



CanVis News

New Features

CanVis Is Now Downloadable!

Visit www.csc.noaa.gov/canvis/ and click on "Get CanVis Here"!

Virtual CanVis Workshops

Free virtual how-to workshops are offered every month. You only need phone and Internet access to participate. Step-by-step instructions and live on-line assistance make learning the software fun and easy. Space is limited, so please register at least two weeks in advance. Visit www.csc.noaa.gov/canvis/workshops.html for more information.

Upcoming Virtual Workshops (Eastern time zone)

- May 20, 2009, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- June 17, 2009, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- August 19, 2009, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- September 16, 2009, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Other events where CanVis will be presented:

Coastal Zone 09 –
July 19 to 23, 2009 – Boston, Massachusetts

This quarterly news from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Services Center provides updates and information about CanVis, an easy-to-use visualization software for coastal professionals. Canvis was created by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agroforestry Center and adapted by the Center for coastal management applications.



Updates and Tips

Coastal Objects

The coastal object libraries contain ready-made items to add to the user's pictures. These libraries are constantly growing. The objects, as well as instructions on how to add them to CanVis, can be accessed at www.csc.noaa.gov/canvis/coastal_objects.html.

Object categories:

Boats	Houses	Rocks
Textures	Buoys	Logs
Seawalls	Vegetation	Docks
People	Signs	

Please e-mail canvis@csc.noaa.gov if you have specific object requests or if you have developed objects you wish to add to the library.

Tips and Tricks

- Stuck in a mode? To get out of a mode (for example, "rotate," "duplicate," and so forth) simply right-click in an area outside an object or hit the escape key.
- Adding buoys, boats, and people helps add realism to your simulation.



NOAA Coastal Services Center
LINKING PEOPLE, INFORMATION, AND TECHNOLOGY

Your Projects

These project examples are provided to inspire others and encourage dialogue among users. If you have a project in which you have used CanVis and wish to share your experience, please contact us.

Simulating Proposed Development along Lake Erie

To receive more information on this project, please contact Shamus Malone of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection at smalone@state.pa.us:

“The Pennsylvania Coastal Resources Management (CRM) Program recently used CanVis to illustrate a proposed eight-condo development along the shoreline of Lake Erie. This proposed project was being reviewed by coastal zone management and municipal officials for applicability to the state’s encroachment and bluff setback statutes. Using a basic site map of the planned construction, CRM coastal hazards staff were able to add the proposed features, including walls, stairs, fill, groins, and buildings to a recent low-altitude aerial oblique photograph. The maxim, ‘a picture is worth a thousand words’ is very true, allowing us to demonstrate the project’s actual landscape position and size in relation to shoreline area. This demonstration was successful in generating the appropriate concerns and responses from both review agencies. The project was withdrawn by the contactor to be redesigned to better fit the shoreline area and to lessen the encroachment fill and littoral impacts. The same CanVis PowerPoint presentation was also shown to municipal officials at the annual Bluff Recession and Setback Regulations training class. By using this CanVis program we were again able to easily and effectively communicate visually the planned development to our audience. The additional ability of splicing in segments of construction or proposed activities to the final project appearance was a great help in communicating and displaying the magnitude of the project. We also distributed copies of the CanVis software to all the participating municipalities.”

Revealing the Effects of High-Rise Condominiums on Water Views

The historic port area of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, affords picturesque views of the Delaware River, so when high-rise condominiums started appearing on the port’s finger piers, issues arose about the effects on scenic vistas. CanVis was used to illustrate the aesthetic impacts of the additional proposed condos. First, CanVis object files were developed from photographs of existing condos in the area. Next, these objects were added to an image of the waterfront. These “before and after” visualizations showed the aesthetic consequences of building high-rise structures along a coastal riverfront.



Simulating Extended Docks in Washington

The City of Seattle recently had an opportunity to use CanVis when their Department of Planning and Development received several requests to extend the length of shallow water docks to better accommodate larger boats. CanVis was used to visually “clone” existing docks, adding 50 percent to their length. The resulting visual image was striking.



Demonstrating the Effects of Sea Level Rise

Coastal resource managers nationwide are increasingly concerned about the impacts of sea level rise on water levels. Coastal professionals working in Washington’s Puget Sound have used CanVis to visualize sea level rise, picture the height of existing seawalls, and visually “add” new seawalls to specific areas. The illustration below on the left shows the historic Charleston battery in South Carolina. The CanVis illustration on the right simulates the potential impact of sea level rise on this landmark.



Contribute

Help us support you! We would love to hear about projects you have worked on, objects you have created, or anything else you would like to share. We would also like feedback on *CanVis News*.

Thank you for your interest in CanVis and making it such a success.