

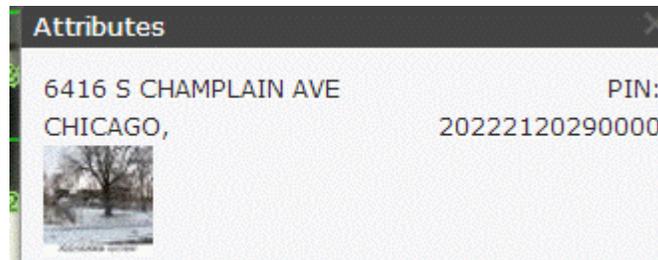
Who Owns That Chicago Vacant Lot?

There are many vacant lots in Chicago. You block club, church or other neighborhood group may be able to convert a vacant lot into a positive asset that greens and beautifies your street. Here is a guide to identifying the property owner.

1. [Chicago City Owned Land Inventory](#). This is a list of 15,000+ properties owned by the City of Chicago. The list includes PIN number, address, and square footage for each property. A City disclaimer states that the list may not be 100% accurate. Verify property ownership online. And one more caveat: the online records listed in the next two items sometimes are incomplete or missing for a property. Maybe your alderman's office can help. You can also call 312-744-LAND (312-744-5263) to determine if a property is owned by the city.

14-Digit PIN #	Stre Dir.	Street Name	Type	Sq. Ft.	Ward	Community
20-22-212-029-0000	6416 S	CHAMPLAIN	AVE	3059	20	WOODLAWN
20-22-213-006-0000	6419 S	CHAMPLAIN	AVE	3055	20	WOODLAWN
20-22-213-007-0000	6421 S	CHAMPLAIN	AVE	3106	20	WOODLAWN

2. Use the [CookViewer website](#) to visually confirm PIN number, address and location of a lot.



3. Look up a PIN number in [Cook County Recorder of Deeds website](#) to determine/verify the owner of a property. *1st Grantee* of the most recently dated record for the property is the current owner. When the City of Chicago is the owner then the *1st Grantee* is listed as 'Chicago'. If the lot is not city-owned, for \$2.50 you can download a deed document that lists the name and address of the property owner.

Recorded Date	PIN	Type Desc.	Doc. #	1st Grantor	1st Grantee	1st Prior Doc#
3/21/2006	20-22-212-029-0000	DEED	0608035078	COOK COUNTY CLERK	CHICAGO	

To request permission to use a city-owned lot, see the alderman. You may be required to provide: PIN number(s), garden organization board member names, bylaws, garden rules, garden design, \$1 million liability insurance. At best, expect a three-year lease, possibly renewable, from the city. If the lot is privately owned, contact the owner and discuss terms of use.

See the NeighborSpace website for additional [information about determining a site owner](#), and for assistance with [long term preservation](#) of a community garden site. (neighbor-space.org, Join Us [> Application Process](#))