

Toolkit

Task Guide #42

Use of Toolkit Outside of a USDA Service Center

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Abstract

Some Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) employees and partner employees are using Toolkit either disconnected from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) network or through a Virtual Private Network (VPN) account. While using Toolkit does function in these settings, there are variations to the way data is accessed. The use of other Geographic Information Systems (GIS) applications such as Wetland Determination Toolkit (WDT) will not function while disconnected or through a VPN account.

Assumptions

VPN Use of Toolkit

- The employee has a VPN account and has been instructed how to access the USDA network.
- High speed internet connection; VPN will not function with a dial up connection.

Disconnected Use of Toolkit

- User previously set up Toolkit preferences while connected to the USDA network.

Instructions

Use Geodata Tools to Download Data to the Workstation C: Drive

The county geodata used in the ArcMap portion of Toolkit is accessed from the server F: drive when the user is in a USDA service center. When a Toolkit user is either disconnected from the USDA network or is utilizing a VPN account, the county geodata is accessed from the workstation C: drive.

The following steps only need to be completed prior to the first use of Toolkit with VPN or disconnected use or when instructed to do so by area or state office support staff.

1. Double-Click the **Geodata Tools** desktop shortcut
2. Click the **Tools** tab
3. Click the **Update Workstation Tools** button.
4. Click **OK** on the tools information dialog
5. Click the **Workstation Geodata** tab



6. Select the county from the list box
7. Click the **Download from F:** button
8. Click **OK** on the geodata information dialog
9. Click the **Cost Lists** tab
10. Click the **Download All to C:** button
11. Click **OK** on the cost lists information dialog

Check Out a Toolkit Customer

Disconnected

Toolkit Customer Folders must be checked out from the National Conservation Planning (NCP) Database prior to disconnecting from the USDA network.

VPN

Toolkit Customer Folders can be checked out at any time while utilizing a VPN connection.

Toolkit - Non ArcMap

All Toolkit functionality available when connected to the USDA network is available during disconnected and VPN use.

Toolkit - ArcMap

All ArcMap Toolkit functionality available when connected to the USDA network is available during disconnected and VPN with few exceptions which are outlined below.

Remap County Geodata

When ArcMap opens, the county geodata may require the geodata to be remapped to the workstation C: drive. This is due to the server F: drive either not being available in disconnected mode, or not being locally available in VPN mode.

1. Click the Remap **R** button from the ArcMap Interface
2. Select the C: drive from the available drives list
3. Click **OK**.

Common Resource Area (CRA) Determination – Disconnected Use

The CRA value for each land unit will be automatically assigned via a Web service available when Toolkit is connected to the USDA network.

Check In a Toolkit Customer

Disconnected

Toolkit Customer Folders can be checked into the NCP once a connection to the USDA network has been reestablished.

VPN

Toolkit Customer Folders can be checked in at any time while the VPN connection is active.