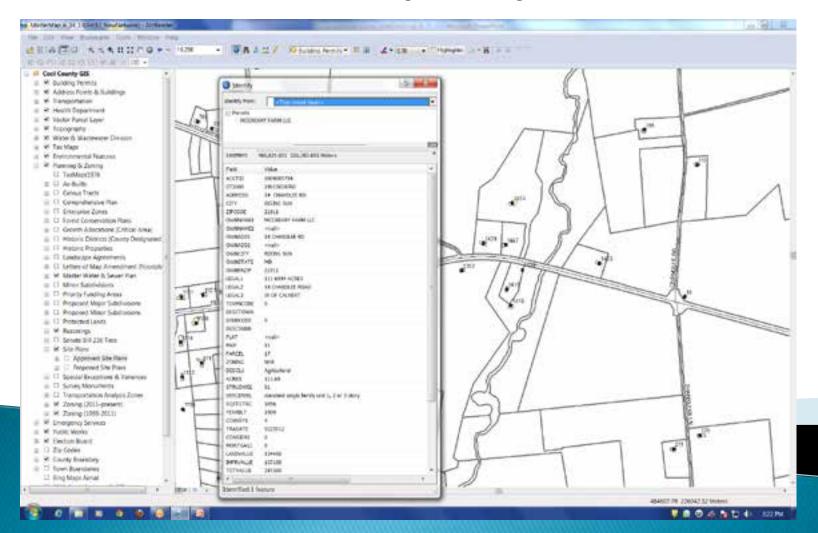
### The Quest for Timely Parcel Attribute Data Cecil County, Maryland



December 10, 2013

### Background

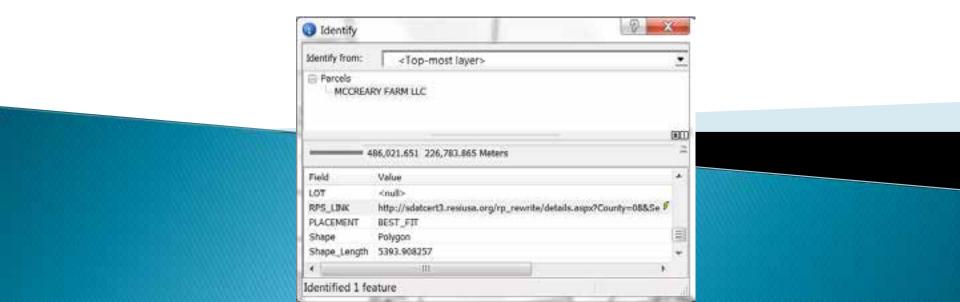
#### •Reliance on Maryland Property View

•From ~ 2007 to May 2013 Cecil County relied on the Maryland Property View product to update attributes in the parcel layer.

•Updates to Property View are supposed to occur every 12 months.

•But oftentimes that is not the case (i.e. February 2012 to September 2013 - 19 months – was the time between the two latest releases).

•We developed the "hyperlink to SDAT" concept to compensate.



### The Hyperlink Concept Has Its Weaknesses

#### Analyses done using the data cannot use the hyperlink button

•i.e. How many parcels are owned by Gobbledygook, LLC? How many parcels were transferred in April 2013? What is the assessed value of all parcels within Cecilton?

#### It continually had to be explained to system users

•i.e. "I sold that parcel to Frank Smith last year! Why do your records still show it as being in my name? (or the reverse, "I just bought this property, why don't your records...)

"As part of [*your expensive study name here*], we performed an indepth analysis of [*whatever you are studying*]...What? What do you mean the industrial park is now owned by Gobbledygook, LLC?"

#### We need timely data for our Parcel Layer!

#### <u>Goals</u>

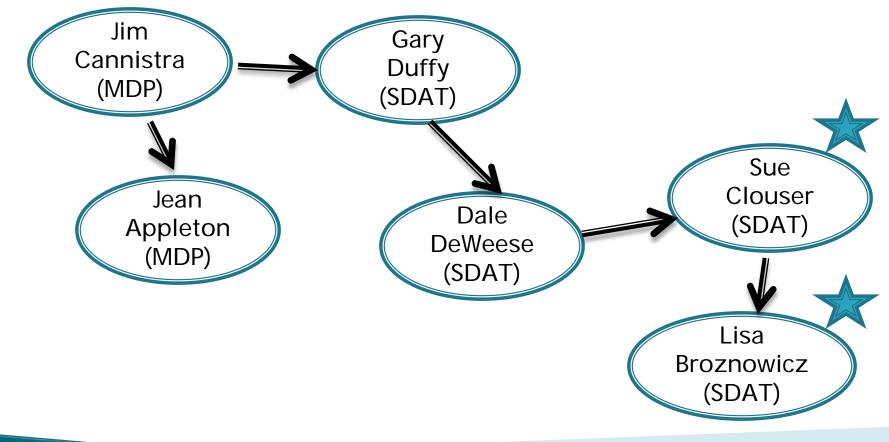
- 1) Better data = better analyses;
- 2) Provide accurate, up to date information;
- 3) Eliminate confusion;
- 4) Eliminate reliance on MDP's Property View product;
- 5) Provide data that can be used on an enterprise level (i.e. Hansen, Vela, etc).

#### **Department of Assessments and Taxation**

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### How can we get this into GIS?

#### And who has it?



### The "2000 Character Data Release"

SDAT Services Page - http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/services.html

•SDAT makes a real property master file available, on a monthly basis, via their FTP site.

•Cecil County staff obtained a user name and password, and we now have access to our data (and all the other counties' data, too!)

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#### So now what?

#### Inside the rlfile08.zip file was simply a fixed length ASCII text file...

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#### Where's the key to the code?

#### The SDAT Public Data Record webpage http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/publicdata.htm

NO	DATA	CLASS	POSITIONS	SIZE
13	RECORD KEY	AN	1-16	16
1	County Code	AN	1-2	2
2	District/Ward	AN	3-4	2
3	Account Number	AN	5-16	12
4	Subdistrict	AN	17-10	2
6	Geographic Code	AN	19-20	2
8	Owner Occupancy Code	AN	21	1
1	Owner's Name	AN	22-55	34
8	Owner's Name 2nd Line	AN	56-89	34
9	Name Key	AN	90-114	25
10-15	MAILING ADDRESS			
10	PO BoxStreet Address	AN	115-144	30
11	Address 2nd Line	AN	145-174	30
12	City	AN	175-190	22
13	State Code	AN	197-198	2
14	Zp Code	AN	190-203	5
15	Zip =4 Code	AN	204-207	4
16-19	LEGAL DESCRIPTION			-
16	FILLER	AN	208-211	4
17	Legal Description Line 1	AN	212-231	20
18	Legal Description Line 2	AN	232-265	24
19	Legal Description Line 3	AN	250-279	24
20-28	PREMSE ADDRESS			
20	Number	N	290-284	5
21	Number Suffix	AN	295	1
22	Direction	AN	290-287	2
23	Name	AN	288-309	22
24	Type	AN	310-314	5
25	City	AN	315-336	22
26	Zip Code	AN	337-341	5
27	Zip +4 Code	AN	342-345	4
28	Condominium Unit No.	AN	348-351	в
29-31	DEED REFERENCE 1			-
29	Clerk Initials	AN	352-354	3
30	Lber	AN	355-359	5
31	Dilo	AN	380-363	4
32-35	FLLER	AN	364-376	13
36	Town Code	AN	377-379	3
37	Subdivision Code	AN	380-383	4
38	Plat Number	AN	384-389	8
39	Section	AN	390-392	8
40	Block	AN	393-197	6



We now have the information we need (i.e. field position, field length, etc) to develop an import specification file using Microsoft Access.

#### The Bad News...

- •Access can only accommodate an import file with less than 255 import fields.
- •With 400 import fields, 36% of the data (all in the final 145 import fields) will be lost when imported into Access.

#### So, can we get the data we need?

Open Access – Select "External Data" – Text File
Browse to the location of the file on your computer
Import the source data into a new table in the current database.

Select the s	ource and destination of the da	sta		
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Elle name:	C:\Users\dblack\Documents\			Browse
Import	where you want to store the data in the o the source data into a new table in the ecified table does not exist, Access will cre	he current database.	ady exists, Access might overwrit	e its contents with the
Import     If the sp imported	the source data into a new table in the source data into a new table in the source data will create the source data will data. Changes made to the source data will be source data with the source data w	he current database. ate it. If the specified table aire vill not be reflected in the datab		e its contents with the
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<ul> <li>Import If the sp imported</li> <li>Append If the sp source d</li> </ul>	the source data into a new table in the ecified table does not exist, Access will cre I data. Changes made to the source data v I a copy of the records to the table: ecified table exists, Access will add the rec	he current database. ate it. If the specified table aire will not be reflected in the datab Riffle08_July2013 ords to the table. If the table do	ase.	

# •In the Import Text Wizard, select the "Advanced..." option in the lower left of the screen.

Delimited - Chara	cters such as comma or tab separate each field	
Fixed Width - Field	ds are aligned in columns with spaces between each field	
	IS FILES\SDAT - MONTHLY DATA UPDATES\RLFILE08_MAY 2013.TXT	
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0801000039	80NSAWYER GERALD K & VICKY G	SAWYER JETER W & MARTHA P
0801000047	80NSAWYER GERALD K & VICKY G	SAWYER JETER W & MARTHA P
0801000055	SONBAILEY ARTHUR BURKE TRUSTEE	BAILEY MARGARET CRAIG TRUSTEE
0801000063	80NBAILEY ARTHUR BURKE TRUSTEE	BAILEY MARGARET CRAIG TRUSTEE
0801000071	80HBARTLETT BONNIE ZOE & KELLI F	POWELL MELANIE ANN 6
0801000098	80HFRAZIER PATSY D	
0801000101	80NSHARP JOHN C JR 6	SHARF JACQUELINE
0801000128	80NSOUTH BOHEMIA ASSOCIATES LLC	25.
10801000136	80NP PATRICK MCCLARY REAL ESTATE IN	ic.
20801000144	80HMIDASH LAWRENCE J & KRISTIE R	
30801000152	80NWILSON RUTH V	
		WISE EDWARD L JR

•The first time you do this, you need to create the import specification file using the "field name", "data type" and "indexed" fields as shown below.

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•Or, if you already have the import file developed... In the Advanced screen, select the "Specs..." option on the right side of the screen.

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ield *	Field Name Field1 Field2 Field3 Field4 Field5	Memo Memo Memo Text Text	No No No No No	S	kip	



•In the Import Specifications screen, select the name of the import specification file that was created previously and then press "open."

Import/Export Specifications	X
Import/Export Specifications: Rlfile08_Import_Specification Rlfile08_Import_Specification_2ndTry Temp spec	<u>Open</u> Delete Cancel

Access will show a preview of the data import field information...
Then press "OK," and "next" (four times), and "finish"

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#### •The result is a database table that looks like this...

8408,3uly2218													
10	ACCTID	Field64	Field2	OwnName1	DwnName2	Owner Again	OwnAdd1	Own/hdd2	OwnCity	OwnState.	Owner2ip	Zip4	Cegal1
1	\$01000012		80H	ALLEN JEAN CO	ALLEN MELISSA	ALLEN JEAN CO	PO BOX 337		CECILTON	MD	21913		337 .248 ACRE
2	801000020		80%	SOUTH BCHEM		SOUTH BOHEM	PO BOX 23		CECILTON	MD	21913		23.1179 ACR
3	80100003/2		108	SAWYER GERAL	SAWYER JETER	SAWYER GERAL	PO BCX11		CECILTON	MD	21913		11.14 ACRE
4	801000047		80N	SAWYER GERAL	SAWYER JETER	SAWYER GERAL	PO BOX 11		CECILTON	MD	21933		11 .0474 ACR
5	801000055		80%	BAILEY ARTHUR	BAILEY MARGA	BAILEY ARTHUR	855 STEMMER	£	EARLEVILLE	MD	21919		2400.4625 ACRI
6	801000063		NOB	BAILEY ARTHUR	BAILEY MARGAI	BALLEY ARTHUR	855 STEMMERS	5	EARLEVILLE	MD	21919		2405 .92 ACRE
7	801000071		80H	BARTLETT BONI	POWELL MELAN	BARTLETT BONK	PO BOX 437		CECILTON	MD	21913		437.463 ACRE
8	801000098		80H	FRAZIER PATSY		FRAZIER PATSY	PO BOX 731		CECILTON	MD	21913		731 .1069 ACR
9	801000101		80%	SHARP JOHN C J	SHARP JACQUE	SHATP JOHN CT	PO BOX 518		CECILTON	MD	21913		618.112 ACRE
10	801000128		80N	SOUTH BOHEM		SOUTH BOHEM	PO 80X 23		CECILITON	MD	21914		28.1277 ACM
11	801000136		80%	P.PATRICK MCC		P PATRICK MCC.	PO BOX 599		CECILTON	MD	21913		699.245 ACRE
12	801000144		806	MIDASH LAWRE		MIDASH LAWRE	PO BOX 453		CECILTON	MD	21913		453 .303 ACRE
13	801000152		80N	WILSON RUTHY		WILSON RUTH 4	C/O SYLVESTER	511 DAKHURST	BRANDON	FL.	33511		7227 .213 ACRE
14	801000160		80N	WISE HESTER D	WISE EDWARD	WISE HESTER D	PO BOX 339	225 WATER STR	CECILTON	MD	21913		0.178 ACRE
15	801000179		BOEI	BIGGS ANDREW		<b>BIGGS ANDREW</b>	PO BOX 405		CECILTON	MD	21913		405 .217 ACRE
15	801000187		8094	TURNER VEHON		TURNER VERON	PO BOX 514		CECILTON	MD	21913		514 .2523 ACRI
17	801000195		80H	BIGGS ROBERT/	BIGGS RICHARD	BIGGS ROBERT/	PO BCX 444		CECILTON	MD	21913		444.402 ACRE
18	801000209		80H	BONEY MARK T		RONEY MARK T	PO BOX 313		CECHTON	MD	71913		313.3514 ACRI
19	801000217		8011	WILMORE JAME		WILMORE JAME	PO BOX 474		CECILTON	MD	21913		474.169 ACRE
20	\$01000233		BON	MACKIE G EUGE	MACKIE FRANCI	MACKIE & EUGE	PO BOX 549		CECILTON	MD	21913		519.28 ACRE
21	801000241		80H	TOKASH ANDRE		TOKASH ANDRE	225 W MAIN 51	PO BOX 545	CECILTON	MD	21933		1002 .6 ACRE
22	801000268		BON	HARVEY GABRIE		HARVEY GABRIE	139 WILSON ST	R:	CECILTON	MD	21913		0.091 ACRE
23	801000276		80H	DUPHILY STEPH		DUPHILY STEPH	PD BOX 361		CECILTON	MD	21913		351 1.23 ACRE
24	801000284		80H	O'NEAL MARGA	BOULDEN GALE	O'NEAL MARGA	PO BOX 308		CECILTON	MD	21913		308 .336 ACRE
25	801000297		BOH	DIXON KIMBERI		DOON KIMBERI	PO BOX 376		CECILTON	MD	21913		375 1 ACRE
25	801000305		80H	BOULDEN HAR	INCULDEN JOYC	BOULDEN HARC	PO 80X 375		CECILION	MD	21913		375 .25 ACRE
27	801000314		80%	NORTHEEN BAY	11¢	NORTHERN BAS	PO BOX 21		CECILTON	MD	21913		21.4753 ACRI
28	801000322		800	MCCOOL CHARL		MCCOOL CILARI	PO BCX 21		CECILTON	MD	21913		21.276 ACRE
29	801000330		SON	SIGBAIN VELCC		SIDBAIN VILLE	C/O M&T BANK	25 S CHARLES S	BALTIMORE	MD	21201		0 4.8723 ACR
30	801000357		80H	TEMPLIN STEVE		TEMPLIN STEVE	PO BOX 467		CECILTON	MD	21913		467 .61 ACRE
31	801000365		BON	MAYOR & COUT		MAYOR & COUT	117 W MAIN 51	r,	CECILTON	MD	21913		0.345 ACRE
32	801000373		804	ELLS SONIA & W		ELLS SONIA & W	the Lord Processive Products		CECILITON	MD	21914		531 .37 ACRE
13	801000381		80H	WILSON LYNNE		WILSON LYNNE	COLORADOW STREET		CECILTON	MD	21933		345 .25 ACRE
34	801000403		80H	BRINKLEY EUGE		BRINGLEY EUGE			CECILITON	MD	21913		359.2293 ACRI
35	801000411		SON	SEXTON BESSIE		SEXTON BESSIE		L.	ELICTON	MD	21921		7758-219 ACRE

### Importing the database into GIS

 Export the database to an Excel Spreadsheet
 Clean up the data in Excel to make sure column names, positions, etc are to your liking...

Certain fields have unique quirks...

In order to reduce the # of import fields, we often combined zeroes used as filler with other data.

So, the sq ft column has entries like "000002093"

Diving the column by 1 in Excel eliminates all the leading zeroes

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#### The acreage field is especially quirky ...

- Size of parcel data is contained in two fields
   a) Actual numeric value (i.e. 10.93); and
   b) Unit of Area (i.e. "A" for acres and "S" for sq ft)
- 2) We sort the database by Unit of Area (so all the "A" and "S" values are in order.
- Then we divide the "A" values by 1 (to remove the leading 00000) and divide the "S" values by 43,560 (to obtain a universal measurement in acres)

### Importing the database into GIS (continued...)

3) Add the data into ArcGIS...

4) Load the data into the parcel geodatabase...

Input Rows			_ []
C:\GIS Files\SDAT - Monthly Data	Jpdates\Rlfile_November2013.xlsx\Rlfile_Novemb	er2013	5
Output Location			
C:\GIS Files\Axis Geospatial\Final F	arcels\Parcel layer as of November 5 2013\Cecil	_Parcels_11052013	3
Output Table			
RLFile_November2013			
Expression (optional)			1
		10	1
Field Map (optional)		1.1	-
ID (Double)			
ACCTID (Text)			
OwnName1 (Text)		5	
OwnName2 (Text)     OwnAdd1 (Text)		# 100	
OwnAdd2 (Text)			-
OwnCity (Text)		1	
OwnState (Text)			
- OwnerZip (Double)			
(Text)			9 - 1

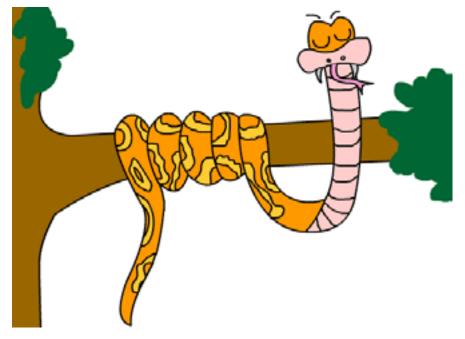
### Importing the database into GIS (continued...)

- 5) Using the Account ID field, join the data to the parcel feature class (keep only matching records).
- 6) Use field calculator to transfer the new data into the appropriate column in the feature class.

Parser VB Script Python			
Selds:	Type:	Functions:	
RiFile_November2013.OwnName1 RiFile_November2013.OwnName2 RiFile_November2013.OwnAdd1 RiFile_November2013.OwnAdd2 RiFile_November2013.OwnCity RiFile_November2013.OwnerZip RiFile_November2013.OwnerZip RiFile_November2013.Legal1 BiFile_November2014	Number     String     Date	Abs() Abs() Cos() Exp() Fix() Int() Log() Sin() Siqr() Tan()	
Show Codeblock	 1	inac	100
arcels.OWNNAME1 =	100	1 & +	
			-

### Importing the database into GIS (continued...)

7) Repeat for all individual data columns



#### 8) Remove the joined data (undo Step 5)

#### **Results = Updated Information for...**

- •Owner Name •Owner Address Premises Location •Legal Description Deed Reference •Town Code •Subdiv. Plat Ref. •Map, Parcel, Lot •Acreage
- •Transfer Date
- Consideration
- Mortgage
- •How Conveyed
- •Deed Reference
- •Year Built
- •Structure sq. ft
- Assessed Values(Land & Improvmts)

#### Data Fields Not Updated...

Description of land use (DESCLU)
Dwelling description (DESCDWEL)
# of Apartment Units

This information <u>is</u> in the 2000 character data release, but we're still determining the best way to adjust the import specification file to extract it.

Are the results worth the effort?

How this improves customer service...

- •All of the County's GIS platforms now have current, up to date parcel ownership and attribute information.
- •This includes:
  - 1) Cecil Maps (public facing website)
  - 2) Vela & CAD (911 operations)
  - 3) Master Map (internal GIS applications)

## Having confidence in data is HUGE!

## Questions? Comments?

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