

A Summary of the Presentation

GPS APPS FOR CELL PHONES

Tips on getting UTM coordinates for your NSECC well records submission requirements.

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Objective:

Help provide drillers, diggers, and pump installers with tools to provide the proper GPS coordinates, required on their well logs, using readily available cell phone apps.

Advantages to cell phone GPS apps:

- They are easy to install and use
- Low or no cost at the Apple App Store or Google Play
- As accurate as most standalone GPS units
- Use the cellphone GPS receiver so cellular signal/Internet/Wi-Fi is not needed
- A range of choices for both iPhone and Android
- Easy to save and export data

Tips for Choosing a GPS App:

- Watch out for high-cost or continual update fees
- Make sure you find one that provides UTM outputs in meters (Northing and Easting)
- Get one that shows a map that allows you to see your physical location; this is important for ensuring you are getting proper readings
- Look for good ratings and be sure to read what the negative ones say (they often reveal hidden costs to the supposedly 'Free apps')
- Ask friends, neighbors, colleagues if they use a cell phone GPS app, if it has the units you need (UTM: Northing and Easting), the cost, and why they like it. You can also contact NSGWA for suggestions on choosing.

General Tips on GPS Use:

- Accuracy reported down to 5 m, in a US government report, or better
- Don't rely blindly on GPS apps. Check against mapping if it doesn't seem to make sense.
- Ensure that you have the correct date and time on your phone
- You may need to enable location services for this app in your own phone settings
- A GPS unit can be affected by buildings, bridges, atmospheric conditions, solar storms, etc.
- You may need to check settings on app to set it to UTM coordinates (not longitude and latitude)

*** Quick tip offered: UTM Easting is the shorter number (6 digits) where as UTM Northing is longer number (7 digits) – Remember “[the word] north is longer than [the word] east” ***

- “Datum” in settings should be either WGS84 or NAD83. WGS84 is specified on well log form.

* **Quick tip** offered: *Copy coordinates to email or text and send them from the field to your office or yourself to enter on your well log form.*