

David A. Hart, Ph.D., AICP
Biographical Sketch

David Hart is a Senior Scientist with the University of Wisconsin Aquatic Sciences Center and serves as the Associate Director for Extension at the University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute. Since 2014, he has directed a staff of outreach specialists who extend coastal scientific knowledge throughout Wisconsin. David is also an affiliate of the Department of Planning and Landscape Architecture and the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

David's research, outreach and teaching occur at the intersection of geographic information science, urban and environmental planning, and coastal management. He has developed and applied methods for discovery, acquisition, integration, and analysis of local geospatial data for use in decision-making about natural resource management issues at a regional scale. David also has applied research interests in coastal web atlases and geospatial interoperability; spatial decision support tools for environmental management; geodesign to promote green stormwater infrastructure; geospatial technologies to support place-based learning and coastal stewardship; resilience to natural hazards for coastal communities; and spatial narratives and deep maps.

Prior to moving to Wisconsin in 1993, David worked in New Orleans, Louisiana in a variety of roles related to urban and environmental planning. While employed by the New Orleans City Planning Commission, he managed a \$4 million multipurpose land information system project funded by the NOAA National Geodetic Survey. The basis of the project was to modernize local government land records in a setting experiencing significant land subsidence and coastal erosion.

David earned his doctorate in Land Resources from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a Master's of Urban and Regional Planning from the University of New Orleans and a B.S. in Natural Resources from the University of Michigan. He has been a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners since 1988.

Last Updated: October 1, 2025