

Defiance County Annual Report  
2014

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# History of Defiance County, Ohio

On August 8, 1794, General Anthony Wayne and his soldiers arrived at the confluence of the Maumee and Auglaize Rivers and built "Fort Defiance".

In 1803, Ohio was the first state carved from the Northwest Territory. The organization of Defiance County began on February 12, 1820, when the Ohio Legislature passed an Act. That provided all the land in the State of Ohio was to become 14 separate counties. Originally, Williams County, organized in April 1824, occupied the northwest corner of the State, but included most of the area that is now Defiance County. January 13, 1825, after a resolution passed the Ohio Legislature, the town of Defiance was established as the Seat of Justice for the County of Williams. There was great dissatisfaction in Defiance after the Michigan boundary settlement in 1836. This added about 150 square miles to the north end of Williams County and the Village of Defiance became more of a border town. In 1846, Bryan became the County seat, much to the dissatisfaction of the people of Defiance, as it was located near the center of the County.

A petition was prepared in December 1844, and circulated. The Legislature passed the bill March 4, 1845, which provided for parts of Williams, Henry and Paulding counties to become a separate county to be named Defiance County. The bill also provided that the Seat of Justice would be established at the town of Defiance.

. The first County Commissioners were appointed by the Court of Common Pleas on April 3, 1845, and served until December 1, 1845. A special election for county officers was held April 15, 1845, and October 14, 1845, and officers were elected.

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## Community Profile

Defiance County is approximately 414 square miles and home to 39,037 people. Cities and villages in Defiance County include: the City of Defiance, Village of Hicksville, Village of Ney and Village of Sherwood.

Defiance County has five public school districts that accounted for approximately 6,653 students in the 2014-2015 school year: Defiance City, Ayersville Local, Northeastern Local, Central Local and Hicksville Exempted school district. The Defiance College is located in the City of Defiance with nearly 1,100 students.

# Office of the County Commissioners

The Board of County Commissioners is the policy making and legislative body of this County. It is the County government's taxing, budgeting, appropriating and purchasing authority and holds title to County property. The Board is also responsible for hearing and ruling on annexations, approving drainage improvements through the petition ditch process, and making improvements to and providing for solid waste disposal.



Otto L. Nicely  
1996—Present



James E. Harris, Jr.  
2007—2014



Thomas L. Kime  
2001—Present



Ryan Mack  
2015—Present

## **Contact Information**

Defiance County Board of Commissioners  
500 Court Street, Suite A  
Defiance, OH 43512  
P: 419-782-4761

Sherry Carnahan, Finance Manager/Administrator  
Stephanie Metz, Clerk  
Lanie Lambert, HR/Finance Deputy Clerk  
Emily Meyer, Receptionist/Deputy Clerk

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# Commissioners' Appointments in 2014

**Otto L. Nicely**

Board Chairman/President

## Committee Assignments:

- ⇒ Area 7 Board
- ⇒ Board of Revisions
- ⇒ Community Corrections of Northwest Ohio Board (CCNO)
- ⇒ Community Corrections Planning Board
- ⇒ E-911 Board of Directors
- ⇒ FEMA—United Way
- ⇒ National Association of Counties Agricultural and Rural Affairs Committee (NACo)
- ⇒ NACo Rural Action Caucus Steering Committee
- ⇒ NACo Veterans & Military Services Committee
- ⇒ Defiance County Records Commission
- ⇒ Defiance County Tax Incentive Review Committee

## Commissioner Nicely also served on the following County Commissioners Association of Ohio Committees (CCAO):

- ⇒ Board of Directors
- ⇒ County & Local Government Reform
- ⇒ General Government & Operations Committee
- ⇒ Health & Human Services Committee as Co-Chairman
- ⇒ Jail Advisory Board
- ⇒ Legislative Committee
- ⇒ Ohio Department of Veterans Services Advisory Committee—Alternate
- ⇒ Public Safety & Criminal Justice Committee

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# Commissioners' Appointments in 2014

## **James E. Harris, Jr.**

Board Vice-Chairman/Vice-President

### Committee Assignments:

- ⇒ Defiance Chamber Agri-Business
- ⇒ Area Office on Aging
- ⇒ Defiance Area Human Relations Committee
- ⇒ Maumee Valley Guidance Center Board of Directors
- ⇒ Maumee Watershed Steering Committee
- ⇒ Municipal Justice Board

### Commissioner Harris also served on the following County Commissioners Association of Ohio Committees (CCAO):

- ⇒ Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee
- ⇒ Jobs, Economic Development & Infrastructure Committee
- ⇒ Solid Waste Law

## **Thomas L. Kime**

Commissioner

### Committee Assignments:

- ⇒ County Commissioners Association of Ohio Revision of Drainage & Ditch Laws (CCAO)
- ⇒ Community Improvement Corporation Board of Trustees (CIC)
- ⇒ County Risk Sharing Authority Board of Directors (CORSAs)
- ⇒ Four County Juvenile Detention Board (NWOJDC)
- ⇒ Maumee Valley Planning Organization Executive Council (MVPO)
- ⇒ Northwest Community Corrections Center (NWCCC)
- ⇒ Northwest Ohio Community Action Commission (NOCAC)
- ⇒ Northwest Ohio Juvenile Detention Center (NWOJDC)
- ⇒ Defiance County Revolving Loan Fund Committee
- ⇒ Defiance County Tax Incentive Review Committee

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# Commissioners' Appointments in 2014

Each year, the Commissioners appoint citizens to a variety of Boards and Commissions:

Apiary Inspector  
CCNO Citizens' Advisory Committee  
Community Corrections Planning Board  
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)  
Tax Airport Authority

All the Board members serve on the following Boards and Commissions:

Community Improvement Corporation (CIC)  
Defiance County Planning Commission  
Defiance County Fair Board  
Defiance Paulding Consolidated Job & Family Services  
Four County Joint Board of Commissioners *(Defiance/Henry/Paulding/Williams)*  
Investment Advisory Board  
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)  
Maumee Valley Planning Organization  
Northwest Ohio Commissioners & Engineers Association  
Northwest Ohio Passenger Rail Association (NOPRA)  
Sherwood Area Economic Development  
Four County Joint Solid Waste District *(Defiance/Henry/Paulding/Williams)*  
Workforce Development (WIA)

# Prescription Drug Discount Plan

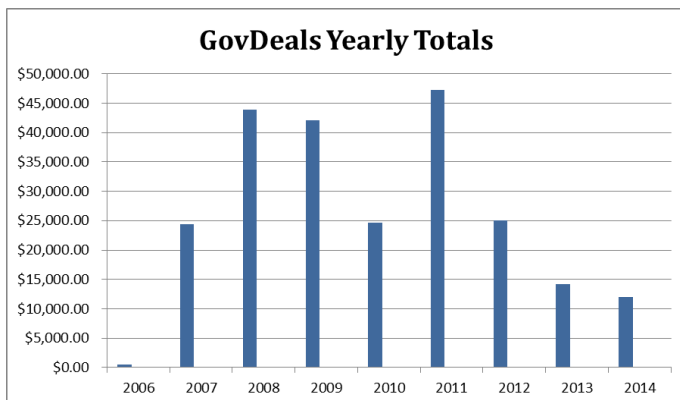


The Board of Defiance County Commissioners once again participated in the National Association of Counties (NACO) Prescription Discount Plan. For calendar year 2014, Defiance County helped 610 residents fill 1,085 prescriptions through the program in conjunction with NACO. The retail price of these prescriptions totaled \$43,515.44. The price savings to Defiance County residents totaled \$13,147.68; an average price savings of \$11.92 per prescription.

## GovDeals.com

GovDeals.com is utilized for Defiance County to dispose of unneeded, obsolete or unfit County personal property via Internet Auction. Since its inception in 2002, Defiance County has received \$334,618.69 by utilizing GovDeals. In 2014, Defiance County received \$11,927.52. GovDeals.com is open to the public for viewing and purchasing of items.

Examples of items sold on GovDeals.com are automobiles, office furniture (filing cabinets, desks, chairs), office equipment (monitors, printers) and large equipment such as excavators, snow plows and trucks.



# Activate Health and Wellness Center



Following a formal Request for Proposals, Activate Healthcare was selected to provide clinical services to employees and covered family members. The clinic is comprised of three founding members: Defiance County, Defiance Metal Products and Keller Logistics. This is the first clinic in Ohio for Activate Healthcare.

The Activate Health and Wellness Center is a benefit offered to the employees that currently participate in Defiance County's health insurance. This medical facility offers preventative and primary care services to our employees and their dependents, over the age of 3. It is located at 800 N. Clinton Street, Suite B, Defiance.

The Center is staffed by Dr. Misty Slater and Mike Peck PA-C, as well as two medical assistants.





# Financials

The Board of County Commissioners strives to achieve a general fund budget that is structurally balanced; that is, on-going revenues meet or exceed on-going expenditures. The Board, Elected Officials and Department Heads have worked together to keep the County in fair fiscal condition.

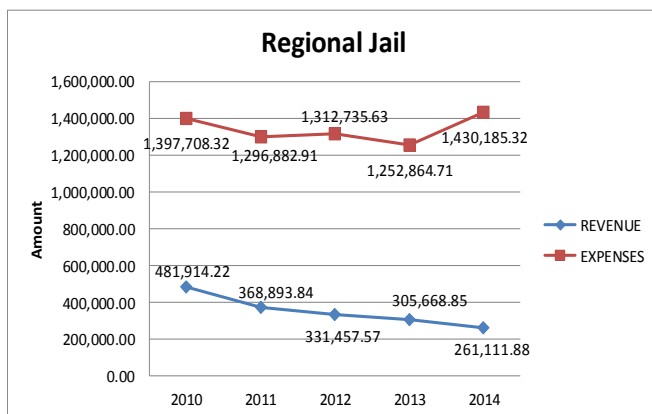
The Board of County Commissioners appropriated a general fund budget of \$13,159,315.23. Actual expenditures were \$11,405,754.24, or 86% of the appropriated amount.

## General Fund Revenues

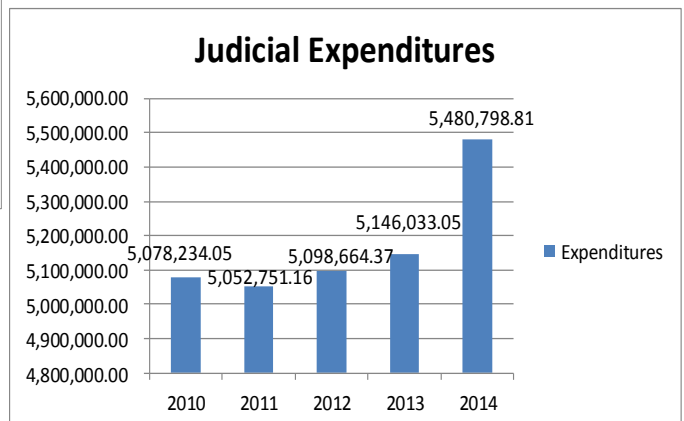
- *Sales Tax*. Sales tax is the largest single general fund revenue, making up 55% of the total. General fund sales tax increased 2.5% or \$133,873.68 during 2014 to \$5,392,018.04.
- *Local Government Fund (LGF)*. This state revenue-sharing mechanism continues to decrease each year. In 2014, the County received \$402,701.82, down from \$411,916.14 in 2013.

## Judicial Expenditures

For many years, the Board would supplement the operating expenses for the regional jail (CCNO) from the interest earned. Since 2010, the interest revenue has dropped by 30%, or approximately \$703,704. With the operating costs at \$1,430,185.32 and income from fees/ fines of \$261,111.88, general fund had to make up the difference. Along with the other judicial department's expenses, this puts a strain on the general fund budget.



Total expenditure for judicial, general fund departments, equaled \$5,480,799 in 2014, or 48% of the total expenditures.



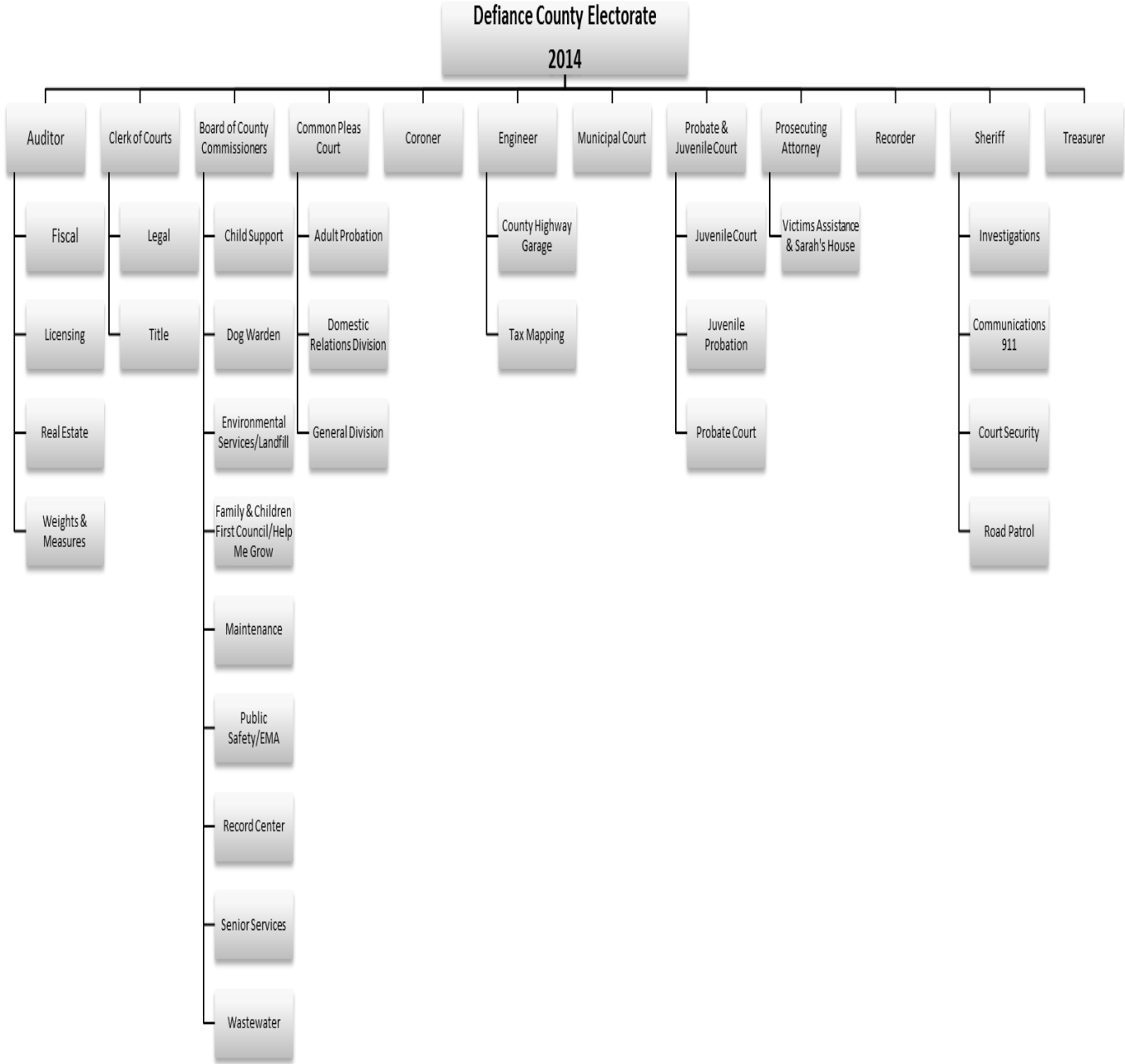
# General Fund Expenditure Report

<b>Fund</b>	<b>2014 Budget</b>	<b>2014 Actual Expense</b>	<b>% of Budget Disbursed</b>
Commissioners	731,595.00	725,509.55	99.17
Regional Jail	0.00	1,430,185.32	
Auditor	261,296.78	266,769.09	102.09
Personal Property			0.00
Treasurer	143,422.00	141,248.86	98.48
Prosecuting Atty	474,848.63	491,189.38	103.44
Bureau of Investigation	73,000.00	74,333.00	101.83
Data Processing	67,377.31	62,288.59	92.45
Court of Appeals	15,471.00	15,022.45	97.10
Common Pleas	464,402.00	430,414.05	92.68
Jury Commission	2,950.00	2,038.33	69.10
Adult Probation	135,009.00	137,597.38	101.92
Juvenile Court	477,838.76	494,511.05	103.49
Juvenile Probation	215,791.25	189,743.58	87.93
Comm Juvenile Det.	200,000.00	0.00	0.00
Probate Court	111,081.04	103,973.01	93.60
Clerk of Courts	188,484.04	184,280.53	97.77
Coroner	60,161.00	79,865.72	132.75
Municipal Court	132,350.00	130,293.12	98.45
Board of Elections	251,521.00	253,303.92	100.71
Land	600,000.00	218,858.49	36.48
Maintenance	980,860.00	984,337.21	100.35
Hanger	25,200.00	25,200.00	100.00
Courthouse Security	114,000.00	125,752.24	110.31
Sheriff	1,715,890.00	1,740,978.87	101.46
Recorder	117,287.30	111,596.59	95.15
Associate Deputies	6,600.00	4,819.50	73.02
EMA	117,247.00	143,080.97	122.03
Safety	1,700.00	1,696.18	99.78
Agriculture	321,043.00	319,922.01	99.65
Tuberculosis	250.00	0.00	0.00
Registration of Vital Stats	1,250.00	1,162.00	92.96
Other Health	73,468.20	69,452.89	94.53
Children Service Board	200,000.00	100,000.00	50.00
Soldiers Relief	271,506.30	242,758.22	89.41
Veteran Office	90,854.70	88,745.59	97.68
Public Assistance Grant	91,201.00	68,641.83	75.26
Insurance	1,318,000.00	1,244,932.53	94.46
Miscellaneous	306,599.00	686,786.39	224.00
Contingencies	0.00	14,465.80	
Unappropriated	2,799,759.92	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,159,315.23</b>	<b>11,405,754.24</b>	<b>86.67</b>

# General Fund Revenue Report

General Property Tax	1,835,370.03	Rental & Lease	305,128.57
Tang Pers Property Tax	161.02	Sale Personal Property	1,580.90
PPt Reimbursement	0.00	Miscellaneous	141,604.69
Homestead & Rollback	267,414.84	Misc. Litter Control	0.00
House Trailer Tax	7,462.42	Misc. St Auditor travel	0.00
Cigarette tax	515.77	Indirect Cost	200,740.24
Co Piggy Back 1%	5,392,018.04	Delq Tax Advertising cost	7,338.80
Electric Dereg Reimb	0.00	BTA-BOR hearing costs	270.00
Casino	463,211.19	Election Expense	35,055.58
<b>TOTAL TAXES</b>	<b>7,966,153.31</b>	Prosecuting Attorney FOJ	71.33
Vendors Licenses	2,050.00	Sheriff FOJ	0.00
Junk Yard License	0.00	Sheriff donations	0.00
<b>TOTAL LICENCES</b>	<b>2,050.00</b>	K-9 Donation	1,000.00
Auditor fees, tax settlement	177,335.88	Indigent Defense costs	82,244.02
Auditor fees, conveyance	370,629.80	Personal Phone calls	439.41
Auditors fees, transfers	1,032.00	Insurance Claims	7,653.76
Auditor Fees, Convey Mfg	2,896.30	Solid Waste Reimbursement	7,469.57
Auditor fee - transfer mfg	70.00	Law Library	0.00
Recorders fees	115,828.05	Unclaimed Monies	0.00
Recorders 1% housing	1,355.35	Workers Comp	44,370.00
Clerk of Court fees	128,771.47	Refunds & Overpayments	18,323.81
Clerk of Court - Title fees	114,592.91	Cobra Serv Ins refund	0.00
Treasurer fees, tax settlement	145,776.14	Reimbursement Attorney fees	0.00
Probate Court fees	29,716.97	Reimbursements	287,881.96
Juvenile Court fees	20,121.35	Pop Money	548.30
Juv Ct Home Study Fee	0.00	Land Forfeiture	1,975.00
Juvenile Probation Fees	0.00	Enterprise Zone Contribution	0.00
Board of Elections	385.00	Regional Jail - Other Receipts	148,654.78
Photocopies	2,421.28	<b>OTHER RECEIPTS</b>	<b>1,292,350.72</b>
Prosecuting Attorney fees	0.00	Transfers In (Interest)	0.00
Regional Jail - Sheriff Fees	102,354.45	Transfers In (Other)	789,188.16
<b>TOTAL FEES</b>	<b>1,213,286.95</b>	<b>TOTAL TRANSFER-IN</b>	<b>789,188.16</b>
Local Government	402,701.82	Advance In	51,509.80
Grant	0.00	<b>TOTAL ADVANCE -IN</b>	<b>51,509.80</b>
<b>TOTAL FROM OTHER GOV</b>	<b>402,701.82</b>	<b>TOTAL FOR GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>11,797,277.64</b>
Clerk of Courts fines	10,086.07		
Municipal Court fines	55,042.35		
Juvenile Court fines	110.02		
Juvenile Restitution	4,695.79		
Regional Jail - Court Fines	10,102.65		
<b>TOTAL FINES &amp; FORFEITURES</b>	<b>80,036.88</b>		

# Organization of County Departments



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# Independent Agencies

**Agricultural Society (Fair Board)**

**Airport Authority**

**Board of Development Disabilities (Good Samaritan School)**

**Board of Elections**

**Corrections Center of Northwest Ohio (CCNO)**

**Community Investment Corporation (CIC)**

**Defiance Development & Visitors Bureau**

**Defiance-Paulding Consolidated Job & Family Services**

**Fort Defiance Humane Society (Animal Shelter)**

**Health Department**

**Historical Society (Auglaize Village)**

**Juvenile Detention Center**

**Law Library**

**Multi-Area Narcotics (M.A.N.) Unit**

**Maumee Valley Planning Organization**

**Metropolitan Park Board**

**Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center**

**Ohio State Extension**

**Regional Port Authority of Northwest Ohio**

**Soil & Water Conservation**

**Solid Waste Management District**

**Veterans Affairs**

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# Defiance County Auditor

Jill Little • 419-782-1926

The Auditor's office has a variety of unique and important responsibilities.

## **Chief Assessor**

- Establishing the value of all property within the County.
- Oversees a full appraisal every six years and update of values in the third year of the reappraisal cycle.
- Verifying that tax exempt and tax abated properties qualify for that status
- Maintaining a locating record for parcels

## **Chief Fiscal Officer**

- Responsible for all financial transactions.
  - In 2014 - 10,968 checks were created
- Account of every board, department, office, agency and district.
- Distributing funds
- Payroll
  - In 2014 - 10,521 payroll checks were created

## **Real Estate**

- Updating property records with necessary information
  - New construction
  - Demolition
  - Change of ownership
    - In 2014 - 2,068 properties were transferred
- Calculates property taxes
- Tax Reduction Programs
  - Homestead Exemption
  - Non-business credit
  - Owner-Occupied credit
  - Current Agricultural Use Value

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# Defiance County Auditor

Jill Little • 419-782-1926

## **Weights and Measurers**

- Inspection, testing and sealing all devices used in retail trade that weigh or measure.
  - Scales calibrated include:
    - Gasoline pumps
    - Livestock scales
    - Food scales
    - Vehicle scales
    - Public scanners

## **Licenses and Permits**

- Issuing licenses and permits for:
  - Wholesale and retail vendors
    - In 2014 - 56 wholesale/retail licenses were sold
  - Dogs
    - In 2014 - 8,155 dog licenses were sold
  - Kennels
    - In 2014 - 91 kennel tags were sold
  - Cigarette vendors
    - In 2014 - 41 cigarette vendors licenses were sold
  - Moving permits for manufactured homes

## **Contact Information**

Defiance County Auditor  
500 W. Second St  
Suite 301  
Defiance, OH 43512

P: (419) 782-1926 - General  
P: (419) 784-3111 - Real Estate  
F: (419) 784-2761

Office Hours:  
Monday-Friday  
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

# Defiance County Engineer

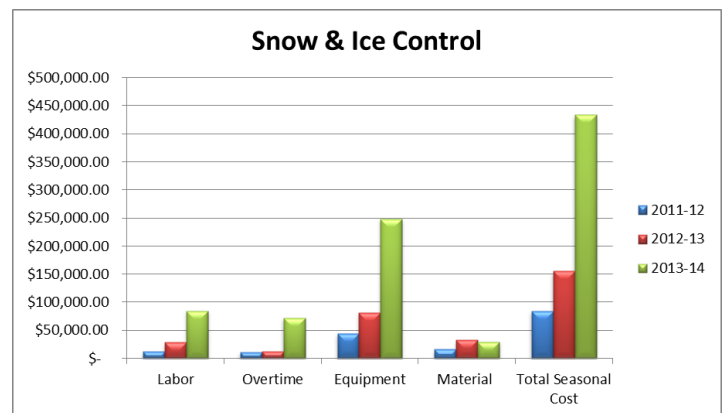
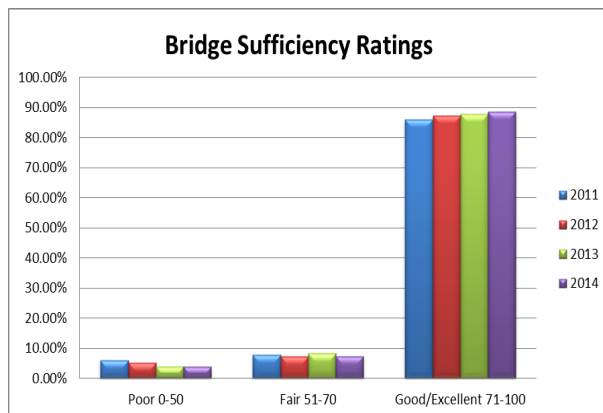
Warren J. Schlatter • 419-782-4751



Our Highway Garage Staff replaced six county bridges and also did much of the support work for the roadside grading and widening work. There were a total of 18 culverts replaced this year. They continued with their various other duties as well (replacing berm, mowing, patching, sign replacement, roadside tree trimming and removal, snow & ice control/removal, etc.).

This year our Highway Staff has taken over the task of Dura Patch. Dura Patch is a cost efficient method of road repair. The Dura Patcher cleans the area, applies a tack coat, sprays the aggregate mix into the pothole, surface defect or depression with enough force to compact the material as it is applied and then follows with dry aggregate to prevent lifting from tires. We purchased a used unit and have been happy with the results.

This year we widened a section on Banner School Road between Carpenter Road and SR 66 and from Independence Road east one mile. The Bend Road was also widened between SR 15 and Blosser Road Also, Hire Road between SR 281 and Standley Road. These roads were widened by R.G. Zachrich Construction and paved by Gerken Paving.





# Defiance County Engineer

Warren J. Schlatter • 419-782-4751

Our administrative staff manages the overall office functions and budget of the Engineer's Office. They also help with the designing, engineering and overseeing of all aspects of the construction projects. With their diligence, we were able to obtain \$734,648.75 in federal and state grants for this year's projects as well.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the residents of Defiance County for the opportunity to serve you.

## 2014 Bridge Replacement

<u>Location</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Freytag north of Youngman Road	\$39,421.59
Mud Creek east of Coy Road	\$36,434.13
Mansfield east of Defiance Paulding County Line	\$19,547.97
The Bend north of Motter Road	\$28,297.00
Beerbower east of Trinity Road	\$31,960.77
Behrens west of Defiance Henry County Line	\$31,539.63

## 2014 Road Reconstruction

<u>Location</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Banner School Rd between Carpenter Rd & State Route 66	\$515,607.56
Hire Road between State Route 281 & Standley Road	\$237,912.18
The Bend Road between State Route 15 & Blosser Road	\$548,653.24

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# Defiance County Juvenile Court

Judge Jeffrey A. Strausbaugh • 419-782-0226

Erin Spieth, Administrator



## **SUMMARY OF CASES FILED IN 2014**

Defiance County Juvenile Court has the responsibility to hear and determine all cases and issues concerning children in Defiance County. In 2014, 906 complaints and/or new cases were formally filed. This total includes: 378 delinquent child complaints; 84 unruly child complaints; 229 juvenile traffic complaints; 89 dependency, neglect and child abuse cases and 126 cases involving custody/visitation, support, paternity and other actions.

**DELINQUENCY CASES:** Any child under age 18 who violates any state or federal law or any local ordinance or regulation, which would be a crime if committed by an adult, or who violates any lawful court order is a delinquent child. In 2014, the Defiance County Juvenile Court had 378 delinquency complaints filed. Of the 378 complaints filed 42 were felony charges and 336 were misdemeanors and probation violations.

**UNRULY CASES:** Any child who violates a law applicable only to a child; who is habitually truant from school and who previously has not been adjudicated an unruly child for being a habitual truant; who does not subject the child's self to the reasonable control of the child's parents, teachers, guardian or custodian by reason of being wayward or habitually disobedient; or engages in other conduct defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 2151.022 is an unruly child. In 2014, the Defiance County Juvenile Court had 84 unruly complaints filed.

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# Defiance County Juvenile Court

**JUVENILE TRAFFIC CASES:** Any child who violates any traffic law, traffic ordinance or traffic regulation of the state or local political subdivision is a juvenile traffic offender. The Defiance County Juvenile Court has exclusive jurisdiction over all juvenile traffic cases. In 2014, there were 229 juvenile traffic cases filed in the Defiance County Juvenile Court.

**ABUSE, NEGLECT AND DEPENDENCY:** Case management for abuse, neglect and dependency cases is provided by the Defiance County Job and Family Services under the mandates and guidelines of the State of Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. The Defiance County Juvenile Court provides additional support in these cases through the appointment of Guardians Ad Litem (GALs). In 2014, there were 89 abuse, neglect, dependency cases filed in the Defiance County Juvenile Court.

**PERMANENT CUSTODY:** The Defiance County Juvenile Court has jurisdiction to determine motions for permanent custody that may require the permanent termination of parental rights and placement of a child in the permanent custody of the Defiance County Job & Family Services for eventual permanent adoptive placement of the child. Three (3) new motions for permanent custody were filed in the court in 2014.

**FAILURE TO SEND:** No parent, guardian, or other person having care of a child of compulsory school age shall violate any provision of the Ohio Revised Code regarding School Attendance. The juvenile court may require a person convicted of violating this division to give bond in a sum of not more than five hundred dollars, conditioned that the person will cause the child under the person's charge to attend upon instruction as provided by law, and remain as a pupil in the school or class during the term prescribed by law. Defiance County Juvenile Court had 20 failure to send charges filed in 2014.

**CUSTODY/VISITATION CASES:** The Defiance County Juvenile Court has jurisdiction to hear custody/visitation cases involving children who are not under another Ohio court's jurisdiction. In 2014, there were 15 custody/visitation cases filed in the court.

**PATERNITY CASES:** Paternity cases determine the parentage of children born out of wedlock. Defiance County Juvenile Court hears paternity matters that are either not determined administratively by the Child Support Enforcement Agency or one of the parties dispute the administrative determination of paternity. In 2014, there were 17 paternity cases filed in the court.

**SUPPORT CASES:** The Defiance County Juvenile Court has jurisdiction to hear and determine an application for an order of support of any child, if the child is not a ward of another court of this state. In 2014, there were 74 support cases filed in the Defiance County Juvenile Court.

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# Defiance County Prosecuting Attorney

Morris Murray • 419-782-2402



Morris J. Murray  
Prosecuting Attorney

The Defiance County Prosecutor's Office employs three full-time Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys and five support staff. The Prosecuting Attorney is, by law, legal counsel for over 40 public clients, including numerous offices, boards and individual elected officials. In 2014, the office was involved in approximately 300 civil matters including such things as tax enforcement, foreclosure actions, pending litigation and the issuing of formal legal opinions.

In addition to these civil matters, the Prosecuting Attorney is responsible for processing all Defiance County cases involving the abuse, neglect or dependency of children, as well as delinquency cases, which involve conduct that would otherwise be criminal violations if committed by an adult.

The Prosecuting Attorney is also responsible for representing the State of Ohio in all criminal matters arising from crimes committed in Defiance County. At any given time there are well over 100 open criminal matters pending in some phase of the criminal justice process. In 2014 approximately 375 new criminal cases were received and reviewed.

The Prosecuting Attorney or his Assistants are available to Law Enforcement 24 hours a day to provide advice and legal guidance in criminal investigations and arrests.

Aggressive prosecution of child victim related crimes, sexual assault and drug offenses continues to be of particular emphasis.

# Defiance County Recorder

Cecilia Parsons • 419-782-4741

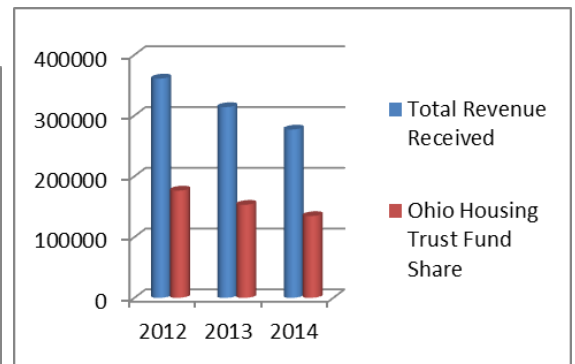
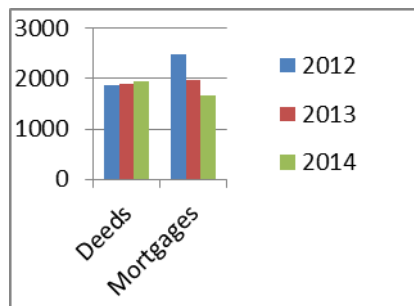


The County Recorder keeps and maintains accurate land records that are current, legible and easily accessible. An important aspect of the work is to index each document so it may be readily located. Accurate indexing makes it possible for persons searching land records to find the documents necessary to establish a "chain of title" (history of ownership) and ensures that any debts or encumbrances against the property are evident. These invaluable records are utilized by the general public, attorneys, historians, genealogists and land title examiners. Without the work of the Recorder's Office, it would be nearly impossible to purchase land and be assured of a clear title or to lend money with land as security. The public can come to the Recorder's Office to search records or use the document index online at [www.USLandrecords.com](http://www.USLandrecords.com). The index is for the years from 1994 to the present.

The majority of the documents recorded in the office pertain directly to real estate such as: deeds, mortgages, land contracts, plats, vacations of streets and alleys, zoning resolutions, financing statements and some miscellaneous liens. However there are some additional documents that do not apply to real estate but still come under the office's responsibility. These documents include: Federal Tax Liens, some Power of Attorney records, Military Service Discharges and Veteran's grave records.

The Ohio Housing Trust Fund is a flexible state funding source that provides affordable housing opportunities, expands housing services, and improves housing conditions for low-income Ohioans and families. The Recorder's Office is

responsible for receiving the amount due to the OHTF and ensuring the funds are forwarded on a timely basis.



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# Defiance County Treasurer

Vickie S. Myers • 419-782-8741



The Treasurer's Office is responsible for the collection of taxes, which are comprised of real estate property, manufactured homes, personal property and estate taxes. In addition, they record all monies received by all County agencies.

In addition to collecting and recording the County money, the Treasurer is responsible for the County Investment Portfolio, which is made up of several investments totaling 55 million dollars. The office maintains various accounts ranging from simple depositories to complex trust accounts that hold all the County investments.

Below are some of the services that the Treasurer's Office provides to aid taxpayers in making their tax payments:

### **Credit Card Payments**

Automated Telephone Credit Card System by Official Payment Corp. Call 888-2PAY-TAX or visit [www.officialpayments.com](http://www.officialpayments.com). **All major credit cards are accepted.** There is a 2.5% fee charged by Official Payment Corp., however, the Defiance County Treasurer does **NOT** charge a fee.

### **ACH Payment**

Taxpayers may have their real estate payment automatically withdrawn from a checking or savings account. These payments can be withdrawn either monthly or semi-annually.

### **Drop Box**

There is a tax payment drop box conveniently located in the alley between the Defiance Post Office and Key Bank.

### **Personal Service**

We accept payments in our office Monday – Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

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# Defiance County Treasurer

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## **TIPP - Tax Installment Payment Plan is now available**

This program is to ease the burden of the large semi-annual tax bill by providing taxpayers with partial payment plans. Pre-payments can be made monthly during a six month period. You must be current on your taxes to be included in TIPP. If you are interested in the TIPP program, please call, stop in, or email us at [treasurer@defiance-county.com](mailto:treasurer@defiance-county.com).

## **Delinquent Contract Plan**

This payment plan provides taxpayers with a vehicle for the payment of delinquent taxes while maintaining payment of current tax billings. The plan was developed to assist taxpayers who have been faced with financial problems and find themselves with delinquent tax balances. Taxpayers can now avoid foreclosure actions with the availability of this plan. Please contact the Treasurer's office at 419-782-8741 if you are interested. If you go on a delinquent contract and miss a payment, the contract will be void and foreclosure proceedings will continue.

## **Contact Information**

Defiance County Treasurer  
500 W. Second St  
Suite 101  
P.O. Box 278  
Defiance, Ohio 43512

Vickie S. Myers, Treasurer  
Connie French, Chief Deputy Treasurer  
Amy Jurcevich, Deputy Treasurer  
Amanda Morris, Deputy Treasurer

P: (419) 782-8741  
F: (419) 782-4719  
[treasurer@defiance-county.com](mailto:treasurer@defiance-county.com)

Office Hours:  
Monday - Friday  
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

# Child Support Enforcement Agency

Connie Bostelman, Director •419-784-2123

The Defiance County Child Support Enforcement Agency provides services designed to insure that appropriate financial support is provided to children by their parents. Federal and State laws set forth our responsibilities and provide a majority of the funding for operation of the agency. There is no fee charged for the services, regardless of income. IV-D services include enforcement of existing child support and/or medical orders; location of non-custodial parents; paternity establishment, genetic testing; establishment of a support order and/or a cash medical order; modification or adjustment of existing child support orders; and interstate actions. The Agency cannot provide services for change of custody, visitation issues or collection of unpaid medical bills. An attorney appears at all court hearings, representing the State of Ohio and the best interest of the child, but does not represent individual parties.

The Defiance County Child Support Enforcement Agency was recognized for “Best Performance for Support Order Establishment” in the Medium-Small Caseload Division for the second consecutive year, by the Ohio Office of Child Support. This Award is based upon the percentage of orders established by the CSEA for the Federal Fiscal Year of 2014.

In April 2014, the CSEA started using the services of Maximus for assistance with contract reimbursement. As a result, the CSEA’s expenditures have increased. However, receipts from federal reimbursement have also increased significantly since the CSEA has been utilizing Maximus.

An additional resource that the CSEA utilizes is DebtNext, which is a debt recovery service. The CSEA has received some collections as a result of cases referred to DebtNext. Presently there are approximately 45 cases that meet the criteria for referral. The Defiance County CSEA has also entered into a contract with CLEAR, which is a location service for Non-Custodial Parents through public records data. This service is fairly new, but we are finding it to be successful.

**The following are based upon the  
Federal Fiscal year for incentive purposes:**

Paternity Establishment:	105.71%
Support Establishment:	97.04%
Collections on Current Support:	75.87%
Collections on Arrears:	76.71%



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# Child Support Enforcement Agency

Connie Bostelman, Director •419-784-2123

Defiance County CSEA continues to work in conjunction with Four County Family Services to provide the “It Takes Two” program. The ITT program is designed to help CSEA Obligor find and maintain stable employment, become financially and emotionally supportive of their children, to establish and meet personal goals, and to become appropriately involved in their children’s lives whenever possible. A full-time ITT employee, Billie-Jo Horner, works with the Clients (through CSEA or court referral) one-on-one to identify and overcome employment obstacles such as unlicensed drivers, alcohol or drug addictions, mental health issues, criminal backgrounds, and reintegration issues often faced by Veterans or recent incarceration releases. ITT works with local Veterans Offices, Probation/Parole Officers, Mental Health Professionals and Rehabilitation service providers whenever necessary to assist the Client. ITT establishes connections in the community with employers and attends job fairs in order to refer Clients to these employers. The Clients are assisted with preparing resumes, online job searches at the local Ohio Job Center, interview techniques and appearance. Obligor who have been declared unable to work are assisted in SSDI filing, and establishing a budget which includes their monthly child support payment. ITT communicates daily with Clients’ CSEA Case Managers, and stresses the importance of positive communication with the CSEA staff to the Clients.

The ITT Program is funded in Defiance County in part by the Defiance County United Way and by the ADAMHS Board. The program maintains forty (40) active Clients, and continues to monitor “Hold” Clients (Clients who become employed) for another 90 days after employment is secured and payments to CSEA become regular.

Male Obligor are also expected to participate in the “Nurturing Fathers” program, which is a group program designed to help fathers with life skills, parenting skills, proper decision making and effective communication skills. This program also helps fathers understand the importance of their emotional responsibility to their children. Understanding parental roles, establishing a positive rapport with the custodial parent, and becoming a positive influence in the children’s lives are other topics covered in the “Nurturing Fathers” program. ITT is in the initial stages of implementing a program for female obligors as well.

2014 Statistics	
Collections:	\$6,779,594.00
Expenditures:	\$765,058.00
Average Caseload:	2,715
Medical reimbursement to the State:	\$82,817.56

# Family & Children First Council

Julie Voll, Coordinator • 419-782-6934

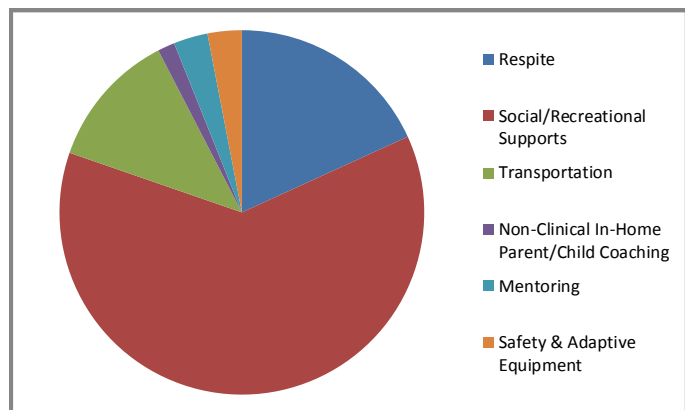
Family Centered Services and Supports (FCSS) focuses on maintaining children and youth in their own homes and communities by providing non-clinical family-centered services and supports. The SFY Allocation for 2014 was \$29,912.

FCSS is built on the foundation that family involvement in service planning and implementation:

- Is critical to successful treatment outcomes
- Strengthens the existing capacity of families to function effectively
- Ensures the safety and well-being of each family member

Service Categories—total number of times each service/support was written into a family plan and accessed by using FCSS funds:

- Parent Education - 0
- Respite - 12
- Social/Recreational Supports - 41
- Transportation - 8
- Non-clinical In-home Parent/Child Coaching - 1
- Mentoring - 2
- Safety & Adaptive Equipment - 2



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# Department of Job and Family Services

Corey Walker, Director • 419-782-3881



The Department of Job & Family Services has been serving the residents of Defiance County for many years, by administrating public assistance programs of the state and federal government, investigating complaints of suspected child abuse and neglect, and providing needed supportive services. Our mission is to serve the residents of Defiance County, utilizing the programs and dollars available to us, to help people improve their lives through economic self-sufficiency, to protect and provide for those unable to meet their own needs, and to enhance the community for future generations. In 2013, the Defiance County Commissioners, in collaboration with Paulding County Commissioners, finalized the consolidation of their respective Job and Family Services Departments into Defiance/Paulding Consolidated Job and Family Services.

The focus for the agency in 2014, was dealing with the effects of Medicaid expansion and new eligibility systems. The agency saw an increase of over 1,500 new cases with the expansion while still meeting state and federal mandates. The agency has developed an internal Quality Assurance program to insure case accuracy and timeliness. The Children Services department has continued to see a steady increase in intakes .

## **2014 Statistics**

Cash Assistance (Average per month) - 92 individuals

Food Assistance (Average per month) - 6,976 individuals

Medicaid Recipients (Average per month) - 11,548 individuals

Annual Food Assistance - \$8,930,220

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# Environmental Services

Tim Houck, Director • 419-782-5442

The Environmental and Administrative Services is tasked with implementing the County's environmental program to improve and protect our environment. The program consists of awareness (informational programs), collection (recycling locations, roadside litter, illegal dumping), and education presentations to all Defiance county schools. Education programming consists of an in-classroom presentation relative to the four methods of waste management (composting, incineration, recycling and landfilling). The goal is to utilize the various waste management options as detailed in the Joint Four County Solid Waste Management District's waste management plan.

The Environmental & Administrative Services' Office also maintains County facilities by providing lawn care, snow removal and other special projects as requested, such as moving equipment and set up for events, etc.

**DEFIANCE COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES** picked up litter throughout the County, Township and State roads. We administer Adopt-A-Highway for County and Township Roads. Environmental Services provided containment to numerous County-held events throughout the year (City Park Clean Up, Keeping America Beautiful, Great American Roadway Clean-Up, Hicksville Village Beautification, Lilac Festival, JAZZ Festival, Maumee River Sweep, Art in the Park, Hicksville Relay for Life, Defiance Fourth of July Festival, Ney Homecoming, Hicksville Summer Fest, Maumee Valley Car Club, United Way Balloon Fest, Defiance County Fair, St. Mary's Festival, Defiance Rib Fest and the Halloween Parade).

Environmental Services provided 75 educational workshops/community outreach presentations with over 1,493 students in kindergarten, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades.



# Environmental Services

Tim Houck, Director • 419-782-5442

**DEFIANCE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES** began the mowing season on April 14, 2014 and concluded on October 24, 2014. This Department is responsible to mow at 16 County owned locations. The crew mowed 131 times during this season. The snow removal season began on November 17, 2014 with 1" to 3" of snow and ended in March, 2015 with a light dusting. Environmental Services conducts snow removal (salt, plow and clean) at: Courthouse, Key Bank, Annex, Senior Services, Maumee Valley Guidance Center, Sarah's House, Sheriff's Office, EMA, DCE Office Complex, Evergreen Lane Office complex, Good Samaritan and Fort Defiance Humane Society. In addition, the department worked with other departments to transport files, boxes and furniture.

**SOLID WASTE DISTRICT** – The State of Ohio mandates that Solid Waste Districts plan and implement programming to meet the state's Solid Waste Management goals as defined by Ohio law. This office coordinates activities of all four county programs (Defiance, Fulton, Williams and Paulding). The environmental rules of the State of Ohio require each Solid Waste District to review and modify its all-encompassing waste management plan every 5 years. In 2014 the District conducted a rewrite of its solid waste management plan. The goal is to reduce the waste that is deposited into Ohio landfills. Each District must produce an Annual District Report (ADR). This report tracks waste generation, its disposition and the education and awareness programs. The State of Ohio has a goal of 25% recycling of all generated residential and commercial waste and a 66% recycling rate of all generated Industrial waste. Our district achieved 45% recycling rate of residential and commercial waste and a 73% Industrial recycling rate.



# Defiance County Landfill

Tim Houck, Director • 419-784-2844

**DEFIANCE COUNTY LANDFILL** – The Landfill is a publicly owned facility that operates as a true business. No tax dollars support the landfill. The cost to operate the facility is budgeted at just over \$3,000,000/year. The Landfill is required to have a myriad of environmental protection elements. Monthly monitoring of water, (storm & groundwater), air (dust control and vehicle emissions), and methane gas are required and reporting is provided to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA). The facility will be able to accommodate the waste disposal needs of its customers of northwest Ohio, specifically Defiance County residents (its owners), for the next 75 years.

A permit, which details the design to incorporate the environmental protection and waste placement, was approved by OEPA in 2006. This permit required the facility to utilize “Best Available Technology” (BAT) in its construction, monitoring and operations. The facility constructed BAT Phase 4 cell in 2014 at a cost of nearly \$2,200,000.

The Landfill staff inspected and complied with all OEPA reporting including: annual report, air permit, Title V certification report, Ground water monitoring, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Green House Gas (GHG) and quarterly Ohio EPA inspections.

## 2014 Statistics

Revenue	\$3,507,428
Expenses	\$4,239,823



# Wastewater Operations

Greg Reinhart, Director • 419-782-2230

Jan Rethmel, Clerk

Steven Yeager, Operator

The Defiance County Wastewater Operations office oversees the operation of numerous wastewater collection and treatment facilities within Defiance County. There are approximately 860 households served through the following sewer systems: Middle Gordon Creek, Auglaize River, Evergreen Lane Office Complex, Evansport and Express Sewer. The Defiance County Wastewater Operations Office also oversees the following operations: billing office (billing, collection and accounting), sampling program, laboratory, data collection and reporting and general office operation. They also contract with Paulding County to operate the Auglaize River Collection System, which pumps to the Auglaize Sewer lagoons in Defiance County.

## **AUGLAIZE RIVER SEWER**

Linear Feet – 41,476 - Pump Stations - 7 - Manholes – 94

## **EVANSPORT**

Linear Feet – 9,450 – Pump Stations – 1 - Manholes – 29

## **EVERGREEN LANE OFFICE COMPLEX**

Linear Feet – 7,772 – Pump Stations – 0 – Manholes – 5

## **EXPRESS SEWER**

Linear Feet – 61,613 – Pump Stations – 4 – Manholes – 136

## **MIDDLE GORDON CREEK**

Linear Feet – 925 – Pump Stations – 1 – Manholes - 4

### **2014 Statistics**

Revenue	\$811,226.01
Expenses	\$801,123.23



# Defiance County OSU Extension

Wm. Bruce Clevenger • 419-782-4771

Ohio State University Extension brings the knowledge of the university directly to you. Ohio State University Extension is...

- **Practical.** Our programs address your needs with practical solutions to current issues.
- **Personal.** Connect by one-on-one sessions, meetings, demonstrations, and informal instruction.
- **Unbiased.** We are objective and research-based in addressing problems and solutions.
- **Community Based.** Our large volunteer base multiplies the impact of Extension professionals.
- **Outreaching.** The Ohio State University made to families, businesses and communities.
- **Economically Minded.** Enhancing economic development and workforce skills.

## Agriculture and Natural Resources

ANR Extension Programs in 2014

- 2014 Farm Bill Education
- Pesticide Applicator Training. Over 170 farmers are licensed in Defiance County
- Computerized farm recordkeeping workshops
- Farm Business Transition to the Next Generation workshop
- Defiance Agricultural Research Association (DARA): Drainage Water Management Research
- Solar electric generation fact series written
- Farm machinery safety to Youth
- Defiance County Farmer's Markets in Hicksville and Defiance
- Agriculture Appreciation and Farmers Share Breakfast
- 

### 2014 Harvest Acres in Defiance County

<u>Corn</u>	<u>Soybeans</u>	<u>Wheat</u>
52,500	100,400	20,700

## Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed)

The SNAP-Ed Program presented over 115 educational sessions with 1,544 participants. Various programs on Nutrition, Food Safety, and Food Shopping were offered. Topics included: The Power of Protein, Whole Grains, Glo Germ, MyPlate, & Portion Distortion.

During the summer, programming was offered at the Summer Food Service through NOCAC. The children learned about hand washing, MyPlate, and the 5 food groups. Matching games and bean bag toss were enjoyed by the children.



# Defiance County OSU Extension

Wm. Bruce Clevenger • 419-782-4771

## 4-H Youth Development

### 4-H Member Education and Evaluation

Youth education and evaluation are the essence of OSU Extension 4-H Youth Development. Youth who receive positive feedback on work completed are much more interested in in-depth learning on a topic they select. They also have increased self-esteem and motivation. 4-H offers a vast array of educational opportunities of which fair and camp are the most visible.

- 448 youth 4-H members participated in one or more forms of formal evaluation in 2014.
- 440 still projects were judged.
- 359 youth completed one or more species segments of the Livestock Skillathon Contest, learning information that is instrumental in caring for their animal. These youth also completed quality assurance training necessitated by O.D.A. requirements.



### 4-H Camp Palmer

4-H Camp participation was at 138 total campers. This number represents 100 youth campers, 30 teen counselors and 8 adult volunteers. 54% of campers received scholarships totaling \$3,100. Youth participating at camp made new friends, developed independence from their family, participated in leadership and skill building activities and had safe supervised fun with their friends. They were given a new opportunity through 4-H programming that they might not otherwise have had a chance to experience.

### 4-H Cowgirl Princess Camp

58 girls ranging from first to fifth grades attended the sixth annual 4-H Princess Camp at 4-H Camp Palmer, Fayette, Ohio. The focus of the program included lessons on self-esteem, self-confidence, table manners and etiquette. The Guest Speaker was Susan Hill Pieper, an accomplished horsewoman, who started riding at age five and has trained horses and given riding lessons in Alabama, Texas and California.

### 2014 Junior Fair Update

Youth members involved in 4-H community clubs, took advantage of the opportunity to display their projects and be involved with activities at the county fair. Much time and preparation is given by the 4-H Educator in getting activities, shows and events organized for fair exposition. The junior fair had 543 exhibitors with 3,468 entries from youth representing both 4-H and FFA. Youth exhibitors demonstrated their knowledge and abilities through Junior Fair events. The community demonstrated their recognition and appreciation of youth work through sponsorships of awards and support at the livestock auction.

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# Soil & Water Conservation District

Jason Roehrig, District Administrator • 419-782-1794

The mission of the Defiance SWCD is to protect the land and water resources of Defiance County. Led by a five-member, volunteer Board of Supervisors, the District's seven staff members address the following natural resource priorities throughout Defiance County:

## **Water Quality**

Landowner assistance is provided in implementing conservation practices to improve water quality, both locally and regionally. Practices include controlled drainage systems, filter strips, grassed waterways, wetlands, grade stabilization structures, rain gardens, and rain barrels.

## **Nutrient and Manure Management**

Technical assistance is available for the development of nutrient management plans adhering to the 4R principles of nutrient stewardship. The District is also involved with the Ag Pollution Abatement program in resolving manure and erosion concerns.

## **Conservation Works of Improvement (CWI)**

The District performs the engineering and construction oversight for ORC 1515 petition drainage improvements throughout Defiance County. These drainage systems are a vital infrastructure for the community and ensure that landowners may have an increased return on their investments in both rural and urban areas.

## **Conservation Education and Outreach**

Residents of all ages are engaged through District education programs about our valuable natural resources. Emphasis is placed on performing classroom student and teacher education programs in addition to providing field days, workshops, and outreach materials to landowners.

## **Soil Health**

Outreach is provided to landowners encouraging utilization of management practices such as no-till, conservation tillage, cover crops, and soil amendments to improve long-term soil quality and productivity.



# Soil & Water Conservation District

Jason Roehrig, District Administrator • 419-782-1794

## **Land-use Planning**

The District assists local government and landowners in minimizing the impact of changing land uses on our natural resources through site reviews, technical assistance, and education.

## **Forestry, Wildlife, Woodlands**

Technical assistance is provided to landowners for habitat development and wildlife management. Additional services include the sale of conservation trees and shrubs, tree planter rental, and drill rental for conservation cover and prairie restorations.

### **In 2014 the District:**

- Constructed 22 grassed waterways
- Excavated 15.1 acres of wetlands
- Installed the first saturated buffer in Ohio
- Completed Ridge Ditch CWI project (6,222 lineal feet)
- Completed Flory Tile CWI project (4,613 feet of 12 & 15-inch tile)
- Administered planting of 2,720 acres of cover crops
- Assisted with installation of 83 rain gardens and 100 rain barrels
- Installed 57 controlled drainage structures
- Administered nutrient management on 2,630 acres
- Led volunteer water quality monitoring efforts in the Upper Maumee Watershed
- Presented in 129 classrooms to a total of 10,170 students
- Extended outreach to 21,530 adults and educators
- Administered and implemented over \$446,900 in grants



# Defiance County Ditch Maintenance

Kevin Hancock, Supervisor • 419-782-1794

In December of 1989, the Defiance County Commissioners and the Defiance County Engineer entered into an agreement with the Board of Supervisors to manage and operate the Defiance County Ditch Maintenance Program as required by the Ohio Revised Code. Since that time, there have been 70 improvements added to the program. Currently, we have 200 improvements under maintenance, totaling 352 miles. The Soil and Water Office also has 12 requests for new Conservation Works of Improvement projects.

The Defiance County Ditch Maintenance Department treats drainage improvements as vital infrastructure to Northwest Ohio. Agricultural producers and rural landowners in Northwest Ohio have been concerned with the need to dispose of excess water. For agricultural producers, excess water means delays in plantings, replanting, soil compaction, reduced yields and delays in harvesting. For homeowners in the urban area, excess water can mean damage due to flooding of dwellings and property.

The cost of new construction or the reconstruction of drainage improvements greatly exceeds the cost of maintaining the improvement once construction is completed. That is why, once a project is completed, the County Commissioners are required by law to place the improvement under the Defiance County Ditch Maintenance program.

## Work Completed in 2014

- 6.6 miles bottom cleaned
- 150 miles brush and cattail control
- 602 ton of rock for bank protection
- 2,170 pounds of grass seed and fertilizer
- 38 improvements repaired
- 637 feet of tile/pipe repairs
- Leaning tree/log jam removal
- Tons of broken concrete for bank protection



# Dog Warden

Randy Vogel, Dog Warden • 419-784-2335

During 2014, the Defiance County Dog Warden received 1,179 dog complaints. The department assisted other agencies, mailed dog barking and dog running at large letters, followed up on bite complaints, went door-to-door checking dog tags, served 275 court citations, issued 195 warnings, responded to 5 humane calls and sold 7,937 dog tags.

## 2014 Statistics

Revenue	\$185,295.91
Expenses	<b>\$183,936.54</b>
Dog Licenses Sold (via Defiance County Auditor)	7,937
Complaints	1,179
Contacts	2,950
Warnings	195
Citations	275
Humane Calls	5

## HAVE YOU PURCHASED YOUR DEFIANCE COUNTY DOG LICENSE?

Tags May Be Purchased at:  
Defiance County Auditor's Office - All year  
Fort Defiance Humane Society - All year  
Hicksville Police Department - All year  
Defiance Area Animal Hospital - Dec & Jan only  
Jewell Grain - Dec & Jan only  
Ayersville Carryout - Dec & Jan only  
Defiance Veterinary Clinic - Dec & Jan only  
Pet Supplies Plus - Dec & Jan only

# Records Center

Erika Steece, Part-Time Archivist • 419-782-8918

Created in 1993, the Records Center provides records management services to Defiance County offices, including secure, environmentally sound storage of paper records, assistance with record preservation, and digital imaging services. Access to the records stored in the Records Center is provided to the public by the Records Center staff, however control of the records remains with the originating Department.

In 2014, staffing changes resulted in changing the hours the Records Center is staffed to Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Erika Steece was hired as the Part-Time Archivist. The staff from the Commissioners' Office provides assistance at the Records Center during the remaining business hours.

## 2014 Statistics

Records Requests:	2,390	Records In:	172 boxes/books
Revenue:	\$1,120.19	Records Out:	77 boxes/books

# Public Safety Services

Julie Rittenhouse, Director • 419-782-1130



The Defiance County Emergency Management Agency was established in accordance with Ohio Revised Code (ORC 5502) in 1989 to serve as a countywide agency to oversee the four phases of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. The Public Safety Services/EMA office assists county government and local communities in responding to natural disasters and special needs situations.

This agency and the Local Emergency Planning Committee coordinated hazardous materials emergency planning and training development for first responders. We were able to provide the following trainings in 2014: Weather Spotter, WebEOC, Damage Assessment, Active Shooter Emergency Response, ALICE and Search & Rescue.

This agency continues to administer the State Emergency Response Commission grant, Emergency Management Performance grant, and the County-Wide Cost Recovery program for hazardous material response. This agency responded to 5 suspected hazardous material incidents. The agency helped collect \$6,008.24 for the County's first responders in 2014 for their response to hazardous material incidents.

Utilizing the Homeland Security Regional Grant program, Defiance County was able to obtain a fully stocked Disaster Response Trailer. This trailer has the equipment needed to respond to a natural disaster. We also received a Marcs Portable radio, UHF radio, plus several tablets and laptops for use in the Emergency Operations Center.

Other responsibilities of this agency are administration of workers compensation claims for County employees, all aspects of risk management and safety planning and training.

## 2014 Statistics

Appropriations:	\$118,947.00
Grant Awards:	\$ 85,568.80
Expenses:	\$124,963.49

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# Senior Services

Tina Hiler, Director • 419-782-3233

140 East Broadway Street, Defiance - Phone : 419-782-3233

and 708 East High Street, Hicksville – Phone: 419-542-5004

online at – [www.defiance-county.com](http://www.defiance-county.com) - click on agencies and then Senior Services

## **The Senior Services Mission Statement**

To provide senior adults throughout Defiance County with nutritional, educational, social and wellness programs in a safe and welcoming environment.

### **Programs at Defiance County Senior Services**

**Meals** - Enjoy a meal at either the Defiance or Hicksville Centers. If needed, we can also provide hot home delivered meals, frozen meals and therapeutic meals. Senior Services also offers nutrition education, our farmer’s market program and act as a clearing house for two commodities programs.

**Transportation** - Transports to access community resources. We utilize cars, vans and buses with wheelchair accessibility.

**Supportive Services** - include grocery shopping assistance, notary publics and assistance with Medicare part D as well as partnering with AARP for tax assistance.

**Information** - Senior Service’s monthly “Our Times” newsletters, our website, speakers and assistance in locating needed resources.

**Rest and Recuperation** - trained volunteers provide visiting services to assist Caregivers.

**Alzheimer Support** - two confidential support groups as well as individual consultations and information are available.

**Activities and Wellness Programs** - get involved with our fun -filled activities including art classes, yoga, zumba, our workout equipment room, chair exercises, crafts, trips, special events and dinners.

**Explore Your Talents - Share Your Gifts** - Defiance County Senior Services invites you to volunteer with us. Whether you can help out once a month or several times a week, we welcome you.

We thank our funders –

The Defiance County Commissioners, The Defiance Co. Senior Citizen’s Tax Levy,

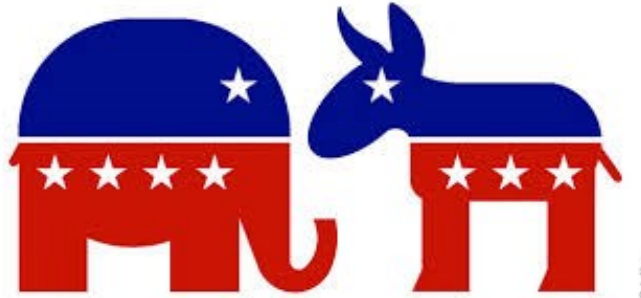
The Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio, The PASSPORT Program

Through individual donors and our wonderful Senior Services Auxiliary and Advisory Board

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# Defiance County Board of Elections

Michael S. Yambor, Director • 419-782-8543



Our office handles all duties of the electoral process, from registrations, petitions, programming elections, and all other duties of the office. The Board of Elections conducts elections of Defiance County by placing candidates and issues on the ballot. The Board of Elections is a State office paid for by County funds and overseen by Ohio's Secretary of State.

The Defiance County Board of Elections is dedicated to:

- Providing quality services to the public
- Ensuring efficient voter information and election management by a professional and courteous staff
- Offering easy access to the board for prompt problem resolution

Every Election Day, thousands of Ohioans contribute to their communities by helping to operate polling places. As a poll worker you help safeguard our election process. Being a poll worker is a great opportunity for registered voters who have the time to commit on Election Day. It's easy, it's fun, it gives you extra cash AND you serve your community by actively participating in elections and preserving democracy. Sign up today.

Our office is located at 1300 East Second Street. Suite 103. Defiance, Ohio 43512



Visit our website at [www.defiance-county.com/boardofelections](http://www.defiance-county.com/boardofelections)



# Defiance County Veteran's Affairs

Mike Williams, Service Officer • 419-782-6861



Standing (L-R) W. Tom Wiseman (Amvets), Peter Kennerk (VFW). Seated (L-R) Chris Newton (American Legion), Robert Layne (Disabled American Veterans), and Darcy Lehman (Military Order of the Purple Heart)

## **Emergency Financial Assistance**

Available to Veterans, their spouses, and their families. In 2014, \$44,666.42 was spent stabilizing emergency situations.

## **Filing of Claims**

Able to assist with filing of compensation, pension, medical and other claims with the Veterans Administration. The Defiance Office filed a total of 843 claims in 2014. The State of Ohio receives over \$5 million dollars in VA benefits for veterans and their dependents each year.

## **Transportation to VA Medical Facilities**

Fort Wayne, Marion, Ann Arbor, Toledo, Sandusky and other related destinations. In 2014, 311 individual trips totaling over 29,000 miles. This office currently operates two vehicles, in partnership with the Disabled American Veterans Organization.

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# Defiance County Maintenance

Ron Cereghin, Supervisor • 419-782-2911

Maintenance oversees the day-to-day cleaning and maintenance of all County-owned buildings including: Commissioners' Building, Courthouse, Courthouse Annex, Defiance County East, Senior Center, Sheriff/911 Office, Evergreen Lane Office Complex and Emergency Management Agency.



In addition to routine custodial duties, the Maintenance Department completed the following projects in 2014:

- Fairgrounds work completed for ADA restrooms
- Piped new location for drain in the Courthouse Annex building
- Prepped floor and poured concrete in new storage building at Evergreen Lane
- Trenched in new power line to waste water sewage plant and new storage building at Evergreen Lane
- Installed conduit behind building for fiber optic line at the Commissioners' Annex
- Installed new water pump for maintenance building at the Landfill
- Placed eight new steps at the Dey Road canoe launch
- Ran new communication wire and hung a security television at the E911 Center
- Stripped and waxed floors at Senior Center
- Poured concrete next to dumpster at Defiance County East
- Moved Child Support office cabinets and cubicles at Defiance County East
- Watered Trees
- Maintenance on all heating units before winter