



F.A.Q. for Garmin GPS Map 76(s) Units

Updated: 01/23/12

1 - General

Q1.1: I've collected data and downloaded points to DNR Garmin and ArcMap but my points are not showing up in the right place.

A1.1: Make sure the unit itself was set to WGS84 or NAD83 for *Map Datum* settings. If not, then you'll need to change your setting to WGS84 or NAD83 and you may have to collect your points again. If the GPS unit had the correct *Map Datum* settings, check that DNR Garmin has a correct projection set under *File > Set Projection*. The proper setting for Indiana would be *NAD 1983 UTM Zone 16 North* to match the current default setting for Toolkit, and most other ArcMap projects in Indiana. Also make sure that the *Load PRJ* setting in DNR Garmin's *Set Projection* window has that same projection selected. These settings will get your saved files to work even if your ArcMap project is in Indiana State Plane coordinates because ArcMap can project data on the fly so long as the data's projection is readable by ArcMap. This is achieved in DNR Garmin by making the above settings.

2 - Settings

Q2.1: What WAAS, Position, and Datum settings should be in place when collecting data?

A2.1: WAAS: Enabled
Position Format: UTM UPS or hddd°mm'ss.s"
Map Datum: WGS84 (Note: NAD83 is also acceptable)

Q2.2: Does the *Position Format* setting affect the data that I transfer off of the GPS?

A2.2: Generally speaking, no. The *Position Format* setting controls the coordinates displayed onscreen while using the GPS unit. You should use a setting appropriate for the type of work you are doing and the part of the world where you are working. In this case either the UTM coordinates or lat/long value readouts are valid. The unit will always transfer out lat/long values to external software, regardless of this setting. The external software then controls the projection/datum formats of the final file created.

3 - Accuracy

Q3.1: What is the accuracy of the GPS Map 76(s) unit?

A3.1: Absolute Accuracy, Horizontal: 3 to 5 meters with the WAAS setting enabled

Q3.2: How do I get the best accuracy results when using the unit?

A3.2: Stay away from tall vegetation, structures, vehicles, and low lying areas surrounded by steep terrain to get the best satellite fix. All handheld GPS units in this area of the world perform best when the user faces south. This unit performs a little better when held vertically.