

VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

**GEODASH
CRIME MAP**



User Guide

Vancouver Police Department
2015

Updated: February 1st, 2022

1. Introduction

The Vancouver Police Department's GeoDASH is a crime mapping tool that provides the public access to information about crimes that were reported to VPD. By providing valuable information about crime activity in neighbourhoods, citizens can be more informed and engaged in reducing crime.

GeoDASH stands for Geographic Data Analysis and Statistics Hub.

By default, GeoDASH Crime Map displays the **last 7 days** of crime incidents. The date range can be expanded and customized using either **Address Search** or **Neighbourhood Search** on the left panel of the application.

2. Accessing GeoDASH

GeoDASH is available on the VPD website (www.vpd.ca).

No plug-in or special software is required or necessary to use GeoDASH.

GeoDASH is browser independent and will run using the latest version of any standard internet browser such as:

- Internet Explorer (IE 11 and up)
- Firefox
- Chrome
- Mozilla
- Safari

GeoDASH has also been tested to be fully compatible with the following smartphone/mobile operating systems

- Android (eg. Samsung Galaxy, Nexus, etc.)
- iOS (eg. iPhone, iPad, etc.)

GeoDASH is not fully compatible with BlackBerry10 browser. Please download Chrome or another browser on a BlackBerry10 device to access all features.

The user must agree to accept the conditions of the disclaimer before crime data is displayed on the map.

3. GeoDASH Disclaimer Page


The disclaimer page is the first page displayed on the GeoDASH website. At the bottom of the page the user must indicate that they read and understood the disclaimer. If the user checks the box then the default crime map is displayed, otherwise, they are returned to the VPD website at www.vpd.ca.

The default crime map is the map of all crimes that occurred the previous week in all the neighbourhoods.

THE VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT | *Beyond the Call*

VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

GEODASH
CRIME MAP




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The GeoDash interactive mapping tool is intended to enhance community awareness of policing activity in Vancouver. Users are cautioned not to rely on the information provided to make decisions about the specific safety level of a specific location or area. By using this service the user agrees and understands that neither the Vancouver Police Department, Vancouver Police Board nor the City of Vancouver assumes liability for any decisions made or actions taken or not taken by the user in reliance upon any information or data provided.

While every effort has been made to be transparent in this process, users should be aware that this tool is designed to provide individuals with a general overview of incidents falling into several crime categories. The information provided therefore does

☐ I have read and understood the [disclaimer](#) above.

Accept

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[to top](#)

4. Web Page Layout

Zoom
Zoom in (+) and out (-)

I want to ..
Displays the options that are available.

Street Map
Toggles between Street Map and Street Map Imagery

Tools
Displays mapping, drawing and measuring tools.

Results
Displays the result of the search .

Display Incidents
Displays details of the incident .

Search for Occurrences
Displays the Search Options

Scale
Shows the scale of the map.

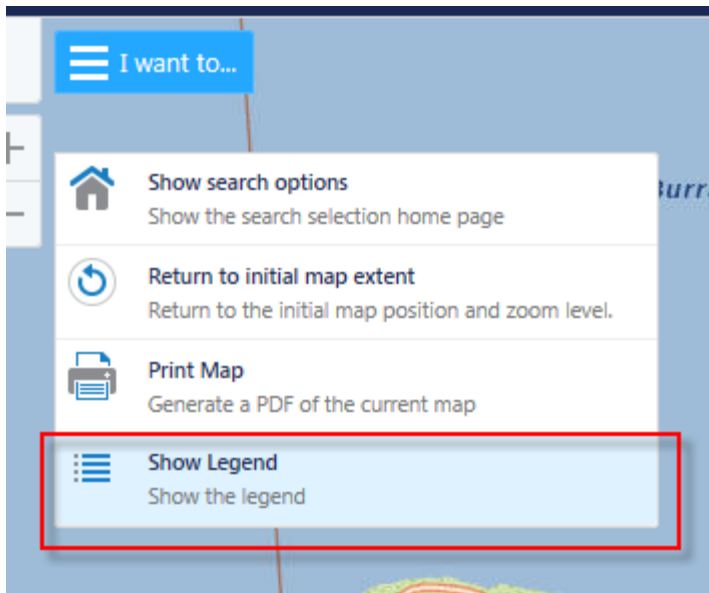
Show Chart
Displays the chart with an option to display historic trends

Marker
Click an incident marker to see more details about the crime.

The screenshot shows the GeoDASH interface with a map of Vancouver. The left sidebar displays search results for 'Other Theft' incidents. The top navigation bar includes the 'I want to..' dropdown. The map area shows various incident markers and a scale bar. A callout box for a specific incident provides details like 'Occurrence Date: 2015/11/25' and 'Location: 2200 YORK AVE, VAN'.












5. General Symbolology


GeoDASH uses different symbols on the map. To find out the meaning of these symbols, click **Show Legend**.




☐ Public Crime Incidents

☐ Crime Incident

-  Break and Enter Commercial
-  Break and Enter Residential/Other
-  Homicide
-  Mischief (eg. graffiti)
-  Offence Against a Person
-  Other Theft (eg. bicycle, personal item)
-  Theft from Vehicle
-  Theft of Bicycle
-  Theft of Vehicle
-  Vehicle Collision or Pedestrian Struck (with Fatality)
-  Vehicle Collision or Pedestrian Struck (with Injury)

 Neighbourhood Boundary

 Neighbourhood

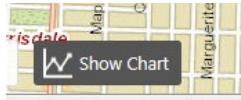
6. Map Overview

- **Zoom** in and out by clicking + or -. Or using a mouse wheel.
- **Scale**
As you zoom in (+) and out (-) of the map, the scale is displayed at the bottom.
- **Views**
In the upper right corner of the map, toggle between StreetMap and StreetMap Imagery.
- **Clustering of Icons**
If two crimes occur near each other, when you zoom out those incident icons will overlap at some point. When the two symbols overlap it is difficult to tell that there are two crimes in that area.

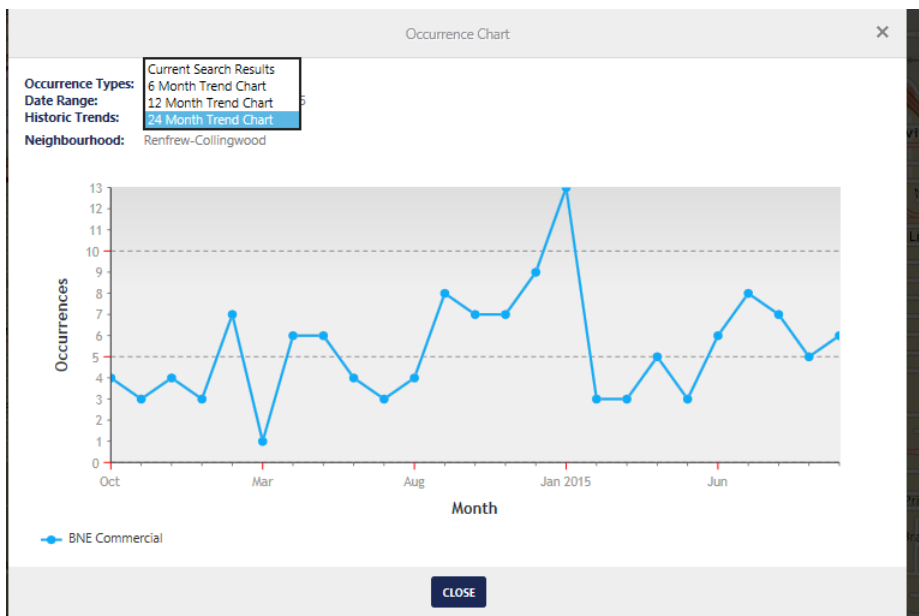
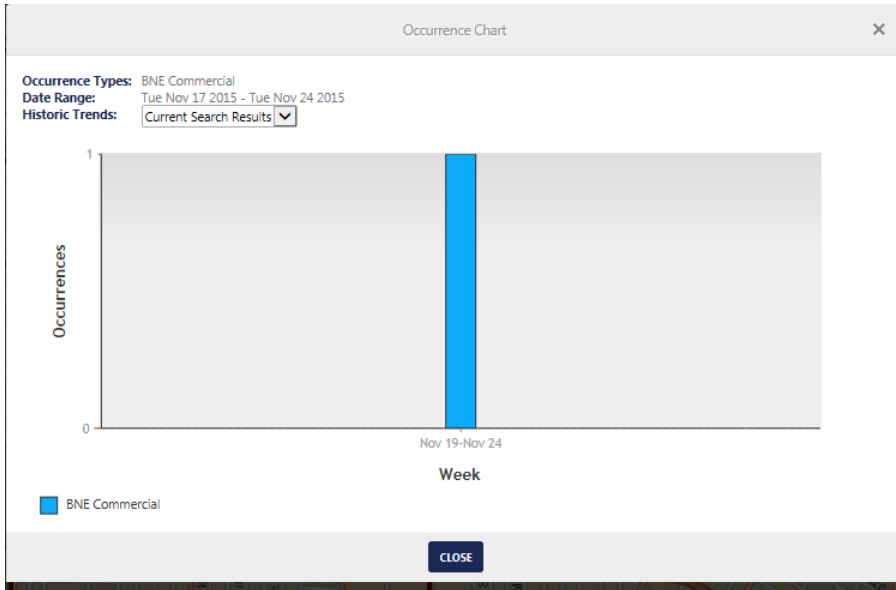


7. Chart (this feature is not available on mobile devices)

Click the *Show Chart*



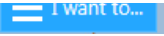
icon to display the chart for the current search result.

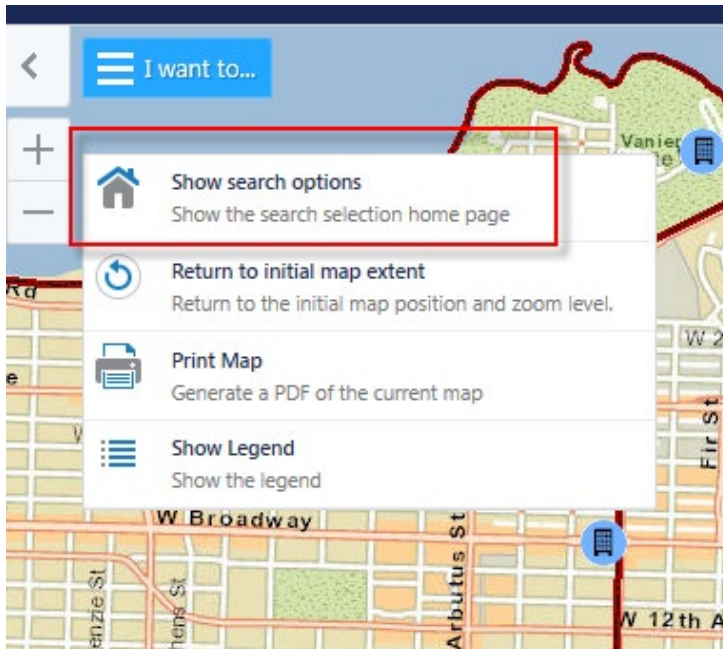



8. Search Options

GeoDASH allows the ability to search using different options.

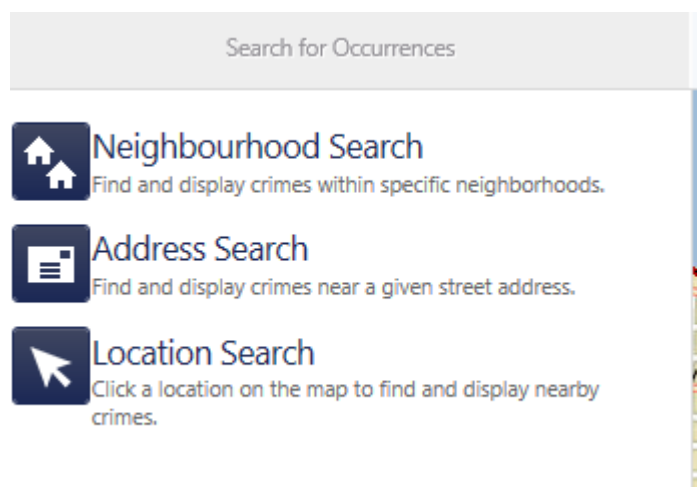
To start a search, you can either:

- a. Click on the “I want to” button  and select *Show search options*.



- b. Click the  icon located at the bottom left corner of the page.

The following Search screen is displayed.



8.1. Search by Neighbourhood

To search by Neighbourhood, click *Neighbourhood Search*.

- a. Default is All Neighbourhoods.

Neighbourhood:
All neighbourhoods

Occurrence Type:
(Select one or use Ctrl + Click to select multiple)

- BNE Commercial
- BNE Residential/Other
- Homicide
- Mischief
- Offence Against a Person
- Other Theft
- Theft from Vehicle
- Theft of Vehicle

Select All

Date Range:
Previous week

» Choose a custom date range

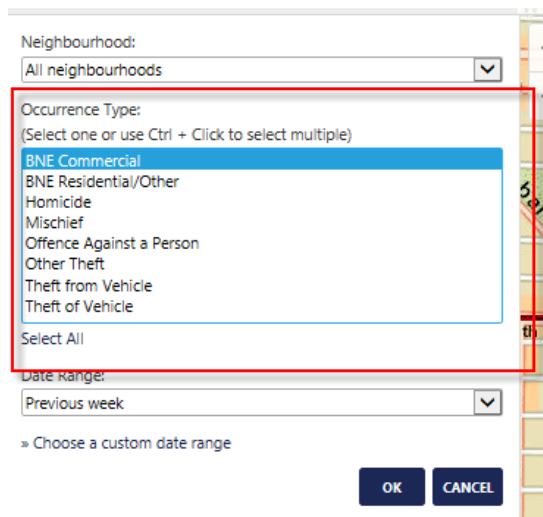
OK CANCEL

- b. Select the Neighbourhood by clicking the dropdown list. Only 1 Neighbourhood can be selected at a time.

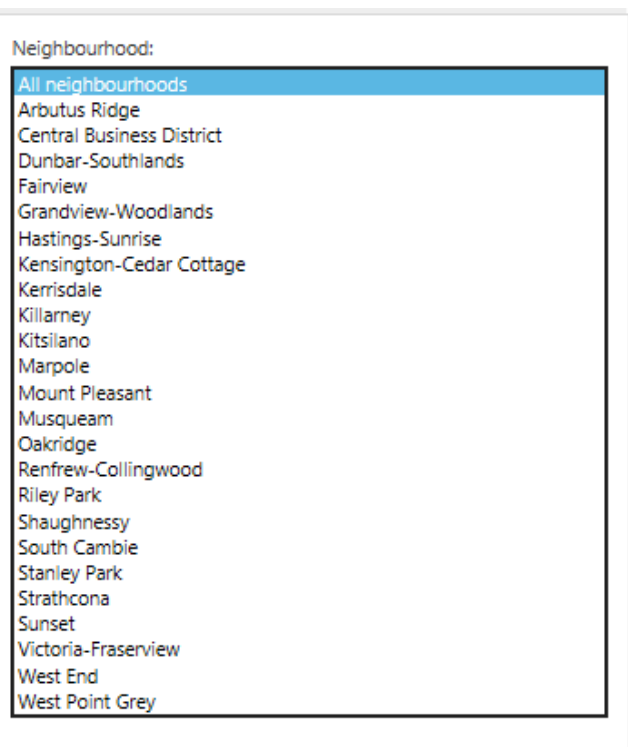
After a successful search, the map displays the crimes

8.1.a.Filter by Crime Type

GeoDASH allows the ability to narrow the search to specific crime types by selecting one or more of the categories provided. The default is “BNE Commercial”.



- To select multiple crime types, press and hold down the Ctrl key, and then click each item that you want to select.



- To select all crime types, click **Select All**.

8.1.b.Filter by Date Range.

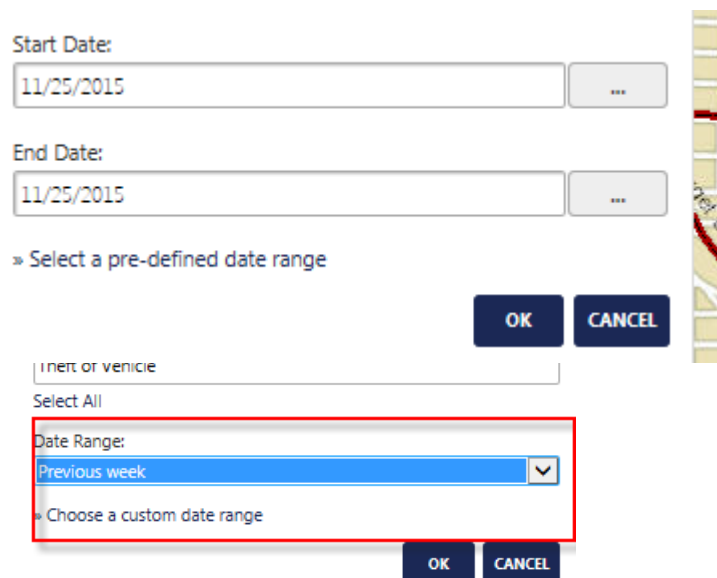
GeoDASH allows the ability to narrow the search by date range. The default is “Previous week”.



A screenshot of a web application's date range selection interface. It features a label "Date Range:" followed by a dropdown menu. The dropdown menu is open, showing four options: "Previous week" (highlighted in blue), "Previous 2 weeks", "Previous 3 weeks", and "Previous 4 weeks". Below the dropdown menu are two buttons: "OK" and "CANCEL".

Note: Previous week also means the past 7 days. For example, if you are doing the crime map search on Dec 8th, previous week will be from Dec 2nd to 8th


- To change the date range, click on the dropdown and select another date range.





A screenshot of the GeoDASH search interface. It shows two date input fields: "Start Date:" with the value "11/25/2015" and "End Date:" with the value "11/25/2015". Below these fields is a link that says "» Select a pre-defined date range". To the right of the date fields is a vertical strip of a map. Below the date fields are two buttons: "OK" and "CANCEL". Below these buttons is a text input field labeled "Insert or vehicle". Below that is a "Select All" button. Below the "Select All" button is a dropdown menu labeled "Date Range:" with "Previous week" selected. Below the dropdown menu is a link that says "» Choose a custom date range". At the bottom of the form are two buttons: "OK" and "CANCEL". The "Date Range:" dropdown menu is highlighted with a red rectangle.


- To enter your own date range, click *Choose a custom date*.

Date Range:

Previous week 

[Choose a custom date range](#)



8.2. Search by Address

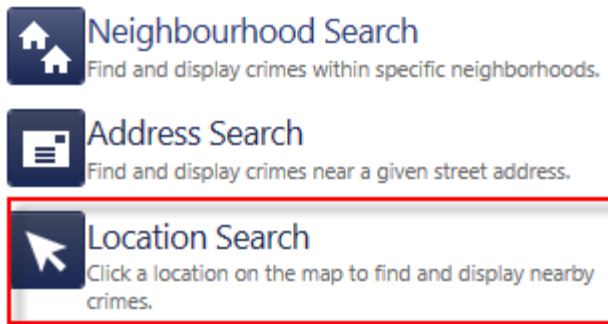
To find and display crimes near a given street address, click Address Search.

The screenshot displays the GeoDASH search interface. At the top, there are three search options: 'Neighbourhood Search' (Find and display crimes within specific neighborhoods), 'Address Search' (Find and display crimes near a given street address), and 'Location Search' (Click a location on the map to find and display nearby crimes). The 'Address Search' option is highlighted with a red box. Below this, the 'Address Search' dialog box is shown. It has a title bar with 'Address Search' and a close button. Inside the dialog, there is a 'Street Address' text input field (highlighted with a red box) with an example: '123 Main St or W Broadway / Cambie St'. Below the input field is a 'Buffer Distance: (meters)' dropdown menu set to '1000'. Underneath is a list of 'Occurrence Type' options: 'BNE Commercial' (selected), 'BNE Residential/Other', 'Homicide', 'Mischief', 'Offence Against a Person', 'Other Theft', 'Theft from Vehicle', and 'Theft of Vehicle'. There is a 'Select All' button below the list. At the bottom of the dialog is a 'Date Range' dropdown menu set to 'Previous week' and a link to 'Choose a custom date range'. The dialog also has 'OK' and 'CANCEL' buttons at the bottom right.

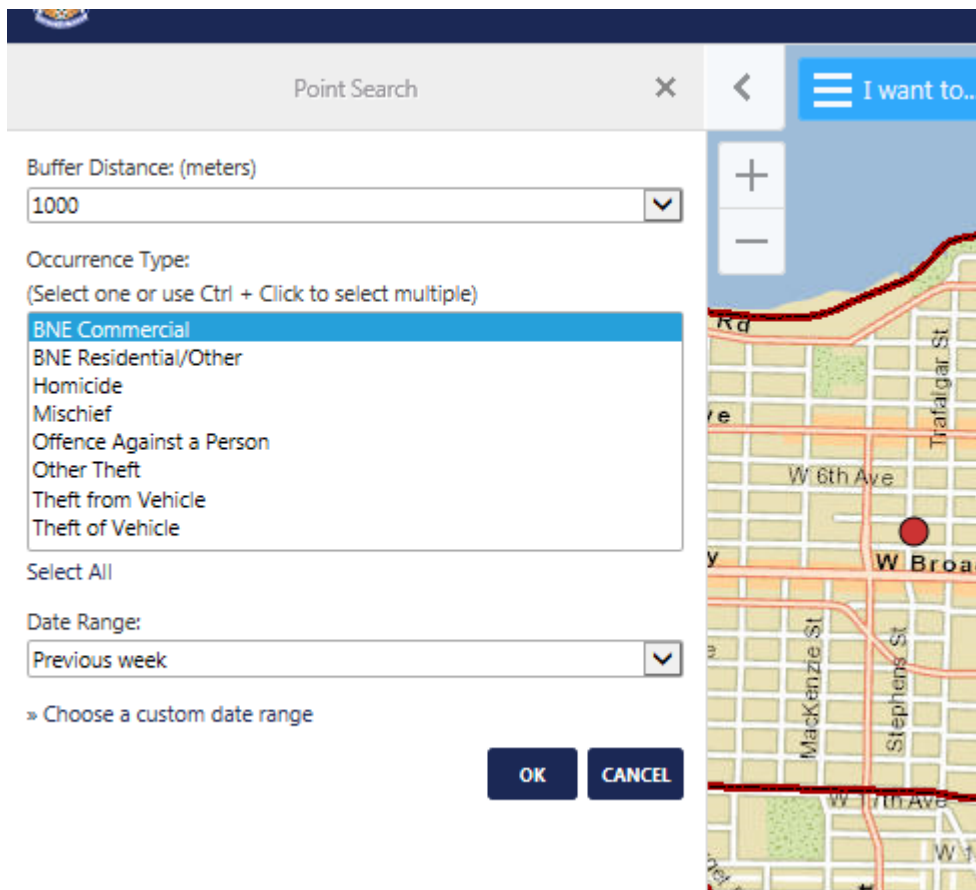
- Type an address or two streets that form an intersection.
Example: **123 Main St** or **W Broadway / Cambie St**
Note:
 - The address search requires the street name to match the one that is on the map.
 - The address search for intersection requires the space in between the "/", otherwise it will result in "address not found".

8.3. Search by Location

To find and display crimes near a location on the map.

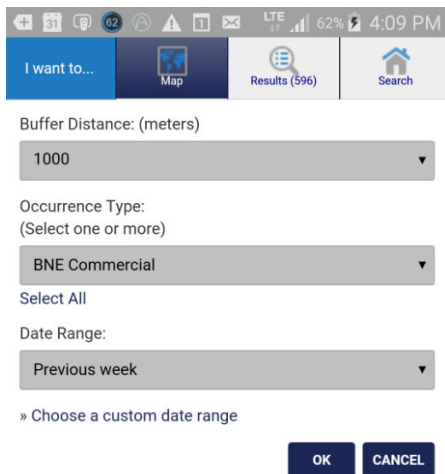


- Click a location on the map. A red dot marks the location. Select the buffer distance.



9. GPS Search (This feature is only available on mobile devices)

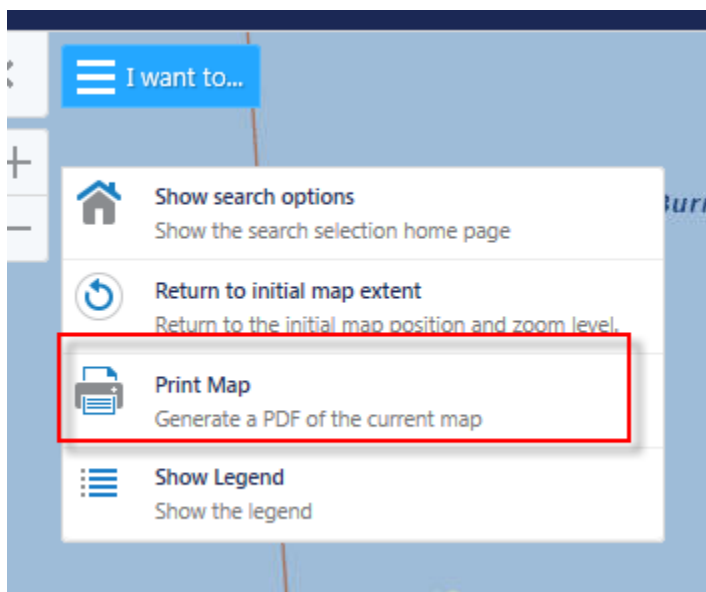
Location services on your mobile device have to be turned on in order to use this feature.

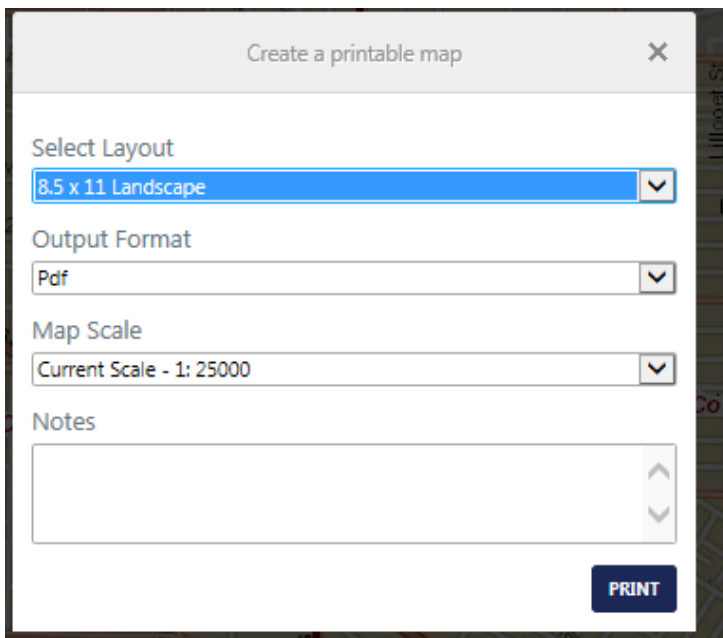


The screenshot shows the mobile app's search interface. At the top, there's a status bar with icons for signal, battery, and time (4:09 PM). Below it, a navigation bar has four tabs: 'I want to...', 'Map', 'Results (596)', and 'Search'. The 'Search' tab is active. Below the navigation bar, there are several filter options: 'Buffer Distance: (meters)' with a dropdown set to '1000'; 'Occurrence Type: (Select one or more)' with a dropdown set to 'BNE Commercial'; 'Select All' text; 'Date Range:' with a dropdown set to 'Previous week'; and a link '» Choose a custom date range'. At the bottom, there are two buttons: 'OK' and 'CANCEL'.

10. Print Map

GeoDASH provides the ability to print a copy of the map to pdf.





The screenshot shows a 'Create a printable map' dialog box with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The dialog contains four sections: 'Select Layout' with a dropdown menu showing '8.5 x 11 Landscape'; 'Output Format' with a dropdown menu showing 'Pdf'; 'Map Scale' with a dropdown menu showing 'Current Scale - 1: 25000'; and 'Notes' with a text area and vertical scroll arrows. A blue 'PRINT' button is located at the bottom right of the dialog.

Create a printable map X

Select Layout
8.5 x 11 Landscape

Output Format
Pdf

Map Scale
Current Scale - 1: 25000

Notes

PRINT