

## **Tutorial: Importing tabular data with x,y coordinate values in ArcGIS 8.x and 9.x**

**For the equivalent guide in ArcView 3.x see:**

[\*Importing tabular data with x,y coordinate values in ArcView 3.x\*](#)

### **Overview:**

Data collected in the field using a Global Position System or tabular data with x,y coordinates are usually best represented in a mapped form. This tutorial will help you convert tabular data with x,y coordinates into a shapefile (ArcGIS file format for maps).

The first part of the procedure explains how to clean up your data in a spreadsheet program such as Microsoft Excel. The second part explains how to import, display, and save your data in ArcGIS.

The example in this tutorial is groundwater data from Howick, a municipality in southern Quebec. The coordinate system used in the example is latitude/longitude with the North American Datum 1983 (NAD83).

### ***Part 1: Cleaning your data in Excel (or an equivalent software)***

The x,y coordinate information that you would like to import will most likely be found in text or spreadsheet format. Because of this, a few minor changes are necessary in order for ArcMap to recognize your data correctly.

1. First, open your data in a spreadsheet application such as Excel.

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6. In the drop-down menus next to “X Field:” select the field labeled X, and in the “Y Field:” select Y. k1dGr

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