Abstract Descriptions

*Field Data Collection, Information From the Field Smarter + Faster*

**Primary Presenter**
Coleman McCormick  
Spatial Networks  
Clearwater, FL

**Abstract text:** Information from the field remains a critical component of building quality GIS datasets, and is one of the most costly and time-consuming aspects of the mapping workflow. Implementing effective processes and tools for field data capture has historically been a challenge due to overcomplicated tools, proprietary hardware tech, and the asynchronous nature of being "off the grid" in the field. This talk will cover new approaches to field GIS, using offline-capable, consumer smart devices, and how to get your information from the field and into your GIS systems for near-real-time analysis and decision making.
GIS Field Data Collection on Smart Phones

Primary Presenter
Ashok Wadwani
AFDS
Houston, TX

Abstract text: This presentation will cover GIS/GPS, field data collection system used on Android and iOS smart phones. Not only you can collect the data, but you can create a data dictionary with features and pull down attributes. The data can be displayed in the field in Google Maps. Once the field data is collected, it can be transferred instantly if WIFI connection is available or saved and transferred later to the office.

The program can use built in GPS or external GPS for higher accuracy. External sensors such as Laser Range Finder can also be used with Blue Tooth option. The program can read various types of bar codes including the new DIMP (Distribution Integrity Management program) codes. Once the data is downloaded various custom reports and shape files can be generated.
Promoting Environmental Literacy: Using Smartphones for Engaging Students in Biodiversity Education

Primary Presenter
Wansoo Im, PhD
VERTICES
New Brunswick, NJ

Abstract text: Anne Arundel County Public Schools in Maryland have launched a high school environmental literacy plan, where every biology student will participate in a BioBlitz of their school site to analyze the biodiversity of the schoolyard property. By incorporating Mappler Community Mapping technology into the BioBlitz experience, the program directly engages the students in a meaningful case of citizen science. They are also provided an opportunity for outdoor exploration, and learn to acknowledge that biodiversity doesn't just exist in the rainforest, but is all around us. Through BioBlitz, students together create a visual inventory of species and cultivate a sense of stewardship to care for the environment, and the schools meet the state's standards for science curricula. This presentation will demonstrate the BioBlitz program, its process and lessons learned, and how this novel approach would easily be expanded statewide.