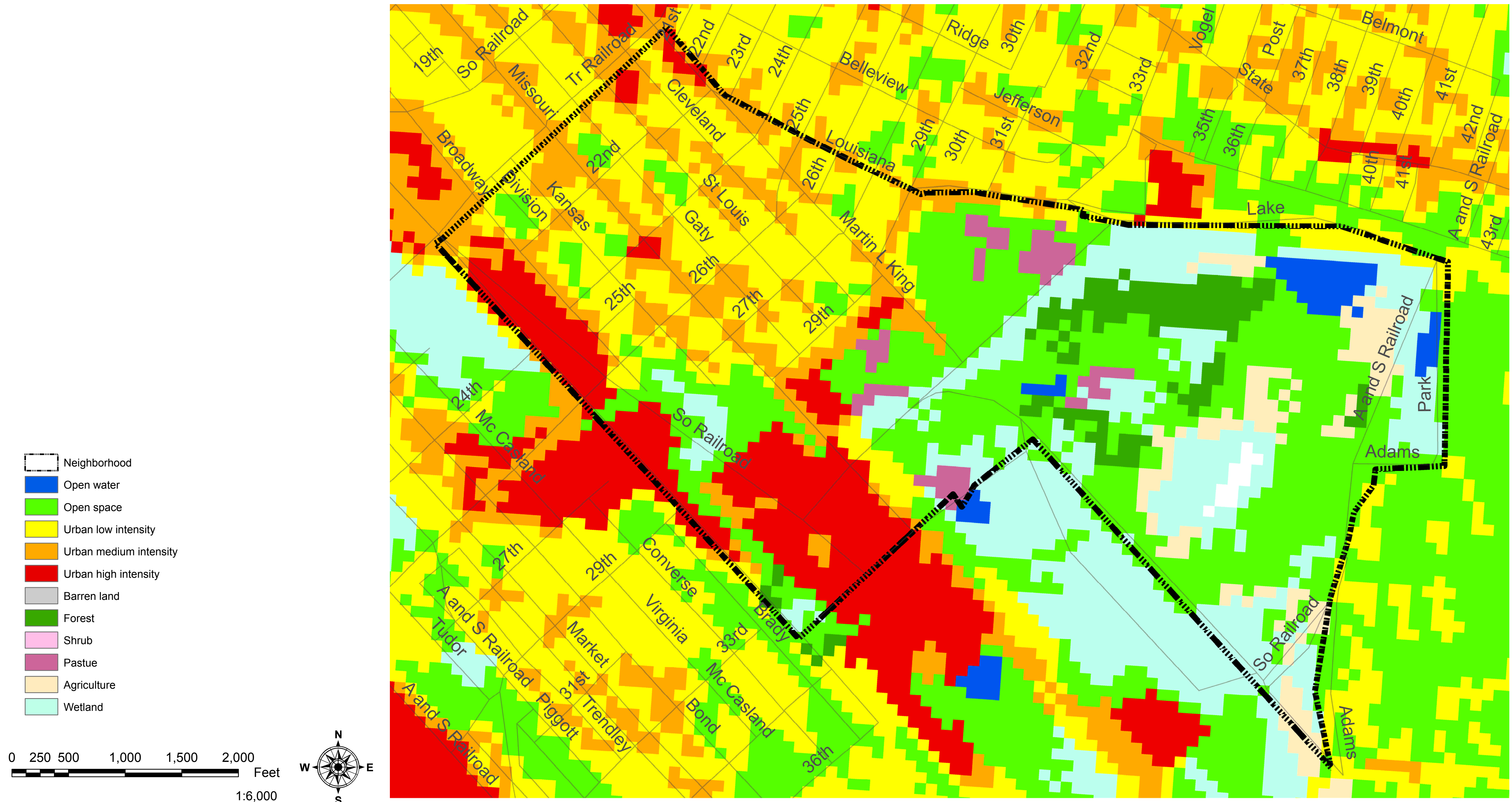


LAND COVER IN BEACON HEIGHTS AREA



East St. Louis Action Research Project

326 Noble Hall, 1209 S. Fourth St.
Champaign, IL 61820, USA
Campus mail code: MC-549

Phone: 217-265-0202
Fax: 217-244-9320

Website: <http://www.eslarp.uiuc.edu/>
Email: eslarp@uiuc.edu

College of Fine and Applied Arts
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



References:

East St. Louis Street Data is originally derived from the US Geological Survey 1:100,000 Digital Line Graph files, transportation layer, 1980-1986. Publication dates of the USGS maps used as sources range from 1980 to 1986. The maximum estimated error in horizontal position based on National Map Accuracy Standards is 167 feet. The data was first developed in 1994 by IL Natural History Survey and was last reviewed by ESLARP in 2006.

The neighborhood boundary file represents neighborhood boundaries of East St. Louis in the year of 2003. It was updated and finalized in December, 2006.

4. NLCD 2001: The National Land Cover Database 2001 land cover layer was produced through a cooperative project conducted by the Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics (MRLC) Consortium. The MRLC Consortium is a partnership of federal agencies (www.mrlc.gov), consisting of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), the National Park Service (NPS), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

One of the primary goals of the project is to generate a current, consistent, seamless, and accurate National Land cover Database (NLCD) circa 2001 for the United States at medium spatial resolution. This landcover map and all documents pertaining to it are considered "provisional" until a formal accuracy assessment can be conducted. For a detailed definition and discussion on MRLC and the NLCD 2001 products, refer to Homer et al. (2004) and <http://www.mrlc.gov/mrlc2k.asp>. It was published in 11/27/2006.

Customized (NLCD 2001) Land Cover Class Definitions:

1. Open water (Open Water) - All areas of open water, generally with less than 25% cover of vegetation or soil.
2. Open space (Developed, Open Space) - Includes areas with a mixture of some constructed materials, but mostly vegetation in the form of lawn grasses. Impervious surfaces account for less than 20 percent of total cover. These areas most commonly include large-lot single-family housing units, parks, golf courses, and vegetation planted in developed settings for recreation, erosion control, or aesthetic purposes.
3. Urban low intensity (Developed, Low Intensity) - Includes areas with a mixture of constructed materials and vegetation. Impervious surfaces account for 20-49 percent of total cover. These areas most commonly include single-family housing units.
4. Urban medium intensity (Developed, Medium Intensity) - Includes areas with a mixture of constructed materials and vegetation. Impervious surfaces account for 50-79 percent of the total cover. These areas most commonly include single-family housing units.

5. Urban high density (Developed, High Intensity) - Includes highly developed areas where people reside or work in high numbers. Examples include apartment complexes, row houses and commercial/industrial. Impervious surfaces account for 80 to 100 percent of the total cover.

6. Barren (Barren Land) - Barren areas of bedrock, desert pavement, scarp, talus, slides, volcanic material, glacial debris, sand dunes, strip mines, gravel pits and other accumulations of earthen material. Generally, vegetation accounts for less than 15% of total cover.

7. Forest (Deciduous Forest) - Areas dominated by trees generally greater than 5 meters tall, and greater than 20% of total vegetation cover. More than 75 percent of the tree species shed foliage simultaneously in response to seasonal change. (Evergreen Forest) - Areas dominated by trees generally greater than 5 meters tall, and greater than 20% of total vegetation cover. More than 75 percent of the tree species maintain their leaves all year. Canopy is never without green foliage. (Mixed Forest) - Areas dominated by trees generally greater than 5 meters tall, and greater than 20% of total vegetation cover. Neither deciduous nor evergreen species are greater than 75 percent of total tree cover.

8. Shrub (Shrub/Scrub) - Areas dominated by shrubs; less than 5 meters tall with shrub canopy typically greater than 20% of total vegetation. This class includes true shrubs, young trees in an early successional stage or trees stunted from environmental conditions.

9. Pasture (Grassland/Herbaceous) - Areas dominated by graminoid or herbaceous vegetation, generally greater than 80% of total vegetation. These areas are not subject to intensive management such as tilling, but can be utilized for grazing.

(Pasture/Hay) - Areas of grasses, legumes, or grass-legume mixtures planted for livestock grazing or the production of seed or hay crops, typically on a perennial cycle. Pasture/hay vegetation accounts for greater than 20 percent of total vegetation.

10. Agriculture (Cultivated Crops) - Areas used for the production of annual crops, such as corn, soybeans, vegetables, tobacco, and cotton, and also perennial woody crops such as orchards and vineyards. Crop vegetation accounts for greater than 20 percent of total vegetation. This class also includes all land being actively tilled.

11. Wetland (Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands) - Areas where perennial herbaceous vegetation accounts for greater than 80 percent of vegetative cover and the soil or substrate is periodically saturated with or covered with water. (Wood Wetlands) - Areas where forest or shrub land vegetation accounts for greater than 20 percent of vegetative cover and the soil or substrate is periodically saturated with or covered with water.