Working with Attribute Fields

Updated: September 23, 2009
Software: ArcGIS – ArcMap 9.3

New Parcel Attribute Fields:

A few fields were added to track the parcels that have been changed or added to the parcel layer:

Field Name	Attribute Type	Description	Codes
In_Date	Date	Date parcel was added to the GIS layer.	
Split_From	Text	Parent parcel number in split activity.	
Comb_From	Text	Parcel numbers for parent parcels used in combine activity.	
Edit_Type	Long Integer	Type of edit performed for parcel.	1 = Split 2 = Combine 3 = Correction 4 = Reviewed
Source	Long Integer	Documentation source for parcel edit.	1 = BSA 2 = Survey 3 = Deed 4 = Plat or Plan 5 = Other 6 = CVT
Edit_Req	Long Integer	Person or agency requesting edit.	1 = Taxpayer 2 = Local unit 3 = County Dept 4 = Surveyor 5 = Realtor 6 = Title Company 7 = Other 8 = LCGIS
Desc_Close	Long Integer	Indicates if the legal description closed when entered using COGO (coordinate geometry) tools.	0 = No 1 = Yes
Edit_Date	Date	Date parcel edit or correction was completed.	
Edit_Tech	Text	Technician's name or initials of who performed the edit.	
Comments	Text	Information related to parcel mapping entered by edit technician.	

Two description fields were added to provide an easy explanation of the State Tax Commission Class codes and the School District codes:

Field Name	Attribute Type	Description	Codes
CLASS	Double	Classification of assessable property	Also listed in separate Class Code list
CLASS_DESC	Text	Definition of each State Tax Commission Class code	
SCH_DIST	Text	School District code	Also listed in separate School District Code list
SD_DESC	Text	Definition of each School District code	

New Road Centerline Attribute Fields:

The attribute table for the Roads layer was altered to meet the requirements of the new public safety solution (OSSI). A few fields were added to the layer:

Field Name	Attribute Type	Description	Codes
Street	Text	Full street name (Direction, Name, Type, PostDirect)	Sample: E Grand River Ave
CityL	Text	Municipal code assigned to Left side of street	
CityR	Text	Municipal code assigned to Right side of street	
ZipL	Text	Last 3 digits of 5-digit USPS zipcode assigned to Left side of street	
ZipR	Text	Last 3 digits of 5-digit USPS zipcode assigned to Right side of street	
FCC_Class	Text	Functional roads classification; Field has not been populated	
YearAdded	Integer	Year street segment was added to the layer	
RdNmSource	Text	Source of the road name listed in the StreetName field	LCRC = Road Commission Road Book PP = Recorded on Plat or Plan CHG49 = Changed in 1949 by LCRC CHG71 = Changed in 1971 by LCRC CHG73 = Changed in 1973 by LCRC ZIP4 = USPS Zip+4 Database SIGN = Street sign OTH = Other

The address range and road name fields also changed. The list below provides a comparison of the original field name and the new field name:

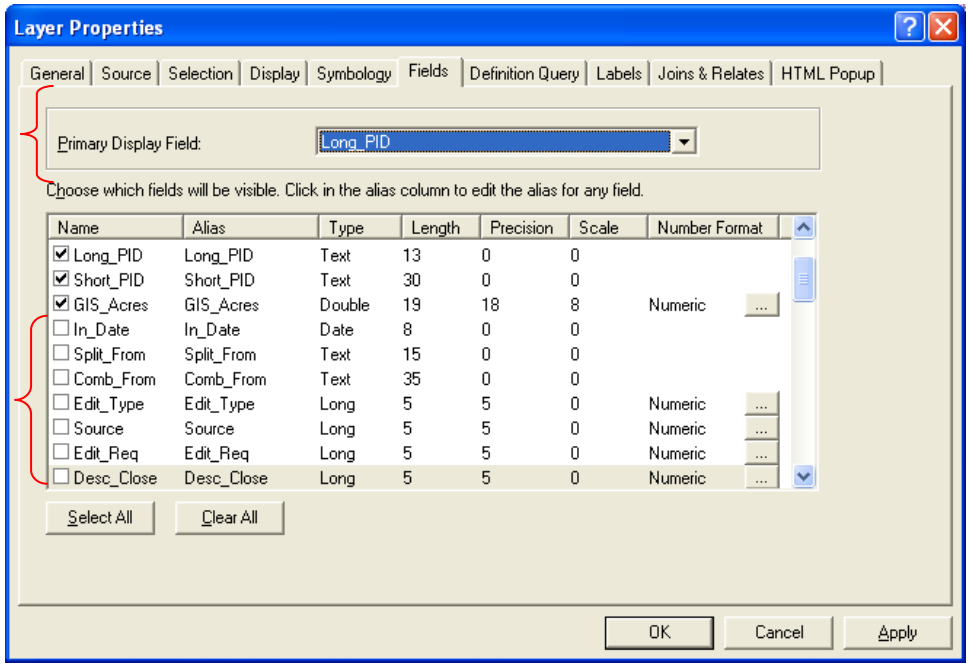
Old Field Name	Attribute Type	New Field Name	Description	Codes
FR_ADD_L	Integer	FromLeft	From left address range	
TO_ADD_L	Integer	ToLeft	To left address range	
FR_ADD_R	Integer	FromRight	From right address range	
TO_ADD_R	Integer	ToRight	To right address range	
PRE_DIR	Text	Direction	Street direction	
NAME	Text	PlainSt	Street name without special characters	
SUFFIX	Text	StreetType	Street type/suffix	
POST_DIR	Text	PostDirect	Post direction	
CARTO_NAME	Text	CartoName	Representation of road name for cartographic output; Names will include special characters such as ' or - that cannot be used in the StreetName field	
ROAD_CODE	Text	CartoClass	Functional classification of roads based on type of service.	MN = Minor Roads MJ = Major Roads ST = State Highway US = US Highway IN = Interstate Highway
CONV_SOURCE	Text	AddSource	Source file for establishing the address ranges	

Controlling Field Display:

Fields (columns) in the attribute table can be turned off if they are not needed to symbolize or label the features. One method of turning fields on/off can be accomplished using the Layer Properties window:

By default, the first field containing the word NAME is the Primary Display Field. Select a different field from the drop-down list.

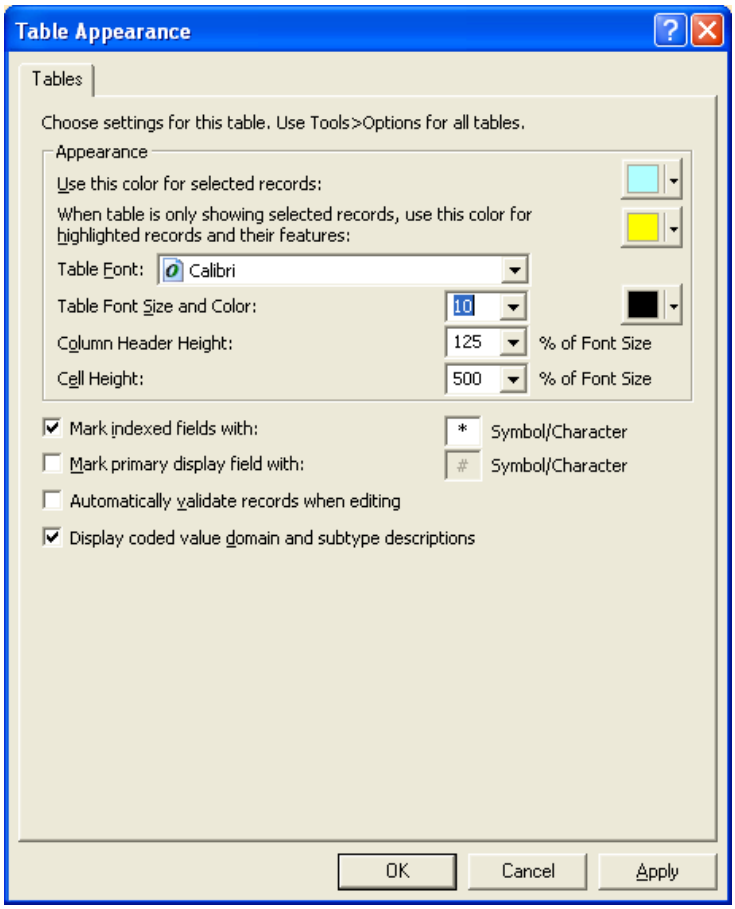
Uncheck the field names that you do not want to display in the Identify window or the attribute table.



Changing Table Appearance:

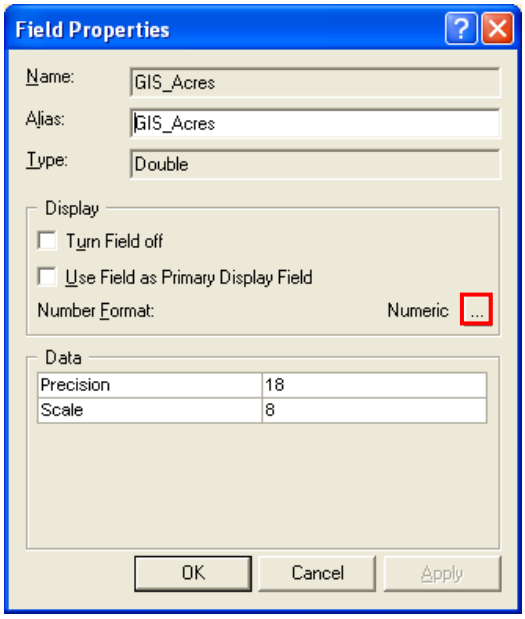
The attribute table can be difficult to read, especially if the field contains a long text string. The table legibility can be improved by accessing the table appearance options:

1. Open the Attribute Table
2. Click Options → Appearance
3. Select Table Font, Size, and Color from the drop-down lists
4. Increase the Cell Height to allow text to wrap within each cell
5. Click OK
6. Notice that the table row height increases
7. Scroll to the LEGAL field
8. Adjust the width of the LEGAL field by hovering at the right side of the field name (a double headed arrow will appear) and then dragging to the left to make the field smaller
9. The text within the LEGAL field should wrap within each cell making it easier to read

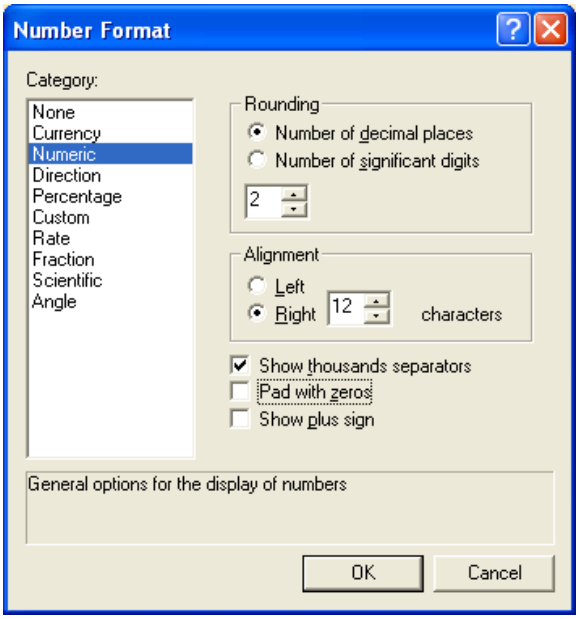


Altering Number Appearance:

Integer (number) fields may display many decimal places giving the impression that the data has a higher level of accuracy than it actually does. Number display can also be altered to show the thousands comma separator. The number format of Integer fields can be changed through the Field Properties window:



1. Open the Attribute Table
2. Right-click on an integer field name → Properties
3. In the Field Properties window, click the ellipses button next to Numeric
4. In the Number Format window, decrease the Number of decimal places to 2
5. Check the box next to Show thousands separators



6. Click OK
7. Click OK again to return to the table