

# SUCCESS STORY

## ▶▶▶ DECREASING RESPONSE TIME IN EMERGENCIES

### PROBLEM

Life or death situations can sometimes be determined in minutes, if not seconds, from how quickly or slowly an emergency response team arrives on the scene. Emergency service providers in Eau Claire County, Wis. wanted their responders to be able to react to emergencies as quickly as possible, and needed help creating an emergency service atlas to provide detailed information so they could better plan their approach to emergencies.

### SOLUTION

Applied Data Consultants, Inc. (ADC) developed the “Eau Claire County Emergency Service Atlas” to help responders coordinate activities and respond to emergencies. It incorporates GIS data layers to provide responders with the information they need to quickly assess a situation and determine the best routes.

The atlas includes a detailed table of contents, road index, emergency service zone index, emergency zones, address points, named roads, driveways, surface water, address grid, hydrant locations, rural water sources, boat landings, and other geographic layers.

### RESULTS

A picture is worth a thousand words. In times of chaos, it is helpful to have all response team members looking at the same set of information, rather than using verbal descriptions with no point of reference. With all responders having the same atlas, discussion is minimized, response time is reduced, and lives and property are better protected.

