



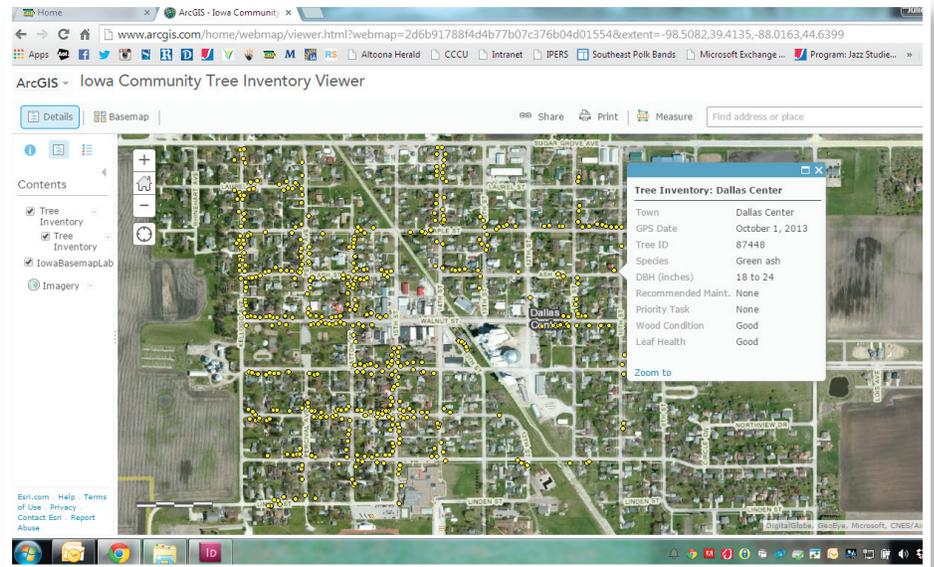
A TOOL FOR FOREST INVENTORIES GIS MAPPING

COMMUNITY | FOREST | INVENTORY

Iowa's community forestry inventory program has been developed to engage citizens and local governments in the care and management of city-owned trees and forests, and help them to identify, prioritize and take action on the tree management needs identified in their inventory.

At this time, more than 300 communities have received assistance completing a public tree inventory and developing a management plan based on the results of the inventory. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources' GIS team developed an innovative, inventory collection program and web-based interactive GIS mapping system for displaying information collected for every tree in the inventories. Data can be updated periodically to keep inventory information as accurate as possible.

The interactive GIS website can be found at <http://bit.ly/1kA3i8C>. The tool can be used to follow up on management recommendations given during the inventory such as removal or pruning. Furthermore, the data can be used for future planning, including locating ash trees, and viewing tree health and pest symptoms in preparation for emerald ash borer.



HOW THE GIS TOOL WORKS

To use the tool, zoom in to a community and click on a tree. A window of data collected for that tree will pop up. The tool can also filter information by clicking on the icon for Show Map Contents in the upper left of the application. From there, click on Tree Inventory and then click the second-tier Tree Inventory that shows up beneath it. Click on the pull-down arrow to the

right and click on filter. There are three pull-down windows/arrows used to set up the query. The left is the attribute to query (for example, species), the middle is the operator ("is," "is not," "is blank," "is not blank") and the right is the choice from the pick list (for example, green ash). By clicking APPLY FILTER, the window will close and only those trees matching the query will be visible.

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