

LASALLE COUNTY, IL: USING AGOL FOR DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

THE CHALLENGE

LaSalle County has responded to many natural disasters in recent years, including the Utica tornado outbreak of April 2004, the Streator tornado outbreak of 2010, and the Marseilles flood of 2013. All of these events resulted in County staff collecting data using paper forms.

THE SOLUTION

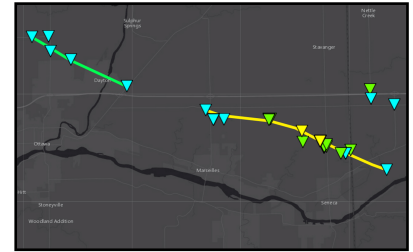
In 2015, the LaSalle County EMA, Supervisor of Assessments, and Bruce Harris & Associates, Inc. began designing a digital solution. Together, they quickly identified ArcGIS Online, and Collector for ArcGIS as the obvious technology to use. Collector gave the County the flexibility to collect data on Android, Apple (iOs) and/or Windows devices. Using the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Initial Damage Assessment Forms as a guide, Bruce Harris & Associates and LaSalle County designed a geodatabase that would allow the County staff to collect the data in the field. This same data would then be used to fill out the forms when staff returned to the office. This geodatabase was ultimately used in Collector for ArcGIS for field data damage assessment.

THE PARTNER

Bruce Harris & Associates (BHA) was established in 1995 to provide mapping and GIS services for counties throughout the State of Illinois, primarily for the Supervisor of Assessments office. Throughout the years, BHA has grown to provide professional services and support for multiple county departments throughout the Country.

THE RESULTS

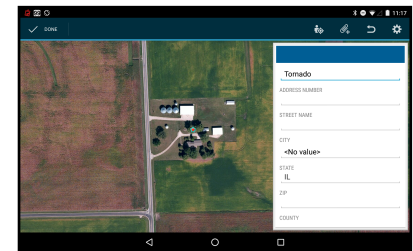
On the evening of June 22, 2016, the rural area around Seneca and Ottawa was hit with an EF-1 and an EF-2 tornado. The following day, LaSalle County Supervisor of Assessments, EMA, and Bruce Harris & Associates Inc. used the digital system to perform the initial damage assessment. Collector for ArcGIS was used to collect all the necessary data, as well as take photos of the damaged properties.



PATH OF TORNADO



EXAMPLE OF DESTRUCTION



LASALLE COUNTY COLLECTOR APP

THE PARTNER

BHA is a professional Geographic Information System (GIS) company specializing in GIS mapping and product development. BHA has been an Esri business partner since 1997, and employs Esri's best practices in all mapping projects.

