



Auditor
Charles E. Walder
Chief Fiscal Officer

10/16/2025

Dear ,

Our office is hosting several events surrounding GIS Day on November 19, 2025. I am reaching out to share an exciting opportunity to introduce Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to your students, a tool that combines geography, technology, and problem-solving to explore and address real world challenges. This year, we are hoping to encourage the participation of local schools in GIS Day and invite students to compete in the first ever **Geauga County Map Making Competition** with the chance to win some great prizes. The competition includes the following categories:

Mini Map Makers (Grades K through 3)

Students will design their own map with the theme "The Storyteller's Map". Students can create a map that tells a story, whether it's a treasure map, school playground map, or a fantasy land.

My Map, My World (Grades 4 through 8)

Students will design their own map with the theme "Maps of Geauga County". Students can create a map of the entire County, a Township, a local park, or even just their own neighborhood!

NextGen Map Challenge (Grades 9 through 12)

Students will design their own map with the theme "Maps of the World". Students can create a map of the entire world, a specific country, or a city/landmark of their choice.

All submitted maps will be displayed at the GIS Department in the Auditor's Office for the weeks leading up to GIS Day and will be judged by Geauga County Auditor Charles. E Walder, Chief Compliance Officer Kate Jacob, and GIS Department staff on November 19, 2025. One winner will be chosen out of each age group. Winners will receive a trophy and T-shirt and have their map displayed at the GIS Office for the following year for the public to see. The winner's classroom will receive an educational desk globe with world map.

Please use [this link](#) to learn more about GIS and participating in the event. If you have any questions please contact Sarah Perry, a GIS Solutions Architect in the Geauga County GIS Department. Her email is sperry@geauga.oh.gov or by phone at 440-279-1624.

We are excited to get involved with our local schools and work with the next generation of map makers within Geauga County!

Sincerely,

Charles E. Walder
Gauga County Auditor

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