Discover parkland

Parkland County's Public Interactive Mapping Application

USER MANUAL

Geographic Information Systems

Discover Parkland

Updated: January 2020

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1. Welcome to Discover parkland

Discover Parkland is an interactive mapping application providing public access to County information. Discover Parkland allows users to view and search for various types of information, take measurements, add graphics, create pdf maps, and generate property reports with assessed value. Discover Parkland is accessed through the Parkland County website. Go to https://www.parklandcounty.com/en/index.aspx and click on the Maps logo at the bottom right hand side of the green banner. This will open the Parkland County GIS Team page. Click on the green highlighted Discover Parkland text to open the map. The site can be accessed directly via https://maps.parklandcounty.com/discoverparkland/. Read and accept the disclaimer to proceed.

2. Discover Parkland Layout

2.1 LEFT SIDE PANEL

When Discover Parkland opens, the "Home" panel is visible by default (panel on the left hand side). There are tips for getting started, information on whom to contact if you run into issues, as well as a link to the User Manual. At any time, navigate back to this "Home" panel by clicking on the house icon at the bottom of the left side panel.

2.2 SEARCH FUNCTIONALITY

At the top right corner of the screen is a spot to enter a search term. Enter a subdivision name, municipal address, or place of interest and click enter or hit the magnifying glass. Any feature that matches the search term will be added to the "Search Results" panel that will open on the left side of the screen (replacing the "Home" panel).
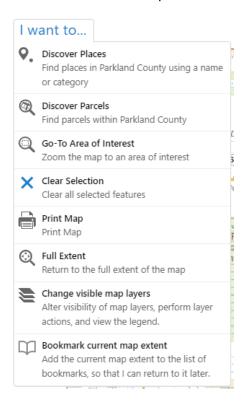
2.3 TOOLBAR & TOOLS

The Toolbar provides access to a variety of navigational, measurement, search, and drawing tools within three separate toolsets (Tools, Search, Draw). To open or close the Toolbar, click on the "Tools" icon, located under the "Search" box at the top right corner of the application. Each of these tools will be discussed in detail in the Toolbars of this document.

2.4 I WANT TO….

The ⬚I want to… button provides access to the following tools.
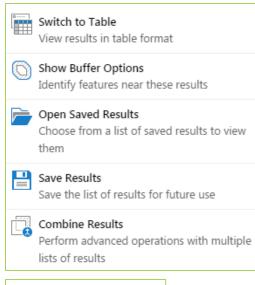
2.4.1   Discover Places

To locate a place of interest within Parkland County, click on "Discover Places". The "Place of Interest Search" panel will open on the left. Select a "Place Type" from the drop-down list and then a "Place of Interest". Once those selections have been made, click "Show in map" to zoom to the place specified. There are many different types of places to select from, such as; campgrounds, firehalls, fishing spots, schools, etc. This tool is also available on the "Search" toolbar.

2.4.2 Discover Parcels

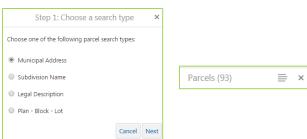To locate a parcel by municipal address, subdivision name, legal description, or plan-block-lot, use the "Discover Parcels" tool. Once the search type is selected from the list, enter additional information. Begin typing to access the drop-down list of parcels. Click "Show in map" to zoom to the location of the selected feature. This tool is also available on the "Search" toolbar. When searching for a subdivision, start typing the subdivision name and a drop-down list will appear. All parcels within that subdivision will be selected and highlighted. The list of selected parcels will be in the left-hand panel.

Once there is a parcel or parcels selected, at the top of the left-hand panel will be information about the number of selected parcels, as well as additional options when this button is clicked:

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"Switch to Table" displays information from the selected parcels in a table format at the bottom of the screen.

"Show Buffer Options" selects parcels within a specified distance.

"Open Saved Results" would be used if there was a previously saved list of selection results.

"Save Results" allows the user to save the selected set of parcels.

"Combine Results" allows for adding or subtracting to the current selection.

To remove a parcel from the selected results, click on the parcel information in the left-hand panel, opening a small window of parcel details just to the right. At the bottom of the window, in blue font, is the option to "Remove from Results".

2.1.1. Go-To Area of Interest

To quickly zoom to a specific area, use the "Go-To Area of Interest" tool. Select the category to search from: Municipality/Hamlet, Industrial Area, or Electoral District. Run through the selections required to and click "Show in map". The map will zoom to the selected area. This tool is also available on the "Search" toolbar.
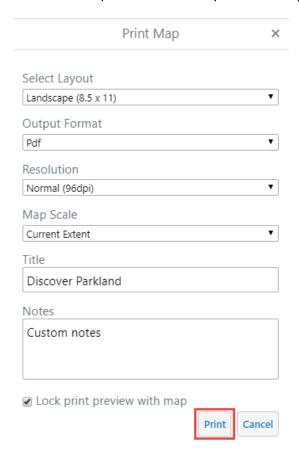

2.1.2. Clear Selection

Use the "Clear Selection" tool to unselect any data that might be currently selected. This tool is also available on the "Search" toolbar.

2.1.3. Print Map

To create a map, click on "Print Map" and select the preferred layout, output format, resolution, map scale, enter a map title, add any required map notes, and click "Print".

A new window will pop up displaying the map on the first page, the legend on the second page. Right click on the screen to save the pdf or print right away. This tool is also available on the "Tools" toolbar.
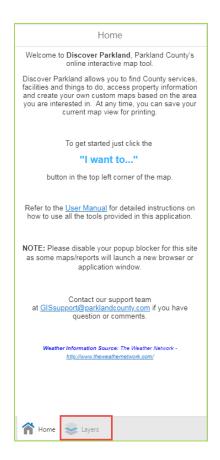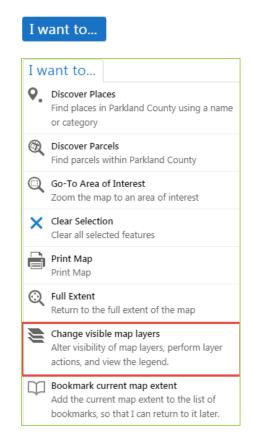
2.1.4. Full Extent

To zoom the map out to the full extent of the data, which is the county boundary, use the "Full Extent" tool. This tool is also available on the Tools toolbar.

2.1.5. Change Visible Map Layers
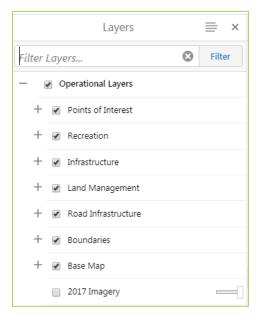
The user can turn data layers on and off to view the data they want to see. Use the Change visible map layers tool to open the Map Layers panel on the left side. Data layers with a ⊞ sign, indicated a folder that can be expanded by clicking the plus sign. There are several useful layers that can be viewed on discover parkland. There are two ways to find the layer list you can find it at the bottom of the side bar on the left side of the map interface or you can click the blue Button on the top left of the map screen and select "Change visible map layers"

This will open the "Layer List" on the side bar to the left of your screen. You can then add or remove any of the layers below.

If there is a specific layer you wish to see for example the "Fire Hydrants" layer you can search in the "Filter Layers…" search bar above the layer list. Once you have located the layer you wish to view click the grey square to the left of the layer to select it. It will now be added to your map.

2.1 COORDINATES

The Coordinate button at the bottom left hand corner of the map view, provides the coordinate location of the mouse. As the mouse moves on screen, the coordinates update. Click on the coordinate button or the scale button to open the tool. Select the coordinate system needed by clicking on the triangle.

2.2 SCALE

Beside the Coordinate button is the Scale Input box. Scale refers to the distance shown on your map screen in relation to the physical distance on the earth. You can change the view of your map by entering a scale in the box shown below. For reference the initial view of the map is at a scale of 1: 286,189 this shows the entire map. Any number smaller than that initial view number will zoom the user closer into the map. Click the scale button and enter the required map scale and click "Go".

2.3 NAVIGATION TOOLS

At the top left side of the screen, within the map view, are simple tools to zoom in and out on the map.

3. Toolbars

There are three sets of tools located on the Discover Parkland toolbar. The "Tools" toolbar contains tools to navigate around the map, create a printable map, and get ground measurements. The "Search" toolbar contains tools to locate specific features within the County and to clear/remove

selected features. The "Draw" toolbar contains tools to create mark-ups or graphics on screen and then create a pdf map to print.

3.1 TOOLS

The "Tools" toolbar contains navigational tools, measurement tools, and a print tool to create a printable map.

3.1.1. Home

The "Home" tool opens the Home panel on the left side of the screen.

3.1.2. Print

The "Print" tool generates a pdf map. See section 2.4.5 Print Map for more details

3.1.3. Map Navigation

The "Zoom In" tool allows the user to draw a box over the area of interest, this will zoom and center your map on that area. The "Zoom Out" tool also allows the user to draw a box on the screen this will zoom the map screen out. Pan around the map by selecting the "Pan" tool, then click and drag your mouse on the screen. Go back to your previous view or forward to your next view using the "Previous Extent" & "Next Extent" tools. Use the "Full Extent" tool to view the map at the full extent of the data.

3.1.4. Measurement

The measurement tools on the "Tools" toolbar are used to get ground measurements. When a measurement tool is selected, the units of measurement can then be chosen.

To use the "Distance" tool, select the tool, set the units of measurement and click on the map to start. Click to record every change of direction and double click to finish the line. There will be a distance measurement placed on each line segment as well as a total distance at the end of the line.
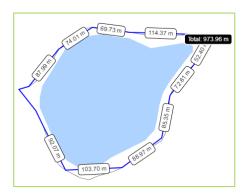
If "Enable Snapping" is selected, click on "Select Snapping Layers" to choose which data layers to snap the measurement lines to. This tool is basically tracing. Here is an example of using the "Distance" tool with "Snapping enabled" and County Roads as the "Snapping Layer". The "Distance" tool snaps to the county road that is closest to the mouse click.
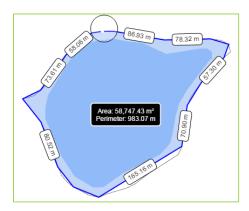
Snapping not enabled: Snapping enabled:

To use the "Area" tool, select the tool and click on the map to start. Click to record every change of direction and double click to finish the area. There will be a distance placed on each line segment and a total area in the centre of the shape. The example below has "Snapping Enabled" and the "Snapping Layer" is set to County Roads.
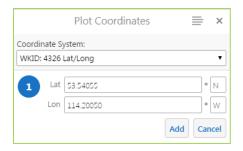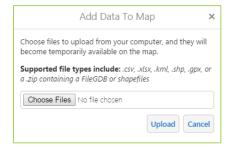

3.1.5. Additional Tools

The "Plot Coordinates tools" allows coordinate placement on the map, in the selected coordinate system. Click on the map to place the coordinates.

The "Upload Data" tool allows the user to add data from outside of the Discover Parkland application to the map. For example, adding data from Google Maps or Google Earth, adding data from a GPS unit, or adding other types of geographic data.
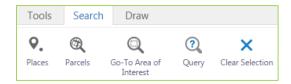

The "Share" tool allows the user to share their map via email or social media.

4. Search

The "Search" toolbar provides tools to search various items throughout Parkland County such as recreation areas, parcels, industrial areas, etc.

4.1 PLACES

To search for a place of interest, click on the "Places" tool. The "Place of Interest Search" panel will open on the left side of the screen. Use the "Place Type" drop down box to select a type of place to search for and then select a particular place from the "Place of Interest" drop down box and click "Show in Map". Below is the list of place types that you can search for.

Bed & Breakfast	Farmers Market	Library	Restaurant/Café
Boat Launch	Fire Hall	Lounge/Bar	Retreat/Spa
Botanic Garden	Fishing	Movie Theatre	School
Campground	Garden Centre Greenhouse	Museum Antique Gallery	Shooting Range
Cemetery	Golf Course	Other Animal Experience	Skate Park
Church	Guided Fishing	Other Parks & Natural Areas	Sports Park
Community Hall	Heritage Centre	Outdoor Adventure	Swimming Pool
Corn Maze	Historic Site	Paint Ball	U-Pick
County Day Use Park	Horseback Riding	Performing Arts	Unique Store
County Office	Hospital	Potable Water	Waste Transfer Station
County Service	Hotel/Motel	RCMP Station	Water Spray Park

4.2 PARCELS

Select the "Parcels" tool to initiate the parcel search. Search by municipal address, subdivision name, legal description, or plan-block-lot and click next. Once two characters are entered into the search box, a drop-down list will appear to narrow the search results. Make a selection and click "Show in map" to zoom to the location and highlight the parcel or subdivision.

4.2.1. Property Report
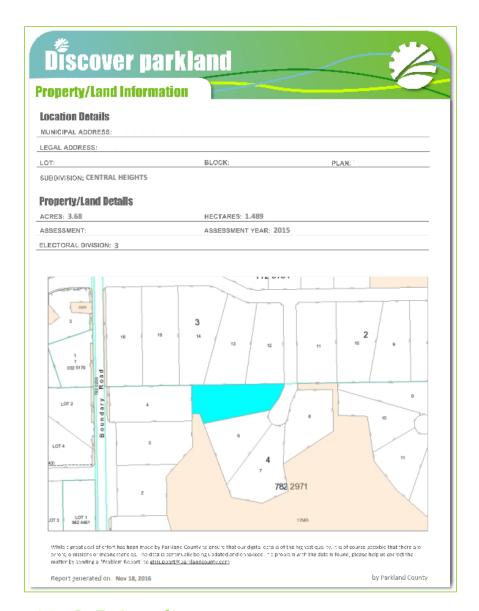
Once a parcel is selected, information appears in the side panel. Click on "Property Information Report" to generate a pdf property report. It will take a moment to generate the report and then it will be available for download.

The selected parcel will show on the report map in bright blue. The report provides information such as location, assessed value, size, electoral division, with a map to provide context.

Parcels (1)

Parcel : 1-1103 TWP RD 540
Plan/Block/Lot:7922370/5/3
Legal Descr: NE-35-53-1-5
Property Information Report

Discover parkland

Property/Land Information

Location Details

MUNICIPAL ADDRESS:

LEGAL ADDRESS:

LOT: BLOCK: PLAN:

SUBDIVISION: CENTRAL HEIGHTS

Property/Land Details

ACRES: 3.68   HECTARES: 1.489

ASSESSMENT: ASSESSMENT YEAR: 2015

ELECTORAL DIVISION: 3

While a great deal of effort has been made by Parkland County to ensure that our digital data is of the highest quality, it is of course possible that there are errors, omissions or inaccuracies. The data is continually being updated and enhanced. If a problem with the data is found, please help us correct the matter by sending a 'Problem Report' to gissupport@parklandcounty.com

Report generated on: Nov 18, 2016   by Parkland County
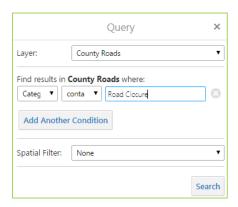
4.2.2. Go-To Area of Interest

To zoom to an area within Parkland County, click on the "Go-To Area" of Interest tool. Select a hamlet, an industrial area, electoral district or trail.

4.2.3. Query

The final search tool is the "Query" tool that allows custom searches to be defined. If you require a more complex query to complete your task. This allows you to select other datasets, locate features within or beyond your map extent, and allows you to create a basic expression to complete your task.
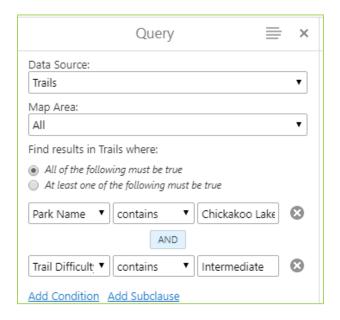

Some basic terminology and meanings are as follows:

Expression/Symbol	Meaning
Contains	Will highlight features containing a certain name, letter, number, etc.
Does Not Contain	Will not highlight features containing a certain name, letter, number, etc.
Starts With	Will highlight features starting with a specific name, letter, number, etc.
Ends With	Will highlight features ending with a specific name, letter, number, etc.
=	Highlighted features contain the exact value, name, etc.
! =	Will highlight all features other than the exact value, name, etc.
<	Highlighted features are greater than a specific value
< =	Highlighted features are greater than or equal to a specific value
>	Highlighted features are less than a specific value
> =	Highlighted features are less than or equal to a specific value

You can increase query complexity by creating additional "Conditions" or "Subclauses". This adds additional details to your query so that your search will return features with increased

specificity. Conditions and Subclauses follow the same format as the general advanced query, however it introduces an 'AND' statement. This statement will return records that only contain both of the expression values, however if you wish to highlight features that contain one or the other, select the button stating at least one of the following must be true.

4.2.4   Clear Selection

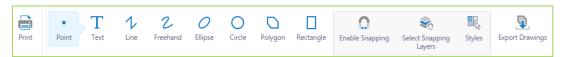Use the "Clear Selection" tool to remove any highlighted features that are currently selected.

5. Draw

The "Draw" toolbar contains the standard print tool, as well as many different tools to create mark-ups or graphics. When a graphic type is selected, additional tools become available to change the style and to assist with graphic placement.

5.1 POINT

The "Point" tool is used to create a point or marker location. To change the point type or color, click the "Styles" button.

The "Enable Snapping" tool allows the user to select a feature in the map to place a point on top of. The "Export Drawings" tool allows the user to export geographic data for the features that they have drawn on screen.
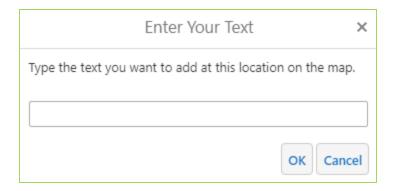
5.2 TEXT

Click the "Text" tool to add text to the map. To choose a different text style before adding the text click the "Styles" button that now appears in the draw menu.

Once you have made a style selection, you can now add the text to the map. Click the location on the map you wish for the text to appear. A box will open, enter your text here and click "OK".
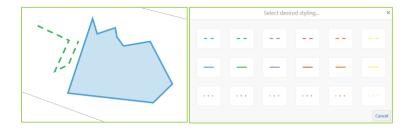
Your text will now appear on your map.

5.3 LINE & POLYGON

To sketch a line or draw a shape (polygon) on the map, select the "Line" or "Polygon" tool and click on the map. Click for every change in direction and double click to finish the feature. There are different styles of lines or shapes to select from.
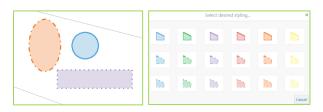

5.4 FREEHAND

To draw a freehand line, select the "Freehand" tool and click on screen. Hold the mouse button down as you move around the screen and the line will be drawn. The styles available for freehand lines are the same as for regular lines.
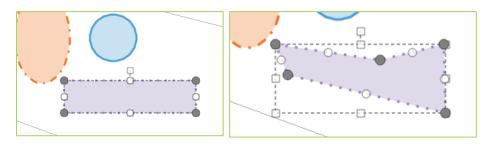
5.5 ELLIPSE, CIRCLE, & RECTANGLE

To draw an "Ellipse, a Circle, or a Rectangle", select the preferred tool and click and drag on the map to create the shape. There are options for outline color and pattern as well as the fill color, available through the "Styles" tool.

5.6 EDIT

The shapes or text added to the map can be moved or edited after they are placed by using the "Edit" tool. Click on the "Edit" tool and then click on the feature to edit. The feature will have "handles" placed around it that you can hover over with your mouse and click and drag to change the shape of the feature. You can also click on the centre of the feature and drag the whole shape to a different location. If you want to change the color of the shape, click on the "Edit" tool, click on the shape and then use the "Styles" tool to select a new style.

5.7 ERASE & CLEAR

To erase a feature that you have drawn on the map, select the "Erase" tool and click on the feature to erase. To erase all the features drawn on the map, use the "Clear" tool.

6. Updates and Additions

The data shown within Discover Parkland is continuously updated. If you notice data errors or omissions, please contact GISsupport@parklandcounty.com.