

# Roadsoft Roundup

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Visit the new and improved [Roadsoft.org](http://Roadsoft.org)  
and tell us what you think!

## A more engaging Roadsoft.org

The Roadsoft website has undergone a dramatic face-lift. It has, in fact, been completely rebuilt from the ground up. Design of the new website started in mid-January, with the goal of having a cleaner, more usable, easier-to-update website. However, it became clear that the website also needed interactive ways of engaging users.

One way that the new Roadsoft.org does this is with the addition of forums. Users can post questions and comments regarding Roadsoft, and have them answered by CTT staff and other users.

| Roadsoft forums  |        |       |   | Forums  |
|--|--------|-------|---|---|
| Forum  | Topics | Posts | Last post                                       |   |
| Getting started<br>Setting up and troubleshooting Roadsoft and its databases, learning the basic features of the program | 7      | 7     | by assemen<br>Mon, 04/16/2012 - 4:40pm          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Getting started</li><li>Roadsoft questions</li><li>Roadsoft feature requests</li><li>Roadsoft bugs</li><li>LDC questions</li><li>LDC feature requests</li><li>LDC bugs</li></ul>  |
| Roadsoft questions<br>Get answers for specific issues related to Roadsoft  | 1      | 1     | by Roadsoft Support<br>Wed, 08/22/2012 - 2:10pm |   |
| Roadsoft feature requests<br>Post here to suggest improvements to Roadsoft   | 7      | 13    | by rikoszyk<br>Tue, 09/11/2012 - 4:12pm         | <b>Recent forum posts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Tracking of non-preservation /construction projects</li><li>Multiple post sizes in Sign Module</li><li>Geotags</li><li>Separate layers for Traffic Count data</li><li>Shorter sections for Sidewalks Module</li></ul> |
| Roadsoft bugs<br>Report any software errors found in Roadsoft  | 2      | 4     | by rikoszyk<br>Tue, 09/11/2012 - 3:58pm         |   |
| LDC questions<br>Get answers for specific issues related to the Laptop Data Collector                                    | 0      | 0     | n/a   | <b>Popular forum posts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Make the Interface for Editing Map Layers More Intuitive</li><li>Shorter sections for Sidewalks Module</li></ul>   |
| LDC feature requests<br>Post here to suggest improvements to the Laptop Data Collector                                   | 2      | 3     | by rikoszyk<br>Tue, 09/11/2012 - 4:05pm         |   |
| LDC bugs<br>Report any software errors found in the Laptop Data Collector  | 0      | 0     | n/a   |   |

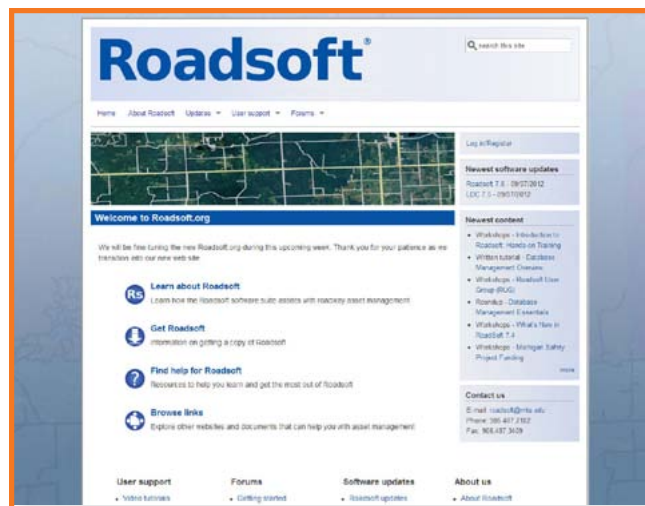
Forums offer a new way to get help and give feedback

According to Shaughn Kern, lead developer of the site, if users are posting questions, giving feedback, and helping other users, the forums have the potential of being the most useful area of the web site. "A lot of good ideas and resources are exchanged among Roadsoft users and developers, whether through tech support calls or user group meetings. I'm hoping that the forums create more opportunity for this type of dialogue."

To post on the forums, a user must create an account\* on the website. User accounts are free, and provide options for commenting on video tutorials and subscribing to e-mail updates.

\*Old user accounts will not be carried over to the new website.

Meanwhile, all content from the old Roadsoft.org has been reorganized. "We wanted to make the website more usable, starting with making everything easy to find," says Kern.



The new Roadsoft.org offers better usability and more dynamic content

Because of this, the home page has a more simplified, powerful interface. Links at the top and bottom of the site allow users to quickly navigate the site, while sidebars display dynamic content such as software updates, new documents, and upcoming events.

Further improvements to look for on the new Roadsoft.org are:

- Video tutorials are better organized
- Updates are easier to find and download
- Content is easier to update and archive

Please drop by and acquaint yourself with our new website. We are excited to get feedback on the new Roadsoft.org design so that we can continue to bring our users the best support possible.

[www.roadsoft.org](http://www.roadsoft.org)

The Center for Technology & Training at Michigan Technological University publishes Roadsoft Roundup four times a year. To obtain permission to reprint any articles or graphics from Roadsoft Roundup, or subscribe, contact the CTT.

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