IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

GIS Training and Services
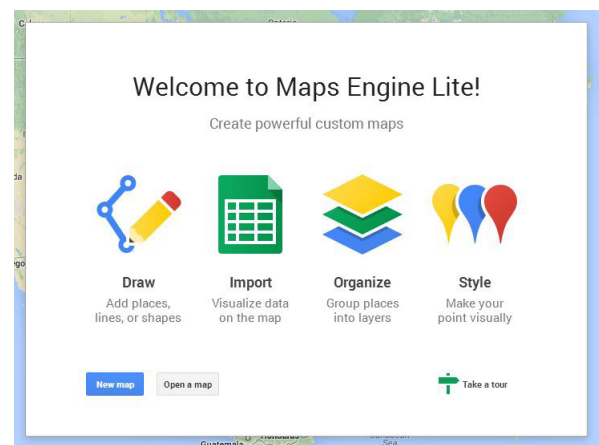**Geospatial Technology Training Program**

Creating and Embedding Maps into a Webpage: Google Maps Engine Lite

Welcome to the Essential ArcGIS Task Sheet Series. This series supplements the Iowa State University GIS Geospatial Technology Training Program short course series, "Essential ArcGIS Tutorial Series." The task sheets are designed to provide quick, easy instructions for performing specific tasks in GIS.

Embedding a custom Google map to a webpage is a fast and easy way to show map content on a website. Google Maps Engine Lite, the new version of Google Maps, allows you to create powerful customized map through drawing, importing, organizing and styling your data. This task sheet demonstrates creating a Google map that can be embedded into a webpage. The only requirement is a Gmail account.
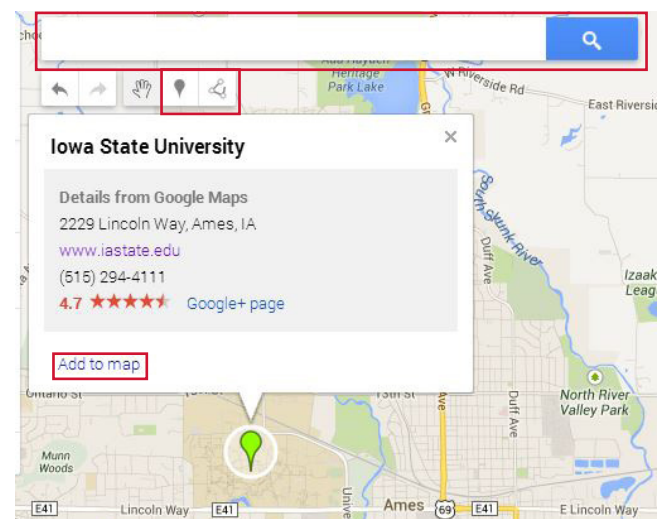
1. Sign In to Google Maps

a. In a web browser, navigate to the Google Maps website at www.maps.google.com.

b. Sign in using your Gmail account information. Click **Sign In** after you are signed into your account Click **My places** and click **CREATE MAP**. *Note: For classic Google My Maps see publication PM2082-13d.*

c. A new window will open. Click **New map** in the pop-up window.
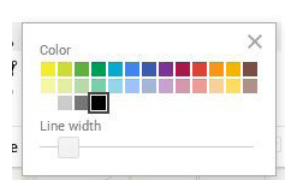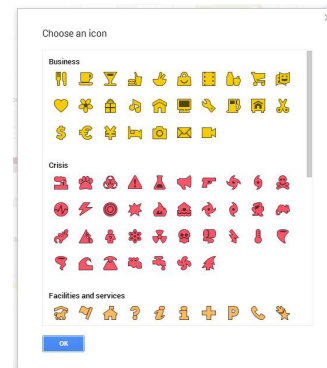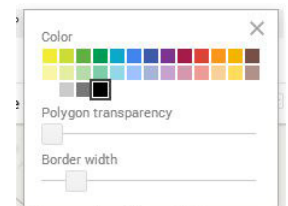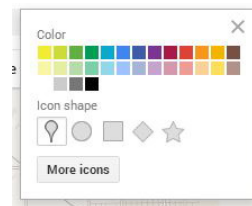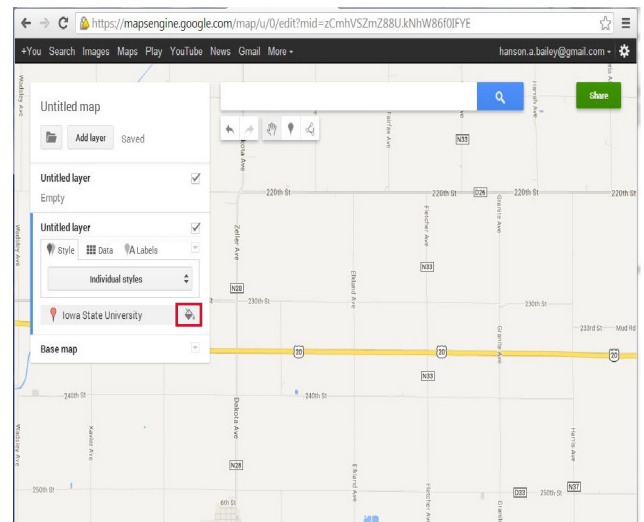

2. Adding Content to the Map

a. Fill in the map title and description. Click on the **Untitled map** title at the top of the table of contents to open the title and description editing text box.

b. **Add a point**. You can do this two ways:

   • Use the **Add marker** tool located in the toolbar at the top of the map and click on the map to add a point. Give the point a name and add content to the description.

   • Use the Google search bar to search for a place or location. Click on the icon to open the pop-up window and click **Add to map**. The point is now added to the map and the table of contents.

c. **Draw a line**. Use the **Add line or shape** tool located in the toolbar at the top of the map. *Hint: At this time there is no way to save driving directions as a line or to snap a line to a road using Google Maps Engine. To do this, see publication PM2082-13d.*

d. **Draw a shape**. Use the **Add line or shape** tool located in the toolbar at the top of the map.
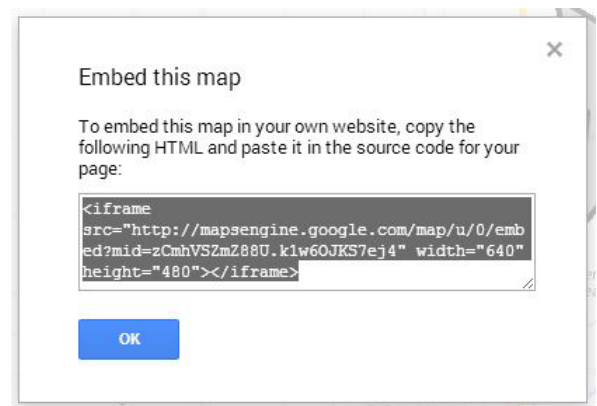
3. Editing Point, Line, and Polygon

a. **Editing Style**: Once a point, line or shape is added to the map, change the icon style by selecting one of the four style options: **Uniform style**, **Sequence of color and letters**, **Individual styles** (default) or **Style by data column**. To do this, select the **Style** tab and choose from the options in the drop-down menu. Hover over the icon in the table of contents and click on the **paint can** that appears to the right of the icon name. For a point, the available style options include colors and shape icons. For more icon options click **More icons**. For a line, the style options include color and line width. For a polygon, style options include color, polygon transparency and border width.

b. **Adding Labels**: To add labels to the map, select the **Labels** tab and choose one of the attributes listed in the drop-down menu. *Hint: To add more attribute fields to the layer click on the Data tab in the table of contents and click on the down arrow next to the description attribute. Click insert column.*

c. **Moving**: To move a point, click and drag the marker. To move a line or polygon, click on the marker, then click and drag the vertices.

d. **Deleting**: To delete a point, line or polygon click on the marker and click the **Delete feature icon** located in the bottom right corner of the marker pop-up.

4. Embed Map

a. Open the sharing settings window to change the access to the map from private to public. Click on the **Share** button located at the top right corner of the map and click on **Change...** under **Who has access** and select **Public on the web**. Click **Save** and click **Done**.

b. Click on the **folder icon** located under the map title in the table of contents and click **Embed on my site**.

c. Copy the HTML iframe from the pop-up window and paste it into your website.

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Bailey Hanson bahanson@iastate.edu, 515-520-1436 or for more information about the Geospatial Technology Program, contact: Professor Christopher J. Seeger, ASLA, GISP cjseeger@iastate.edu, 515-509-0651. This task sheet and more are available at www.extension.iastate.edu/gis