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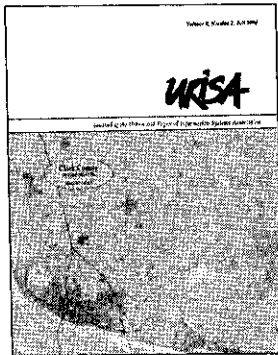
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## On the Cover

This is a portion of the tenth edition of the Clark County Road Map. It's the first edition produced in full color with shaded relief used to depict topography. Clark County is located in the southwestern part of Washington state, bordered by the Columbia River, approximately 70 miles from the Pacific Ocean. From an urban hub on the river, the county spreads through a rapidly growing suburban band, across agricultural lands and towns, to the slopes of the Cascade Mountains. Land elevations rise from less than 10 feet above mean sea level, to over 3,000 feet in the eastern portion. The county's land area comprises 627 square miles with a population of roughly 303,500.

Early editions of this map, published every four years, were compiled manually using a combination of photographic techniques and hand scribing. Map content was limited to roads. The new color version depicts not only road names and locations, but identifies cities, parks and other lands, as well as aspect and elevation. Rapid countywide development and GIS technology created both the need and the means to publish the Road Map bi-annually. Road information is added to the GIS database on a daily basis. Accurate, up-to-date information supports various county departments such as Emergency Management. And the general public uses the Road Map to navigate the county's new roads with confidence and ease.

The shaded relief base, while adding esthetic appeal to the map, helps map users visualize the landscape. The Road Map is published as a two-sided map: the front side provides an overview of the entire county, while the back side provides a larger scale view of the urban core. A street index helps users quickly find streets on both sides of the map. The Road Map is available as a poster or with folds to accommodate the glove box of a car.

The color-shaded relief portion was created using ARC/INFO's Grid Module. The relief was embedded into the land use classes using the Hue Saturation and Value Color (HSV) module. Using the HSV color module, three separate grids were created. A value grid was created to depict the relief by positioning an imaginary light source off the northwest corner of the map, thus illuminating the topography for a given aspect and elevation value. The hue and saturation grids were created by separating a grid of land use classes into their respective hue and saturation color components. The final grids were displayed simultaneously to create the effect of relief in the land use classes. The final map was created by using a Postscript file to create negatives used in the printing process.

The Road Map represents the work of the entire Clark County GIS department. For more information, contact Margo Blosser, GIS analyst, at 360-699-2391.