

How to Use the DNR Garmin Extension to Download Waypoints from a GPS Unit

The DNR Garmin is a GPS extension that works with ArcView, ArcMap (8.x, 9.x), Landview or ArcExplorer.

With this extension you can transfer your Garmin GPS waypoints, tracks or routes directly to one of the above programs above and save your data as Graphics or Shapefiles.

In our example we will show how to use DNRgarmin with ArcMap.

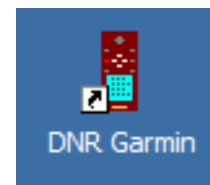
Before launching the program you should plug your device into the PC.

Plug in the cable in the one of the USB Ports if you are using a "USB" cable or into the "Serial" port if you are using that type of cable. (If you are using Windows XP a "USB" cable might not work properly. Our advice is to use the "Serial" port if you are working on XP.)

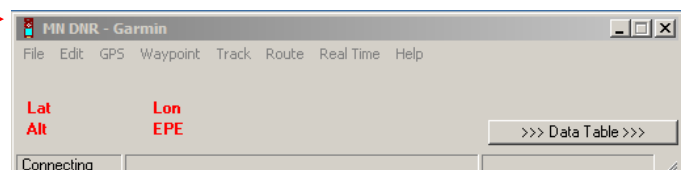


Step 1:

Launch the program by double clicking on the desktop icon.

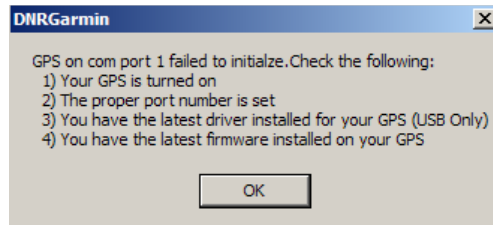


The program interface will appear.



Next, the program will try to connect to your GPS device.

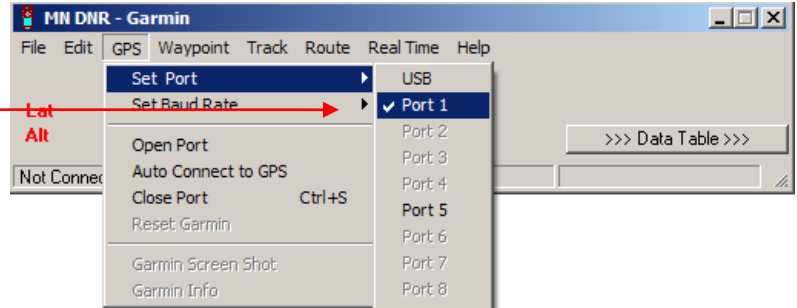
If you see this message-



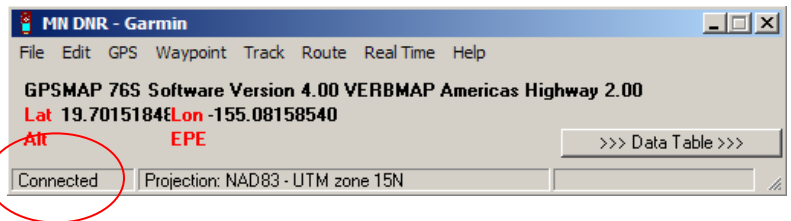
Check if your device is properly connected to the port and follow the instructions in the message.

Step 2:

Configure your program by clicking on "GPS" → "Set Port" → "USB" (if you are using USB cable) or "Port 1" (if you are using Serial).

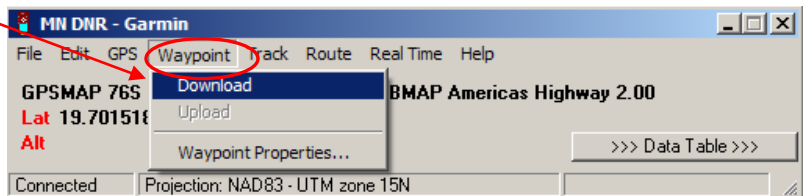


If your GPS is connected to the program you should see "Connected" in the bottom left corner of the program window.

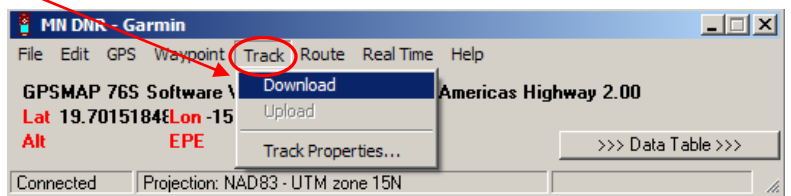


The program is ready to retrieve your data.

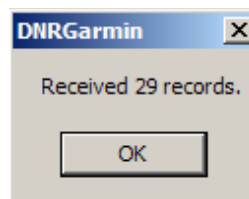
Click on "Waypoint" and then "Download" to download your waypoints into the program.



Or click on "Track" => "Download" if you want to download your Tracks.



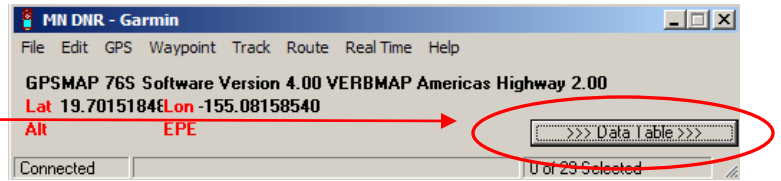
After the data is downloaded you will receive a message stating the number of records received.



In this example there were 29 records in the GPS unit as shown here-

Step 3:

Click on ">>> Data Table >>>" to see the properties of the downloaded data.



Now you are able to edit your data as needed.

After editing your data, save your data as a shapefile to use it in ArcMap. There are two ways to do this.

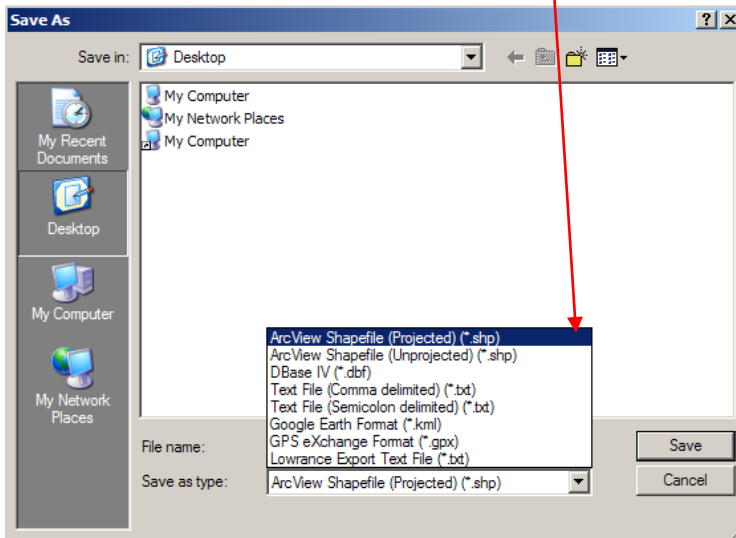
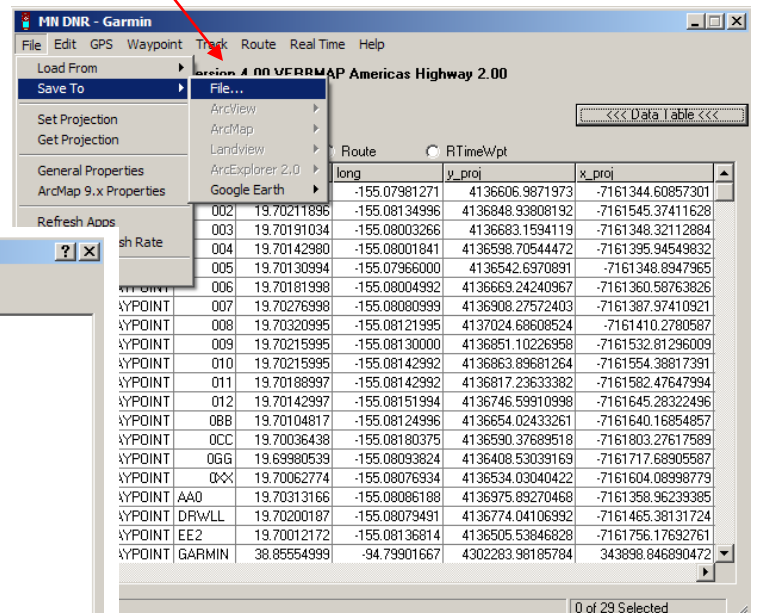
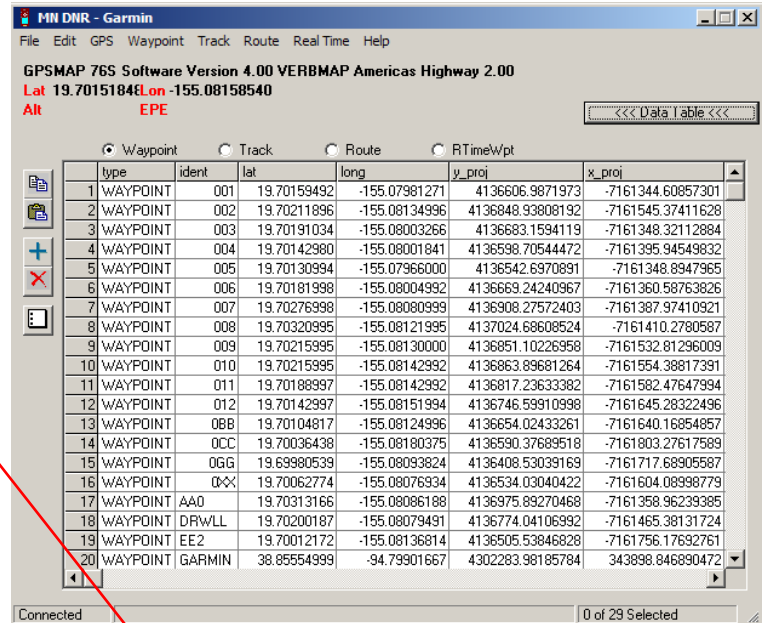
The first way is to save the data as an ArcView Shapefile.

Click on "File", after that on "Save to" and then "File...".

Save it as a "ArcView Shapefile (Projected) (*.shp)".

Now you can retrieve your data by opening the file from ArcMap.

Please note: DNR Garmin does not create a projection file (*.prj). You will need to define the projection in ArcCatalog or ArcMap to have a projection associated with your shapefile.

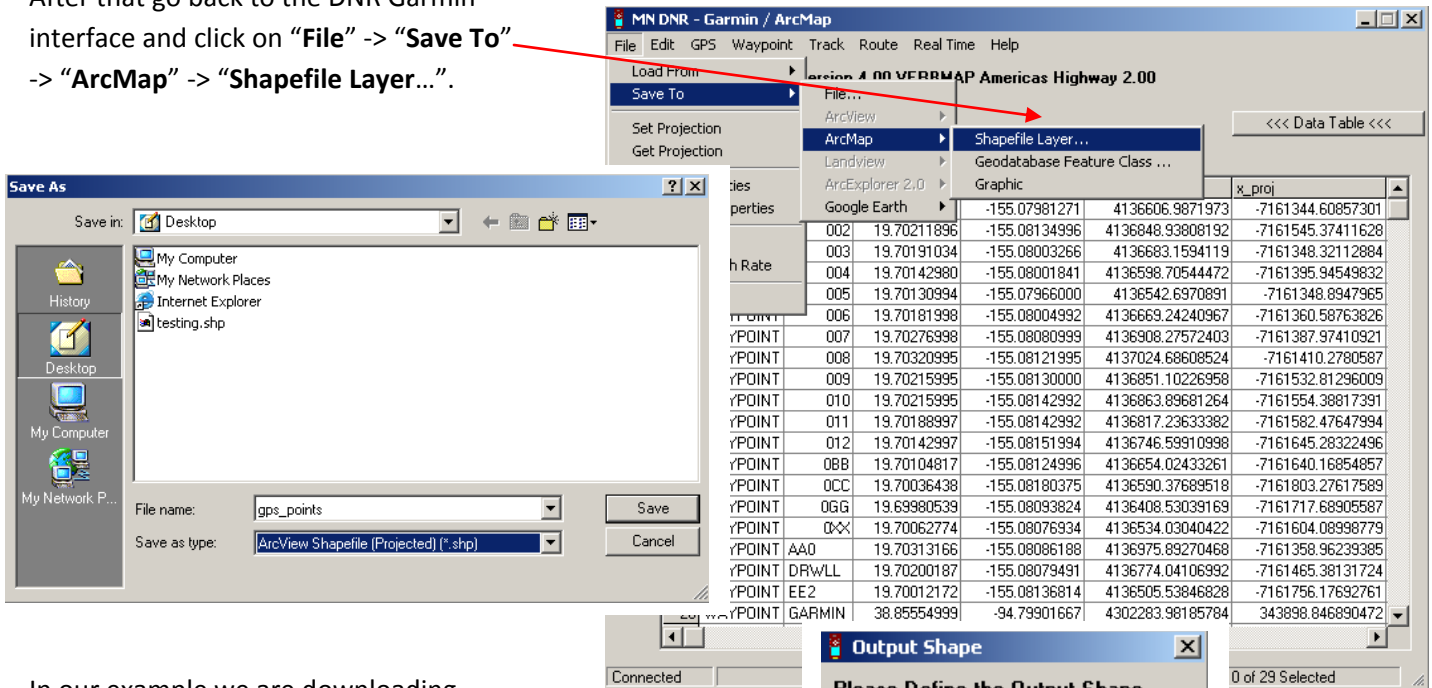


There is another way of saving your data – a little bit faster and you will see your data in ArcMap immediately.

First, you need to launch the program ArcMap.

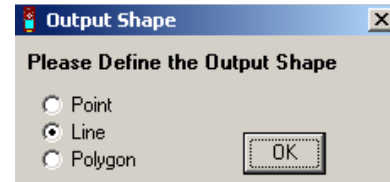


After that go back to the DNR Garmin interface and click on “File” -> “Save To” -> “ArcMap” -> “Shapefile Layer...”.



In our example we are downloading waypoints.

However, if you are saving your tracks you will see this window- choose “Line”.



If your data is successfully converted into a Point Shapefile you should see the message saying “Sent Point Shapefile to ArcMap” at the bottom of your DNR Garmin program.

After that you will be able to see the results immediately in your ArcMap program.

