



# Hubbard County GIS

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## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is GIS?

A Geographic Information System (GIS) is a system designed to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and present all types of spatial or geographic data. Ultimately, it allows us to view, understand, and interpret various types of geographic information on an interactive map application or computer software. GIS is more than just mapping *where* things are. GIS can map quantities, densities, change, and patterns, and can tell us detailed information about nearly any type of feature on the surface of the earth, whether it is a parcel of land, a lake, a road, a building, a city, or other points and areas of interest.

### Property/Parcel FAQs

#### How can I find where my property lines and corners are?

GIS can provide a *spatial representation* of the boundary and size of a property on a map, but it is not intended to locate boundaries and corners accurately on the ground. Any true boundary and corner determinations must be performed by a licensed land surveyor. A GIS map is not a substitute for a proper survey. The County also does not conduct private boundary surveys. More information about boundary surveys in Minnesota can be found on the [Minnesota Society of Professional Surveyors website](#).

#### How accurate are the property lines shown on the County's maps in relation to the imagery?

The accuracy varies. Staff work to identify areas of inaccuracy and flag them to make future improvements. As an example, if your property line on the map appears to cut through your neighbor's garage, that may not actually mean that half your neighbor's garage is on your property. Attempting to make all property boundaries on our parcel dataset line up properly across the entire county is a complex and time-consuming process. The only way to certify where your property boundaries and corners truly are is to contact a licensed land surveyor.

### E-911 Address FAQs

#### I'm building a house or cabin on my property. How do I obtain a new address if I don't have one?

In order to obtain a new address, you will need to complete an E911 address application. The E911 address application form contains useful information and instructions that will help guide you through the process. You can access the E911 Address Application on the "Forms" page of the [Hubbard County website](#) under the Environmental Services heading.

#### Does my driveway approach need to be completed in order to apply for an E911 address?

Yes. An E911 address is based on the exact location at which a driveway approach intersects a named road. Thus, the driveway approach must be constructed in order to accurately assign the E911 address.

## **Can an E911 address be assigned the same day the permit application is submitted?**

If your driveway can be accurately located on aerial imagery, an E911 address may be assigned within a day or two. However, the processing timeline varies due to a multitude of factors such as the number of pending address requests, weather, and other workload items. Therefore, it may take up to a week for an E911 address to be assigned. If your driveway is not visible on aerial imagery, a site visit must be made to collect a GPS coordinate of the driveway location. This GPS coordinate is then entered into a software program that assigns a specific E911 address based on that exact driveway location. If this site visit is needed, it may take longer than one week for your address to be assigned. Ultimately, a property owner should not assume that an E911 address will be assigned the same day the permit application is submitted.

## **How will I know what my new address will be?**

Once the address is assigned, a letter will be sent to you that states the new E911 address.

## **If a sign becomes damaged, who do you contact for a replacement sign?**

To replace a sign yourself, contact the Hubbard County Highway Department at 218-732-3302. The Highway Department can provide replacement signs and posts for \$20 and \$5 respectively. To have Hubbard County replace a sign for you, the cost to do so is \$50, and you request this by contacting the GIS Technician/E911 Administrator at 218-732-2304 or by [email](#). The replacement sign cost is generally the landowner's responsibility.

## **Who installs the actual sign once the E911 address has been issued?**

The Hubbard County Highway Department will first contact Gopher State One Call to locate any underground utilities and will then install the new E911 address sign and post. The sign is placed in a specific location per federal E911 standards so it is very important that it never be moved from the installed location.

## **Can an E911 sign be relocated by a property owner?**

No, an E911 sign marks a specific GPS coordinate location for emergency services and its' designated location is based on federal E911 system standards. Moving an E911 sign from its installed location is a violation of the E911 ordinance and may impede emergency services' ability to locate your structure during an emergency response. Relocating a sign requires approval from the E911 Administrator, likely a change of the address number, and the work must be performed by the Highway Department.