

User Guide



City of Sioux Falls

GIS Division

SIOUX FALLS INTERACTIVE MAPPING SYSTEM

(SIMS)

OCTOBER 2009

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
Mapping	5
Search	5
Find Address or Intersection	5
Search by Owner Name	5
Search by Property Address	5
Search by Property ID or County ID.....	6
Search by Property Information	6
Buffer Selected Feature (Parcels only)	6
Map Tabs.....	7
Map Tips.....	7
Legend.....	7
FAQ	8

Introduction

Welcome to the Sioux Falls Interactive Mapping System (SIMS). This application is primarily geared toward enabling you to find parcel information as well as view aerial photography. There are many new features, and I encourage you to go through this help document. Please be sure to let us know if you have any questions!

Toolbar Basics

ZOOM IN



The Zoom In tool is active by default. Clicking on the map while Zoom In is active will re-center the map at the cursor position and zoom in. Dragging on the map while Zoom In is active will create a window used to define the new extent of the map.

PAN / RECENTER



The Pan / Recenter tool has both a click and a drag function. A click on the map will recenter the map at the cursor position. Dragging the map will drag the map in the direction of the cursor. The map will redraw once the map has been released.

BUFFER FEATURES



The Buffer Feature tool returns the layers within a set distance from a user-placed point. This feature is currently only available for parcels. Be sure to input a number greater than zero, since zero will return an error.

REDRAW MAP



The redraw map tool redraws the map image.

INITIAL EXTENT



The Initial Extent tool will set the map extent to the city limits.

PRINT



The Print tool brings up the print manager. From here, you can set what and how you print, with or without a map title.

ZOOM OUT



The Zoom Out tool will re-center the map at the cursor position and zoom out.

IDENTIFY FEATURES



The Identify tool selects features. Click on a map feature to select it. Clicking on a map feature that has already been selected will unselect. Dragging on the map will create a window that selects multiple features. The selectable theme can be set below the map, and the default is parcels.

MEASURE



The Measure tool reports on the length of individual line segments, the total length, the area and acreage of the drawn region. Clicking on the map will add a point to the distance being measured and place a marker.

ZOOM PREVIOUS



The Zoom to Previous Map Extent tool will cause the map to redisplay the previous zoom extent, up to ten previous extents.

SAVE MAP IMAGE



The Save Map Image tool creates a .jpg in a new window. From this window, you can send the image via e-mail, save to a new location, print, etc.

The toolbar images have three colors:

- Green** Inactive
- Yellow** Is selectable at that location
- Red** Active

Mapping

The Mapping hyperlink on the right side of the application contains two features, **layer control** and **feature selection manager**.

The **layer control** displays the layers in the map, the “map themes.” From here, you can turn layers on and off, at anytime. To see your changes on the map, select the “Update Map” button, located below all of the themes, or the redraw map icon in the toolbar.

The **feature selection manager** is where the selectable themes are listed and managed. Selected features can be printed, zoomed to, and cleared.

Search

By default, when the SIMS application is launched, the map searches will be listed on the right hand side of the application. To re-display the search options, select the search hyperlink on the upper right of the application.

Find Address or Intersection

Search for an address or intersection and display its location on the map.

1. Select the Search hyperlink on the right hand side of the map ([Search](#)).
2. Select Find Address or Intersection.
3. To search for an address or intersection and display its location on the map, type in an address (i.e. 224 W 9th St) or an intersection (9th St and Dakota Ave), and then select Run Search.
4. At this time, the application will automatically zoom in to the best match. However, all of the likely matches will be listed in the query results window on the bottom of the screen. To zoom in to a different address, select “Center Map on Address” next to the address that you prefer.

Search by Owner Name

Search for a property by entering the name of the owner.

1. Select the Search hyperlink on the right hand side of the map ([Search](#)).
2. Select Search by Owner Name.
3. To search for a property by owner name, enter the last name of the owner (i.e. Smith) or the last name and first name (i.e. Smith, John), for best results, and then select Run Search.
4. If there is only one match, the application will automatically zoom in to that match. If there is more than one match, they will be listed in the query results window on the bottom of the screen. To zoom in to any record, select the owner name in the query results window and the map will zoom in to that property.

Search by Property Address

Search for a property by entering the address.

1. Select the Search hyperlink on the right hand side of the map ([Search](#)).
2. Select Search by Property Address.
3. To search by property address, enter the address (i.e. 224 W 9th St), and then select Run Search.

4. If there is only one match, the application will automatically zoom in to that match. If there is more than one match, they will be listed in the query results window on the bottom of the screen. To zoom in to any record, select the address in the query results window and the map will zoom in to that property.

Search by Property ID or County ID

Search for a property by entering the 16-digit property id or county id.

1. Select the Search hyperlink on the right hand side of the map ([Search](#)).
2. Select Search by Property ID or County ID.
3. To search by property id, enter the parcel's 16-digit property id (i.e. 012216309009000) or county id (i.e. 42991), and then select Run Search.
4. If there is only one match, the application will automatically zoom in to that match. If there is more than one match, they will be listed in the query results window on the bottom of the screen. To zoom in to any record, select the parcel id in the query results window and the map will zoom in to that property.

Search by Property Information

Search for a property by entering the name of the owner, address, property id, or county id. This is a combination of the above three searches. Use this search when you do not need to be prompted with suggested attributes.

1. Select the Search hyperlink on the right hand side of the map ([Search](#)).
2. Select Search by Property Information..
3. To search by property information, enter the name of the owner (i.e. smith, john) or address (i.e. 224 W 9th St), or property id (i.e. 012216309009000), or county id (i.e. 42991).
4. If there is only one match, the application will automatically zoom in to that match. If there is more than one match, they will be listed in the query results window on the bottom of the screen. To zoom in to any record, select on any record in the query results window and the map will zoom in to that property.

Buffer Selected Feature (Parcels only)

Buffer selected parcels to capture other parcels within a specified distance. This buffer is from the outline of the selected parcel (as opposed to the buffer feature tool on the toolbar, which buffers from a selected point).

1. After selecting a parcel via the above property search tools or by using the identify tool, click on the 'Selection Options' link at the top of the selection panel.
2. By default, the target theme will be parcels.
3. Type in a buffer distance, and then select Create Buffer.
4. All parcels that meet the distance criteria from the selected parcel will be selected. View selected parcels, print selection attributes, or export results to a file.
 - a. Note: If you leave the Buffer Distance blank, all parcels that border or intersect the selected parcel will be selected.

Map Tabs

Map tabs allow a user to quickly toggle the layer visibility for numerous themes. Map tabs are displayed immediately above the map image, with the active tab italicized. Each tab tracks changes users have made to the visibility of layers, so if a user switches to a different tab and then back again, they do not lose their custom settings.

For this application, map tabs are particularly useful. After completing a search (by owner name, property id, or by property address), or by manually selecting a parcel with the Identify tool, instead of turning layers that you want to see on and off, you can simply select the map tabs to see the data groups that you are interested in. The parcel that is selected will be displayed in each map tab, with the accompanying layers.

No matter what map tab is selected, you can always turn layers on and off. Select the [Mapping](#) hyperlink, and then layer control. The layer control displays the layers in the map, the “map themes.” From here, you can turn layers on and off. To see your changes on the map, select the “Update Map” button, located below all of the themes, or the redraw map icon in the toolbar.

Map Tips

Map tips display information about map features when the mouse pointer is hovered over the features. You can view which map tips are, by default, enabled, and turn other map tip options on and off by selecting the [Mapping](#) hyperlink, and then selecting Map Tip Options.

Map tips are not dependent on layer visibility. Whether the layer is on or off, the map tip will still display.

Legend

To view the legend, select the [Mapping](#) hyperlink, and then layer control, and then select the Legend link on the right.

FAQ

How do I download plat book pages and aerial photography?

Please see the Data Download Center of the GIS portion of the City website (<http://www.siouxfalls.org/GIS/data>) for downloadable data for personal use.

Where can I find hard copy maps to print or download as pdf?

Please see the Map Gallery of the GIS portion of the City website (<http://www.siouxfalls.org/GIS/maps>). Maps can be viewed, downloaded, and printed (for personal use only).

What are map tabs?

Map tabs are data bookmarks. They are located above the map, but below the title bar. After you search for a parcel, select the different map tabs to draw preselected data layers that fit the name of the theme (i.e. Zoning, Plats, and Aerial Photo). If you would like to put together your own combination of data layers, go to Mapping, Layer Control, and select Layers (if necessary). After turning layers on or off, select Update Map.

Why am I not seeing a data layer? I clicked on the map tab.

Some data layers will only turn on when you are zoomed out to a certain scale or zoomed in to a certain scale. This helps the maps draw more quickly, since the application is hitting on our live, working database.

How do I clear selected features or buffers?

To clear selected features, options include selecting Clear above the tabular data on the right side of the application, or by selecting the "X" next to the themes in the "Show All Selections" Window.

To clear a buffer, and its buffered features, use either the Clear Buffer button in the selection options panel or with the Clear button in the buffer tool options. If you find that you have left this section, your best bet is to refresh the application, using F5, to restart the application.

Can I export the data (to a text file or print) from selected features?

Yes, when data is selected (via selection or buffered selection), there will be options in the tabular data that is returned below the map area. Also, if features are selected, you can also go to Mapping, Feature Selection Manager. From here you can see what layers have selected features, and can print, export, or clear selections.



Please contact me if you have any questions or suggestions for enhancements.

Lauri B. Sohl, GISP, GIS Analyst

lsohl@siouxfalls.org

