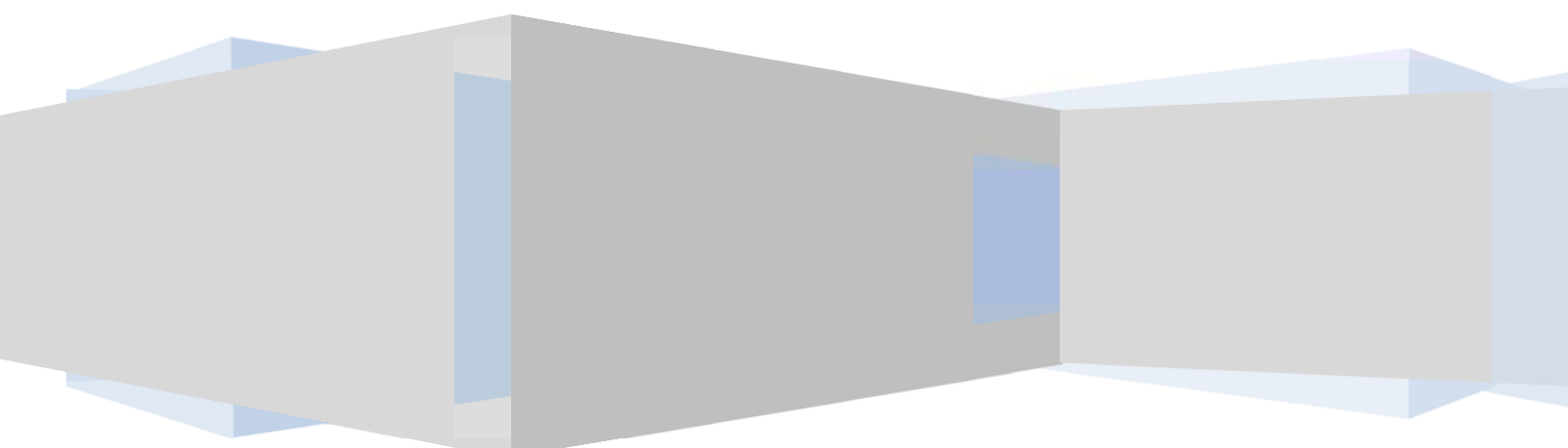




# MLS add-on (For WPL)

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*Contents of this manual are applicable to WPL MLS addon. Details of this manual may be different based on customizations you may have or your software.*

# Introduction

This manual contains information about the MLS add-on, an extension for WPL plugin.

MLS add-on is a powerful extension that enables real estate WordPress websites to import properties, agents, images etc. from the MLS server directly into their websites. By using the MLS add-on of WPL, you can sync your website with the MLS server properties. This means if a new property is added on the MLS server, it will be imported into your website automatically. Also if a property data was updated or deleted on the MLS server, it will be updated or deleted on your website as well.

## System Requirements

To use the MLS add-on you will need the following:

- 1- WPL PRO. (Don't install any add-on on WPL basic)
- 2- At least one MLS server access. (MLS username, password and login URL)

## Installation

If you have the installation package of the MLS add-on, you can easily upload it from the following path: WordPress->WPL dashboard->Install Add-on form

## Glossary

Below are a list of terms used throughout this manual and their meanings.

**MLS Server:** A web server used for storing property data, property images and perhaps agent information. MLS add-on needs the login credentials to connect to MLS server for communicating.

**MLS/RETS/IDX/VOW:** These terms all mean "MLS server" as mentioned above. Normally you can use the MLS add-on for all of these data servers.

**RETS Version:** Used in WPL RETS library. It is commonly known as "RETS/1.5".

**MLS Resource:** MLS servers categorize the data into a different section called a resource section. For syncing/importing the properties the resource is usually called "Property".

**Mapping:** For importing/syncing Property data from the MLS server to WPL, you need to sync the MLS data fields to WPL data fields. This is called mapping.

**Sample data:** Having sample data of the MLS fields can help you to understand what the MLS field is, and you can map it to the correct field of WPL.

**MLS Class:** The MLS properties are categorized in some sections called MLS class (Residential, Commercial, Lots and Land, Multifamily etc.).

**Sync Period:** The duration time between each update request. The MLS Addon calls a request to the MLS server for adding new properties or modifying existing properties. You can set its duration based on days.

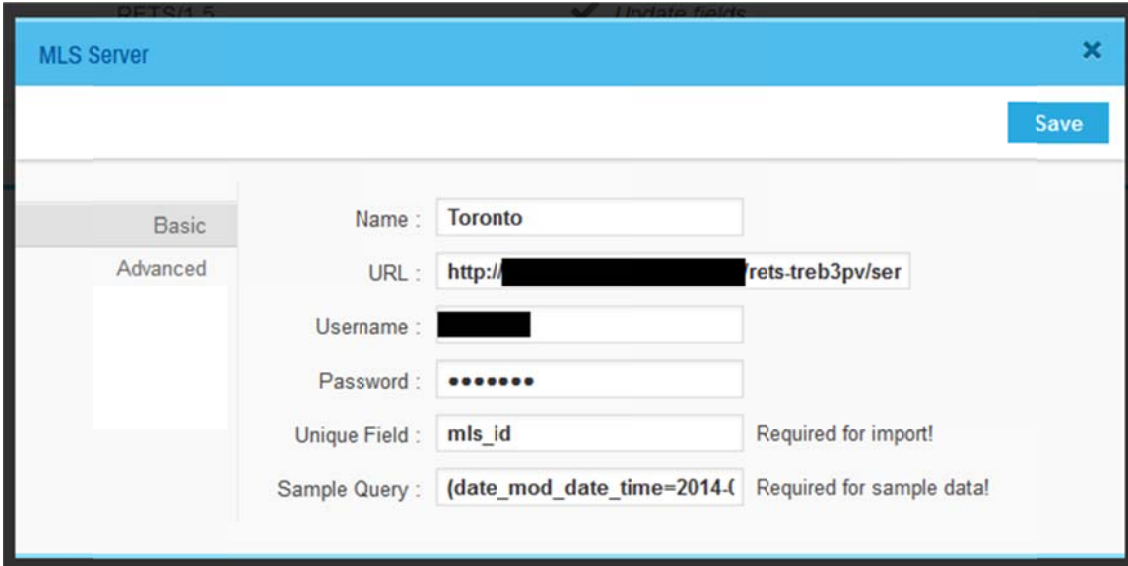
**Query:** You can create various types of queries for importing/syncing the MLS properties to WPL. For example, if your brokerage specializing in commercial listings or rental properties, you can import/sync these types of properties to your WPL. There is also an amazing interface for creating advanced queries on the query wizard of MLS Addon as well.

## Running MLS Addon

After the installation, you should configure the MLS Addon.

### Adding MLS servers

To add MLS servers please go to WPL->MLS Addon menu and click on "+" button on top of page.



The screenshot shows the 'MLS Server' configuration window. It features a blue header with the title 'MLS Server' and a close button. A 'Save' button is located in the top right corner. On the left side, there are two tabs: 'Basic' and 'Advanced'. The 'Basic' tab is selected, displaying the following fields:


- Name: Toronto
- URL: http://[redacted]rets-treb3pv/ser
- Username: [redacted]
- Password: [redacted]
- Unique Field: mls\_id (Required for import!)
- Sample Query: (date\_mod\_date\_time=2014-1 (Required for sample data!)

- Name: You can add your desired name.
- URL: Enter login URL of MLS server.
- Username: Your MLS server username
- Password: Your MLS server password
- Unique Field: Every property on MLS server has a unique id, you should find the name of unique id field in MLS fields and then place it here. Normally it is "ListingID".
- Sample Query: Based on MLS server structures it can be different.

After filling in the form click on save and refresh the page to see the added MLS server.

**Note:** You can add many MLS servers as much as you like.

After that you must check the connection and import MLS classes and MLS fields in order to map with WPL fields. For this you can simply click on "Import fields" button.

MLS Addon / Servers 

**You can update it later!** **Click for testing connection and importing the MLS classes and fields.**

ID	Name	RETS Version	Connection / Import	Mapping	Actions
3	RMLS	RETS/1.5	✓ Update fields	Map with WPL	
6	Toronto	RETS/1.5	✗ Import fields	Map with WPL	

You can also update MLS classes and fields later if needed by clicking on "Update Fields" button.

**Note:** If the MLS Addon shows a connection error in this step, check your login credentials and insert correct information in order to proceed to the next step.

### Map with WPL

Click on the "Map with WPL" link or Go to the WPL->MLS mapping to see the Mapping interface of WPL. Select MLS server and MLS class to see the MLS fields.

**MLS class** **Filter MLS fields** **Sample data**

Server: **RMLS** **Commercial** Filter:

ID	Name	Data type	Sample data	WPL field	Mapping
<input type="checkbox"/>	849	Amps	Character		Map a field
<input type="checkbox"/>	850	SqFtApproximateLot	Character	[20400][13939]	Map a field
<input type="checkbox"/>	851	SqFtApproximateManufacturing	Int	[45400][5540]	Map a field
<input type="checkbox"/>	852	SqFtApproximateOffice	Int	[1586][100][1782]	Map a field
<input type="checkbox"/>	853	SqFtApproximateWarehouse	Int	[7120]	Map a field
<input type="checkbox"/>	854	BuildingsTotal	Int	[2][3][5][1]	Map a field
<input type="checkbox"/>	855	BusinessName	Character	[NA][None] [N/A][Former Umpqua Resources Group.] [none][Mt Hood Beverage][Qualman Oysters]	Map a field
<input type="checkbox"/>	856	CeilingHeight	Int	[24][20]	Map a field
<input type="checkbox"/>	857	Volts	Character	<b>Mapped WPL field</b>	Map a field
<input type="checkbox"/>	858	OperatingExpensesActual	Int	[8820]	Map a field
<input type="checkbox"/>	859	GarageOrParkingSpaces	Int	[20][30][6][25]	Features -> Parking <b>Modify mapping</b>

The Mapping functionality is designed in a way that helps you map all the fields easily. Normally there are a lot of fields in MLS servers, therefore mapping them one by one is a time consuming process. So if you map an MLS field in a specific MLS class, the MLS Addon will map the same fields on the other MLS classes automatically.

There is also a mass auto create field in the bottom of the mapping table. You can select some fields and then click on "Create All" button.

**Important note:** The mapping process is very important. Wrong or incomplete mapping can create serious numerous issues on your website.

For example, if you map the MLS bedrooms field to a wrong field, the properties won't be able to find the bedrooms through WPL search widget. If a visitor looks for 2 bedroom properties, the WPL search widget will search in the WPL bedrooms field. It won't find the information it is looking for because the bedroom information of MLS properties is on another field.

The same issue will happen for property listing/property show page. Depending on your theme, there are some fixed positions for showing some basic information of the property such as listing, property type, price, bedrooms, rooms, bathrooms, parking spaces, property location etc. So if you mapped the fields wrongly WPL will show 0, null or wrong information on your theme.

So you must do the mapping very carefully. Note the following items during mapping:

- Map the MLS fields to existing WPL fields.
- Avoid creating new fields using "Auto Create" button unless really there is no related field on WPL for those fields.
- It's better if you don't map the fields which don't have any data on sample data. It can make your website messy with unnecessary information.
- WPL's most important fields are: listing type, property type, price, price unit, price type (for rental properties), listing ID, bedrooms, bathrooms, rooms, view, property description, built up area, lot area, images, location information, property title (if exists). Map these fields with carefully.
- Mapping some fields may need to be manually tailored based on customizations you may have on your WPL, other Addons, or the data structure of your MLS server.

## MLS Query (Query wizard)

After the mapping process, you should use the "MLS Query" menu for importing properties to your website. You could also sync them to WPL by using the MLS auto sync feature.

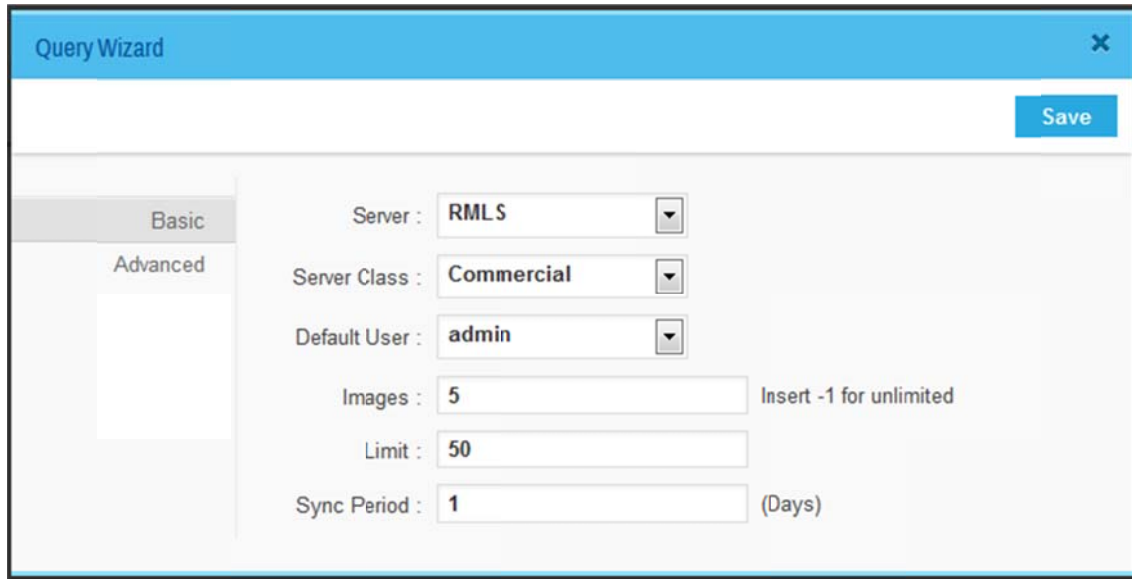
MLS Addon / Query Wizard

Default user/agent Manual Import

Add new Query

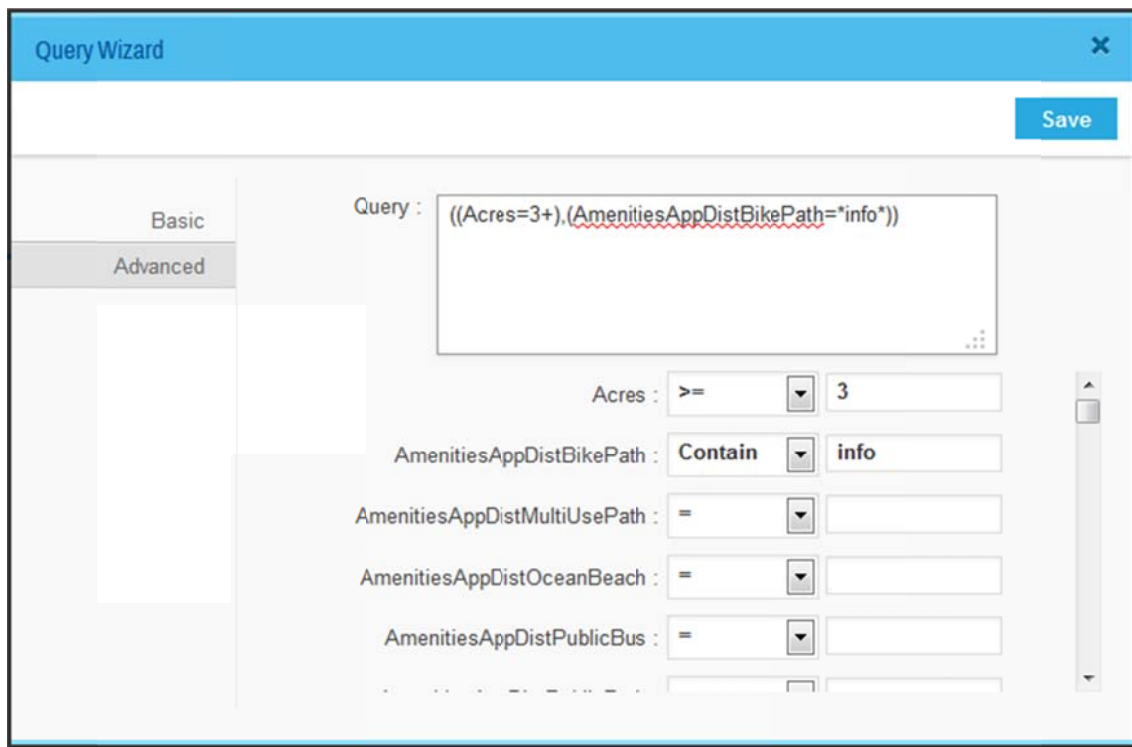
ID	MLS Server	MLS Class	Default User	Import	Actions
1	RMLS	Residential	admin	Import	⚙️ ✎️ 🗑️ ✓
2	RMLS	Common	agent1	Import	⚙️ ✎️ 🗑️ ✓
4	RMLS	Commercial	admin	Import	⚙️ ✎️ 🗑️ ✖
5	RMLS	LotsAndLand	admin	Import	⚙️ ✎️ 🗑️ ✖
6	RMLS	MultiFamily	admin	Import	⚙️ ✎️ 🗑️ ✖
11	RMLS	Enabling/Disabling the Query for auto sync process		Import	⚙️ ✎️ 🗑️ ✖
12	Toronto	ResidentialProperty	admin	Import	⚙️ ✎️ 🗑️ ✖

If you click on "+" button for adding query or click on edit icon of each Query, you will see the below interfaces.



The screenshot shows the 'Query Wizard' window with the 'Basic' tab selected. The 'Advanced' tab is also visible but not active. The configuration options are as follows:

- Server: RMLS
- Server Class: Commercial
- Default User: admin
- Images: 5 (with a note: Insert -1 for unlimited)
- Limit: 50
- Sync Period: 1 (Days)



The screenshot shows the 'Query Wizard' window with the 'Advanced' tab selected. The 'Basic' tab is also visible but not active. The configuration options are as follows:

- Query: `((Acres=3+),(AmenitiesAppDistBikePath="info*"))`
- Acres: >= 3
- AmenitiesAppDistBikePath: Contain info
- AmenitiesAppDistMultiUsePath: =
- AmenitiesAppDistOceanBeach: =
- AmenitiesAppDistPublicBus: =

- Default User: The properties will be assigned to the current user by default. You can select any user/agent you want by using the dropdown menu.
- Images: You can specify how many images you would like to have downloaded from the MLS server and imported to WPL. Depending on your server space and resources, you can increase this parameter. Do not set it to unlimited (-1) if you don't have a strong server.
- Limit: Connecting to the MLS server, fetching the data and downloading images are a resource taking process. On some servers it can create internal server errors. We have created

an option to do the import/sync actions step by step to reduce server load. Please don't set to a high number. This is another reason why you should have a dedicated server for utilizing MLS integrations.

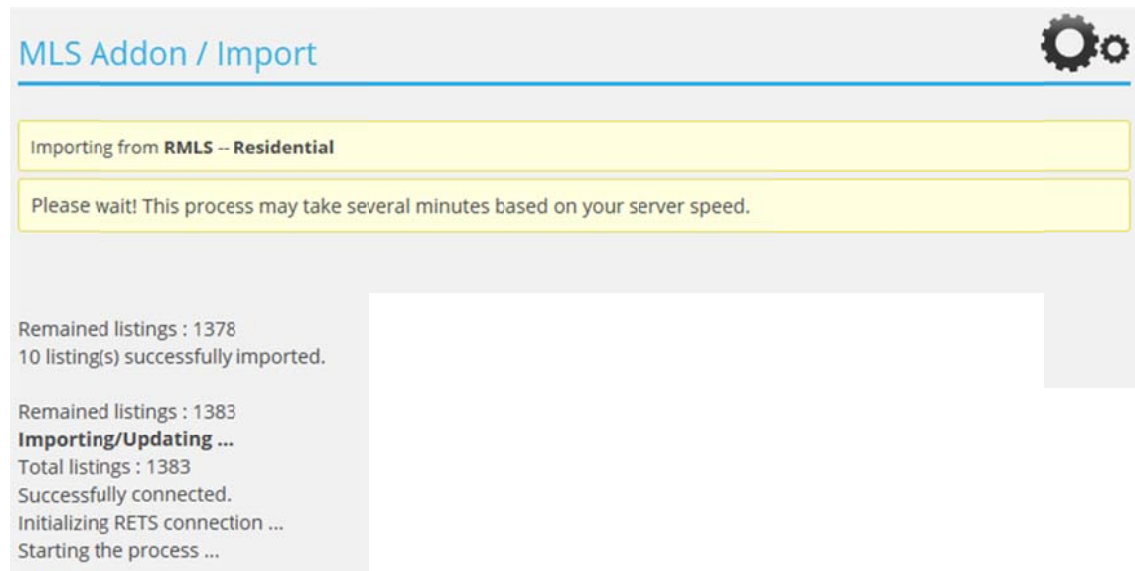
- Sync Period: You can set the sync period if needed. Set it to a higher number if your MLS server won't update daily, or you're not sure about your server resources. You can set it to 5 days (for example).
- Query: MLS Addon has an amazing Query Wizard, so you can set the credentials for the import or sync process if needed. Please leave this empty if you're uncertain.

### Enabling the Query for sync process

After adding the queries you should enable/disable it for sync process if needed by clicking on "x" or tick icon on "Actions" column.

### Import

You can click on the "Import" link after creating the query for manually importing the properties. After clicking on the "Import" link, you will be redirect to a new page. Click on the "Start" link for starting the import process. It may takes a several minutes based on your server load.



The screenshot shows the 'MLS Addon / Import' interface. At the top right, there is a gear icon. Below the header, there are two yellow boxes: the first says 'Importing from RMLS -- Residential' and the second says 'Please wait! This process may take several minutes based on your server speed.' Below these, there is a progress bar. On the left side, there is a list of status messages: 'Remained listings : 1378', '10 listing(s) successfully imported.', 'Remained listings : 1383', 'Importing/Updating ...', 'Total listings : 1383', 'Successfully connected.', 'Initializing RETS connection ...', and 'Starting the process ...'.

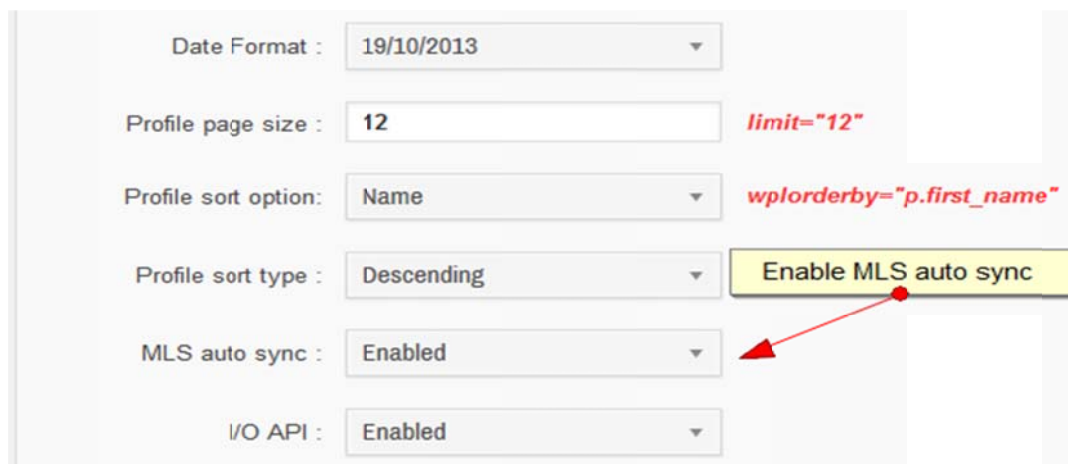
Don't refresh the page or navigate to other pages while it's importing the listings.

# MLS addon auto sync

After creating the queries, you can use the MLS Addon auto sync feature. You should enable your desired queries (which are explained above), and also enable the "MLS auto sync" feature from the WPL settings.

Note: Enabling the auto sync feature, you need a strong server because it can make your website speed slower during the sync process. Also, you should set the sync period to a high number if your MLS data won't update daily or you're not sure about your server performance.

Please find below a screenshot for enabling the MLS auto sync feature:



The screenshot displays a settings interface with the following elements:

- Date Format :** 19/10/2013
- Profile page size :** 12 (with *limit="12"* in red text to the right)
- Profile sort option:** Name (with *wplorderby="p.first\_name"* in red text to the right)
- Profile sort type :** Descending
- MLS auto sync :** Enabled (with a yellow button labeled "Enable MLS auto sync" to its right and a red arrow pointing to it)
- I/O API :** Enabled