



# PLANNING FOR EMERGENCIES ON TRAILS

Marcie Diaz  
Greenspace Planner  
Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation

20<sup>th</sup> National Trails Symposium  
November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010



# GWINNETT COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

- Approximately 30 miles NE of Atlanta
- Diverse population of 800,000
- 8,000 acres in the parks system
- Over 100 miles of trails





## PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

- How will the E-911 dispatcher know where the caller is located?
- How can the dispatcher relay the information to the first responders?
- How do the first responders find the caller on site?





## GOALS

- Create accurate trail maps with GPS
- Develop a signage system with unique identification numbering
- Share the data with emergency personnel in the formats that fits their needs





# HARBINS PARK





# TRAIL MAPPING

## Trimble Geo XT GPS

- Sub meter accuracy
- Data dictionary
- Export into GIS





# TRAIL MAPPING

## TRAIL ATTRIBUTES

- Width
- Surface type
- User types
- Signage
- Obstacles





# TRAIL MAPPING



Paved Trails 4 miles

Hiking Trail 4.8 miles

Equestrian Trail 7.7 miles

Mountain Bike 9.6 miles

Emergency Access Routes



## HELP LOCATOR SYSTEM

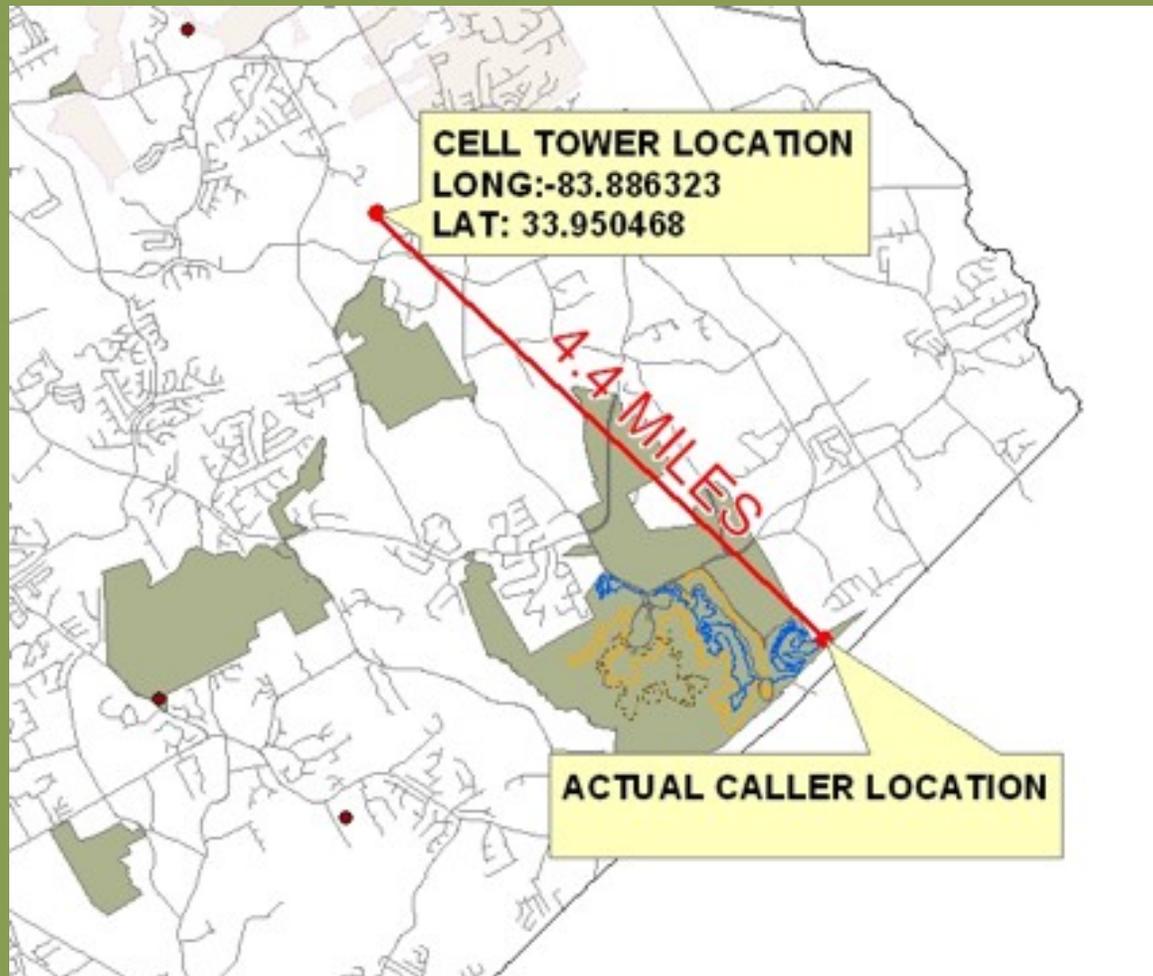
In emergency situations:

- Caller may not know which trail they are on
- Caller may speak limited English
- Cell phone location may be inaccurate





# HELP LOCATOR SYSTEM





## HELP LOCATOR SYSTEM

Unique four digit number  
GPS location for  
accurate latitude and  
longitude

Consistent look on  
different surface  
mounts





# HELP LOCATOR SYSTEM





# HELP LOCATOR SYSTEM

For your safety, 911 emergency help locator signs have been installed throughout this park. In case of an emergency, call 911. If possible, give the operator the closest HELP LOCATOR number.

1000  
HELP  
LOCATOR





# HELP LOCATOR SYSTEM







# HELP LOCATOR SYSTEM





## IN SUMMARY

Coordinate with your emergency response team to learn their rescue process

Collect accurate trail data in the field

Provide trail information in formats that can be used by each part of the response team





# Questions?

