

ModelBuilder—An Introduction

Goals of the workshop

The purpose of this session is to provide an introduction to ModelBuilder -- a visual programming language and important component in the ArcGIS geoprocessing framework for capturing analysis and data manipulation workflows. In this session, attendees will learn through discussion and ArcGIS Desktop demonstrations how to: create and edit models, add data and connect processes in models, and explore different model properties and settings and what effect those options have on outcomes. Additionally, the presentation will cover best practices and tips for effectively communicating and sharing your models.

Major topics covered

- Getting started:
 - ArcGIS geoprocessing framework overview
 - Creating new toolboxes and models
 - Adding tools and data to models
 - Model items, terms, and meanings
 - Model process states
 - Managing intermediate data
 - Running and validating models
 - Working with additional settings and properties
- Turning models into more flexible model tools:
 - Understanding why “This tool has no parameters.”
 - How to create and work with model parameters and variables
 - Controlling symbology for model outputs
- Tips for designing and sharing models:
 - Changing model appearance and display properties
 - Printing and exporting models
 - Importance of model documentation and item descriptions
 - Exploring the Geoprocessing Resource Center and Model & Tool galleries