

HOW TO ACCESS THE INTERACTIVE MAP AND USE THE MAPPING TOOLS

Contents

080	Introduction:	1
	Basemap Operations:	
#	The Layers Tab:	5
W	The Themes Tab:	8
-	The Zoom Tab:	11
	The Measurement Tools Tab:	13
	The Search Tab (Basic Search):	20
Q	The Search Tab (Advanced Search)	25

Introduction:

BCAD's web address is www.brazoriacad.org; from the home page you will want to either click on the tab that says "Property Search" if you want to search the database for a specific property or the tab that says "Link To Property Map" if you wish to link directly to the map.

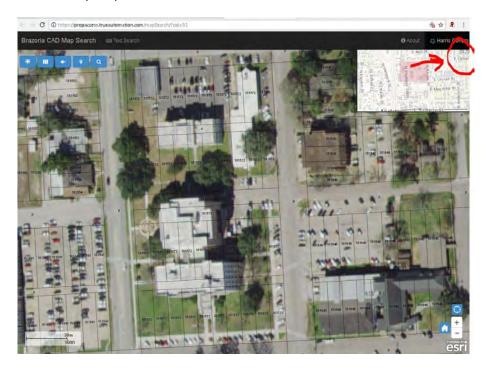


This how-to guide is meant more for linking straight to the property map.

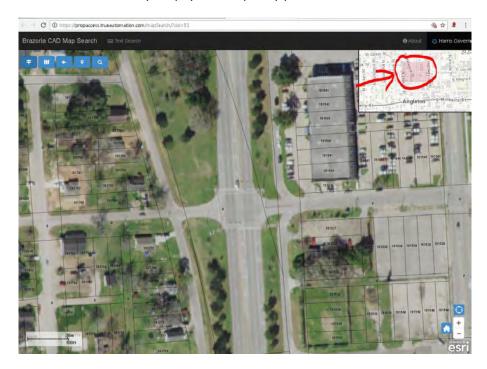
Once on the property map there are several functions for moving around the map. First, your mouse wheel or touchpad will zoom in and out. Just know that if you zoom to an area outside Brazoria County, nothing will load. Next, there is a click and drag function for panning around the map. Lastly, a simple click into a property will retrieve a pop-up window with that property's information.

Basemap Operations:

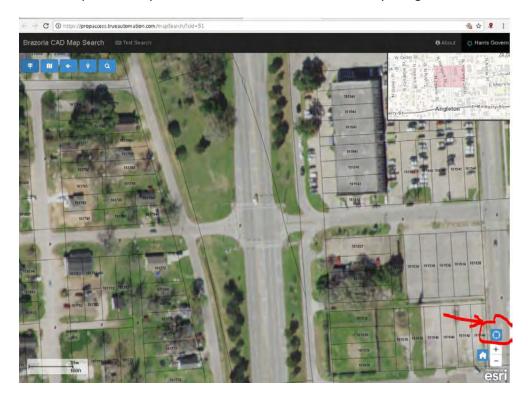
From the Basemap of Brazoria County, there are a number of different functions. You can:
Hide or Reveal the Vicinity Map:



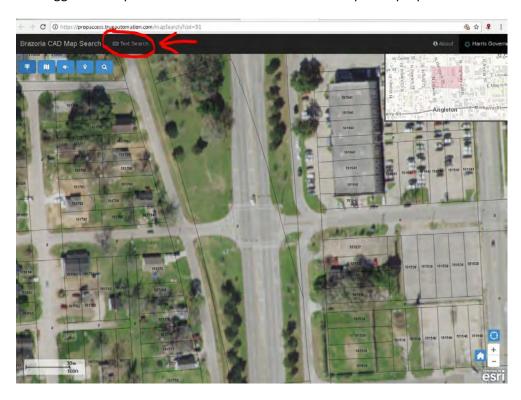
By moving the red box in the Vicinity Map, you can quickly pan from one area to the next:



You can allow the map to locate your current location in Brazoria County using IP address:

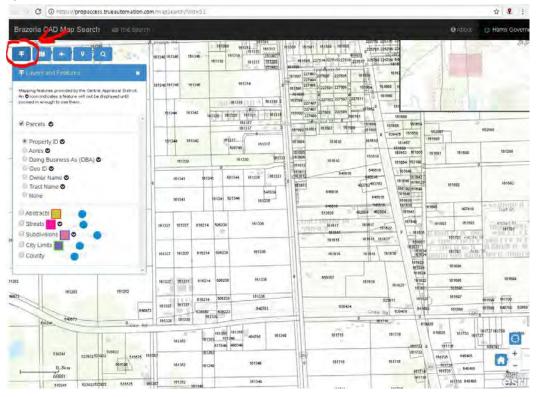


Finally you can toggle the map back to the details search to search specific properties in the database:

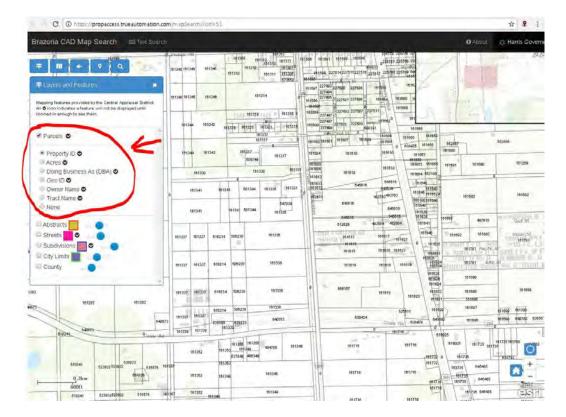


The next section will cover the toolbar at the top left of the map.

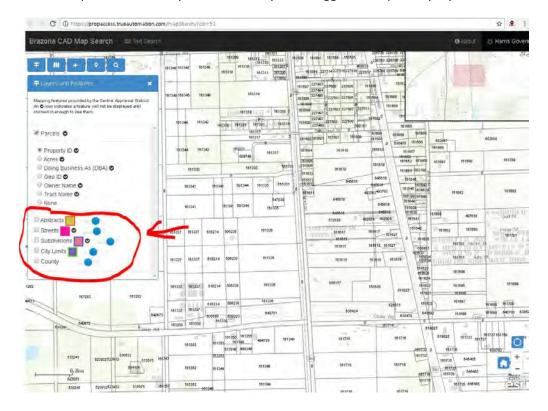
The Layers Tab:



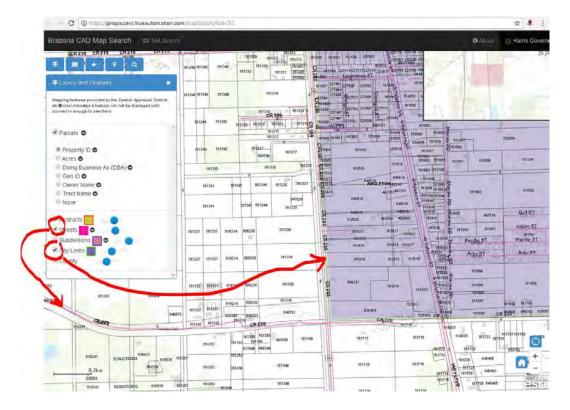
The top portion of the Layers Tab allows you to toggle different information on and off in the label section of the Parcel layer. You must zoom in enough to see the changes.



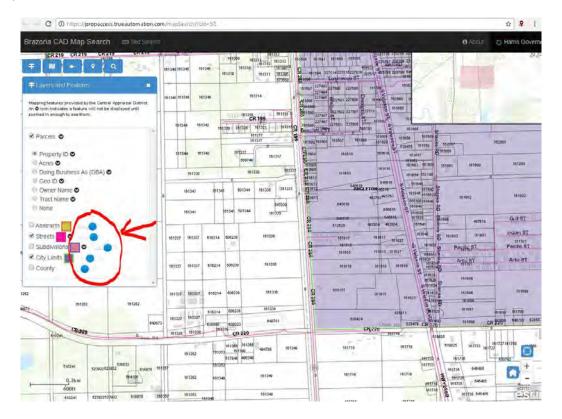
The bottom portion of the layers tab allows you to toggle other primary layers on and off.



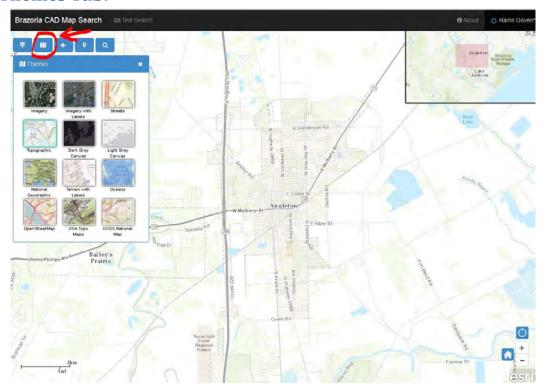
The selected layers will appear automatically once checked and the layers tab will then function as a legend for what information is being displayed.



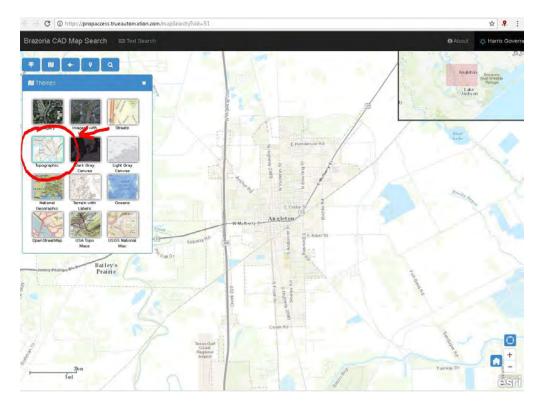
Once a layer is active you may then adjust the layer's transparency using the blue sliders to the right of each layer.



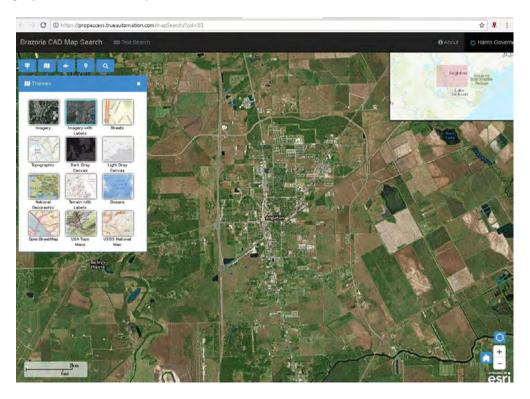
The Themes Tab:



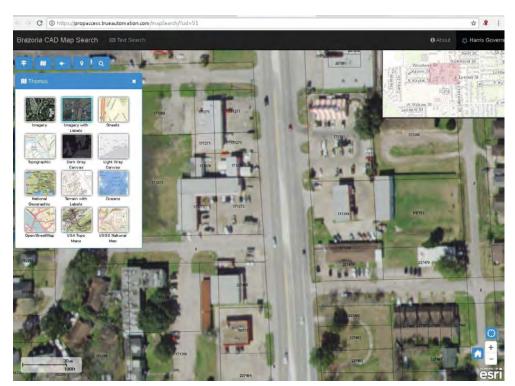
The Themes Tab allows you to change the visual nature of the basemap so that the mapping layers can overlay onto different informative primary maps. The Topographic map is the default basemap.



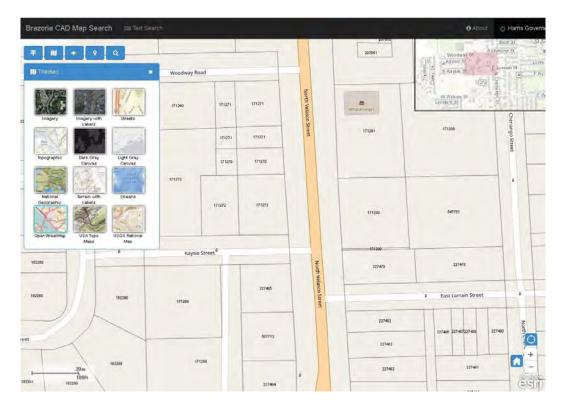
By switching to different basemaps, you can see many different informative mapping styles, including aerial imagery of Brazoria County.



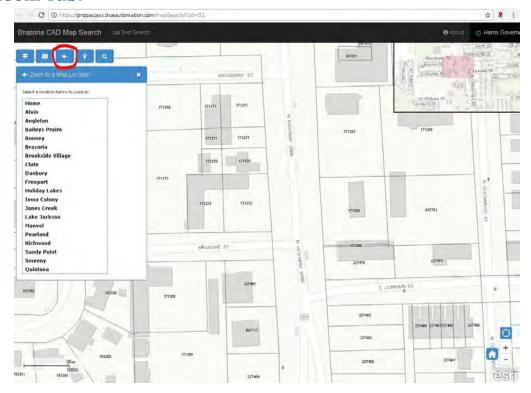
The Mapping layers will overlay onto the selected basemap at the specific zoom level they are set to appear at.



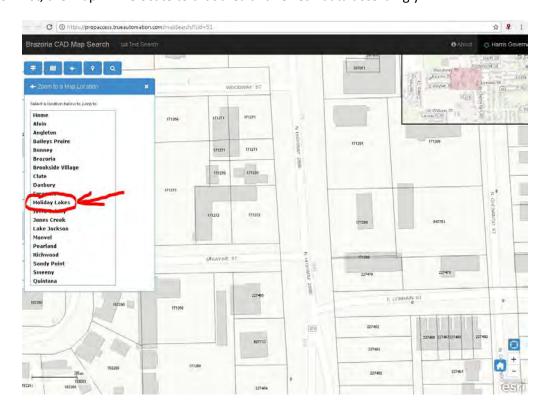
This is the same area as the previous image, with a different Theme map selected.

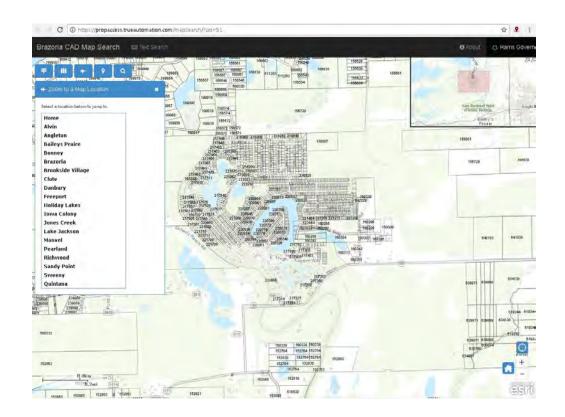


The Zoom Tab:



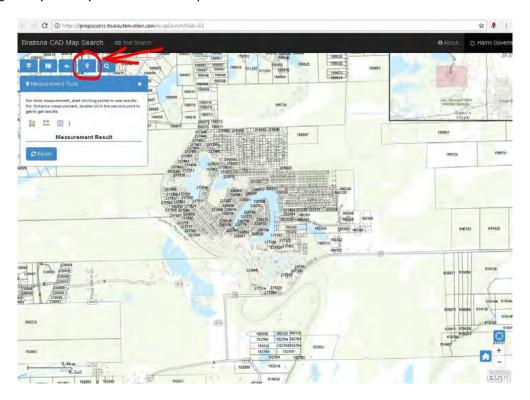
The zoom tab allows you to focus the map onto specific 'bookmarked' areas. By selecting an area from the zoom list, the map will relocate to that area and refresh data accordingly.



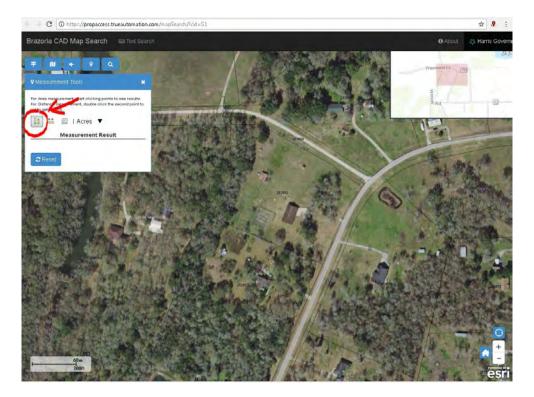


The Measurement Tools Tab:

The Measurement tools tab allows you to calculate the area, distance and geographic location of anything or anywhere you see on the map.

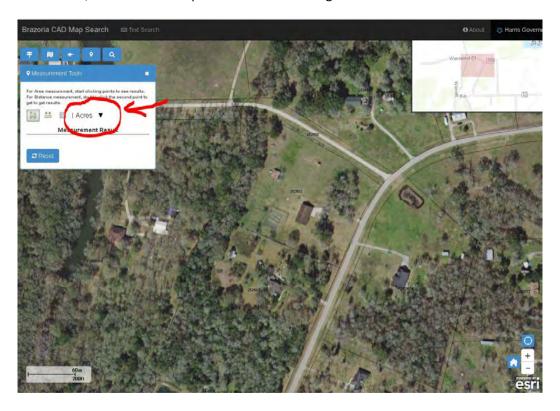


The first tool on this tab is the Area tool.



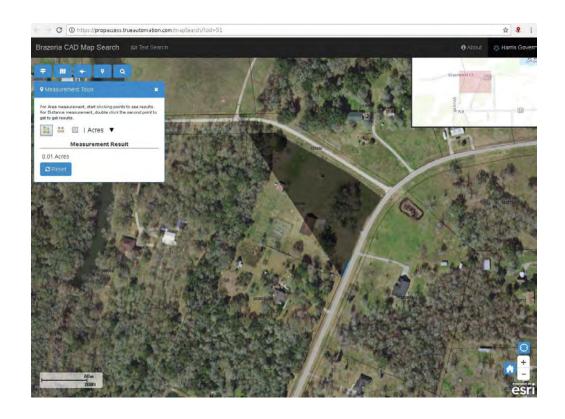
Utilizing the area tool you can calculate the acreage, square footage, square miles and more. You could measure the calculated acreage of a property by tracing the visible property lines, the approximate square footage of a house you see on an aerial map, or the approximate square miles that a taxing entity occupies.

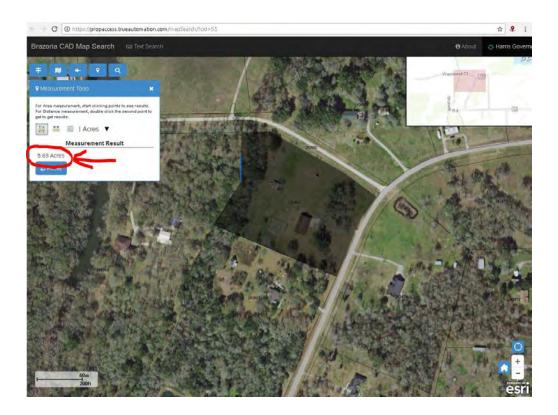
Select the Area tool, then use the drop down arrow to the right to set the units of measurement.



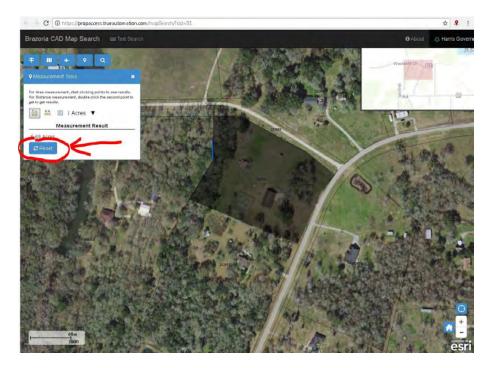
You can then click on the map on the first spot that you want to set a vertex. From there you can click the different spots that you want to add a vertex, either tracing a property line, or the corners of a house, etc.

You will begin seeing a shadowed area where you are calculating and you will see the calculation updating every time you add a new vertex.

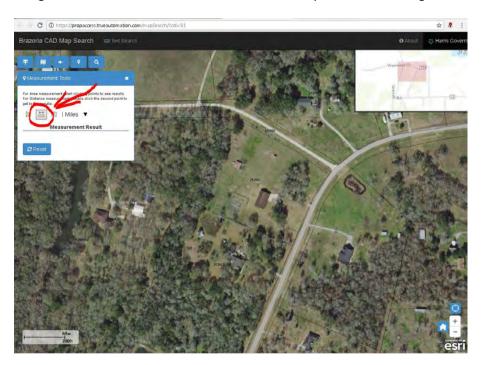


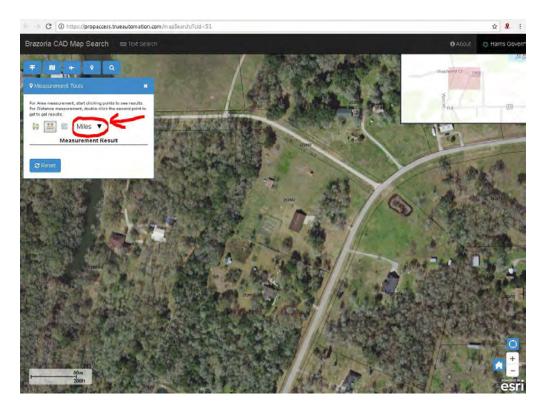


Clicking the 'Reset' button will clear out the current results so that you can begin a new calculation.

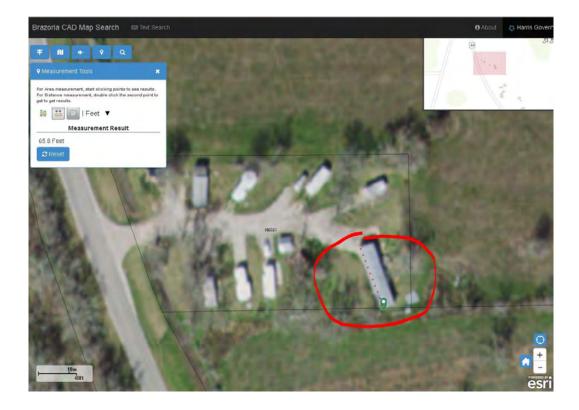


The second tool in the tab is the distance tool. The distance tool can be used to measure things such as the length of someone's property line along a given right-of-way, or the distance from the edge of a road to a house. Again the units of measurement need to be set prior to calculating the distance.

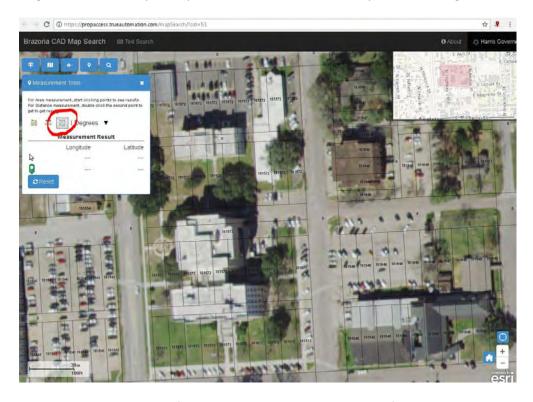




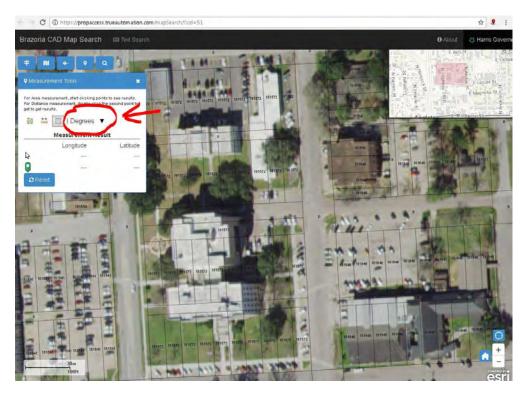
After setting the units of measurement, you can click to begin a measurement and then click again to finish a measurement. You will again see that the calculation updates as you move the mouse cursor.



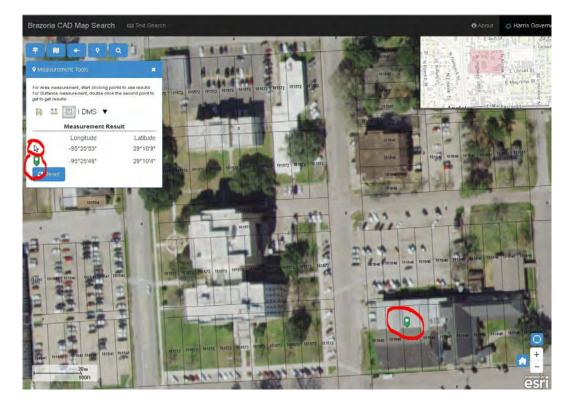
The final tool in the measurement tools tab is the location tool. Using this tool, you can calculate the approximate geo-location of a specific point. (i.e. street corner, fire hydrant, building, fence corner, etc.)



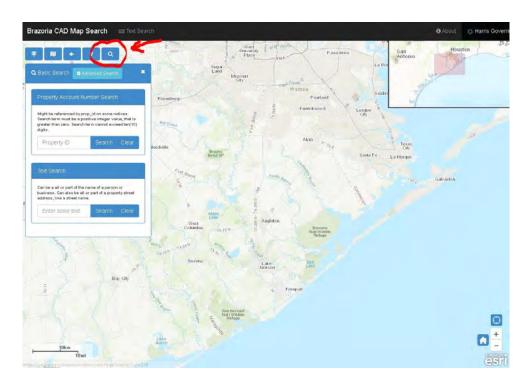
You will again need to set the units of measurement. There are choices of either Degrees Hemisphere, or Degrees-Minutes-Seconds for calculation.



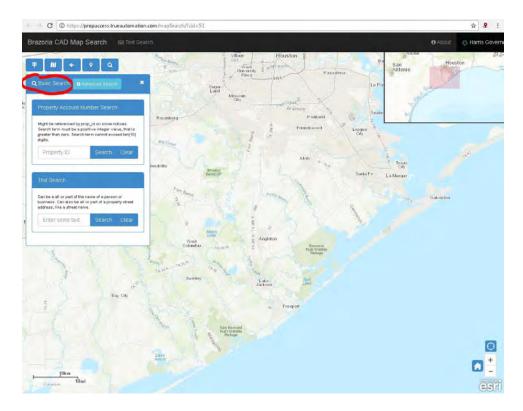
The tool gives results for the most recent point clicked and the current location of the mouse cursor.



The Search Tab (Basic Search):

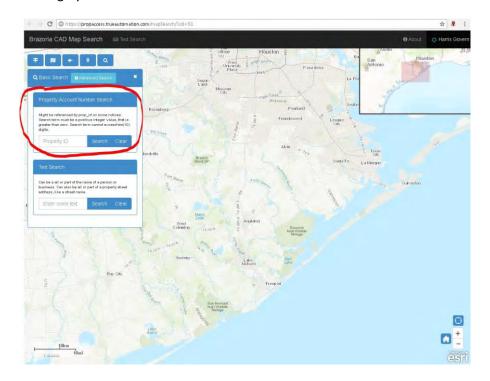


The search tab is most likely the primary tab you will utilize within the interactive map for Brazoria County. Using the search tab will allow you to search any property within the GIS map, It will also allow you the zoom to the properties and perform a number of different export options.

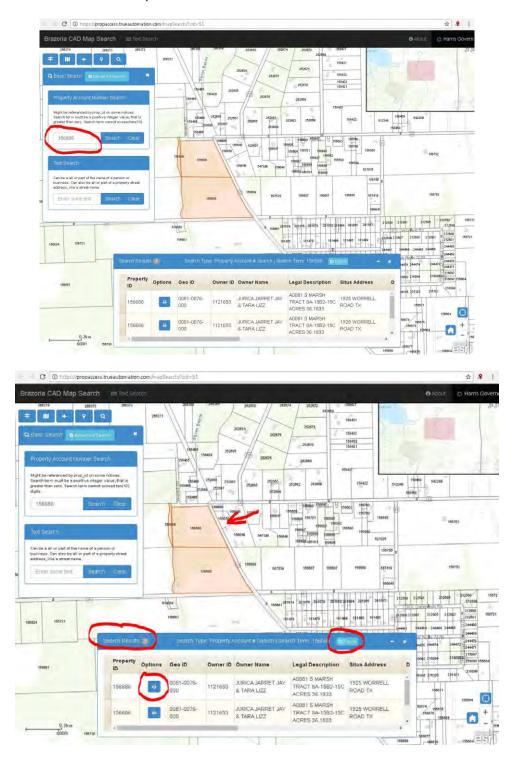


Initially the Search Tab is set to 'Basic Search' which will allow you to search records using either the property id number for that account, or by typing in an owner name, road name, subdivision name or partial legal description.

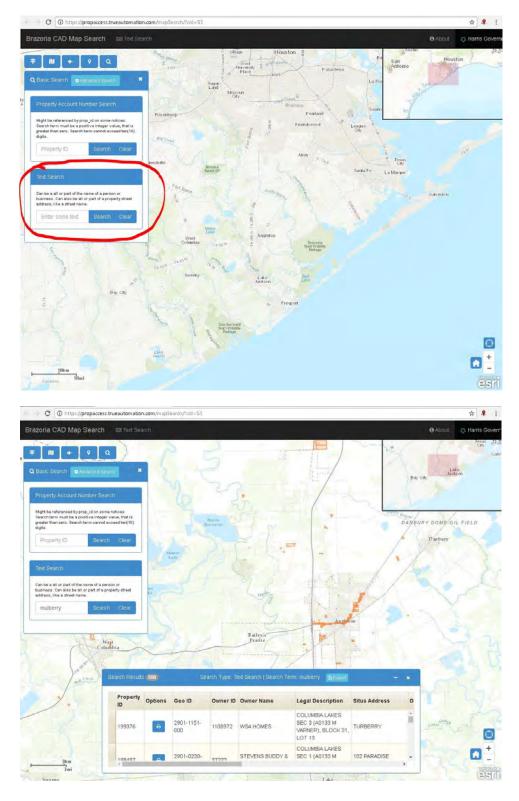
Window for searching by PID:



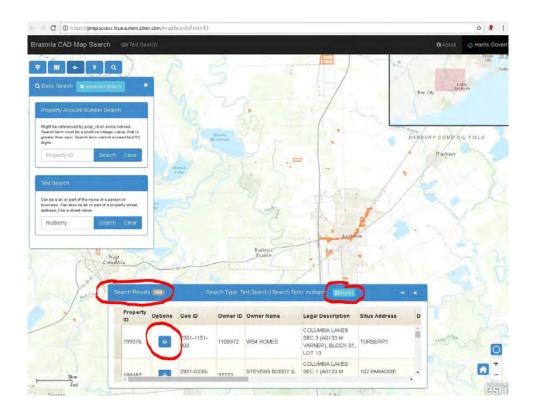
By typing in a PID and clicking Search, the map will zoom to the selected property and display results information which can then be exported:



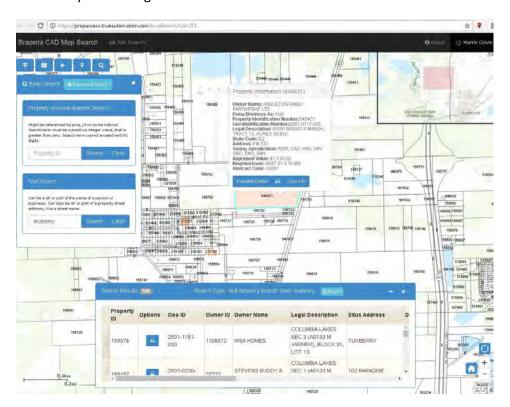
The second field will allow you to enter text information about the property:



As before, these results can then be viewed, printed or exported using the various options:

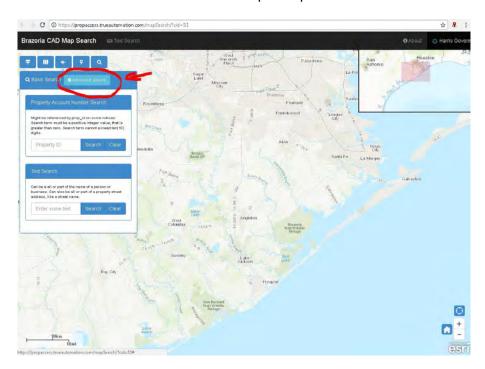


Or the results can be cycled through and individual accounts can be culled from the data retrieved:

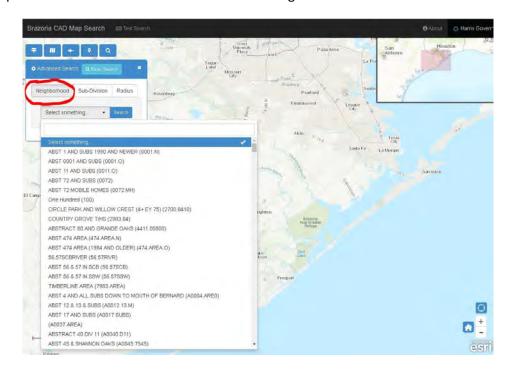


The Search Tab (Advanced Search)

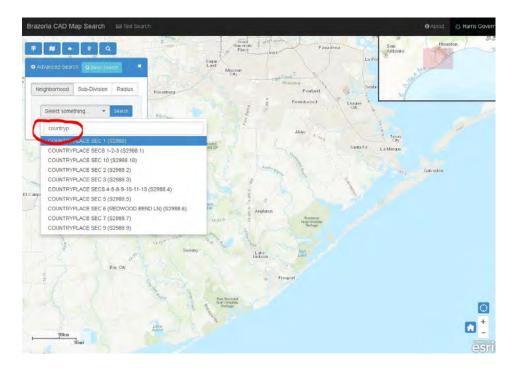
The Advanced tab allows for much more search and export capabilities:



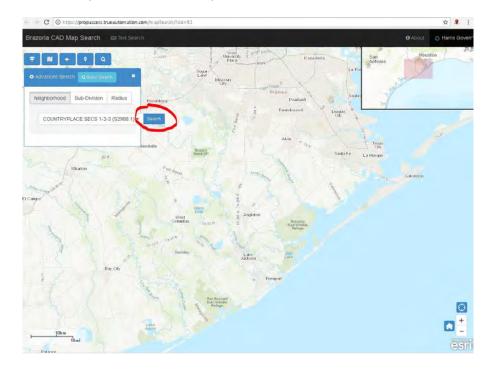
The first option within the Advanced search tab is the Neighborhood Search:



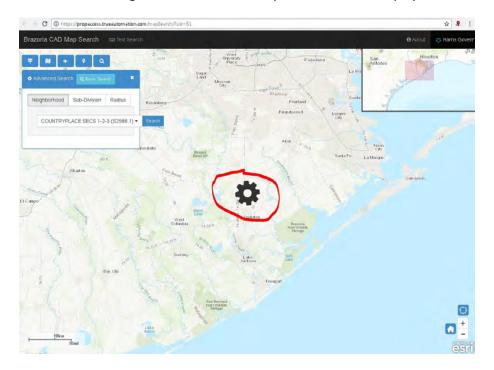
By typing pertinent information into the search field, the search will automatically filter results that match the search:



When you find the result you wish to search by, select it and click search:



The map will then search the neighborhood or area that you selected and display the results:



Results are highlighted and details are listed in the results window:



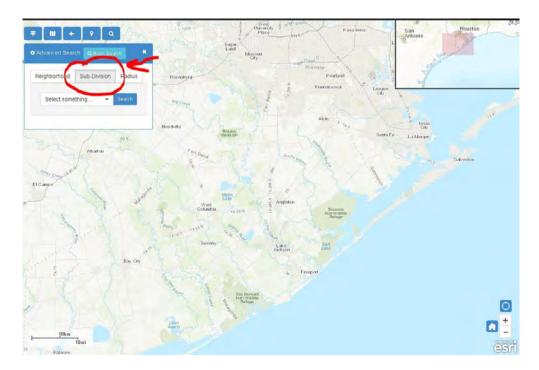
The results can then be exported:



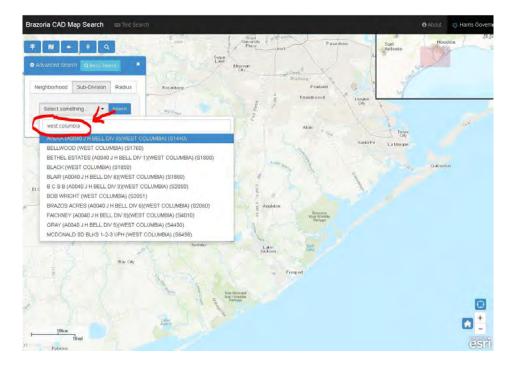
Once exported they will show up in your downloads window as a .CSV file:



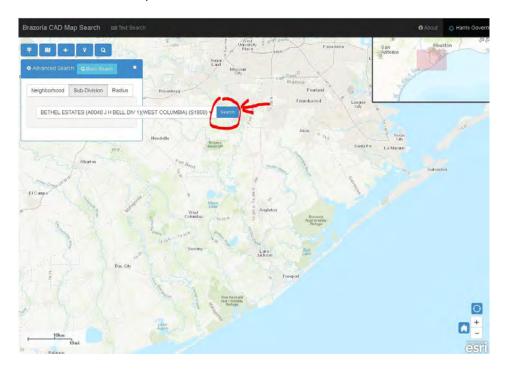
The Sub-Division search operates much like the Neighborhood search:



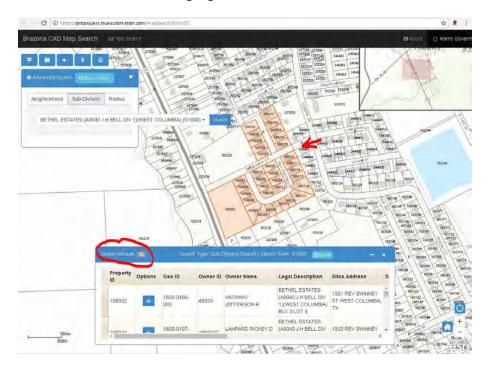
As before, you can populate the search field and the mapping system will retrieve database results:



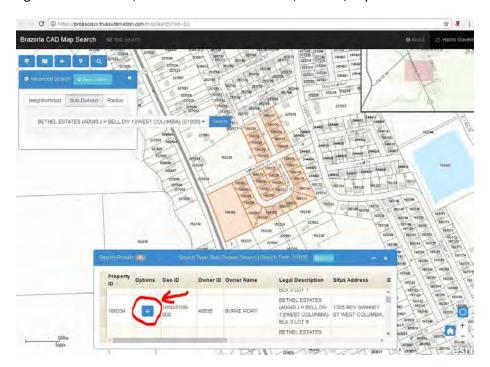
When you have found a selection you wish to search, select it and click search:



The map will zoom to that selection and highlight the results:



As with the Neighborhood Search, the results can be Viewed, Printed, Exported or further sorted:



The last option within the Advanced Search is the Radius Search:



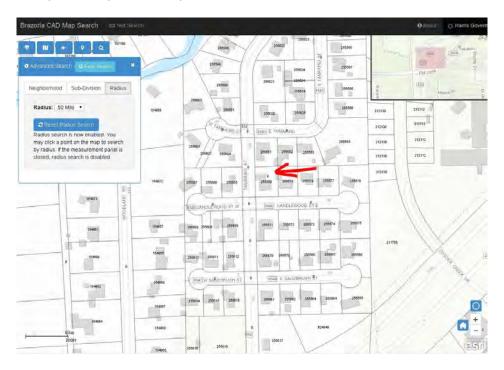
After selecting Radius Search, you will need to set the search Radius. This can be up to a half mile.



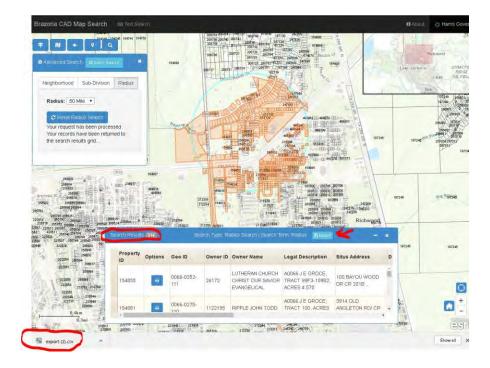
You must also select the option to Enable the Radius Search. This will make your next cursor click set the center of the radius:



After enabling the radius search and selecting a radial distance, you will click in the approximate area that you wish to operate as your center point for the search:



The mapping system may take a minute or two to retrieve results, but you should eventually get a highlighted radius and selected records which can be viewed, printed and exported.



Contact Information:

If you should have questions regarding BCAD's website, mapping system or questions regarding your property and how it might be viewed on the mapping system please contact:

Joshua Ashburn
GIS Supervisor/Website Manager
BCAD
979-849-7792 x229
jashburn@brazoriacad.org