



Forsyth County Tax Administration
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BLOCK LOT TO PIN CONVERSION

The Block/Lot parcel identification system utilized by Forsyth County Tax Administration has served the County well for a very long time. While a great system in its day, the Block/Lot system has become obsolete with the development of automated geographic information systems. Many of the services provided by local governments are specific to a geographic location – the most prominent of such services is the dispatch of emergency services. Lives depend upon our ability to respond quickly and accurately in an emergency. Block/Lot parcel identifiers cannot assist in these matters.

Forsyth County Tax Administration has been utilizing geo-coded parcel identification numbers (PINs) as a secondary identifier for several years. With the launching of our new Tax.Net office software, it is an appropriate time to begin the retirement of the Block/Lot system. **Effective June 30, 2008, Forsyth County Tax Administration will no longer assign Block/Lot identifiers to newly created parcels.** All existing parcels as of June 30, 2008 will have a Block/Lot assignment – parcels created by splits or plats after June 30, 2008 will be assigned geo-coded PINs only. Users will be able to search the Geo-Data Explorer by Block/Lot or PIN just as always with the exception that parcels created after June 30, 2008 will have a PIN assignment only.

The PIN will utilize the following format: XXXX – XX – XXXX . XX. This format can be referred to as a four character Map Number, a two character Block number, followed by a four character Parcel number. The last two characters are reserved for additional identifiers for more unusual situations such as high-density condominiums.

It may take some time to adjust to a geo-coded PIN-based system. To assist in this transition, we have no plans to remove the legacy Block/Lot identifiers. As long as the parcel exists in the same configuration as of January 30, 2008, the Block/Lot will remain as a part of the record. We also plan to launch some new research tools on GeoData Explorer.

A meeting will be scheduled in late January or early February, depending on the availability of these tools on Geo-Data. At this meeting we will demonstrate our new technology and focus on researching parcel history with these new tools in the Geo-Data. This will allow an opportunity for another discussion regarding the Block/Lot system within the context of these new capabilities.