

## Introduction to ArcMap

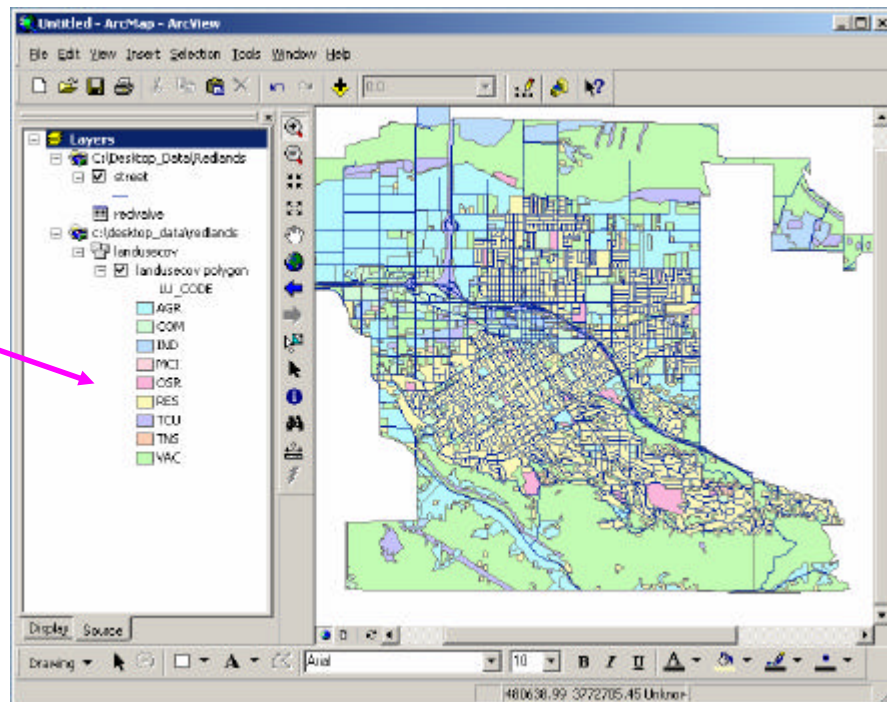
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### Basics

ArcGIS is a Geographic Information System (GIS) software product developed and distributed by the Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. in Redlands, CA ([www.esri.com](http://www.esri.com)). The core technology of ArcGIS is a suite of integrated applications that include: ArcMap, ArcCatalog, and ArcToolbox. Using these three applications cooperatively, a user can create maps, query data, analyze spatial relations, edit feature shapes and attributes and manage data. This resource document will focus on primarily on ArcMap.

ArcMap is the application you use to view and edit geographic data, query spatial data to find and understand relationships among geographic features, and create professional-quality maps, graphs, and reports. ArcMap allows users to create and interact with maps. A map is the fundamental component you work with in ArcMap. Maps help you visualize geographic data by showing you where things are and what they look like. ArcMap can be started from a shortcut on the desktop, or in the program menu, or from the ArcCatalog interface. Geographic information is displayed on a map as layers, where each layer represents a particular type of feature. In ArcMap, the Table of Contents lists all the layers shown on the map.

Map Table  
Of Contents



## **Recent Publications:**

Booth, Bob, and Andy Mitchell. Getting Started with ArcGIS. Redlands California: ESRI Press, 1999-2001.

Davis, David E. GIS for Everyone. Redlands California: ESRI Press, November 2000.

Minami, Michael. Using ArcMap. Redlands, California: ESRI Press, 2000.

Ormsby, Tim, Eileen Napoleon, Robert Burke, Carolyn Groessl and Laura Feaster. Getting to Know ArcGIS Desktop. Redlands, California: ESRI Press, June 2001.

Shaner, Jeff and Jenniffer Wrightshell. Editing in ArcMap. Redlands, California: ESRI Press, 2000.

What is ArcGIS?. Redlands, California: ESRI Press, 1999-2001.

Zieler, Michael. Modeling Our World. Redlands, California: ESRI Press, March 2002.

## **Penn State Resources**

ArcGIS 8.2 is currently installed on all GIA Core PC's (801-802 Oswald Tower) and on the PC's in the PRI Computer Lab (806 Oswald Tower).

Copies of all recent publications listed and many others are available in the GIA Lab Library, 8<sup>th</sup> floor of Oswald Tower. Other resources on the University Park Campus include the reference section of the Maps Library, B-Level of Paterno Library and the General Collection of books in the Earth and Mineral Science Library, 105 Deike Building.

Software specific training available at PSU <http://www.gis.psu.edu/education.html>

- **On-Campus Software Training** - Non-credit GIS training courses that are available at several Penn State locations.
- **Online Certificate Programs** - On-line educational offerings.
- **ESRI Virtual Campus Subscription** - Penn State's Higher Education Site License for ESRI GIS software products now includes a subscription that entitles Penn State faculty members, staff members, and students to free, unlimited access to select online courses offered through ESRI's Virtual Campus.

## **Related GIS Resource Documents**

GIS\_RD\_02-01, GIS\_RD\_02-13, GIS\_RD\_02-14, GIS\_RD\_02-15, GIS\_RD\_02-17,  
GIS\_RD\_02-18, GIS\_RD\_02-19, GIS\_RD\_02-20, GIS\_RD\_02-29