



## Exporting Contours from ArcMap to AutoCAD

- To export contours, you must ensure there exists a field titled **'ELEVATION'** (Fields titled ELEV\_FT, etc. will not work) in the attribute table. Right click on the contour layer, and click **Open Attribute Table**. If this field does not exist, click **Options > Add Field**.

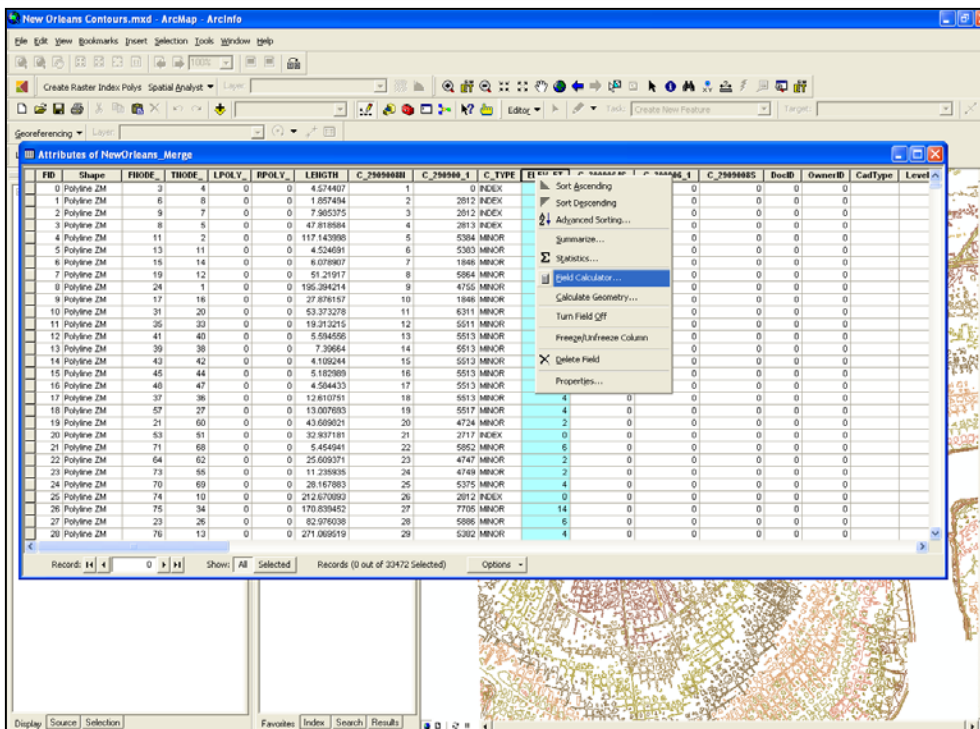
The screenshot shows the ArcMap interface with the 'Attributes of NewOrleans\_Merge' table open. The table has columns: FID, Shape, FNODE, TNODE, LPOLY, RPOLY, LENGTH, C\_2909088I, C\_290908\_1, C\_TYPE, ELEV\_FT, C\_3005064S, C\_300506\_1, C\_2909088S, DocID, OwnerID, CadType, Level. A context menu is open over the 'Add Field...' option. The 'Options' menu is also visible at the bottom of the table window.

FID	Shape	FNODE	TNODE	LPOLY	RPOLY	LENGTH	C_2909088I	C_290908_1	C_TYPE	ELEV_FT	C_3005064S	C_300506_1	C_2909088S	DocID	OwnerID	CadType	Level
0	Polyline ZM	3	4	0	0	4.574407	1	0	INDEX	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1	Polyline ZM	6	8	0	0	7.857494	2	2812	INDEX	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2	Polyline ZM	9	7	0	0	7.855375	3	2812	INDEX	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
3	Polyline ZM	8	5	0	0	47.816984	4	2813	INDEX	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
4	Polyline ZM	11	2	0	0	117.143698	5	5384	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
5	Polyline ZM	13	11	0	0	4.524631	6	5383	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
6	Polyline ZM	15	14	0	0	6.079601	7	1846	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
7	Polyline ZM	19	12	0	0	51.21917	8	5884	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
8	Polyline ZM	24	1	0	0	195.394214	9	4755	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
9	Polyline ZM	17	16	0	0	27.876157	10	1846	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
10	Polyline ZM	31	20	0	0	53.373278	11	6311	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
11	Polyline ZM	35	33	0	0	19.313215	12	5511	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
12	Polyline ZM	41	40	0	0	5.594556	13	5513	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
13	Polyline ZM	39	38	0	0	7.39664	14	5513	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
14	Polyline ZM	43	42	0	0	4.108244	15	5513	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
15	Polyline ZM	45	44	0	0	5.182889	16	5513	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
16	Polyline ZM	46	47	0	0	4.584433	17	5513	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
17	Polyline ZM	37	36	0	0	12.610751	18	5513	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
18	Polyline ZM	57	27	0	0	13.007693	19	5517	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
19	Polyline ZM	21	60	0	0	43.689821	20	4724	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
20	Polyline ZM	53	51	0	0	32.937181	21	2717	INDEX	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
21	Polyline ZM	71	68	0	0	5.454941	22	5852	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
22	Polyline ZM	64	62	0	0	25.009371	23	4747	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
23	Polyline ZM	73	55	0	0	11.238935	24	4749	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
24	Polyline ZM	70	69	0	0	28.167883	25	6375	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
25	Polyline ZM	74	10	0	0	212.670893	26	3812	INDEX	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
26	Polyline ZM	75	34	0	0	170.839452	27	7705	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
27	Polyline ZM	23	26	0	0	82.976038	28	5886	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
28	Polyline ZM	76	13	0	0	271.068519	29	5382	MINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

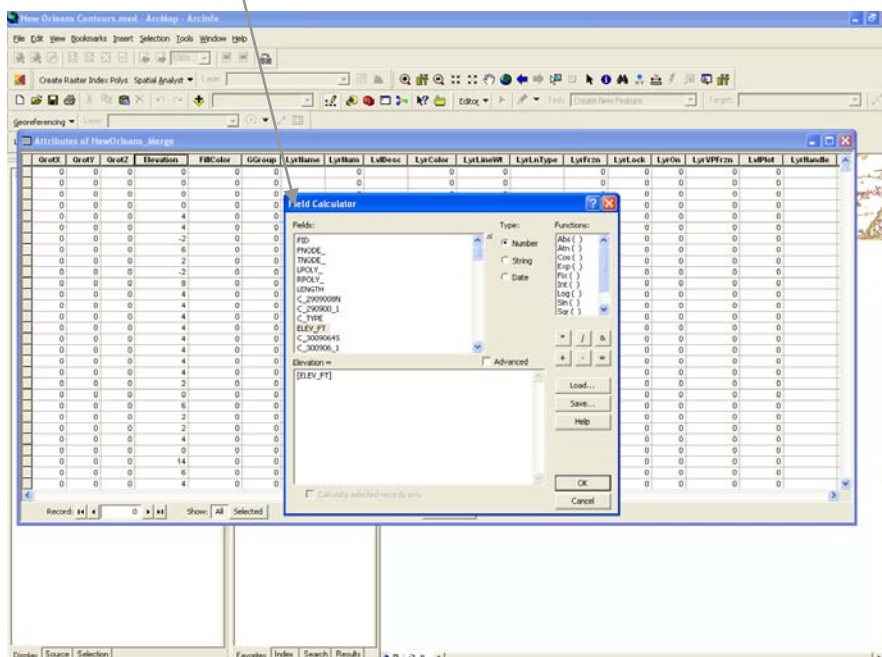
- Under **'Name'** type Elevation, and under **'Type'** select Text (numeric fields also work but text fields seem to be less problematic). A field size of 10 is sufficient. Click **OK**.
- Right click on the new **'Elevation'** column and select **'Field Calculator'**.



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- Click yes to continue without being in an 'edit session' - if you get this message it is indicating that you are not currently in edit mode (no undoes are possible if not in edit mode).
- Double-click the **Field** (in the Fields list) that contains the elevation data for the contours (ex. **ELEV\_FT**) that will be added to the new '**Elevation**' column. Press **OK**.



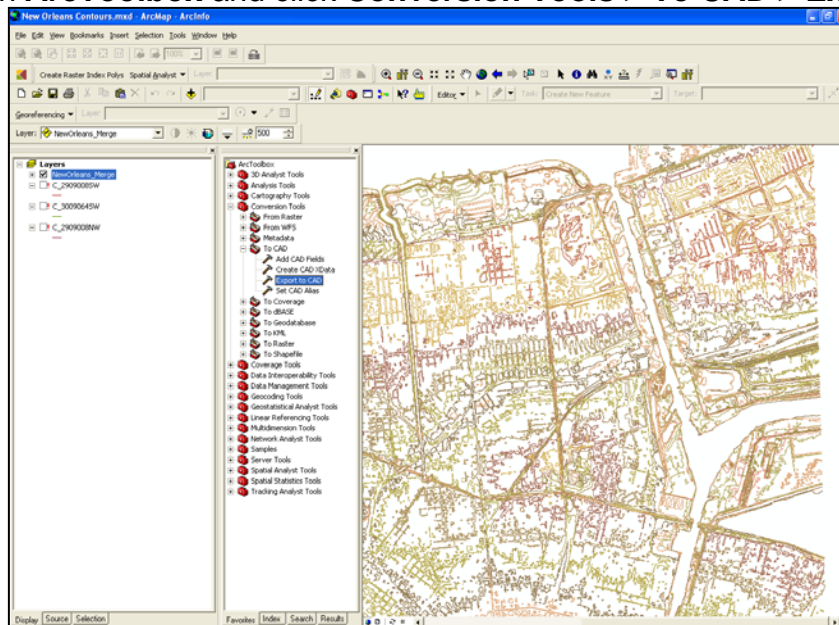
For further help contact [gis.maps@utoronto.ca](mailto:gis.maps@utoronto.ca)  
<http://dmgc.library.utoronto.ca>



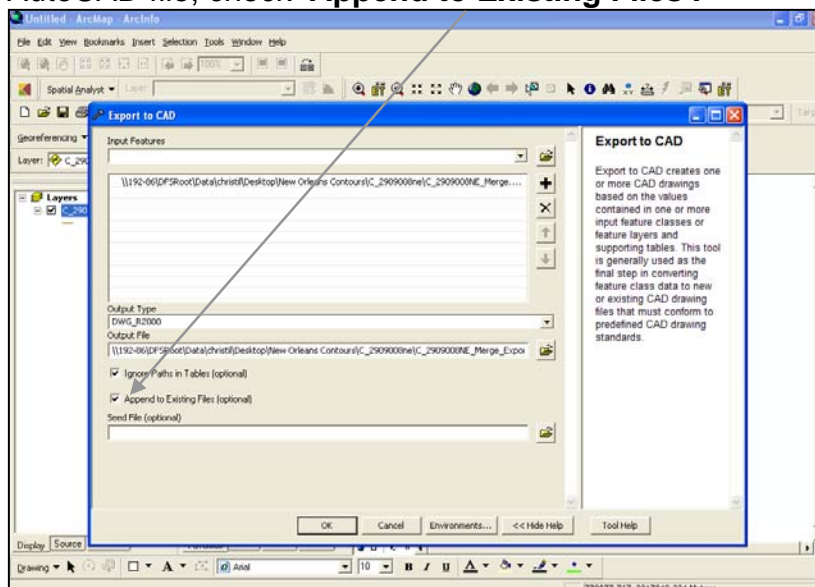
- The new Elevation column will now contain the contour elevation data. There are a number of ways to export to CAD Format:

### Method 1 – Arctoolbox – Conversion Tools

- Open **ArcToolbox** and click **Conversion Tools > To CAD > Export to CAD**



- Under **'Input Features'**, navigate to find the contour layer that you would like to export to CAD.
- Under **'Output File'**, you may select the location or filename where the AutoCAD file will be saved. Press **OK**. If you would like to add the contours to an existing AutoCAD file, check **'Append to Existing Files'**.



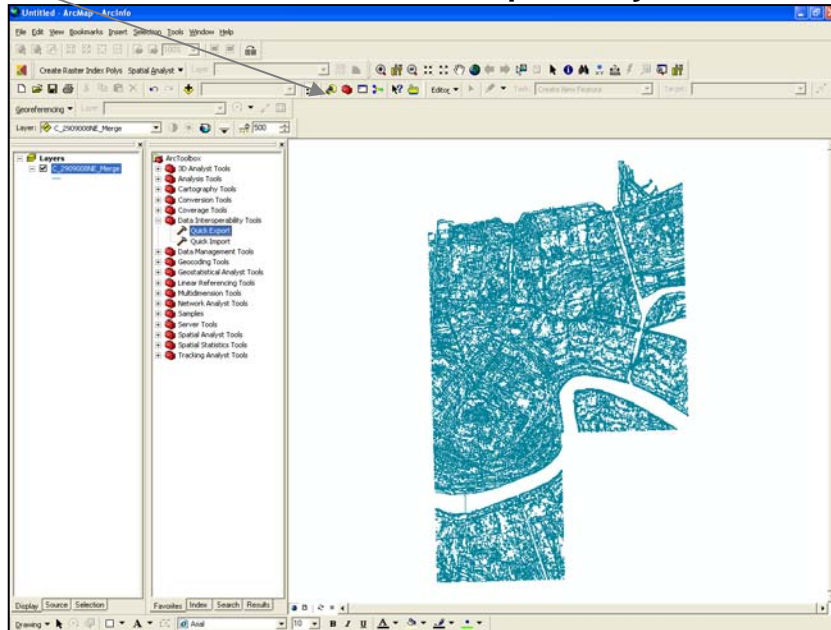
For further help contact [gis.maps@utoronto.ca](mailto:gis.maps@utoronto.ca)  
<http://dmgc.library.utoronto.ca>



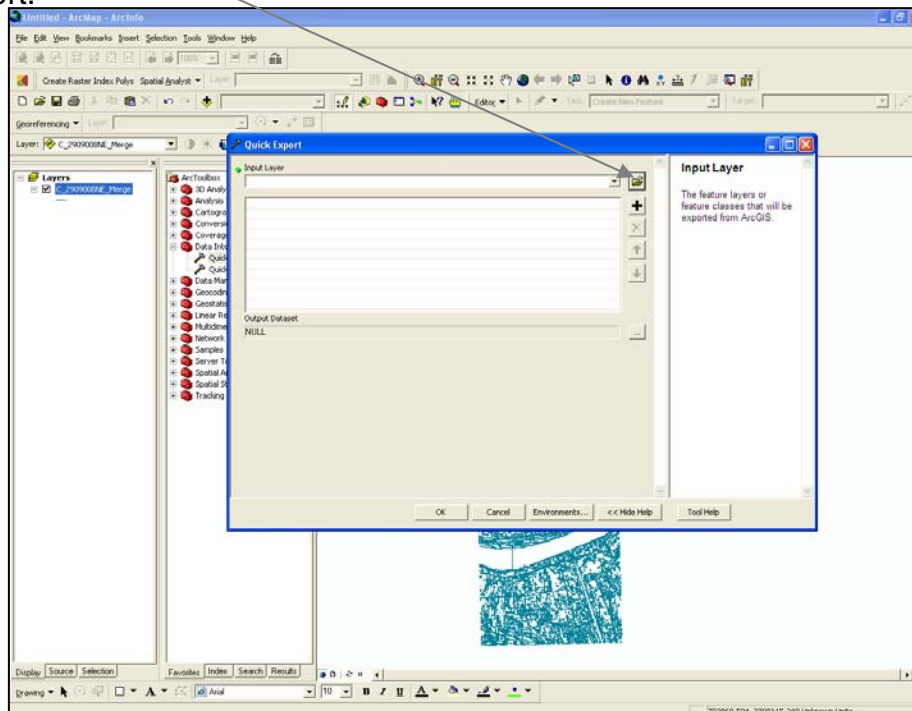
- The new AutoCAD file (.dwg) is now ready to be opened in AutoCAD.

## Method 2 – Arctoolbox – Data Interoperability

- Open **ArcToolbox**, then select **Data Interoperability Tools > Quick Export**

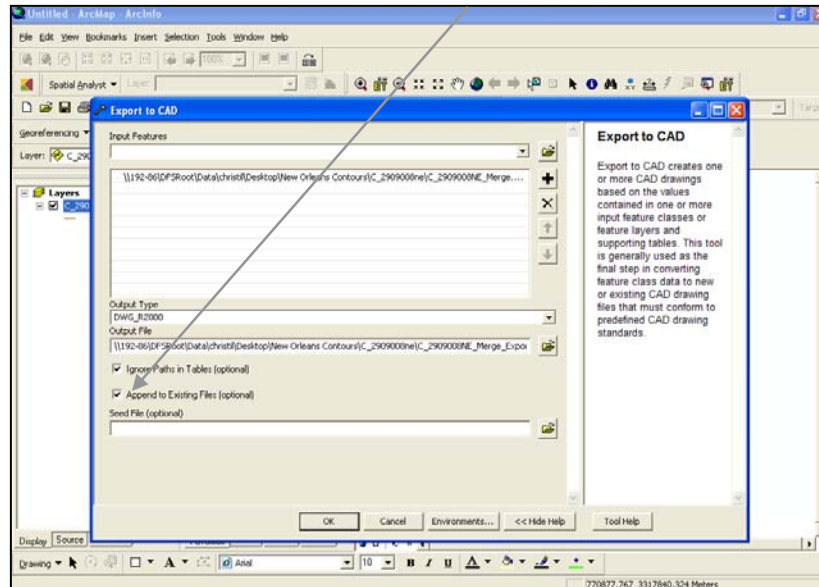


- Click on the **Browse** button to find the contour feature layer you would like to export.





- Under **'Output Dataset'**, you may select the location or filename where the AutoCAD file will be saved. Press **OK**. If you would like to add the contours to an existing AutoCAD file, check **'Append to Existing Files'**.



- The new AutoCAD file (.dwg) is now ready to be opened in AutoCAD.