

Harris Central Appraisal District

GIS PData Dictionary

The HCAD GIS Shapefiles provided by the District are in [Shapefile](#) or [File Geodatabase](#) format. These files can be opened with a variety of free or purchasable software from several vendors, with ESRI's ArcGIS software being one such common program. ESRI offers a free viewer, ArcGIS Earth for Windows available here: <https://www.esri.com/en-us/arcgis/products/arcgis-earth/overview>

All Spatial Data provided by the Harris Central Appraisal District is projected in [NAD83](#) Texas State Plane South Central Zone ([FIPS](#) 4204) (US Feet). This projection can be additionally identified by its [EPSG](#) Code of 2278 or its WKID of 102740. For more on coordinate systems, this blog post provided by ESRI provides some additional information: <https://www.esri.com/arcgis-blog/products/arcgis-pro/mapping/coordinate-systems-difference/>

Legal Disclaimer: Geospatial or map data maintained by the Harris Central Appraisal District is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and only represents the approximate location of property boundaries.

Announcements:

The following is a complete list of shapefiles and file geodatabases maintained at <https://hcad.org/pdata/pdata-gis-downloads.html>

Sources:

<https://www.hctax.net/Property/Resources>

The Structure of all data will follow the following format:

Name *Name of the Shapefile or File Geodatabase*

- Field Name *Field Name in Shapefile or File Geodatabase*
 - Field Type *Ex. Text, Integer, Length of Field*
 - Description of Field *Example of data (if applicable)*
- NAME – red marked attribute indicates to be removed in future updates

Abstract

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Abstract_N
 - Text (Length: 50)
 - Name of Abstract *Example: W. C. RR. CO. SEC. 4 BLK. 5*
- Abstract_1
 - Long (Integer)
 - Abstract Number *Example: 761* This is the Abstract Number without the County prefix (Harris County is 201)
- Volume
 - Text (Length: 3)
 - Volume from Harris County Clerks Office *Example: 045*
 - Harris County Block Book Maps
- Page
 - Text (Length: 3)
 - Page from Harris County Clerks Office *Example: 065*
 - Harris County Block Book Maps

- HcadGis_GI
 - Double
 - Artifact from system migration to be removed in future updates
- Hcadgis_1
 - Double
 - Artifact from system migration to be removed in future updates
- Area_1
 - Double
 - Artifact from system migration to be removed in future updates
- Len_1
 - Double
 - Artifact from system migration to be removed in future updates
- GlobalID
 - Text (Length: 38)
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape_STAr
 - Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in feet

BLK_num

- TEXTSTRING
 - Text (Length: 255)
 - Subdivision number to help tract specific group of parcels aids legal descriptions/records
 - TEXTSTRING field only attribute to contain any real data; all others are artifacts from system migration to be removed in future updates

BLK_anno

- TextString
 - Text (Length: 255)
 - Subdivision number to help tract specific group of parcels, aids legal descriptions/records
 - TextString field only attribute to contain real data; all others are artifacts from system migration to be removed in future updates
 - Annotation (anno) is a type of feature that consists of text with position, layout and style attributes

City

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Code
 - Text (Length: 4)
 - Four-character alpha numeric code which represents a taxing jurisdiction maintained by HCAD
 - EX: 061
- Name
 - Text (Length: 30)
 - Name of the taxing jurisdiction
 - EX: CITY OF HOUSTON
- Shape_STAr
 - Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet

College

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Code
 - Text (Length: 4)
 - Four-character alpha numeric code which represents a taxing jurisdiction maintained by HCAD
 - EX: 046
- Name
 - Text (Length: 30)
 - Name of the taxing jurisdiction
 - EX: LEE JR COLLEGE DISTRICT
- Shape_STAr
 - Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet.
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet

County

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry

- System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Code
 - Text (Length: 4)
 - Four-character alpha numeric code which represents a taxing jurisdiction maintained by HCAD
Ex: 040
- Name
 - Text (Length: 30)
 - Name of the taxing jurisdiction
 - Ex: Harris County
- Shape_STAr
 - Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet.
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet

Defined_Area

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Code
 - Text (Length: 4)
 - Four-character alpha numeric code which represents a taxing jurisdiction maintained by HCAD
Ex: 347
- Name
 - Text (Length: 30)
 - Name of the taxing jurisdiction
 - NORTHAMPTON MUD DA

- Shape_STAr
 - Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet.
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet.

Easement_line

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Name
 - Text (Length: 50)
 - Name of the easement as maintained by HCAD which could be represented by the HCAD account number or deed number
- Type_
 - Long Integer
 - Artifact from system migration to be removed in future updates
- StatedArea
 - Text (Length: 50)
 - Legal area provided on/from a legal document
- Encumbrance
 - Text (Length: 50)
 - Ex: ROW Easement, Drainage Easement, Easement
- Shape_STAr

- Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet.
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet.

Easement_name

- TextString
 - Text (Length: 255)
 - Name of the easement as maintained by HCAD which could be represented by the HCAD account number or deed number
 - TextString field only attribute to contain any real data; all others are artifacts from system migration to be removed in future updates

Easement_anno

- TextString
 - Text (Length: 255)
 - Name of the easement as maintained by HCAD which could be represented by the HCAD account number or deed number
 - TextString field only migration to contain any real data; all others are artifacts from system to be removed in future updates
 - Annotation (anno) is a type of feature that consists of text with position, layout and style attributes

Emergency

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Code

- Text (Length: 4)
 - Four-character alpha numeric code which represents a taxing jurisdiction maintained by HCAD
 - Ex: 676
- Name
 - Text (Length: 30)
 - Name of the taxing jurisdiction
 - EX: HC ESD 06 (EMS)
- Shape_STAr
 - Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet

Facet

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- QFNAME
 - Text (Length: 5)
 - Name of the quarter facet maintained by HCADEx: 5974B
- Shape_STAr
 - Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet

Fire

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Code
 - Text (Length: 4)
 - Four-character alpha numeric code which represents a taxing jurisdiction maintained by HCAD
 - Ex: 636
- Name
 - Text (Length: 30)
 - Name of the taxing jurisdiction
 - EX: HC ESD 20 (FIRE)
- Shape_STAr
 - Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet

HWY *For visual reference only*

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry

- System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Hwy_Name
 - Text (Length: 20)Highway numberEx: 45
- Type
 - Text (Length: 10)
 - Ex: 45
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet

Lot

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Type_
 - Long Integer
 - EX. Right of way easement
 - Artifact from system migration to be removed in future updates
- StatedArea
 - Text (Length: 50)
 - Legal area provided on/from a legal document
- SimConDivT
 - Text (Length: 50)
 - Lot or unit type
 - EX: Lot to be removed in future updates
- Shape_STAr

- Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet

Lot_num

- TextString
 - Text (Length: 255)
 - Specific number to indicate a particular parcel within a subdivision
 - TextString field only attribute to contain real data; all others are artifacts from system to be removed in future updates

Lot Annotation

- TextString
 - Text (Length: 255)
 - Specific number to indicate a particular parcel within a subdivision
 - TextString field only attribute to contain real data all others are artifacts from system to be removed in future updates
 - Annotation (anno) is a type of feature that consists of text with position, layout and style attributes

Parcels

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- LOWPARCELI
 - Text (Length: 30)
 - HCAD account number enumeration
 - Account number that ties multiple accounts in a single polygon

- HCAD_NUM
 - Text (Length: 30)
 - HCAD account number
- CurrOwner
 - Text (Length: 100)
 - Current Owner
- LocAddr
 - Text (Length: 97)
 - Mailing address
- LocNum
 - Long Integer
 - Site address number
 - EX: 1234
- LocName
 - Text (Length: 50)
 - Street or road name
 - EX: Heights
- City
 - Text (Length: 50)
 - City which parcel is located within
 - EX: Houston
- Zip
 - Text (Length: 10)
 - Zip code Parcel falls in
 - EX: 77008
- Parcel_typ
 - Long Integer
 - Artifact from system migration to be removed in future updates
- StatedArea
 - Text (Length: 50)
 - Legal area provided on/from a legal document
- Acreage

- Text (Length: 20)
 - Legal area provided on/from a legal document one acre or more provided
 - EX: 1.2345 AC
- SiteNumber
 - Text (Length: 10)
 - Unique identifier assigned to a specific parcel
 - Site address number
 - EX: 1234
- Stacked
 - Long Integer
 - Value indicating whether polygon contains multiple accounts
 - EX: value of 1, two or more accounts present
- Mill_cd
 - Text(Length: 16)
 - Artifact from system migration to be removed in future updates
- Mail_addr_
 - Text (Length: 50)
 - Mailing address
- Mail_city
 - Text (Length: 50)
 - City where property resides
 - EX: Houston
- Mail_state
 - Text (Length: 2)
 - State where property resides
 - EX: TX
- Mail_zip
 - Text (Length: 16)
 - Zip code where property resides
- Yr_impr
 - Long Interger
 - Year, last modified

ROW_Annotation

- Text
 - TextString (Length: 255)
 - ROW or right of way, name of a particular segment of road, allowing passage to another's person's land or property
 - TextString field only attribute to contain any real data; all others are artifacts from system migration to be removed in future updates
 - Annotation (anno) is a type of feature that consists of text with position, layout and style attributes

Row_Line

- OBJECTID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Calculated
 - Long Integer
 - Field indicating whether line feature used one field to populate a different field
- ParcelID
 - Long Integer
 - a unique identification number assigned to a specific piece of land by a local government or assessor's office, used primarily for tax assessment purposes and to track ownership and location information of that property
 - System generated unique number assigned to every line feature
 - EX: 12345
- Bearing
 - Double

- directional measurement, usually expressed as a compass bearing (like N 30° E), used to define the direction of a property boundary line on a parcel of land
- Distance
 - Text (Length: 20)
 - Measure distance of line feature
- Type
 - Long Integer
 - Polygon type
 - EX: Tax
- Category
 - Long Integer
 - Road type
 - EX: Road Frontage
- Hide
 - Long Integer
 - Artifact from system migration to be removed in future updates
- Dimension
 - Text (Length: 20)
 - Represents the distance of the property line as shown in the legal document (ie deed or plat) which describes the property
- Display
 - Short
 - Artifact from system migration to be removed in future updates
- SHAPE_STLength()
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon in feet

School

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape

- Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Code
 - Text (Length: 4)
 - Four-character alpha numeric code which represents a taxing jurisdiction maintained by HCAD
 - Ex: 001
- Name
 - Text (Length: 30)
 - Name of the taxing jurisdiction
 - Ex: HOUSTON ISD
- GlobalID
 - Text (Length: 38)
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape_STAr
 - Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet

Special

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Code

- Text (Length: 4)
 - Four-character alpha numeric code which represents a taxing jurisdiction maintained by HCAD
 - Ex: 850
- Name
 - Text (Length: 30)
 - Name of the taxing jurisdiction
 - Ex: HARRIS COUNTY ID 3
- GlobalID
 - Text (Length: 38)
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape_STAr
 - Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet

Subdivision

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Name
 - Text (Length: 254)
 - Name of the subdivision
 - Ex: WILLIAMS ACRES
- Type

- Long Integer
 - Artifact from system migration to be removed in future updates
- Conveyance
 - Text (Length: 50)
 - Subdivision type
- Sub_Name_F
 - Text (Length: 250)
 - Full name of the subdivision
 - EX: HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FROST REPLACEMENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- Vol_Page
 - Text (Length: 10)
 - Volume and page numbers maintained by HCAD
 - EX: 123-456
 - First three digits represent the Volume number, and the second three digits represent the Page number. These represent the first six digits of a parcel number within a subdivision.
- RECNUM
 - Text (Length: 8)
 - Film code number referenced in survey plats to help identify subdivisions
 - EX: 123456
- Deed_Num
 - Text (Length: 50)
 - Legal document stating ownership of a property or transfer of asset
- Beg_Page
 - Text (Length: 4)
 - The first page number assigned in the series for the subdivision
- End_Page
 - Text (Length: 4)
 - The last page number assigned in the series for the subdivision
- Section
 - Text (Length: 20)

- A numbered area within a larger subdivision plan
- Tax_Year
 - Long Integer
 - Year, last modified
- Shape_STAr
 - Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet

TIRZ

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Code
 - Text (Length: 4)
 - Four-character alpha numeric code which represents a taxing jurisdiction maintained by HCAD
 - Ex: 302
- Name
 - Text (Length: 30)
 - Name of the taxing jurisdiction
 - Ex: TIRZ 2 MIDTOWN (048)
- GlobalID
 - Text (Length: 38)
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order

- Shape_STAr
 - Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet

Utility

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Code
 - ext (Length: 4)
 - Four-character alpha numeric code which represents a taxing jurisdiction maintained by HCAD
 - Ex: 225
- Name
 - Text (Length: 30)
 - Name of the taxing jurisdiction
 - Ex: HARRIS COUNTY MUD 346
- GlobalID
 - Text (Length: 38)
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape_STAr
 - Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet

Water_District

- FID
 - Object ID
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape
 - Geometry
 - System generated field for determining whether a record is a point, polyline, or polygon
- Code
 - ext (Length: 4)
 - Four-character alpha numeric code which represents a taxing jurisdiction maintained by HCAD
 - Ex: 628
- Name
 - Text (Length: 30)
 - Name of the taxing jurisdiction
 - Ex: HARRIS COUNTY WCID 132
- GlobalID
 - Text (Length: 38)
 - System generated field for shapefiles to maintain data structure order
- Shape_STAr
 - Double
 - System generated area of a polygon represented in square feet
- Shape_STLe
 - Double
 - System generated perimeter of the polygon represented in feet