

University of Virginia – Open Space Preservation GIS Tool

Supplemental Resources

The GIS tool was used to complete a screening-level analysis of every community in Virginia. The results of this analysis are provided in a [web-based dashboard](#). The dashboard can provide an illustration of what the GIS tool does.

The comprehensive guide to the Community Rating System is the [CRS Coordinator's Manual](#).

For additional information on the CRS in Virginia, visit [Wetlands Watch](#).

The workflow implemented by the GIS tool is based primarily on [NOAA's "How-To" guide](#) for mapping OSP. This guide provides detailed instructions on how to download input data to be used by the GIS tool (note: if you are in Virginia, we have collected the data for you and provided it in the GitHub repository). It is highly recommended that you use GIS data representing local tax parcels as polygons.

Links to the national datasets are provided below:

- [FEMA's NFHL](#)
- [The National Hydrography Dataset](#)
- [Protected Areas Database of the United States](#)
- [National Land Cover Database](#)