GLOSSARY OF GIS TERMS

Helping Vermonters Visualize Choice

AAT   [ARC/INFO TERM] Arc Attribute Table.

ACCURACY   Degree of conformity with a standard, or the degree of correctness attained in a measurement. Accuracy relates to the quality of a result, and is distinguished from precision which relates to the quality of the operation by which the result is obtained.

ALPHANUMERIC   Consisting of both letters and numbers, and possibly including other symbols such as punctuation marks.

ANNOTATION   [ARC/INFO]   Descriptive text used to label coverage features. Annotation is not topologically liked with other features. Used for display purposes; it is not used in analysis. Information stored for annotation includes a text string, the location at which it can be displayed, and a text symbol (color, font, size, etc.) for displaying the annotation. More than one set of annotation can be created for a coverage.

APPLICATIONS   The use of software, data, procedures and techniques in a series of steps that are then put into practice to solve a problem or perform a function.

ARC   [ARC/INFO TERM] A continuous string of x,y coordinate pairs (vertices) beginning at one location and ending at another location, having length but no area. Represents line features, the borders of area features, or both. One line feature may be made up of many arcs. Arcs are topologically linked at their endpoints (nodes) and to the areas (polygons) on each side of them. Arcs have tabular attributes stored in a coverage Arc Attribute Table (AAT).

ARCS   A portion of a two-dimensional closed figure lying between two nodes. An arc usually represents a continuous common boundary between two adjoining mapping units.

ATTRIBUTE   [ARC/INFO TERM] A characteristic of a map feature described by numbers or characters, typically stored in tabular format, and linked to the feature by a user-assigned identifier. For example, attributes of a well, represented by a point, might include depth, pump type, and owner.

ATTRIBUTES	Descriptive characteristics, other than location, pertaining to an entity (such as a point, polygon or line). Examples: name of a town, length of a street segment, relative poverty of a census tract.
ATTRIBUTE TABLE	[ARC/INFO TERM] DBMS tables directly associated to the spatial data. Contains both spatial data characteristics and attributes.
BASE MAP	Mapped data which seldom change and which is used repeatedly.
BENCH MARK	Relatively permanent material object, natural or artificial, bearing a marked point whose elevation above or below an adopted datum is known.
BENCHMARK	A series of tests for ensuring that hardware and/or software meets user needs.
BIT	The smallest unit of data.
BUFFER ZONE	An area of specified distance (radius) around a map item or items.
BYLAWS	Zoning regulations, subdivision regulations, or the official map adopted under the authority of 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117.
BYTE	Groups of eight bits.
CAD/CAM	Computer-aided design/computer-aided manufacturing. Differs from a Geographic Information System in that a CAD/CAM system can only create displays. It cannot analyze or process the base graphic data.
CARTOGRAPHY	Science and art of making maps and charts. The term may be taken broadly as comprising all the steps needed to produce a map: planing, aerial photography, field surveys, photogrammetry, editing, color separation, and multicolor printing.
CENTRAL PROCESSING UNIT (CPU)	The portion of the computer that performs calculations and processes data according to the instructions specified by the software. CPU is sometimes used interchangeably with computer.
CLIP	[ARC/INFO TERM] The process of extracting data from a coverage that reside entirely within the boundary of features in another coverage (called the clip coverage) - much like a 'cookie cutter'.

COMPILATION	Preparation of a new or revised map or chart from existing maps, aerial photographs, field surveys, and other sources.
COMPUTERIZED DATA	Data in a digitized format, represented visually as the binary digits "0" and "1", stored in a computer on a variety of formats--magnetic tapes, disks, and even paper.
CONFIGURATION	The way various computer system devices are electronically connected.
CONTINUOUS DATA	Interpolatable data with an infinite number of possible values; usually a gradient of values such as elevation or slope (as contrasted with discrete data).
CONTOUR	An imaginary line on the ground, consisting of points that are at the same elevation above or below a specified datum surface, usually mean sea level.
CONTOUR INTERVAL	Difference in elevation between two adjacent contours.
CONTROL POINT	A point with a given horizontal position and a known surface elevation to be used in estimating unknown elevations elsewhere in the area to be mapped.
COVERAGE	[ARC/INFO TERM] 1. A digital analog of a single map sheet forming the basic unit of data storage in ARC/INFO. In a coverage, map features are stored as primary features, such as arcs, nodes, polygons, and label points, and secondary features, such as tics, extent, and annotation. Map feature attributes are described and stored independently in feature attribute tables. 2. A set of thematically associated data considered to be a unit. A coverage usually represents a single them or layer, such as soils, streams, roads, and land use.
CPU	See *CENTRAL PROCESSING UNIT*
DANGLING NODE	[ARC/INFO TERM] The 'dangling' endpoint of a dangling arc. Usually identifies that a polygon does not close properly (undershoot), that arcs do not connect properly, or that an arc was digitized past its intersection with another arc (overshoot). In some cases, a dangling node may be acceptable. For example, in a street centerline map, cul-de-sacs are often represented by dangling arcs.
DATA	A general term for information, including facts, measurements,

classifications or value representations from which conclusions can be inferred.

DATA ADMINISTRATION
The duties and responsibilities associated with the overall management, control and documentation of information as an asset of an organization.

DATABASE
Any collection of related information designed, organized, and stored to serve one or many users. A GIS database includes the position and attributes of geographic features that have been coded as points, lines, areas, pixels, or grid cells.

DATABASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (DBMS)
A systematic approach to maintaining, accessing, and manipulating database files.

DATA DICTIONARY
Repository of information about the definition, structure, and usage of data. It does not contain the actual data.

DATA FILE
A named collection of logically related data records arranged in a prescribed manner.

DATA FORMAT
The way in which data elements are represented and stored in computer records.

DATA INPUT
Entering data into a computer; geographic data is generally entered into a GIS database via a digitizer or a scanner.

DATA ITEM (OR DATA ELEMENT)
The smallest unit of named data in a data set.

DATA LAYER
Refers to data having similar characteristics being contained in the same plane or overlay. Usually information contained in data layer is related and is designed to be used with other layers.

DATA MANIPULATION
Operations that are performed on data to make them more suitable for further processing; to improve their comparability, enhance their retrievability, etc.

DATA PROCESSING
The function of creating basic data to provide people with information to support their decisions or actions; sorting, reducing, classifying, calculating, summarizing and subsequently recording such information.

DATA STRUCTURE
The way data are organized within a computer database. A tabular

structure is used by relational database systems.

DATA TRANSFER — Process of moving data from one medium (document) to another. May take place at any time during data processing.

DIGITAL DATA — Data in the form of numbers. In geographic processing, both the X and Y coordinates of lines and label characteristics are represented by numbers.

DIGITAL ELEVATION MODEL (DEM) — A file of terrain elevations that is the digital equivalent of the elevation data on a USGS topographic base map.

DIGITAL LINE GRAPH (DLG) — A digital computer file containing lists of point coordinates describing boundaries, drainage lines, transportation routes, and other linear features that is the digital equivalent of the linear hydrographic and cultural data on a USGS topographic base map.

DIGITAL TERRAIN MODEL (DTM) — A land surface represented in digital form by an elevation grid or lists of three-dimensional coordinates.

DIGITIZE — To encode map coordinates in digital form for use in computer cartography.

DIGITIZER — A device for converting point locations on a graphic image to plane (x, y) coordinates for digital processing.

DIGITIZING — The process of using a digitizer to automate the locations of geographic features by converting their position on a map to a series of x,y Cartesian coordinates stored in computer files.

DISCRETE DATA — Non-interpolatable data comprised of multiple subjects; each subject is clearly distinct from all other subjects on a map (as contrasted with continuous data).

DISK — A data storage device, similar to a phonograph record, which is magnetized. A "hard" disk is metal and stores large amounts of data. A "soft" or "floppy" disk is made from plastic type material and has limited storage capacity.

DISTRIBUTED — Database with unique components residing in geographically dispersed locations that are linked through a telecommunications network.

DATABASE

DISTRIBUTING PROCESSING   Access to a computer system by many users at the same time in different locations. Each user has access to his own processor and file storage, and the individual processors may be linked to one another and to a common data base.

DOCUMENTATION   The description and format of data including definitions, codes, source, date, etc.

EDGE MATCHING   The comparison and graphic adjustment of features to obtain agreement along the edges of adjoining map sheets.

ELECTROSTATIC PRINTER   A device for printing graphic images by placing small electrical charges on the paper so that a dark or colored powder, or **toner**, will adhere in these spots.

ELEVATION   Vertical distance of a point above or below a reference surface or datum.
Encoding - Converting information to machine readable format.

EXPORT   To transfer data or software from one system to another system.

FEATURE   An object or aspect of the earth's surface, such as a road, vegetation, or townsite. On a map, a "map feature".

FEATURE ATTRIBUTE TABLE   [ARC/INFO TERM] An AAT or PAT used to store coverage attribute information. The first several items of these tables are automatically written by ARC/INFO. For Arc Attribute Tables (AAT's), ARC writes the from-node, to-node, left-polygon number and right-polygon number (set to 0 if polygons are not present), length, cover_, and cover_ID (also known as the feature User-ID).

For Point/Polygon Attribute Tables (PAT's), ARC writes the area perimeter, cover_, and cover_ID (also known as the feature User-ID). Although area and perimeter item headers appear in point attribute tables, items themselves are set to zero. This distinguishes polygon attribute tables from point attribute tables.

FEATURE SELECTION BY ATTRIBUTE   [ARC/INFO TERM] The process of selecting a subset of features from a coverage using logical selection criteria that operate on the attributes of coverage features (e.g. AREA GT 16000). Only those features whose attributes meet the selection criteria are selected. (Also known as 'logical selection'.)

FIELD   A collection of bytes that represent some discrete unit of information (Example: an amount or value, or name of a location).

FILE   A named set of information; a group of data having similar characteristics.

FLOPPY DISK   A circular, flexible, relatively inexpensive piece of magnetic material for the storage of digital data.

FORMAT   The arrangement of data in record or file.

FUZZY TOLERANCE   **[ARC/INFO TERM]** A parameter set during CLEAN and many other spatial operations that removes coordinates within the minimum distance of other coordinates as the coverage is processed.

GEOCODING   Translating geographic coordinates of map units (e.g. lines and points), into X, Y digits or grid cells.

GEOGRAPHIC DATA   A collection of data that are individually or collectively attached to a geographic location. (Also spatial data)

GEOGRAPHIC FEATURE   An entity which occupies a position in space about which locational and descriptive data are stored.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS)   System of computer hardware, software, and procedures designed to support the capture, management, manipulation, analysis, and display of spatially referenced data. (Also spatial information system, land information system, etc.)

GEOPROCESSING (GEOGRAPHICAL DATA PROCESSING)   The series of operations performed on or with spatial data in the translation to its ultimate product. Usually refers to digital spatial data handling operations.

GEOREFERENCE SYSTEM   An X, Y or X, Y, Z coordinate system that locates points on the surface of the earth as a reference to points on a map. Systems include latitude-longitude, Universal Transverse Mercator, and State Plane Coordinate, etc.

GIS PRODUCT   Information stored and processed by a GIS system, which is then transferred to a physical media (paper, mylar, etc.) by a printer or other output device. (Example: a map or a tabular data display).

GIS SERVICE   The process of manipulating, summarizing, transforming or outputting

GIS data, as performed by a person or a computer.

GRAPHIC INFORMATION
The spatial representation of a point, line segment, or polygon on a map in either hardcopy or machine-readable form.

GRID
Network of uniformly spaced parallel straight lines intersecting at right angles. When superimposed on a map, it usually carries the name of the projection used for the map--that is, Lambert Grid, Transverse Mercator Grid, Universal Transverse Mercator grid, etc.

GRID-BASED MAP
A map on which data are displayed by identical grid cells. In a raster-based GIS system, the grid cells may be as small as the pixels used to represent satellite-imagery. The grid-based map is an alternative to a vector-based map, which relies on polygons, lines, and points.

GRID CELL
An individual cell in a grid-based map; the basic unit of analysis used to link the map location to its attribute data.

HARD COPY
A permanent image of a map or diagram, for example, a paper map produced on a line printer or pen plotter.

HARD DISK
An inflexible disk with a coating sensitive to magnetic charges.

HARDWARE
The machinery which constitutes a computer system (as contrasted with the software).

IMPORT
To bring data or software from another system into a system.

INFORMATION
Data, a collection of facts. Processed or analyzed data.

INFORMATION SYSTEM
An organized and systematic structure or set of procedures, equipment and personnel supporting the storage, processing, analysis, and output of meaningful data.

INTERACTIVE
Refers to a system allowing two-way electronic communication between the user and the computer.

LABEL
A name or code assigned to the graphic representation of a feature on a map.

LABEL POINT
[ARC/INFO TERM] A Used to represent point features (g.g. well sites, telephone poles, or mountain peaks), or to assign User-ID's to polygons. If representing point features, the label point's x,y location describes the location of the feature. If identifying polygons, the label

point can occur anywhere within the polygon.

LARGE SCALE	A map scale which covers a relatively small area on the ground and shows a large amount of detail. The term "large" refers to the fraction represented by the ratio of map distance to ground distance (e.g. 1:500 scale).
LATITUDE	Angular distance, in degrees, minutes, and seconds, of a point north or south of the Equator.
LAYER	Refers to the various "themes" of data, each of which is normally stored in a separate file in a GIS. Layers are registered to each other by a common coordinate system. A layer is generally made up of one or several ARC/INFO coverages.
LONGITUDE	Angular distance, in degrees, minutes, and seconds, of a point east or west of the Greenwich meridian.
LOOKUP TABLE	**[ARC/INFO TERM]** Also known as relate table, external attribute table, or expansion table. A special tabular data file associated with a particular feature attribute table and containing additional attributes about the feature beyond those stored in the feature attribute table.
MAINFRAME	The central processing unit (CPU) main memory, and control units of a computer, usually housed in one large cabinet or in a number of smaller ones grouped together. The term is only applied to large computers.
MAP	Graphic representation of the physical features (natural, artificial, or both) of a part or the whole of the Earth's surface, by means of signs and symbols or photographic image, at an established scale, on a specified projection, and with the means of orientation indicated.
MAP, PLANIMETRIC	Map that presents only the horizontal positions of features such as waterbodies and civil boundaries; distinguished from a topographic map by the omission of relief in measurable form.
MAP, THEMATIC (CHOROPLETH)	Map designed to provide information on a single topic, or group of topics, such as geology, rainfall, or population.
MAP, TOPOGRAPHIC	Map that presents the horizontal and vertical positions of the features represented; distinguished from a planimetric map by the addition of relief in measurable form.
MAP PROJECTION	See PROJECTION.

MENU A list of options on a computer display allowing an operator to select the next operation to be performed by indicating one or more choices with a pointing device.

MERGE To combine items from two or more similarly ordered sets into one set that is arranged in the same order. In a GIS, to splice separate but adjacent mapped areas into a single data set.

MERIDIAN Great circle on the surface of the earth passing through the geographical poles and any given point on the earth's surface. All points on a given meridian have the same longitude.

MODEM A translating device that links a computer terminal to a telecommunications network.

MYLAR A dimensionally stable plastic or film material used for drafting. May be clear or frosted on one or both sides.

NATURAL AREA An area of land or water that has unusual or significant flora, fauna, geological, or similar features of scientific, ecological, or educational interest.

NEATLINE Line separating the body of a map from the map margin. On a standard U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle map, the neatlines are the meridians and parallels delimiting the quadrangle.

NETWORK An interconnected set of arcs representing the possible paths for the movement of resources from one location to another.

NETWORK ANALYSIS Analytical techniques concerned with the relationships between locations in a network, such as the calculation of optimal routes through road networks, capacities of network systems, best location for facilities along networks, etc.

NETWORK COVERAGE [ARC/INFO TERM] A coverage having both line and polygon topology.

NODE [ARC/INFO TERM]   The beginning and ending locations of an arc. A node is topologically linked to all arcs that meet at the node.

NODE [ARC/INFO TERM]   A point at which two or more lines meet. Nodes carry information about the topology of polygons.

OPERATING SYSTEM   The master control program that governs the operation of a computer system, including: job entry, input/output services, data management, and supervision or "housekeeping".

ORIGIN (OF COORDINATES SYSTEM)   Defined point in a system of coordinates that serves as a zero point in computing a location according to coordinates.

ORTHOPHOTO-GRAPH   An aerial photograph having the properties of an orthographic projection. It is derived from a conventional perspective aerial photograph by simple or differential rectification so that image displacements and scale differences caused by camera tilt and terrain relief are removed.

OVERLAY   Data layer, usually dealing with only one aspect of related information, which is used to supplement the data base. Overlays are registered to the base data by a common coordinate system and are usually printed or drawn on transparent or translucent media.

OVERLAY ANALYSIS   The process of combining spatial information from two or more maps to derive a map consisting of new spatial boundaries.

OVERSHOOT   **[ARC/INFO TERM]** That portion of an arc digitized past its intersection with another arc.

PARALLEL   A line of latitude.

PARCEL-BASED   A map or database on which individual parcels of property are the basic units.

PARCEL MAP   A map or database on which individual properties are the basic units.

PAT   **[ARC/INFO TERM]** Point/Polygon Attribute Table.

PERIPHERAL DEVICE   A device connected to a computer to provide communication or auxiliary functions (e.g., terminal, printer, plotter, digitizer).

PIXEL   The smallest unit of information in a grid-cell map, scanner image, or computer graphic image. A contraction of "picture element".

PLOTTER	A device controlled by a computer that creates hardcopy output of graphics for the recording of location information.
POINT	A level of spatial measurement referring to an object which has no dimension at a specified scale. Examples include wells, weather stations, and navigational lights.
POLYGON	A multi-sided figure representing an area on a map. Each polygon (area) usually is described by attribute data linked to the polygon's location by the topology of the GIS.
POLYGON	**[ARC/INFO TERM]** An areal feature defined by the series of arcs comprising its boundary. A polygon contains a label point inside its boundary and has attributes that describe the geographic feature it represents.
POLYGON OVERLAY	**[ARC/INFO TERM]** process that merges overlapping polygons and their attributes from two coverages to create a third coverage of new polygons.
PROJECTION (MAP PROJECTION)	Any systematic arrangement of meridians and parallels portraying the curved surface of a sphere or spheroid upon a plane. The manner in which the spherical surface of the earth is represented on a two-dimensional surface; concerned primarily with minimizing distortion in area, shape, distance and direction.
PSEUDO NODE	**[ARC/INFO TERM]** A node at which two and only two arcs intersect, or a single arc connects with itself. Pseudo nodes can be used to subdivide linear features into smaller segments, each having different attribute values.
QUADRANGLE MAPS (QUADS)	A rectangular, or nearly rectangular, area covered by a map. The outline is generally defined by latitude or longitude. Usually refers to USGS topographic maps.
RAM (RANDOM ACCESS MEMORY)	The semiconductor chips within the computer that serve as a scratch pad. The CPU enters and retrieves information from the RAM almost instantaneously, but unlike data in external storage or in the bubble memories just coming on the market, the contents of RAM are lost when electrical power to the computer is turned off.
RASTER DATA	Spatial data arranged in a regular grid pattern in which each unit (or cell) in the grid is assigned an identifying value based on the

predominant characteristics within its borders.

RECORD Collections of related fields. (Example: related fields such as census data for a town).

REFERENCING FILE The nationwide digital database of planimetric base map features developed by the U.S. Bureau of the Census for the 1990 Census.

RELATE An operation establishing a connection between corresponding records in two tables using an item common to both. Each record in one table is connected to one or more records in the other table that share the same value for a common item. A relate gives access to additional feature attributes that are not stored in a single table. The connection is only temporary.

RELATIONAL DATABASE A database in which information is stored in tabular format. Related tables are linked by common elements. For example, one table may link street address to parcel number, another table may list the zoning classification for each parcel. A relational database uses the parcel number as the link or "relational item" to produce a zoning classification for a street address.

RELATIONAL JOIN Establishing relationships from one table to another, using common data values in both tables. This technique is at the heart of a relational database system.

RELIEF Elevation variations of the land or sea bottom.

REMOTE SENSING The act of detection and/or identification of an object without having the sensor in direct contact with the object. Includes analysis of aerial photography, satellite imagery, etc.

REPRESENTATIVE FRACTION Scale of a map or chart expressed as a fraction or ratio that relates unit distance on the map to distance measured in the same unit on the ground (e.g. 1:500).

RESOLUTION The accuracy with which the location and shape of map features are depicted for a given map scale.

ROM (READ ONLY MEMORY) If RAM is like a scratch pad, then ROM is like a printed book whose pages cannot be erased. System software is often stored in ROM, where it is labeled firmware.

RMS ERROR **[ARC/INFO TERM]** Root Mean Square error. A measure of tic registration accuracy during digitizing and coverage transformation.

SCALE	Relationship existing between a distance on a map, chart, or photograph and the corresponding distance on the Earth.
SCANNING	Process of using an electronic input device to convert analog information such as maps, photographs, overlays, etc., into a digital format usable by a computer.
SILVER POLYGON	**[ARC/INFO TERM]** A small areal feature commonly occurring along the borders of polygons following the overlay of two or more coverages.
SLOPE	The change in elevation over distance.
SMALL SCALE	A mapping scale which covers a relatively large area and shows a relatively small amount of detail. The term "small" refers to the fraction represented by the ratio of map distance to ground distance. For example, 1:500,000 (one map unit equals 500,000 ground units).
SMART GRAPHICS	Computer programs that combine graphics and data, but are not GIS systems. The "smart graphics", sometimes called "intelligent maps", use a pointer to link graphic elements to attributes, but they do not have a topological structure.
SML	**[ARC/INFO TERM]** Simple Macro Language. A high-level, algorithmic language provides macro programming capabilities and a set of tools to build menus tailored to the user interface of your application. Features include the capability to create on-screen menus, functions to report on the status of the parameters of many ARC commands, variable assignments and use, and the ability to get and use map or page unit coordinates. SML includes an extensive set of directives that you can use interactively or in programs without leaving the ARC environment.
SOFTWARE	The programs, or instructions, that tell the computer how to respond to specific user commands.
SPATIAL DATA	Information with a locational component.
SPATIAL RESOLUTION	Measure of the ability to separate closely adjacent objects. Also, the smallest area identified as a separate mapping unit.
STANDARD (OR STRUCTURED)	A specialized computer programming language that forms the relationships in a relational database and finds the information defined

QUERY LANGUAGE (SQL)
by those relationships.

STATE PLANE COORDINATES
A system of X, Y coordinates defined by the USGS for each state. Locations are based on the distance from an origin within each state.

TERMINAL
A device for communicating with a computer, usually including a keyboard and either a CRT display or printer.

TIC
Registration or geographic control points for a coverage representing known locations on the earth's surface. They allow all coverage features to be recorded in a common coordinate system (e.g. State Plan meters).

TIGER
Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing File - The nationwide digital data base of planimetric base map features developed by the U.S. Bureau of the Census for the 1990 Census.

TILE
The spatial unit by which geographic data can be organized, subdivided, and stored in a geographic database. This unit can be a regular, geometric shape (e.g., map sheets), or an irregular area, such as county boundaries.

TOPOGRAPHY
Configuration (relief) of the land surface; the graphic delineation or portrayal of that configuration in map form, as by contour lines.

TOPOLOGY
The properties of geometric figures, such as adjacency, that are not altered by distortion as long as the surface is not torn. Topological data describe the connectedness of the features. For example, nodes (points) represent intersections, lines (arcs) represent the connections between the nodes, and area (polygons) are bounded by lines that are connected and closed.

TOPOLOGICAL OVERLAY
The intersection of two (or more) topologically coded data sets that produces one data set that is uniformly topologically coded with respect to graphic entities and to attribute data.

TRANSFORMATION
Conversion of coordinates from one referencing system to another.

UNDERSHOOT
[ARC/INFO TERM] An arc that does not extend far enough to intersect another arc.

UNIVERSAL TRANSVERSE
Rectangular coordinate system based on the UTM projection, a specific form of the Transverse Mercator Projection which consists (basically) of 60 six degree-wide zones of longitude extending between latitudes

MERCATOR (UTM) GRID	80° N. and 80° S.
USER INTERFACE	Method by which the human operator communicates with the various database and applications software modules.
VALUE-ADDED DATA	Computerized information which has been derived from other computerized information, but for which the value of work performed by a person or by a computer necessary to effect the derivation can be directly quantified.
VECTOR	A quantity having both magnitude and direction. As a type of GIS, it is a means of coding lines and area information in the form of units of data expressing magnitude, direction, and connectivity.
VECTOR STRUCTURE	A GIS data structure that stores information as a sequence of points (vertices) so that each line segment may be though of as a vector. A vector structure can be contrasted with grid-cell or raster data structures.
WEED TOLERANCE	**[ARC/INFO TERM]** The minimum acceptable distance between any two vertices along an arc. A parameter set before adding arc features.
WORKSPACE	A section of the computer hard drive allotted to a specific user or project, usually containing data files and not programs.
X,Y COORDINATE DATA	Data digitized by recording Cartesian coordinates which define boundary locations. Also called polygon, line or point based data.

GLOSSARY SOURCES	This glossary was compiled from the following sources: 1. *The GIS Sourcebook*, GIS World, Inc., 1989 2. *Understanding GIS, The ARC/INFO Method*, ESRI, 1990 3. *Large-Scale Mapping Guidelines*, American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) and American Congress of Surveying and Mapping (ACSM), 1987. 4. *Planning Manual for Vermont Municipalities*, Vermont Department of Housing and Community Affairs, 1987.