

Mapping out maples and potential tapping participants in southern NJ

Project Objective:

This grant involves the creation of maple boiling hubs located at specific geographic points. Hub owners will collect sap from their own property as well as from participants within a geographic radius surrounding the hub site (20-30 miles radius). Generation of maps and spatial datasets is required that show location of hubs, hub participants, potential participants, and abundance of maple trees. This project aims to:

1. Create a comprehensive map showing hub owners and participants.
2. Identify which participants belong to which hub owner based on travel distance.
3. Overlay Forest Inventory Analysis data for red maple and sugar maple on this map.
4. Use the overlay to help in finding potential locations of new participants.
 - a. For example, it would be useful to identify land properties over 5 acres that have a high density of maple trees.

Data Needed:

1. Maple contact list including hub owners and locations as well as participants and locations.
2. Forest Inventory Analysis data for red and sugar maples.

General Steps:

1. Geocode maple contact list to create map of hub owners and participants
2. Create a distance map showing participants with 20-30 miles radius of hubs
3. Overlay sugar maple and red maple density map to determine location of maples trees in relation to hub owners.
4. Map land properties >5 acres with highest density of maple trees not located in hub participant radius