

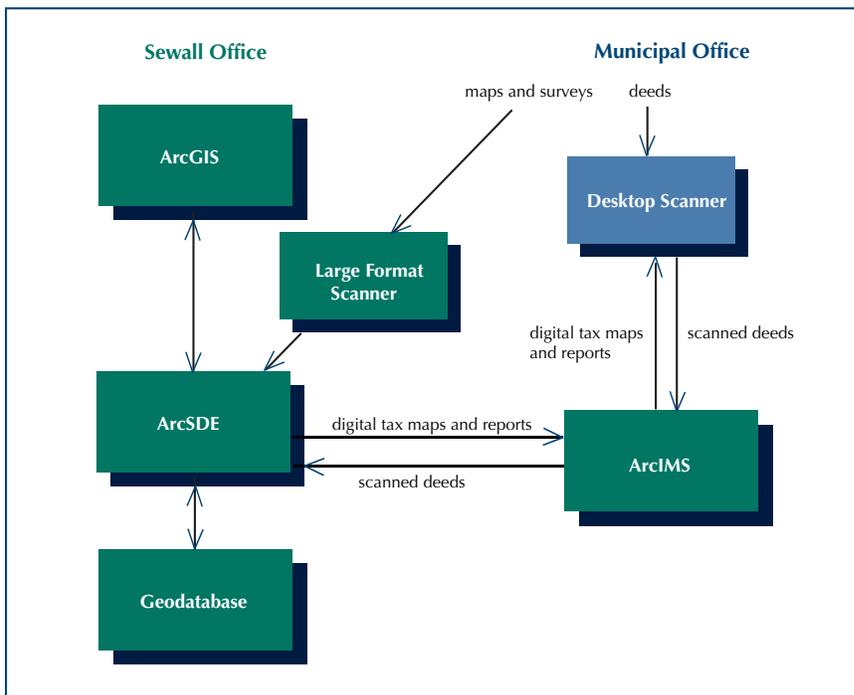
Continuous Updates on the Desktop with ESRI Geodatabase

Maintaining Parcel Data Online

Providing the public with current information on land ownership is a critical function of municipal government. To deliver accurate and complete data, municipalities require efficient, cost-effective solutions for updating their tax maps. When the time lapse between updates lasts from several months to years, the data gradually loses its currency and value. To help municipalities expedite the updating process and improve the quality of their service, James W. Sewall Company has developed an online system for continuous data maintenance. Utilizing the expanded functionality of ESRI's geodatabase, ArcIMS Internet mapping software, and basic scanning technology, local governments can update their parcel information on a weekly basis at a very competitive cost.

THE ONLINE MAINTENANCE PROCESS

In Sewall's online maintenance process, our staff installs a standard-sized (11" x 14") document scanner in the municipal office, training municipal staff to scan deeds and save the digital scans to a folder on a local computer. Once a week, this folder is copied over the Internet via a password-protected file transfer protocol (ftp) site to the geodatabase, a centralized repository for the municipality's tax mapping and ownership information. Housed on a server at Sewall, the geodatabase is linked to ESRI's Spatial Database Engine (ArcSDE), which allows multiple users



simultaneous access over the Internet with no loss in performance. Our maintenance technicians, dedicated individually to each municipality, review the new deeds, update the geodatabase with new ownership information, and make changes to the tax maps, which are immediately available to municipal staff online. Larger documents such as subdivision plans are scanned at Sewall using a large-format scanner. The scans are then indexed and stored in the geodatabase and the information added to the mapping.

BENEFITS OF ONLINE MAINTENANCE

Sewall's online maintenance system has several benefits to the municipal user:

1. Every new deed is scanned and reviewed by the maintenance staff weekly; the map and attribute data are complete and very current.
2. The parcel data is instantaneously accessible on the desktop with an Internet browser and can be left onscreen during the workday. The information is refreshed with every login.
3. The data is password-protected to maintain security.
4. Maintenance over the Internet reduces the need for municipalities to purchase expensive software and hardware systems. Any authorized user with Internet access can use the tax mapping, saving technology costs across departments and municipal agencies.
5. Sewall builds the cost of data hosting into the maintenance fee.

Sewall's online parcel maintenance is one component of a larger system for managing and updating GIS data, from planimetric mapping to utilities infrastructure. For more information on how Sewall's online maintenance services can benefit your municipality, please contact Aaron Weston at (800) 648-4202 Email: wesa@sewall.com



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