

6 August 2009

RE: WV Map Disclaimer Policy

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to inform you that on 10 June 2009, the WV Association of Geospatial Professionals (WVAGP) approved a WV Map Disclaimer Policy. This map disclaimer policy encourages geospatial professionals to appropriately cite data sources on hardcopy maps. Please view the WV Map Disclaimer Policy on the next page.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, map author(s) are encouraged to properly attribute or cite data sources; and

WHEREAS, a disclaimer is usually enough to negate any implication of endorsement or warranty; and

WHEREAS, a disclaimer should be annotated on map products to lessen the misuse of geographic information and to minimize liability; and

WHEREAS, the disclaimer policy be forwarded to the WV GIS Steering Committee for approval, be it

RESOLVED, That the WV Association of Geospatial Professionals (WVAGP) adopts the WV Map Disclaimer Policy as described below:

Sincerely,



Jennings Starcher
President, WVAGP

West Virginia Map Disclaimer Policy

The WV Association of Geospatial Professionals (WVAGP) adopts the following spatial data disclaimer for inclusion on all hardcopy printed map products:

This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the appropriate usage of the information.

Furthermore, it is recommended that:

- the adopted disclaimer be used on all hardcopy maps produced from geospatial data, and that the date and source of the data be included on the map;
- the disclaimer for surface tax maps defined in the Title 189, Series 3 procedural rule, "Statewide Procedures for the Maintenance and Publishing of Surface Tax Maps," is adequate;
- spatial data producers be allowed to extend the adopted disclaimer with additional language further defining the limits of their liability;
- a more detailed disclaimer may be used in conjunction with any and all geospatial data published on the Internet, on a separate page preceding access to the data, with an accept/reject option for users;
- FGDC compliant metadata be included with any distribution of all geospatial data.
- the disclaimer above may be used as a blanket disclaimer for documents containing a number of small maps.