# Techniques for Science Teachers: Using GIS in Science Classrooms.

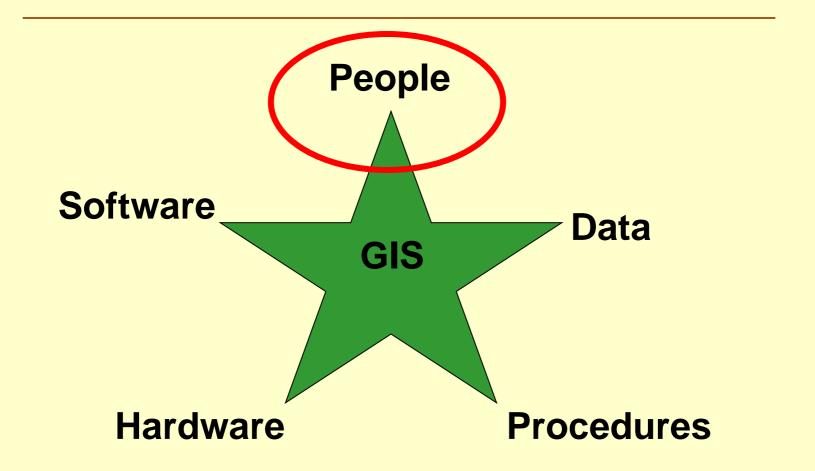


## **GIS**

#### **A Geographic Information System**

•A collection of computer hardware, software, and geographic data used together for capturing, storing, updating, manipulating, analyzing, and displaying all forms of geographically referenced data... ESRI

## What is a GIS?



### Who uses a GIS?

#### People who are trying to effectively manage

- A natural resource
- A business
- An industry
- A city
- Educators!



# Why use GIS in your science classrooms?

#### The Iowa Core Curriculum

- •Helps address content, inquiry, and 21st Century skill building
- Promotes interdisciplinary activities
- •It can be effective, meaningful, assessable, and fun!

# Why use GIS in your science classrooms?

Data and software are generally free for educators and easily accessible

There is a bit of a learning curve

Help prepare your students for their future careers...

### GIS as a Tool!

Our focus will be content driven, not tool specific...

•"concepts NOT keystrokes"

I will help you learn the basic methods/keystrokes

## An important concept!

## Layers



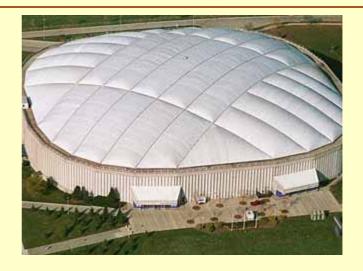
### **Tools for a GIS**

- Hardware
  - Computer
  - Printer / Plotter
  - Digitizer
  - Scanner
- •GIS Desktop Software
- CAD Software
- Multimedia
  - -Photos, Video, 3D Models
- World Wide Web
- •GIS Personnel

### **GIS Data**

#### **Raster Images - grids**

- "pixels"
- satellite images
- aerial photos



#### **Vector - grids**

- features: points, lines & polygons
- attributes: size, type, length, etc.



# Vector data (points, lines, polygons)



### **GIS Data Sources**

#### **Digitized and Scanned Maps**

- purchased, donated, free (Internet)
- created by user

Data Bases – Tables of data GPS (Global Positioning Systems) Field Sampling of Attributes Remote Sensing & Aerial Photography

## **Conventional Information Systems**

- Answer the following questions:
  - Who ?
  - What?
  - When?
  - Why?
  - **How** ?

## GIS answers the following

• Location: What is at...?

• Condition: Where is it?

• Trends: What has changed since...?

• Patterns: What spatial patterns exist?

• Modeling: What if...?

Exploring data using GIS turns data into information into knowledge

#### **Data Data**

Location Data

How Many? – What Kind? – Where?

 Scale of Data Global to Local

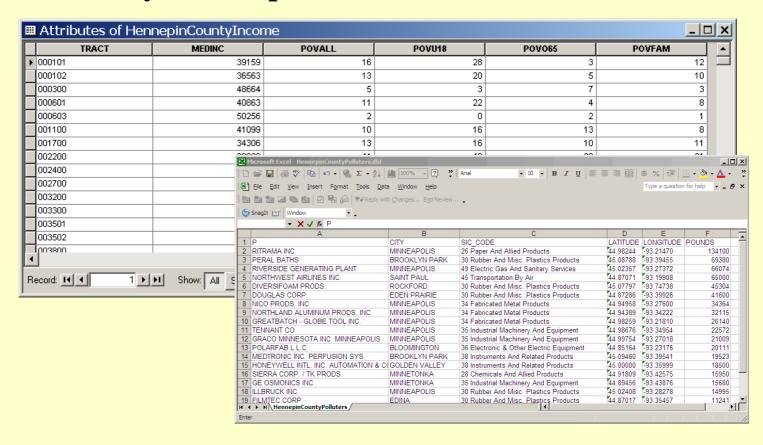


Data Presentation

Words, Charts, Graphs, Tables, Maps, Photos

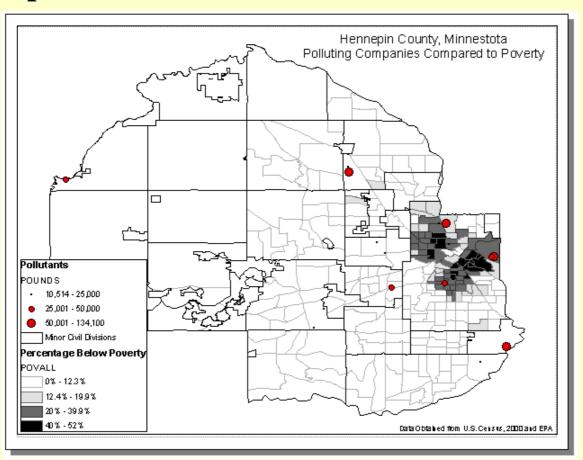
### **Databases**

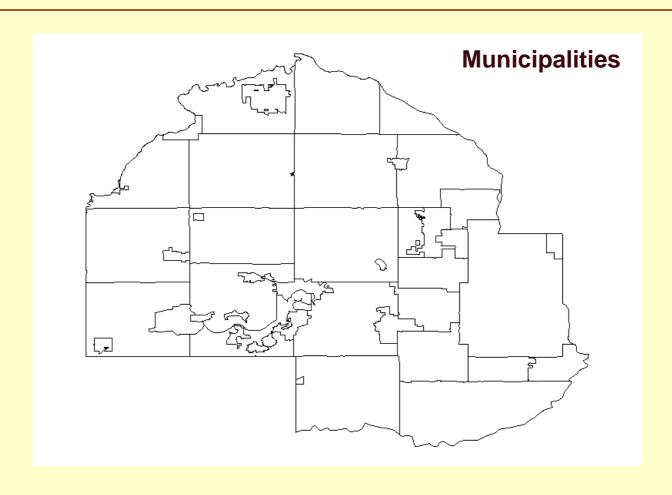
#### Not easy to interpret

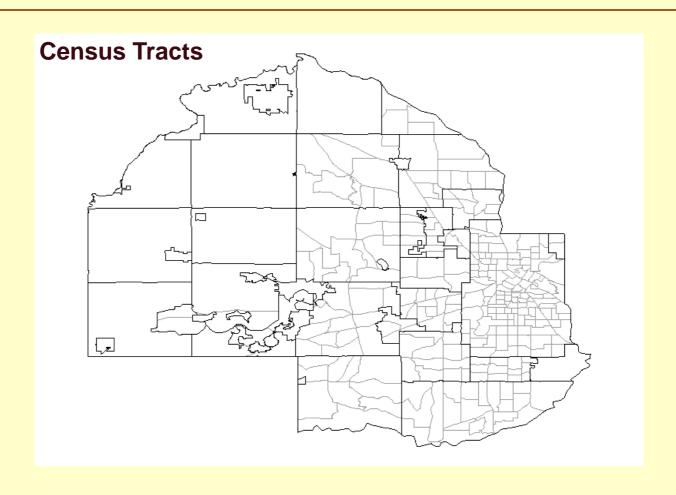


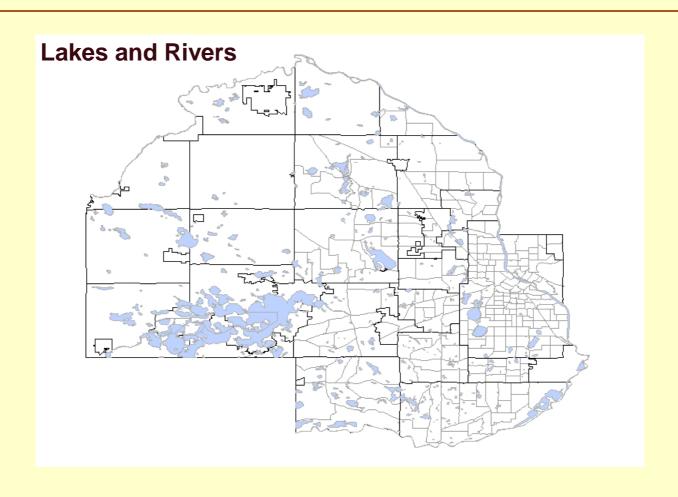
## **Visualizing Data**

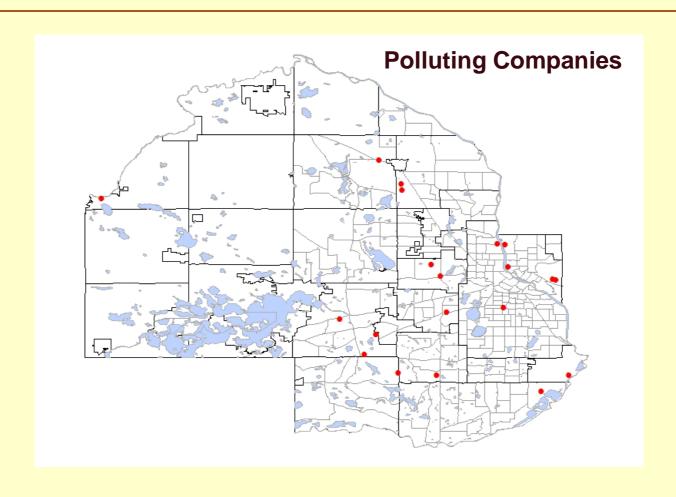
#### A picture is worth a thousand words

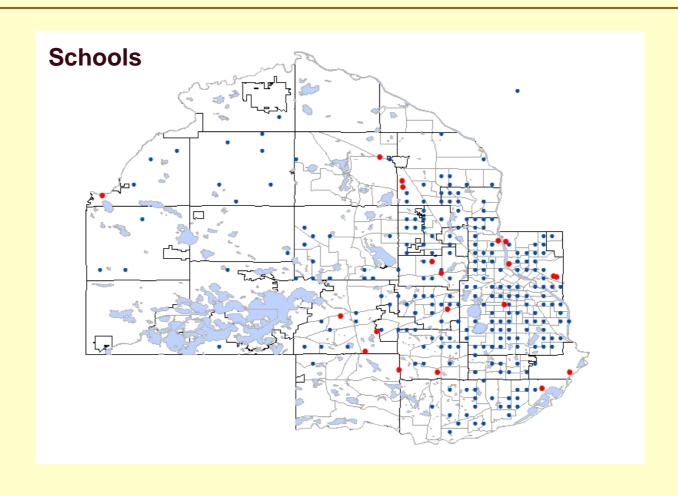




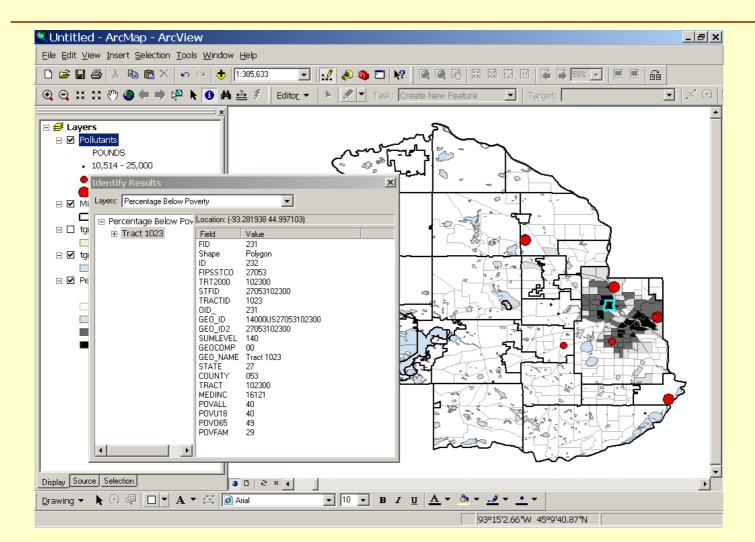




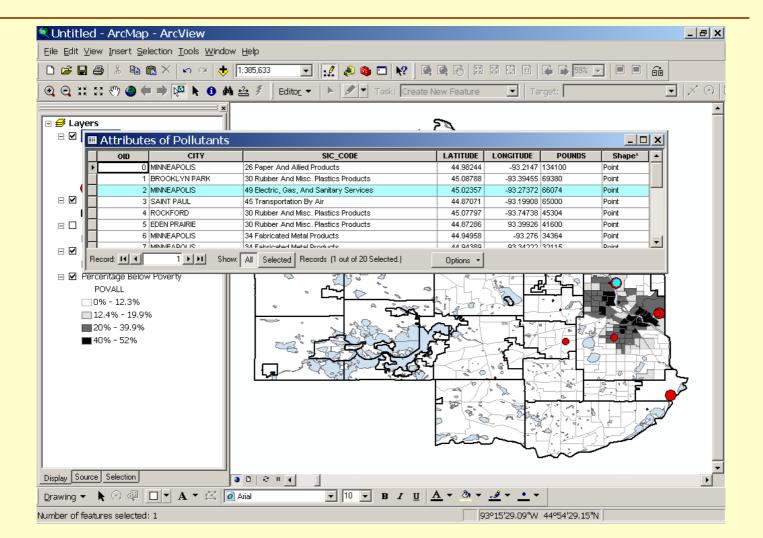




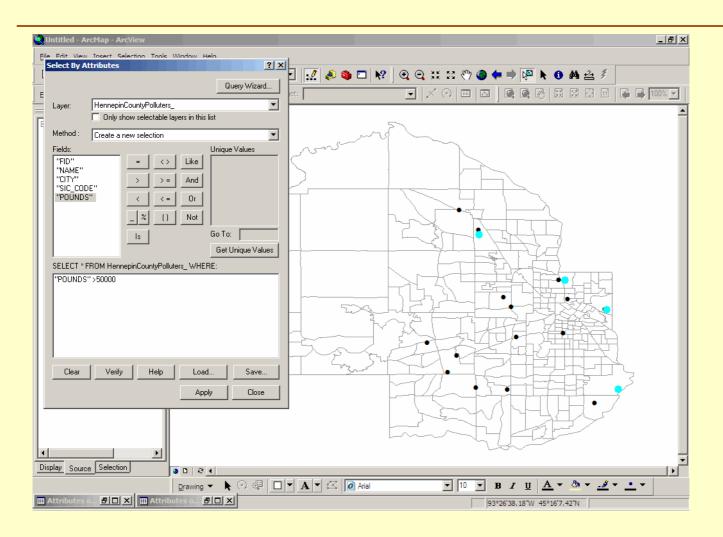
## **Maps and Databases are Interactive**



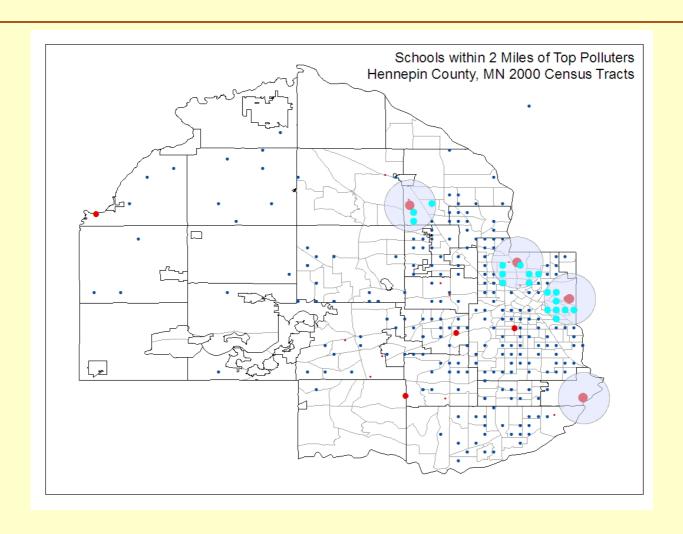
## **GIS Connects Graphics to Data**



### **Queries and Restrictions**



## **GIS Turns Data Into Information**



# **GIS Examples**

## **GIS Applications**

Business

Government

Economic Development

Emergency Services

Environmental

Industry

Public Health

Urban Planning

Politics

Education

Site Location, Delivery Systems,

Marketing

Local, State, Federal, Military

Population Studies, Incomes,

Census and Demographic Studies

Fire & Police

Monitoring & Modeling

Transportation, Communication,

Mining, Pipelines, Healthcare

**Epidemiology Studies** 

Land Use, Historic studies,

Environmental and Conservation

Studies, Housing Studies, Crime

**Analysis** 

Elections and Reappointment

Research, Teaching Tool,

Administration

# **GIS Examples**

#### Surficial Geology of the Waverly Quadrangle





