

Ideas for Delineating Survey Area

1. Use major roadways or natural boundaries that delineate an area. Use a roadmap or print out a map of the general area using Mapquest or another free website and identify major roads as boundaries. Other features that may bound areas include rivers, railroad tracks, etc.
2. Some communities will have delineated neighborhoods that could serve as survey areas. For example, Atlanta has a lot of in-town neighborhoods that are delineated. Many communities have maps of these areas are on the web.
3. Access census-based data. Go to the US Census site www.census.gov (another helpful site is www.geodata.gov) and create maps based on census tract, block group, or block number (and also get demographic data). Also the U.S. Geological Survey has a site that provides mapping--but it may not be as easy to use. The website is: seamless.usgs.gov (do not use www). These map resources will at least provide spatial characteristics of the area from which area boundaries can be developed.
4. Identify a place of importance (e.g., a main street for restaurants/food shopping) to the area and then decide on a radius of however large that would potentially capture the majority who would frequent that place (e.g., 2 miles). Without GIS, review a road or mapquest map, draw a boundary around it based on your radius and then determine what major roadways or other features that could serve as boundaries.
5. City and county planning offices have maps and other resources to help community members delineate survey areas; unfortunately many rural communities will not have these resources.
6. Local universities and other organizations may be able to help with this as many now offer GIS courses. A professor may be able to identify a student to help or may provide guidance.

Getting Street Lists of Survey Area

1. You may have to create your own street list by simply looking at maps and writing down all of the streets that fall in your survey area. If some streets continue outside that area, then you will either need to decide on the address range that falls with the survey boundaries or see if there is a cross street that can be used as the cutoff point.
2. Again, city and planning offices may be able to help you as well.
3. If you are using GIS, you should be able to obtain a list of street names in the survey area.