AGOL Cleanup

As part of maintaining our AGOL organization, we need to minimize the amount of feature storage we use. For more information on feature storage and its impact on our AGOL org, please visit the link below and navigate to the "STORAGE" heading:
Access to feature storage information on Esri Website

How Users can Clean-up Storage

There are several ways our users can clean up storage. The most obvious is deleting any unused feature layers. However, we understand that this isn't always feasible. Another option is to avoid using feature layers entirely. You only need to store a feature layer in AGOL if you require editing, geoprocessing, or frequent symbology changes. In many cases, you might find that a map service can be used instead of a feature service and it will have the added benefit of speeding up your map rendering.

Here's an article explaining the difference between a map service and a feature service:

Access to difference between map and feature services link to Esri Website

TLDR - Difference between map and feature services

> **Map services** allow you to display maps, but the layers are static, meaning you cannot interact with the individual features for editing or analysis. They are typically used for visualization and perform better when working with large datasets. Does not consume AGOL feature storage.
>
> **Feature services**, allow for more interactivity. They store individual features that can be queried, edited, and analyzed, which makes them ideal for tasks that require regular updates or complex data manipulation. Consumes AGOL feature storage.

Cleaning up a large feature layer in AGOL while still displaying the data in your map:

Option 1: Check for existing map services

Before cleaning up your feature layer, check if someone else has already published the data as a map service. A common scenario among UF Org users is publishing **parcel data** as a feature layer, which unnecessarily consumes a large amount of feature storage. This is because GeoPlan already publishes the parcel data as a feature service. You can find it here:
GeoPlan Statewide Parcel Data in Florida

To search for existing data, use the **Add Data** button in ArcGIS Pro. Access for a good help doc links to Esri Website on using this method for adding data and searching AGOL. You search your content, other UFL content, all of AGOL, or Esri's curated data called the Living Atlas.

Option 2: Make the feature layer smaller in file storage size

If you can't find a suitable replacement layer, the next step is to clean up your large feature layer so that it only includes data that are necessary for the map or project. One way to do this is to remove all features from a layer that are located outside of the geographic area of interest. For example, if you have a feature layer that shows wildfires in the US, but you are only interested in mapping wildfires in Florida, you can remove all wildfire data outside of Florida. Another way to reduce the file storage size is to remove any fields from the feature layer's attribute table that are not relevant to the mapping project.

Option 3: Use a tile layer instead of a feature layer

If your map does not require access to individual features or editing, you can transform your feature layer into a hosted tile layer. You can create a tile layer in either ArcGIS Online or ArcGIS Pro. However, while AGOL allows you to create a tile layer, it can be costly regarding credit consumption, so it's best to do this in ArcGIS Pro. Below is some documentation to help you get started with this process:

- **What is a Tile Layer?**
  Access to Esri Website on Tile Layers
- **How to create a Tile Package using ArcGIS Pro:**
  Access to Esri Website on Publish from a tile package

How to check the size of your feature layers:

1. Navigate to the ArcGIS UFL Maps Website
    a. Access to the ArcGIS UFL Maps Website
2. Login
    a. Access to the Esri Login Instructions on the GeoPlan Website
3. Go to Content
4. Click a Feature Layer
5. Under details, note the Size.
    a. Sizes of 100MB and higher are starting to get large for AGOL.
    b. Please note: Attachment size does not count against feature storage.

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