

Maine GeoPortal Web Policies

Approved November 14, 2008

Disclaimer of Endorsement

The information posted on the GeoPortal Web site includes hypertext links or pointers to information created and maintained by other public and/or private organizations. The GeoPortal provides these links and pointers solely for our users' information and convenience. When users select a link to an outside Web site, they are leaving the Maine GeoPortal site and are subject to the privacy and security policies of the owners/sponsors of the outside Web site.

- The GeoLibrary Board does not control or guarantee the accuracy, relevance, timeliness, or completeness of information contained on a linked Web site. In accordance with Section 2004 of Title 5 of the Maine Revised Statutes, the GeoLibrary Board and any of the parties submitting data to the Maine Library of Geographic Information for public use may not be held liable for any use of the data.
- The GeoLibrary Board does not endorse the organizations sponsoring linked Web sites and we do not endorse the views they express or the products/services they offer.
- The GeoLibrary Board cannot authorize the use of copyrighted materials contained in linked Web sites. Users must request such authorization from the sponsor of the linked Web site.
- The GeoLibrary Board is not responsible for transmissions users receive from linked Web sites.
- The GeoLibrary Board does not guarantee that outside Web sites comply with Section 508 (Accessibility Requirements) of the Rehabilitation Act.
- The GeoLibrary Board provides no warranty, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of furnished data.

Accessibility

The GeoLibrary Board is committed to making every possible effort to ensure that all information is accessible to people with disabilities. If you experience any difficulty accessing the information on our Web site, please use our contact form to send us an e-mail. We will try to assist you as best we can. This may include providing the information to you in an alternate format.

For further information about the regulations governing the accessibility of Federal and State electronic information products, visit the Section 508 pages listed below:

- Bobby Online Portal - <http://www.cast.org/bobby>
- Section 508 home page - <http://www.section508.gov/>
- Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) - <http://www.w3.org/WAI/>

Linking Policy

The GeoLibrary Board is a state government portal that provides access to thousands of metadata records that contain links to external Web sites. The metadata records are submitted by public and non-public entities that wish to share their geospatial data, information, and resources with others. The metadata records contain information about the kind of data, quality, currency, access, distribution, publication, availability, and more to help you determine the value of the data for your needs. The metadata records on the GeoPortal are uploaded by data providers and checked for FGDC compliance before published to the GeoPortal.

External Linking

The GeoPortal contains thousands of external links. Every time you click on a link, you will be leaving the GeoPortal domain and entering an external Web site. These external Web sites can be to other federal, state, commercial, university, organization or other sites that have geographic information or data.

The "VIEW MAP" link connects to map and feature services that are provided on the GeoPortal from any given data provider. The GeoLibrary Board cannot guarantee the accuracy or completeness of data viewed.

The GeoLibrary Board cannot attest to the accuracy of information provided by other Web sites or control whether their map services are running. Providing links to a non-governmental Web site does not constitute an endorsement by the GeoLibrary Board, MEGIS or any of its employees of the sponsors of the site or the information or products presented on the site. Also, be aware that the non-governmental sites may not necessarily operate under the same laws, regulations, and policies as governmental sites.

Privacy Policy

Thanks for visiting the Maine GeoPortal Web site and reviewing our privacy policy. Our privacy policy is plain and simple: we collect NO personal information from you, such as names or addresses when you visit our Web site. If you choose to provide your personal information to us, it is only used to fulfill your request for information. If you choose to submit your metadata records to us or request harvesting by the GeoPortal, then the metadata records are viewable to the public and may include personal data. Except as might be required by law or submitted for disclosure to the GeoPortal, we do not share any personal contact information we receive with outside parties.

We do collect some technical information when you visit our site to make your experience seamless. The sections below explain how we handle and collect technical information when you visit our Web site. You can start by clicking the quick links below.

[Information Collected and Stored Automatically
If You Send Us Personal Information](#)

[If You Register Your Metadata](#)

[If You Publish Data, Join a Community, Customize the Portal or Save Information We May Place Automatically on Your Computer's Hard Drive](#)

[Site Security](#)

[Links to Other Sites](#)

Information Collected and Stored Automatically

If you do nothing during your visit but browse through the Web site, read pages, or search for information, we will gather and store certain information about your visit automatically. This information does not identify you personally. We automatically collect and store the following information about your visit:

- The Internet domain name (for example, "xcompany.com" if you use a private Internet access account, or "yourschool.edu" if you connect from a university's domain)
- The IP address (an IP address is a number that is automatically assigned to your computer when you are surfing the Web) from which you access our Web site
- The type of browser and operating system used to access our site
- The date and time you access our site
- The pages you visit
- If you linked to the GeoPortal Web site from another Web site, the address of that Web site

We use this information to help us make the site more useful to visitors by learning about the number of visitors on our site and the types of technology our visitors use.

If You Send Us Personal Information

If you choose to provide us with personal information by filling out a form with your personal information and submitting it to us through the Web site, we use the information to respond to your message, to help us get you the information you have requested, and to notify visitors about updates to our Web site. We *do not* create individual profiles with the information you provide and the GeoPortal does not collect information for commercial marketing.

All information submitted by visitors is voluntary.

If You Register Your Metadata

If you choose to contribute your metadata directly to the GeoPortal or if you request for harvesting by the GeoPortal, then all of the metadata fields including personal data such as: contact/distributor name, address, phone number, and e-mail address contained in the metadata records, are viewable to the public through the display of the metadata record

on the GeoPortal. If you do not wish for this information to be displayed, then do not register your metadata or request metadata harvesting...

If You Publish Data, Save Maps or Save Searchers to the GeoPortal

If you choose to do any of the following activities, you will be asked to register on the GeoPortal.

- Become a data provider
- Save your maps
- Save your search criteria to rerun at a later time

To register, you will fill out a form with your personal information and submit it to us through the Web site. We use that information to create a user account on the GeoPortal to allow you to manage your metadata records, publish account information, save maps and searches. We may use this information to contact you when there are problems with your metadata records, account, or map services that are displayed or used on the GeoPortal. We *do not* use the information to create individual profiles with the information you provide and the GeoLibrary Board does not collect information for commercial marketing.

Information We May Place Automatically on Your Computer's Hard Drive

The GeoPortal stores some information on your computer in the form of a session "cookie." This is used to store information you provide to prevent you from having to enter the same information repeatedly. We use a session cookie to store a username and password. This allows us to retrieve the correct datasets you submitted from the database and their registration information. The session cookie is removed when you leave the GeoPortal.

We also use a session cookie that contains a Map Parameter ID that resides on your computer. The cookie is set when you use the nested Map Viewer feature on the GeoPortal. The nested map viewer feature allows you to search anywhere in Maine by using a graphical selection tool displayed on a map of Maine. This graphical selection, redrawing, and searching feature require the use of a session cookie to give you adequate performance and display capabilities. The session cookie is removed when you leave the GeoPortal.

Cookies are not used to collect personal information about you, to collect information from your files, or to damage your files.

For more information on cookies visit the [World Wide Web Consortium \(W3C\)](#).

Site Security

For site security purposes and to ensure that this Web site remains available to all users, the Maine State government computer system employs software programs to monitor network traffic to identify unauthorized attempts to upload or change information, or otherwise cause damage. Unauthorized attempts to upload information or change information on this Web site are strictly prohibited and may be punishable under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act of 1986 and the National Information Infrastructure Protection Act. Information may also be used for authorized law enforcement investigations. Except for authorized law enforcement investigations, no other attempts are made to identify individual users or their usage habits.

Links to Other Sites

This Web site offers links to hundreds of GIS-related Web sites. Once you link to another site, you are subject to the privacy policy of the new site. The GeoLibrary Board and State government assume no responsibility for the information practices of these sites, and these links do not imply affiliation or endorsement of the linked sites. The GeoLibrary Board does not control and cannot guarantee the relevance, timeliness, or accuracy of the outside materials.

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