



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department for the Aging

Julie Christopher, Commissioner

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October 24, 2006**

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(Bill Peterson)

07-11

Note: The web addresses (links) in this document may change over time. The Department for the Aging does not attempt to refresh the links once the week has passed. However, this document is maintained on the web for a period of time as a reference. Some links may require registration.

1610 Forest Avenue, Suite 100, Richmond, Virginia 23229

Toll-Free: 1-800-552-3402 (Voice/TTY) • Phone: 804-662-9333 • Fax: 804-662-9354

E-mail: aging@vda.virginia.gov • Web Site: www.vda.virginia.gov

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department for the Aging
Julie Christopher., Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: Directors
Area Agencies on Aging

FROM: Bill Peterson

DATE: October 24, 2006

**SUBJECT: Mapping Virginia Communities: An Introduction to GIS and
Community Analysis Workshop – A One Day Workshop**

For those of you who are interested in learning more about using GIS in ways that might enhance your service delivery, strategic planning, or interagency coordination, I found the following workshop that might be of interest. To register online, check other locations, or for more info visit <http://www.newurbanresearch.org> or telephone 877-241-6576:

This fast paced, hands-on workshop teaches the fundamentals of how to use a Geographic Information System (ArcGIS 9.1) in a way that is particularly relevant to social service providers, planners and researchers. Participants learn to make thematic maps of their community, geocode addresses and perform spatial queries and analysis. Participants also learn to extract and map Census variables such as race, poverty, language, education, health and many other demographic variables. Exercises are designed for beginners. Intermediate Excel skills required. Each student is assigned a computer on which to work for the day.

When: November 16th and 17th, 2006 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
(Note: These are one day workshops. Please choose which date is most convenient for you.)

Where: Community College Workforce Alliance - Featherstone Professional Center
(John Tyler Community College)
1807 Huguenot Road, Suite 108 Midlothian , VA 23113

Fee: \$399 Checks, Credit Cards and Purchase Orders Accepted

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Workshop Materials

Materials include a comprehensive workbook (75 pages), which includes the presentation, exercises and reference worksheets, ArcGIS (ArcView 9.1) software 60-day trial CD set, a subscription to the Planners' ToolBox subscription service which provides access to new 2005 Tiger/Line geography files (already converted to shapefiles) such as streets, zip codes, school districts, voting districts, census tracts and many other useful geographies. The subscription also includes Analyzing Your Community Workshop: Using the Census to Better Analyze Changing Places and People online web workshop.

Workshop Agenda

Lesson 1

*Learn the basic functions of ArcGIS 9.1
Adding data and geography layers
Working with Layouts*

Lesson 2

*Introduction to Census Bureau's American Factfinder
Downloading Census and American Community Survey data to map
Downloading free geography files including tracts, zip codes, blocks and several others
Preparing Census tract data in Excel to import into ArcGIS*

Lesson 3

*Creating thematic (color shaded) maps to display data
Joining data with geography files
Working with legends and interval breaks*

Lesson 4

*Address mapping (geocoding)
Downloading free business addresses*

Lesson 5

*Performing location queries
Performing attribute queries
Creating target area shapefiles*

Lesson 6

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*Elements of good maps including colors, fonts and map must haves
Critique of several maps*

Praise for the GIS Workshop:

Virginia Department of Health: "Far superior than most training which I attend. And the best software training I have attended."

Science Museum of Virginia: "Excellent Workshop. Good hands-on experience."

Arlington County Government: "Great day, excellent workshop!"

Virginia Department of Social Services: "This workshop was excellent & enjoyable. I learned a lot about using GIS."

New Urban Research, Inc. is a social research company located in Portland, Oregon. For more information about the workshop, who we are and what we do, check out our website at <http://www.newurbanresearch.org>. New Urban Research, Inc. 3323 NE 33rd Ave Portland, Oregon 97212 -- 877.241.6576