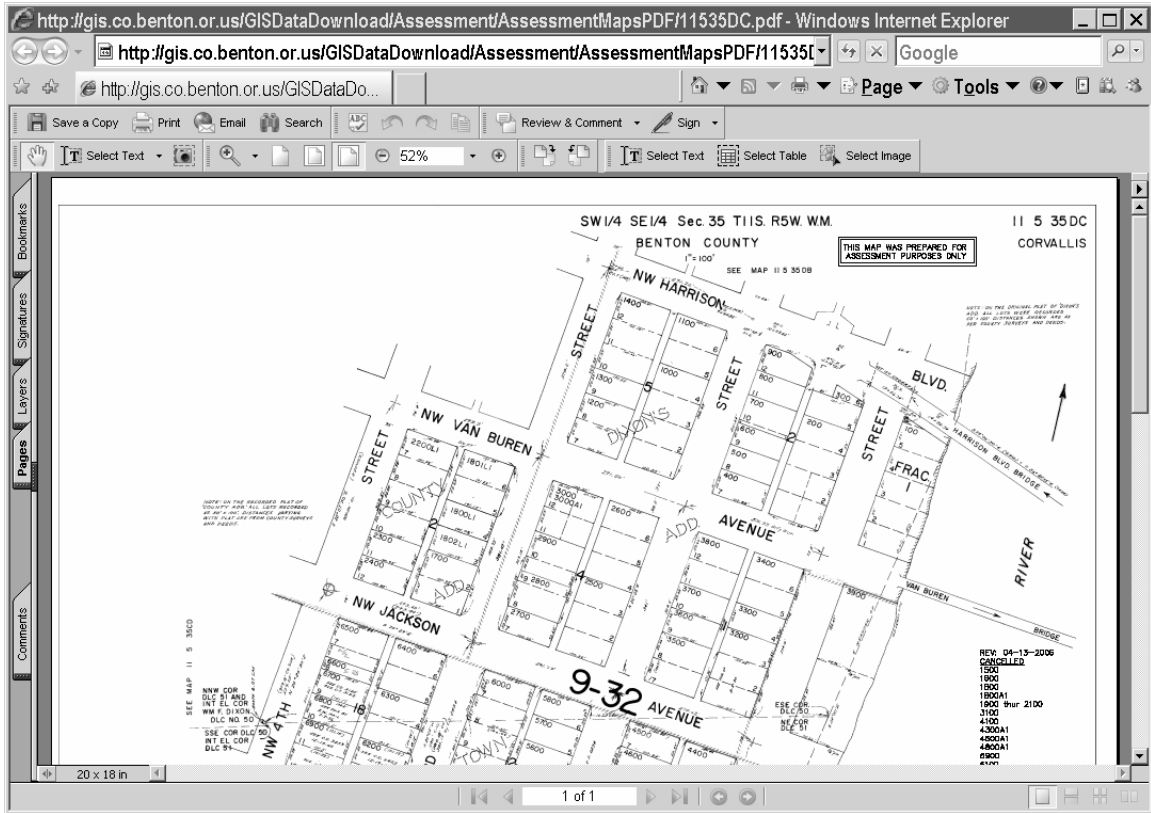
MapTaxlot	Serial/Account	MapNumber	OwnerName	Site Address
11535CD04500	126981	11535CD	BENTON COUNTY	120 TO 190 NW 4TH ST CORVALLIS, OR 97330
11535DC06600	123434	11535DC	BENTON COUNTY	133 NW 4TH ST CORVALLIS, OR 97330

Note the links in the table, they link to the Assessor Property Search results and the Assessment Map in .pdf format.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://www.co.benton.or.us/assess/propertyview.php?a=123434>. The page title is "Benton County - Assessment Office - Property Tax Information". The date is July 24, 2007. The page features a navigation menu on the left with links for Departments, Elected Officials, Home Page, Property Account Search, Title Company Search, Glossary of Terms, Important Dates, Tax Reports, Sales Data, Forms, FAQ, Contact Us, and County Home. The main content area is titled "TAX ASSESSMENT INFORMATION" and includes a disclaimer: "ALL VALUES SHOWN ARE THE LAST CERTIFIED TAX ROLL VALUES AND MAY NOT REPRESENT THE CURRENT ACCOUNT ATTRIBUTES". Below this, there are sections for "Tax Statements Available Online" (with links for 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006) and "Assessment Summary". The assessment summary table provides the following details:

Account Information	
Account Number:	123434
Map/Tax Lot Number:	11535DC06600
Map Lot:	11535DC
Tax Lot:	06600
Property Class:	951
Tax Code Area:	0932
Property Status:	A
Market Land Value:	\$27,680.00
Market Structure Value:	\$89,150.00

At the bottom of the page, there is a logo for "At Your Service Every Day" and the text "Metwaieral Inc. 2006".



After a property is found and information is delivered, often a user will want to change the appearance of the map by turning layers off and on. For example, by expanding the 'Legend' menu, one can turn on aerial photography layers:

The screenshot shows the 'Benton County Assessor' web application in Internet Explorer. The browser address bar shows the URL: <http://gis.co.benton.or.us/AssessmentMap/index.htm>. The application interface includes a legend on the left with various layers checked, a search section with input fields for 'Site Address' (4TH), 'Owner's Name' (BENTON), and 'Map Taxlot'. Below the search fields is a 'Search Results' section showing a table with two rows of data. The map area displays several tax lots with their respective IDs: 11535DC06500, 11535DC06600, 11535DC06700, and 131. The map also shows coordinate information: Easting: 7482562 ft, Northing: 339846 ft, Lon: 123° 15' 41" W, Lat: 44° 33' 54" N. A toolbar at the bottom of the map area includes navigation and zoom controls.


Search Results

MapTaxlot	Serial/Account	MapNumber	OwnerName	Site Address
11535CD04500	128981	11535CD	BENTON COUNTY	120 TO 190 NW 4TH ST CORVALLIS, OR 97330
11535DC06600	123434	11535DC	BENTON COUNTY	133 NW 4TH ST CORVALLIS, OR 97330

By checking the box next to 'Aerial Photo (2004 0.5 ft Corvallis)' and unchecking the 'Address Layers', then pressing the 'redraw' button, the following is the result:

The screenshot shows the 'Benton County Assessor' GIS application. The interface includes a legend on the left with various layers like Tax Lot Layers, Survey Layers, and Aerial Photos. A search panel is active, showing '4TH' and 'BENTON' entered. The map displays several taxlots with IDs like 11535DC06600. A table at the bottom right shows search results for taxlots.

MapTaxlot	Serial/Account	MapNumber	OwnerName	Site Address
11535CD04500	128981	11535CD	BENTON COUNTY	120 TO 190 NW 4TH ST CORVALLIS, OR 97330
11535DC06600	123434	11535DC	BENTON COUNTY	133 NW 4TH ST CORVALLIS, OR 97330

Note also that other layers are available for identification other than Taxlots. For example, the Survey Index gives a geographic index of Subdivision Plats, Partitions, County Surveys, and Galloway Surveys for a given area. To activate Survey index, expand the 'Identify' menu, then pick 'Survey Index'. Use the Identify tool  to click or drag a rectangular area for the query:

Benton Assessment Maps - Windows Internet Explorer

http://gis.co.benton.or.us/AssessmentMap/index.htm

Benton Assessment Maps

Benton County Assessor

Legend

- Draw Map
- Tax Lot Layers (+expand)
- Survey Layers (+expand)
- Boundary Layers (+expand)
- Transportation Layers (+expand)
- Address Layers (+expand)
- Water Layers (+expand)
- Aerial Photo (2004 0.5 ft Corvallis)
- Aerial Photo (2005 1ft Benton)
- Aerial Photo (2005 0.5m USDA)

(-) Zoom out to view layer

Scale 1" = 14 feet

Identify

- Taxlots and Address
- Survey Index
- Tax Code Areas
- RoadNames

Identify Buffer: _____ feet

Search

Clear All Inputs

Taxlots and Address

Site Address:

Owner's Name:

Map Taxlot:

Serial/Account Number:

Survey Index

RoadNames

Easting: 7482598 ft Northing: 339876 ft Lon: 123° 15' 41" W Lat: 44° 33' 55" N

2 of 2

MapTaxlot	Serial/Account	MapNumber	OwnerName	Site Address
11535CD04500	128981	11535CD	BENTON COUNTY	120 TO 190 NW 4TH ST CORVALLIS, OR 97330
11535D006600	123434	11535DC	BENTON COUNTY	133 NW 4TH ST CORVALLIS, OR 97330

Resulting in:

Benton Assessment Maps - Windows Internet Explorer

http://gis.co.benton.or.us/AssessmentMap/index.htm

Benton Assessment Maps

Benton County Assessor

Legend

- Draw Map
- Tax Lot Layers (+expand)
- Survey Layers (+expand)
- Boundary Layers (+expand)
- Transportation Layers (+expand)
- Address Layers (+expand)
- Water Layers (+expand)
- Aerial Photo (2004 0.5 ft Corvallis)
- Aerial Photo (2005 1ft Benton)
- Aerial Photo (2005 0.5m USDA)

(-) Zoom out to view layer

Scale 1" = 14 feet

Identify

- Taxlots and Address
- Survey Index**
- Tax Code Areas
- RoadNames

Identify Buffer: _____ feet

Search

Taxlots and Address

Site Address:

Owner's Name:

Map Taxlot:

Serial/Account Number:

Survey Index

RoadNames

Easting: 7482551 ft Northing: 339915 ft Lon: 123° 15' 41" W Lat: 44° 33' 55" N

DocNumber Name Type

CS3123	CS3123	SURVEY
CS3158	CS3158	SURVEY
G12500004	G12500004	GALLOWAY
G12500011	G12500011	GALLOWAY
GCP00005a	GCP00005a	GALLOWAY

The survey index works similarly to taxlots, the links open .pdf files of documents.