Buffer – Creates buffer polygons to a specified distance around the Input Features. An optional dissolve can be performed to remove overlapping buffers.

Where do I Find it?

- Open ArcToolbox.
- Analysis Toolbox – Proximity Toolset – Buffer
Parameters:

**Input Features** – The features to be buffered.

**Output Feature Class** – The data that is created.

**Distance** – *Linear Unit* – Where you specify the buffer distance and unit.

  - **Field** – The field that indicates what the buffer distance is for individual features.

    * If negative value the buffer will be placed on the inside of the polygon (only valid for polygon features.)

**Side Type** – *(Only valid with ArcInfo license)* Indicates which side will be buffered. This is dependent on which direction the line was created. *(this option is generally left alone)*

**End Type** - *(Only valid with ArcInfo license)* Either flat or round. The default is round.

**Dissolve Type** – Specifies whether overlapping buffers are removed. Options are None (no removing takes place), All (all overlapping buffers replaced), List (removes overlaps depending on the value in field(s)).

**Dissolve Field(s)** – *(Only valid if List is selected in last parameter)*. List of fields that will be removed/dissolved if values are the same in specified field.