


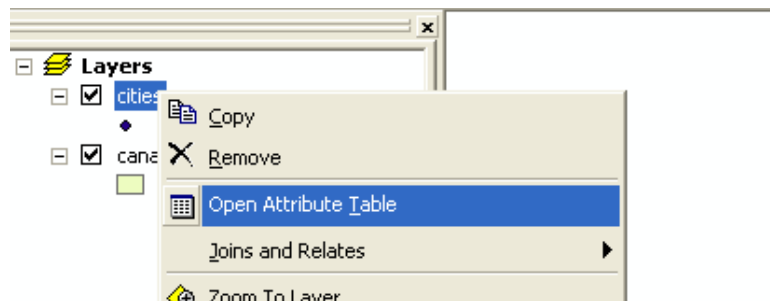
Creating a New Layer from Existing Attribute Data in ArcGIS 9.x

Creating a new layer from existing attribute data allows the user to create layers with a more manageable number of features for a desired task. For example, the user may wish to extract only the capital cities of the Canadian provinces and territories from the cities attribute table (in ArcCanada 3.1 Disk 1) which contains a large number of Canadian cities. In this example, you would already have created a map of Canada and added the cities shapefile.

You could follow the same procedure for another project, whatever geographical area it covers (provincial, national, or international) and where you have a theme layer from which you want to select a more manageable number of features.

Author: Rob Langston, Neelin High School, Brandon School Division

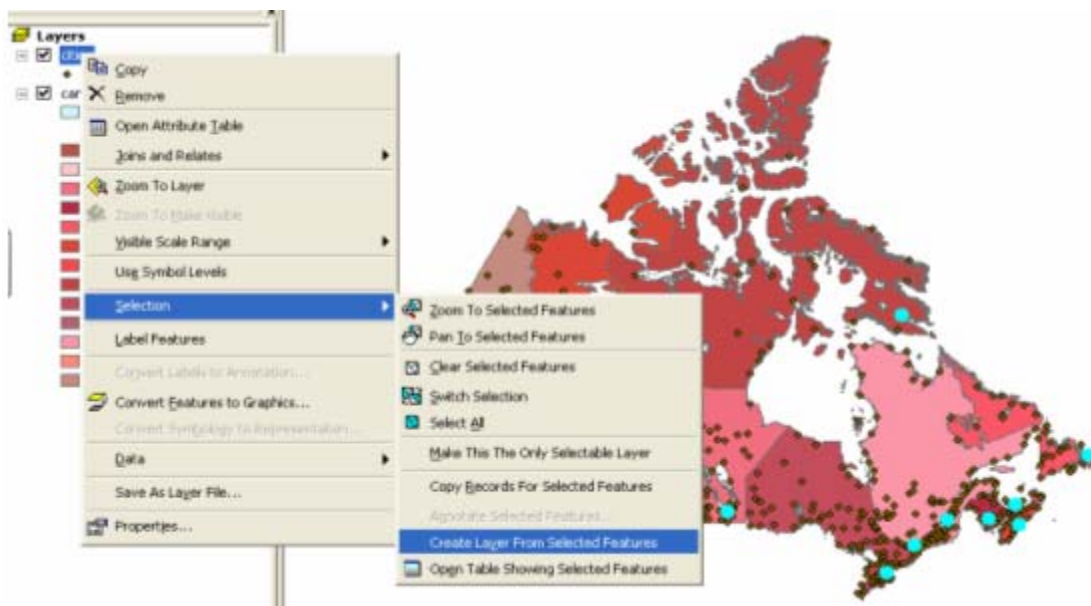
1. On a prepared map (in this case a map of Canada), **Add**  a selected **Shapefile** (select **cities** in this example)
2. **Open Attribute Table** (right click on the **Layer**) of the shape file that contains data you need).



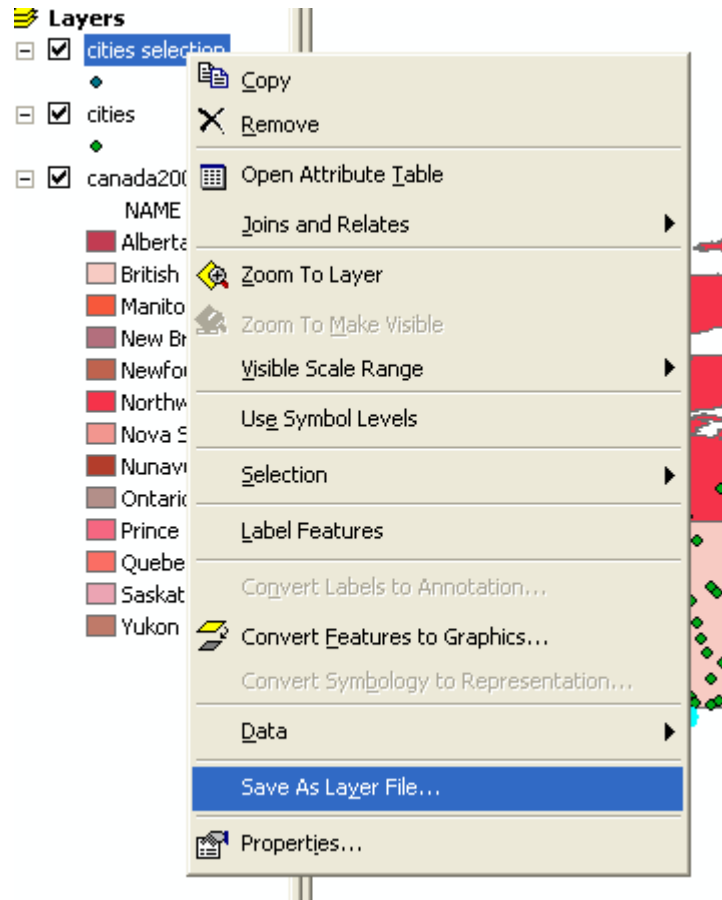
3. **Right click** on the column heading that will make it easiest to sort; in this case, click on **Capital** → **Sort Descending** → hold down control button and highlight the desired data by selecting the far left hand column. (e.g. all capital cities; holding down the **Shift** or **Ctrl** button will allow you to select multiple features at one time).

Attributes of cities					
FID	Shape *	CAPITAL	POP RANGE	NAME_EN	
0	Point				son
1	Point				
2	Point				
3	Point				
4	Point				er
5	Point				

4. Close the **Attributes of cities** table and **right click** on appropriate layer in the **Table of Contents** in the Data View and go → **Selection** → **Create Layer From Selected Features**.



5. Uncheck or delete original cities layer if desired.
6. **Right click** on the new layer created (in this case it will be called **cities selection**) → **Save as Layer File** and save in appropriate folder.



7. You can change the name of the new layer created to better reflect what it represents. Click once on the theme name to highlight it, and then click once on the highlighted line to make it editable (the cursor will appear).

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