

Defiance County Annual Report
2015

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.

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 6,213 students in the 2015-2016 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.



Thomas L. Kime

2001—Present



Ryan Mack

2015—Present



Otto L. Nicely

1996—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

Commissioners' Appointments in 2015

Thomas L. Kime

Board Chairman/President

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 (CORSA)
- ⇒ Four County Juvenile Detention Board (NWOJDC)
- ⇒ Maumee Valley Planning Organization Executive Council (MVPO)
- ⇒ Northwest Community Corrections Center (NWCCC)
- ⇒ Northwest Ohio Juvenile Detention Center (NWOJDC)
- ⇒ Defiance County Revolving Loan Fund Committee
- ⇒ Defiance County Tax Incentive Review Committee

Ryan Mack

Board Vice-Chairman/Vice-President

Committee Assignments:

- ⇒ Defiance Chamber Agri-Business
- ⇒ Area Office on Aging
- ⇒ Defiance Area Human Relations Committee
- ⇒ FEMA—United Way
- ⇒ Maumee Valley Guidance Center Board of Directors
- ⇒ Maumee Watershed Steering Committee
- ⇒ Municipal Justice Board
- ⇒ Northwest Ohio Community Action Commission (NOCAC)

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

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

Commissioners' Appointments in 2015

Otto L. Nicely

Commissioner

Committee Assignments:

- ⇒ Area 7 Board
- ⇒ Board of Revisions
- ⇒ Community Corrections of Northwest Ohio Board (CCNO)
- ⇒ Community Corrections Planning Board
- ⇒ Defiance County Planning Commission Executive Council
- ⇒ E-911 Board of Directors
- ⇒ 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
- ⇒ General Government & Operations Committee
- ⇒ Health & Human Services Committee as Co-Chairman
- ⇒ Justice & Public Safety Committee

Commissioners' Appointments in 2015

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

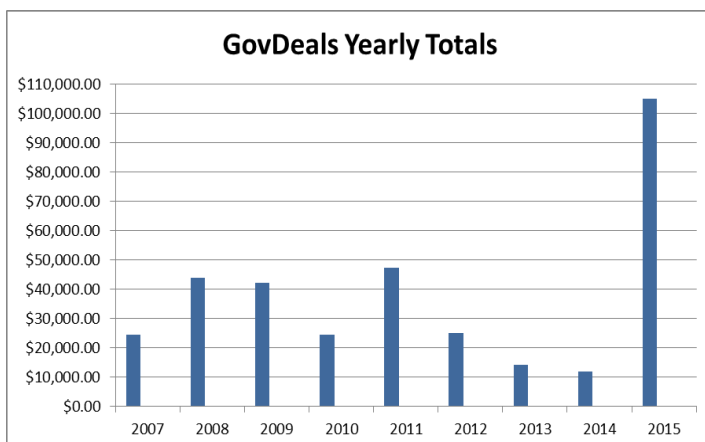


The Board of Defiance County Commissioners once again participated in the National Association of Counties (NACo) Prescription Discount Plan. For calendar year 2015, Defiance County helped 455 residents fill 875 prescriptions through the program in conjunction with NACo. The retail price of these prescriptions totaled \$44,377.51. The price savings to Defiance County residents totaled \$14,321.95; an average price savings of \$16.37 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 \$361,312.76 by utilizing GovDeals. In 2015, Defiance County received \$104,925.14. 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



Our Activate Health & Wellness Center has been open for a little over a year now, and it has grown! The center has expanded into the office space next door. This has added two new patient rooms and a larger waiting area.

Cooper Farms have joined our center. They have approximately 400 enrollees. This takes our total enrollees to approximately 2,400. Cooper Farms also opened a center in Saint Henry and Van Wert, in which our employees can be seen at.

One of the services the center added this past year was the ability for an enrollee to do an in-home sleep study. Not only is this more convenient for the enrollee, since it can be performed at home, but it will save them money.

We anticipate the center to continue to grow with new agencies joining in the future.

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 \$13,821,375.34. Actual expenditures were \$12,047,546.15, or 88% of the appropriated amount.

General Fund Revenues

- *Sales Tax.* Sales tax is the largest single general fund revenue, making up approximately 46% of the total. General fund sales tax increased by \$280,813.16 during 2015. Total collected was \$5,672,831.20.
- *Local Government Fund (LGF).* This state revenue-sharing mechanism increased this past year. In 2015, the County received \$440,475.65, up from \$402,701.82 in 2014.
- Casino revenue dropped from \$463,211.19 in 2014 to \$446,565.50 in 2015.
- Total General Fund revenue in 2014 was \$11,797,277.64. In 2015, it was \$12,535,628.72 and increase of \$738,351.08.

Judicial Expenditures

Judicial expenses continue to rise. (This includes, regional jail, all court related expenses and Sheriff's Office expenditures.) The regional jail (CCNO) costs were \$1,469,750.66 in 2015. The County only collected \$279,817.59 in fees and fines towards this expense. Therefore the general fund is responsible for paying the difference. In the past, interest funds were used to supplement this, but this revenue continues to decline. Since 2011, the interest revenue has dropped approximately \$202,648. In 2015, \$382,169.48 was collected.

Total expenditure for all general fund judicial departments equaled \$5,480,799 in 2014, and \$5,507,607.25 in 2015. This equates to almost half of total general fund expenses for 2015.

General fund total expenses for 2014 were \$11,405,754.24 and \$12,047,546.15 in 2015. Please see the chart for the breakdown of expenditures by department.

General Fund Expenditure Report

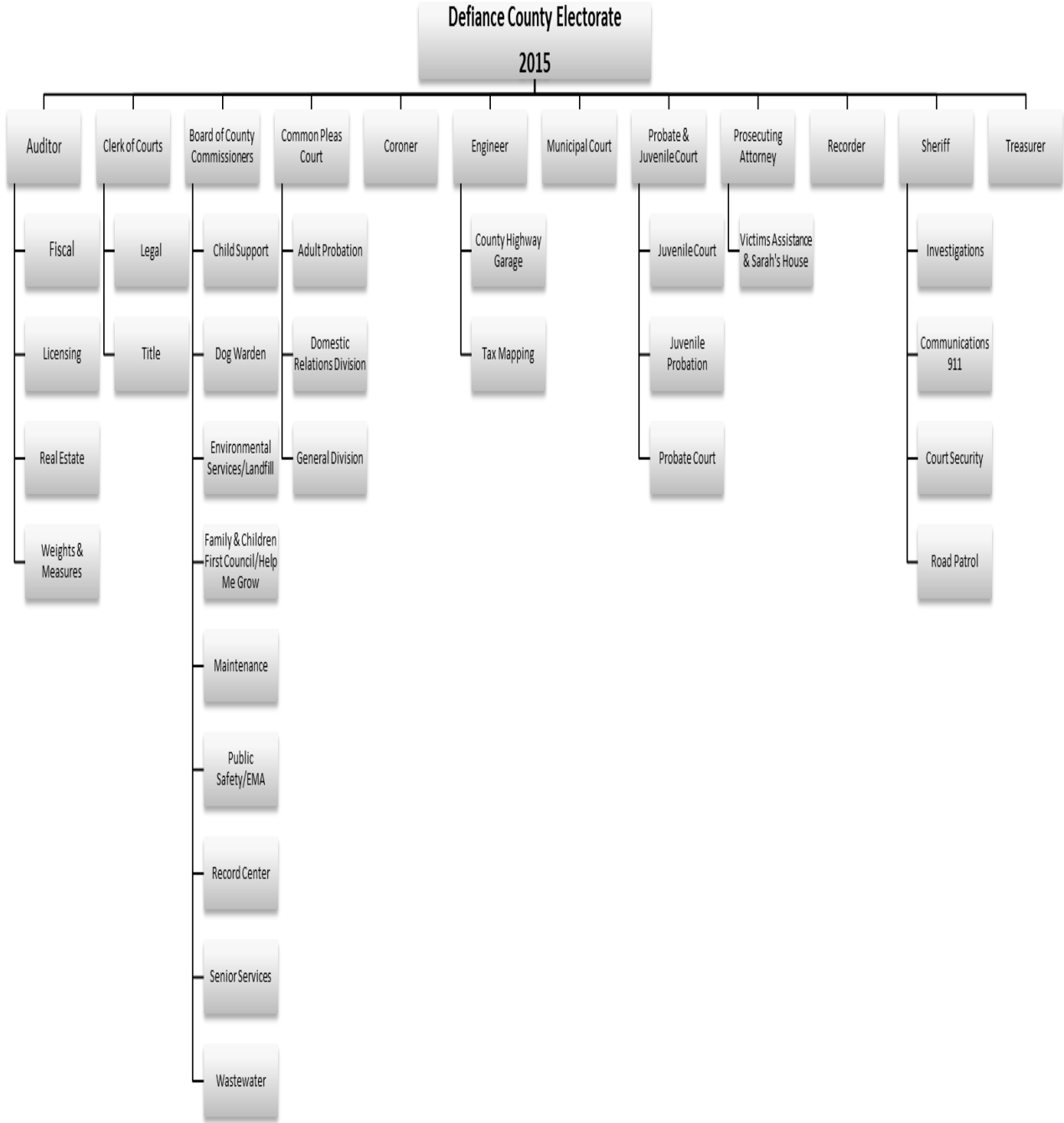
Fund	2015 Budget	2015 Actual Expense	% of Budget Disbursed
Commissioners	719,972.71	651,492.20	90.49
Regional Jail	1,505,927.00	1,469,750.66	97.60
Auditor	248,509.03	236,665.20	95.23
County Treasurer	143,050.00	141,466.66	98.89
Prosecuting Attorney	497,411.63	486,288.15	97.76
Bureau of Inspection	76,200.00	76,178.00	99.97
Automatic Data Processing	66,425.18	57,032.04	85.86
Court of Appeals	19,000.00	16,675.83	87.77
Common Pleas Court	477,402.00	442,924.70	92.78
Jury Commission	2,950.00	2,800.16	94.92
Adult Probation	135,009.00	135,189.97	100.13
Juvenile Court	535,769.89	530,821.11	99.08
Juvenile Probation	233,543.71	215,776.96	92.39
Probate Court	203,415.36	106,906.69	52.56
Clerk of Courts	188,484.04	179,381.23	95.17
Coroners Office	71,325.00	68,342.15	95.82
Municipal Court	151,445.00	143,873.77	95.00
Board of Elections	256,264.00	241,405.46	94.20
Building and Grounds	557,048.06	443,603.67	79.63
Maint & Operation	1,029,272.24	961,077.31	93.37
Airport Authority	25,200.00	12,600.00	50.00
Courthouse Security	152,791.20	152,737.28	99.96
Sheriff	1,777,073.42	1,620,295.74	91.18
Recorder	129,646.00	123,640.73	95.37
Associate Deputies	6,600.00	4,185.00	63.41
Def. Public Safety Coord.	133,000.00	129,246.50	97.18
Safety	900.00	660.68	73.41
Agriculture	339,270.76	336,216.14	99.10
Tuberculosis	250.00	-	0.00
Vital Statistics	1,250.00	1,174.00	93.92
Other Health	76,393.72	57,090.68	74.73
Children Services	500,000.00	500,000.00	100.00
Veterans Relief	253,317.60	251,943.40	99.46
Veterans Service	110,329.40	109,944.18	99.65
Public Assistance Grant	79,028.19	79,028.19	100.00
Insurance	1,474,066.99	1,438,834.98	97.61
Miscellaneous	603,012.66	622,296.73	103.20
Totals	12,780,553.79	12,047,546.15	94.26

General Fund Revenue Report

General Property Tax	2,188,693.17
Tang Pers Property Tax	0.00
PPt Reimbursement	0.00
Homestead & Rollback	297,663.29
House Trailer Tax	7,204.23
Cigarette tax	479.79
Co Piggy Back 1%	5,672,831.20
Electric Dereg Reimb	0.00
Casino	446,565.50
TOTAL TAXES	8,613,437.18
Vendors Licenses	2,175.00
Junk Yard License	0.00
TOTAL LICENCES	2,175.00
Auditor fees, tax settlement	180,985.79
Auditor fees, conveyance	397,838.70
Auditors fees, transfers	1,114.00
Auditor Fees, Convey Mfg	3,193.60
Auditor fee - transfer mfg	63.00
Recorders fees	119,173.80
Recorders 1% housing	1,388.97
Clerk of Court fees	127,519.76
Clerk of Court - Title fees	97,400.00
Treasurer fees, tax settlement	155,508.37
Probate Court fees	32,830.36
Juvenile Court fees	28,580.69
Juv Ct Home Study Fee	0.00
Juvenile Probation Fees	0.00
Board of Elections	2,506.67
Photocopies	647.06
Prosecuting Attorney fees	0.00
Regional Jail -Sheriff Fees	92,894.11
TOTAL FEES	1,241,644.88
Local Government	440,475.65
Grant	0.00
TOTAL FROM OTHER GOV	440,475.65
Clerk of Courts fines	7,021.00
Municipal Court fines	49,395.07
Juvenile Court fines	180.57
Juvenile Restitution	8,900.78
Reg. Jail - Court Fines	8,924.12
TOTAL FINES & FORFEITURES	74,421.54

Rental & Lease	305,913.25
Sale Personal Property	7,001.88
Sale of Real Estate	34,451.53
Miscellaneous	156,554.77
Litigation Settlements	0.00
TOTAL DEPT. SALES & SERVICES	503,921.43
Indirect Cost	397,324.56
Delq Tax Advertising cost	6,673.25
BTA-BOR hearing costs	0.00
Election Expense	10,550.79
Prosecuting Attorney FOJ	131.67
Sheriff FOJ	0.00
K-9 Donation	0.00
Sheriff donations	0.00
Indigent Defense costs	101,175.97
Personal Phone calls	442.65
Insurance Claims	0.00
Solid Waste Reimbursement	5,740.55
Law Library	0.00
Unclaimed Monies	0.00
Workers Comp	9,805.05
Refunds & Overpayments	1,412.69
Cobra Serv Ins refund	0.00
Reimbursement Attorney fees	0.00
Reimbursements	313,511.55
Pop Money	540.00
Land Forfeiture	155.50
Enterprise Zone Contribution	0.00
Reg. Jail - Other Receipts	178,002.36
OTHER RECEIPTS	1,025,466.59
Transfers In (Interest)	0.00
Transfers In (Other)	0.00
TOTAL TRANSFER-IN	0.00
Advance In	634,086.45
TOTAL ADVANCE -IN	634,086.45
TOTAL FOR GENERAL FUND	12,535,628.72
Interest Income	382,169.48
TOTAL GENERAL & INTEREST	12,917,798.20

Organization of County Departments



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

Economic Development

Hicksville Industrial Drive Extension

November 1, 2015 marked completion of the expansion of Industrial Drive in Hicksville. APT Manufacturing and Haynes Transport spearheaded the request to expand the road to further aid their businesses and also help attract additional development in the industrial park. The 2,600 foot expansion now connects Industrial Drive to Ohio 49. The project cost was approximately \$605,000 and was made possible with funding from the Village of Hicksville, Defiance County, and the Ohio Department of Transportation. The success and completion of this project was due to the efforts of the Village of Hicksville, Defiance County Economic Development, Defiance County Engineer, Maumee Valley Planning Organization, APT Manufacturing, Haynes Transportation, and the Ohio Department of Transportation.



APT Manufacturing Solutions

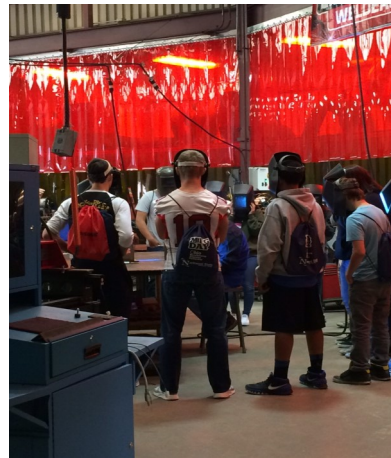
The 2015 - 2016 school year marked completion of the pilot year of the Manufacturing Training Center. APT worked alongside Defiance County Economic Development, Northwest State Community College, and Hicksville and Fairview Schools to bring together this program, which is first of its kind. Twelve students completed the program which involved going to the plant for a few hours each day and working with engineers, tool makers, and programmers to learn the skills of the manufacturing trade. Courses included in the curriculum for the year were Tools of the Trade, Print Reading and Sketching, Concept Design, Machining, Welding, Assembly, Panel Wiring and Principles of Electricity, PLC Programming, and Robot Programming.



Economic Development

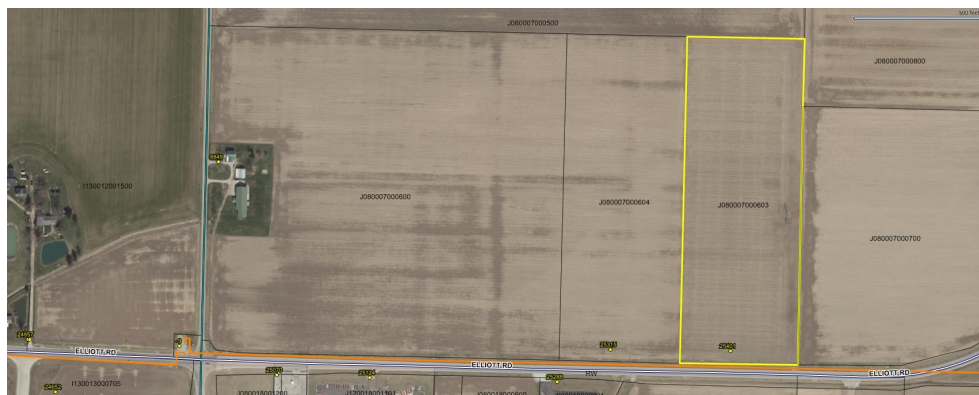
Youth Workforce Development

In early October, Northwest State Community College, the NW Ohio Manufacturing Extension Partnership, and all school districts and economic development offices in the five county area teamed up to put on a Manufacturing Day and Expo. The event was to allow students to meet with area manufacturers, attend breakout sessions, and learn soft skills towards future employment. Defiance Metal Products (DMP) and GT Technologies were the two companies from Defiance that participated.



Fort Winchester Spec Building

Defiance County and the City of Defiance worked together with Defiance County Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) to purchase 13.605 acres of land on Elliott Road to develop a spec building. An agreement was then reached with a development firm, Fort Winchester Investment Partners LLC, to build the 1,000 square foot building. It is anticipated that the building will be completed in the fall of 2016. Defiance County CIC and JobsOhio are currently marketing this property to potential companies to provide jobs to the County.



Courthouse Renovations

Maintenance staff handled the work necessary to relocate the Defiance County Clerk of Courts Office from the second floor of the Courthouse to the vacant first floor. The first floor had been vacated when the Defiance County Auditor's Office was relocated to the Courthouse Annex building. The first floor of the Courthouse now houses Courthouse Security, Clerk of Courts Legal Division, and Clerk of Courts Title Division.



FRONT ENTRANCE OF COURTHOUSE/FIRST FLOOR HALLWAY



ENTRANCE OF CLERK OF COURTS LEGAL DIVISION



CLERK OF COURTS LEGAL DIVISION



CLERK OF COURTS TITLE DIVISION



Fairgrounds Restrooms

In 2014, the Fair Foundation and the Defiance County Board of Commissioners purchased two modular restroom facilities and two ADA/Family restroom units. They utilized grant funds and donations raised by the Fair Foundation specifically for this purpose. In 2015, County Maintenance staff completed the installation and placement of these units on concrete pads, including sidewalk areas.



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.
 - 11,178 checks were created in 2015
- Account of every board, department, office, agency and district.
- Distributing funds
- Payroll
 - 10,515 payroll checks were created in 2015

Real Estate

- Updating property records with necessary information
 - New construction
 - 1,066 parcels were updated for new construction or improvements in 2015
 - Demolition
 - Change of ownership
 - 2,227 properties were transferred in 2015
- Calculates property taxes
- Tax Reduction Programs
 - Homestead Exemption
 - Non-business credit
 - Owner-Occupied credit
 - Current Agricultural Use Value

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
 - 87 wholesale/retail licenses were sold in 2015
 - Dogs
 - 7,677 dog licenses were sold in 2015
 - Kennels
 - 84 kennel tags were sold in 2015
 - Cigarette vendors
 - 42 cigarette vendors licenses were sold in 2015
 - 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

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

Defiance County Engineer

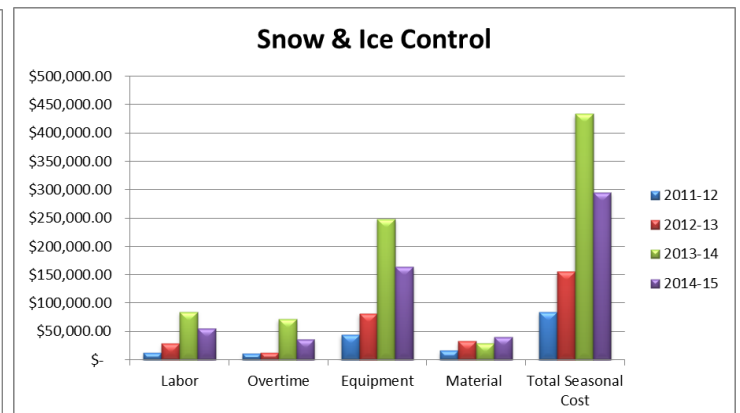
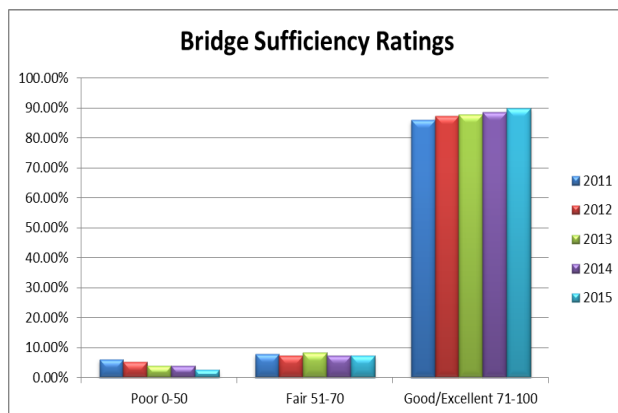
Warren J. Schlatter • 419-782-4751



Our Highway Garage Staff replaced two county bridges and also did much of the support work for the roadside grading and widening work. There were a total of 11 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.).

Harris Road, between Blanchard Road and SR 18, was widened and paved by Gerken Paving. The project began in August and was finished in September. The pavement was widened from 20 feet to 24 feet. Right of Way and grading had been done in previous years. The cost of this project was \$1,219,744.84, with funding from FHWA and OPWC.

This year there were several ditches regraded along Banner School Road, from Evansport Road to SR 66. Other ditches that were regraded are: Krouse Road, Stever Road, Powers Road and Buckskin Road.



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 \$1,108,614.21 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.

2015 Road Resurfacing Program

County

Rosedale Road	0.85 miles
Blosser Road	2.65 miles
Whetstone Road	1.5 miles
Harris Road	0.87 miles
Harris Road	3.90 miles
Tons of Asphalt Applied	8,955.53

2015 Sign Replacements

<u>Type of Sign</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
Stop Sign	7
Stop Ahead	3
Warning	14
Road Name	16
Other	5

2015 Road Reconstruction

Harris Road between Bowman Road and Blanchard Road	\$240,113.33
Harris Road between Blanchard Road and State Route 15	\$979,631.51

2015 Bridge Replacement

Hoffman Road Bridge east of Hill Road	\$78,548.30
Openlander Road Bridge south of Jericho Road	\$99,811.61

Defiance County Juvenile Court

Judge Jeffrey A. Strausbaugh • 419-782-0226

Erin Spieth, Administrator



Defiance County Juvenile Court has the responsibility to hear and determine all cases and issues concerning children in Defiance County. In 2015, 903 complaints and/or new cases were formally filed. This total includes: 368 delinquent child complaints; 76 unruly child complaints; 267 juvenile traffic complaints; 73 dependency, neglect and child abuse cases, 5 permanent custody cases and 114 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 2015, the Defiance County Juvenile Court had 368 delinquency complaints filed. Of the 368 complaints filed, 66 were felony charges and 302 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 2015, the Defiance County Juvenile Court had 76 unruly complaints filed.

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 2015, there were 267 juvenile traffic cases filed in the Defiance County Juvenile Court.

Defiance County Juvenile Court

Judge Jeffrey A. Strausbaugh • 419-782-0226

Erin Spieth, Administrator

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 2015, there were 73 abuse, neglect, and 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. Five (5) new motions for permanent custody were filed in the court in 2015.

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 25 failure to send charges filed in 2015.

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 2015, there were 9 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 2015, there were 12 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 2015, there were 68 support cases filed in the Defiance County Juvenile Court.

Defiance County Prosecuting Attorney

Morris J. 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 2015, the office was involved in approximately 300 civil matters including such things as real estate 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 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 to Defiance County. At any given time, there are well over 100 open criminal matters pending in some phase of the criminal justice process. In 2015, approximately 360 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 continue to be of particular emphasis.

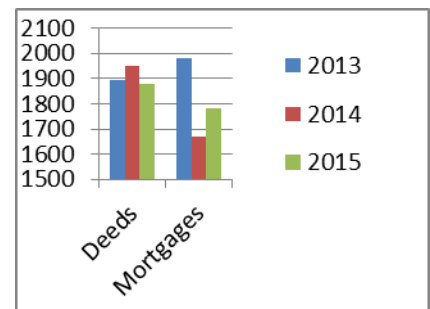
Defiance County Recorder

Cecilia Parsons • 419-782-4741

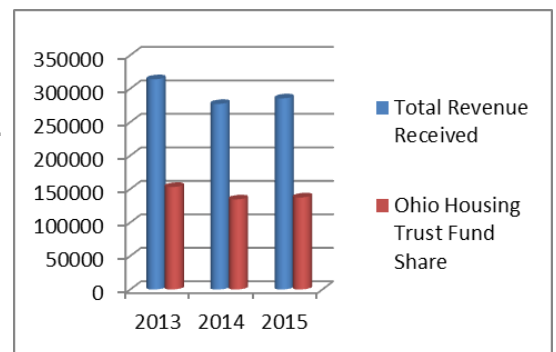


The County Recorder keeps and maintains accurate land records that are current, legible and easily accessible. An important aspect of the work is to index each document so it may be readily located. Accurate indexing makes it possible for persons searching land records to find the documents necessary 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 USLandrecords.com. The index covers years 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 Recorder's Office initiated a back scanning project which will allow images from 1994 to the present to be viewed on the public computers. Previously images from 1997 to the present were the only images available. This not only makes access to the records easier, but will expedite document recovery if there was ever a disaster that damaged or destroyed records.



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. **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.

Defiance County Treasurer

Vickie S. Myers • 419-782-8741

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.

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

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

Child Support Enforcement Agency

Connie Bostelman, Director •419-784-2123

In 2012, the Office of Child Support initiated the I-70 project for counties to increase collections to 70% statewide. For incentive purposes, the calculation is – the total amount of support distributed as current support during the Federal Fiscal Year divided by the total amount of support due for IV-D Cases for the Federal Fiscal Year. Defiance County CSEA's average performance rate for 2015 was 77.44%. Defiance County CSEA has been reviewing and working the reports provided to the CSEA by the State to ensure that cases are monitored appropriately.

In April 2014, the CSEA started using the services of Maximus for assistance with contract reimbursement. As a result, federal reimbursements have increased by almost \$90,000.00 from 2013 to 2015. These funds go to the Defiance County General Fund.

The CSEA continues to refer cases to DebtNext for debt recovery services. We also continue to work with the ITT Program which is designed to help CSEA Obligors find and maintain stable employment, become financially and emotionally supportive of their children, establish and meet personal goals, and to become appropriately involved in their children's lives whenever possible. The CSEA has had much success with CLEAR, which is an enforcement tool used to locate absent parents.

Obligors can now make online payments, either by accessing the Defiance County CSEA website or by visiting or contacting the Agency. Since the CSEA starting accepting credit card payments in January 2016, almost \$11,000.00 has been collected and applied to child support cases. We also have a conveniently located payment drop box (shared with the Defiance County Treasurer's Office) located in the alley between Key Bank and the Post Office on East Second Street.

The State also created the Child Support Customer Service Web Portal which is an interactive web application that will provide child support customers with on-demand, case specific, address, employment, health insurance, and financial history information, along with answers to frequently asked questions regarding the child support program. The portal is operational and available twenty-three (23) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, throughout the year (with one hour down time nightly for maintenance). Customers can log in to the Child Support Customer Service Web Portal from the Office of Child Support (OCS) internet home page at: <http://jfs.ohio.gov/ocs/index.stm>.

2015 Program Performance Percentages

Paternity Establishment:	100.21%
Support Establishment:	96.33%
Collections on Current Support:	77.44%
Collections on Arrears:	67.31%

2015 Statistics

Collections:	\$6,814,879
Expenditures:	\$786,122
Average Caseload:	\$2,714
Medical reimbursement to State:	\$82,534

Family & Children First Council

Julie Voll, Coordinator • 419-782-6934



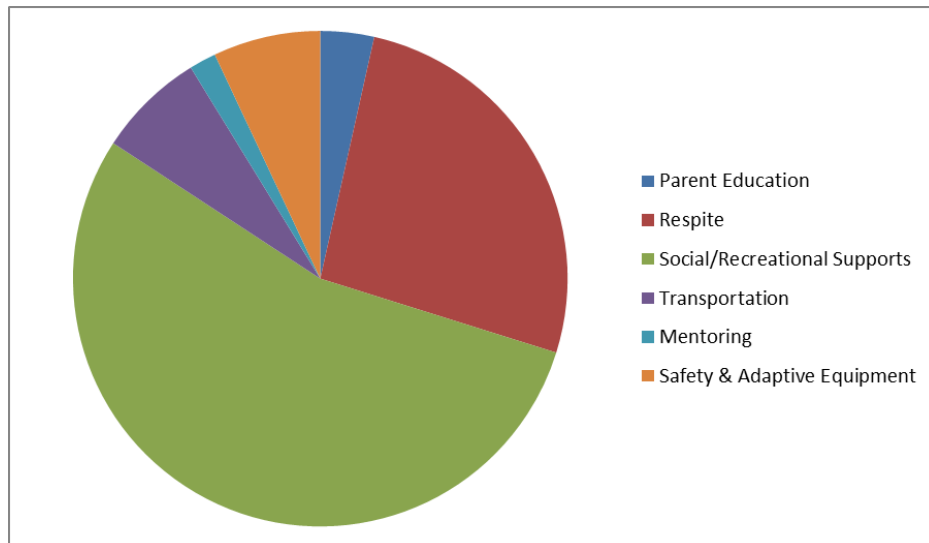
Family Centered Services and Supports (FCSS) focuses on maintaining children and youth in their own homes and communities by providing non-clinical family-centered services and supports. The allocation for state fiscal year 2015 was \$21,912.

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 - 2
- Respite - 15
- Social/Recreational Supports - 31
- Transportation - 4
- Mentoring - 1
- Safety & Adaptive Equipment - 4



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, 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 consolidated Job and Family Services into Defiance/Paulding Consolidated Job and Family Services.

Of focus for the agency in 2015 was dealing with continued effects of Medicaid expansion and new eligibility systems. The agency continues to experience an increase in new Medicaid cases and has seen a decrease in cash assistance individuals. 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 and custody cases. In 2015, the agency's fraud department was recognized by the state of Ohio with having the highest percentage increase in intentional program violation (IPV) claims established.

2015 Statistics

Cash Assistance (Average per month) - 94 individuals
Food Assistance (Average per month) - 6,394 individuals
Medicaid Recipients (Average per month) - 13,034 individuals
Annual Food Assistance - \$8,313,024

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 - click on Agencies, then Senior Services

The Senior Services Mission Statement

To provide senior adults throughout Defiance County with nutritional, educational, social and wellness programs in a friendly 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 acts as a clearing house for two commodities programs. Over 96,900 meals were provided throughout all townships in Defiance County in 2015.

Transportation - Transports to access community resources. We utilize cars, vans and buses with wheelchair accessibility. More than 9,000 rides were provided to Defiance County’s Senior Citizens in 2015.

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.

Music & Memory - utilizes favorite songs of the individual with Alzheimer’s disease for them to listen to and enjoy and respond to.

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 financial supporters –

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

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

Individual donors and our wonderful Senior Services Auxiliary and Advisory Board

Environmental Services

Tim Houck, Director • 419-782-5442



DEFIANCE COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL & 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 educational presentations to all Defiance County schools. Seventy-three educational workshops/community outreach presentations were completed in 2015 with over 1,446 students in kindergarten, 2nd and 4th grades. This office also maintains County facilities by providing lawn care, snow removal and other special projects as requested. 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).



FOUR COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
Serving Defiance, Fulton, Paulding, and Williams Counties in Ohio

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 2015, the District completed the update of its solid waste management plan. A copy of the plan can be found at www.4CSWD.com. An additional requirement of the solid waste district plan is to conduct an Annual District Report (ADR). This report validates the amount of recycling generated within each district. 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 46% recycling rate of residential and commercial waste and a 65% 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 a public facility and per the Ohio Revised Code (ORC), it is to be a non-profit operation. 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). Over the past 3 years, the facility has had increases in waste volumes; we are over 400 cubic yards per year. These numbers have reduced the longevity estimates for the landfill. In 2007 we started with 200 cubic yards of waste per year and expected life expectancy was 93 years. Current volumes have doubled and life expectancy is now 60 years.

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.

2015 Statistics

Revenue	\$4,072,285
Expenses	\$2,597,302



Placing Select Waste



Raising the Scale

Defiance County OSU Extension

Wm. Bruce Clevenger • 419-782-4771

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP Ed) presented 163 educational sessions with 2,433 people participating. The main objective of Ohio SNAP-Ed is to improve the likelihood that persons eligible for SNAP benefits will make healthy food choices within a limited budget and will choose physically active lifestyles consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans and US Department of Agriculture (USDA) food guidance (MyPlate).
- Over the summer, programming was offered at the Summer Food Service Program through NOCAC. In Defiance, 3,685 nutritious lunches were served to 549 children. There were 72 bags of food sent home for weekend meals.

ENHANCING AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

- An Ohio Law passed in 2014 requires fertilizer applicators to be certified by September 2017. OSU Extension is the exclusive provider of Fertilizer Applicator Certification Training. Bruce Clevenger taught area FACT meetings reaching 414 applicators with information about water quality, soil sampling, calculating fertilizer recommendations, and utilizing plant nutrients.
- The 2014 U.S.D.A. Farm Bill provides options and program choices to farmers and cropland owners. OSU Extension Defiance County taught 13 meetings, reaching 460 area farmers and landowners assisting the decision process between the USDA programs Agricultural Risk Coverage or Price Loss Coverage.
- OSU Extension offered a Dairy Calf Workshop to nearly 50 area dairy and beef calf producers. The Bok Jersey Farm hosted the workshop and showcased a new calf barn featuring state-of-the-art sanitation, ventilation, and lighting designed to maximize year-round calf health and growth. OSU specialists discussed nutrition, housing, health, and economics.
- OSU Extension taught farm safety to 450 youth at the Defiance County Public Safety/EMA Open House. The danger points discussed included Power Take Off safety. Body limbs can be entangled in a rotating PTO shaft on any size tractor. Kids learned the importance of the tractor seat, and that adults should never give rides on any tractor, of any size, that has only one seat. Stored grain is a danger zone because kids can be engulfed by flowing grain when a wagon or bin is being unloaded.
- OSU Extension trained over 150 professional agricultural lenders at three locations across Ohio in 2015. Lenders learned about Ohio water quality legislation, utilizing manure nutrients economically in crop production, crop insurance for risk management, livestock industry updates, crop profitability for 2016 and current ag law topics.

Defiance County OSU Extension

Wm. Bruce Clevenger • 419-782-4771

PREPARING YOUTH FOR SUCCESS

- 168 teen counselors from NW Ohio participated in a day of direct instruction in safety, health, behavior management, group leadership, relationship and team building, program development and implementation, interpersonal skills and teaching skills. 34 Defiance County 4-H camp counselors participated in the regional training. The 4-H Educator presented a 90 minute session to 68 first year counselors on counselor role and responsibilities and flag ceremony etiquette.
- Real Money, Real World is an active hands-on experience that gives young people the opportunity to make lifestyle and budget choices similar as those of an adult. The curriculum builds awareness of the connection between education, occupation, income and financial choices. This program utilizes 15 business and professional volunteers from the community in providing the real life simulation experience. In 2016, 715 Defiance County students participated in the program representing all of the Defiance County school systems.
- Defiance County Junior Fair members involved in 4-H clubs, displayed projects and were involved with activities at the county fair. Time and preparation is given by the 4-H Educator in getting activities, shows and events organized for fair exposition. Poultry exhibitors were not allowed to exhibit poultry at the 2015 Fair due to a ban on poultry exhibits at all Ohio fairs. There were 42 junior fair members only enrolled in poultry projects with no other livestock at the fair. The 4-H Educator worked with the Livestock Committee to ensure youth were recognized at the County Fair through exhibits, videos and participation. Exhibitors completing their project through the livestock skillathon were able to participate in showmanship, contests, games and more during the county fair.
- The junior fair had 689 exhibitors with 1,812 entries displayed 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. The 4-H Educator worked with the Senior Fair Livestock Committee in raising funds for a new swine barn and poultry annex. Donors were recognized at a dedication on Saturday of the Fair. Work will continue on raising funds for new swine pens.
- 4-H Camp Palmer participation was at 148 total campers. This number represents 99 youth campers, 38 teen counselors and 11 adult volunteers. 68% of campers received scholarships totaling \$3,100. Youth participating at camp made friends, developed independence from their family, participated in leadership and skill building and had safe supervised fun with friends. Campers were given new opportunities through 4-H that they might not have yet experienced. With temperatures in the 90s, campers made use of the new pool at 4-H Camp Palmer which was a highlight for all.



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 five 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 940 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 2015 the District:

- Constructed 7,340 feet of grassed waterways.
- Designed 9.8 acres of wetlands for 2016 implementation.
- Designed and oversaw construction of 18 grade stabilization structures.
- Completed Webb Run CWI reconstruction project (19,705 lineal feet).
- Completed hearings and preliminary design of Kohout Extension CWI project.
- Administered planting of 1,727 acres of cover crops, 1,459 acres of gypsum application, and 297 acres of VRT nutrient management in Platter Creek watershed.
- Administered construction of three demonstration rain gardens in Defiance, Hicksville, and Sherwood.
- Installed 26 controlled drainage structures and a blind inlet to reduce nutrient loading to ditches.
- Performed 49 site reviews for Defiance County landowners.
- Led volunteer water quality monitoring efforts in the Upper Maumee Watershed.
- Presented classroom conservation programs to a total of 8,545 students.
- Extended outreach to 38,500 adults and educators.
- Administered and implemented multi-year grants in excess of \$780,000 to implement best management practices.
- Planted, staked, and sheltered over 6,500 trees to establish 20-acre forested wetland.
- Distributed over 7,800 trees through our annual tree sale.



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 11 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 2015

- 6.5 miles bottom cleaned
- 140 miles brush and cattail control
- 1,337 ton of rock for bank protection
- 2,170 pounds of grass seed and fertilizer
- 66 improvements repaired
- 2,190 feet of tile/pipe repairs
- Leaning tree/log jam removal
- Tons of broken concrete for bank protection



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 their Auglaize River Collection System which pumps to the county lagoons.

AUGLAIZE RIVER SEWER

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

EVANSPOINT

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

2015 Statistics

Revenue	\$832,104.18
Expenses	\$835,624.51



Dog Warden

Randy Vogel, Dog Warden • 419-784-2335

During 2015, the Defiance County Dog Warden received 961 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 159 court citations, issued 166 warnings, responded to 2 humane calls and sold 7,741 dog tags.

2015 Statistics

Revenue	\$172,529.90
Expenses	\$160,218.15
Dog Licenses Sold	7,741
Complaints	961
Contacts	2,476
Warnings	166
Citations	159

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.

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.

2015 Statistics

Records Requests:	1,808	Records In:	34 boxes/books
Revenue:	\$527.08	Records Out:	58 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 2015: Weather Spotter, Hazmat Awareness, ALICE and ORION. This agency also participated in two Hazard Material Exercises.

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 13 suspected hazardous material incidents. The agency helped collect \$2,895.03 for the County's first responders in 2015 for their response to hazardous material incidents. Utilizing the Homeland Security Regional Grant program, Defiance County was able to obtain additional supplies for our Disaster Response Trailer. This trailer has the equipment needed to respond to a natural disaster. We also received a Foam Trailer. This trailer holds 260 gallons of AR-AFFF Foam for use at any large alcohol resistant / ethanol fire. This is a regional asset which can be deployed in the 6-county region.

The County must have a FEMA approved mitigation plan in place to qualify for federal funding. The expiration date of our approved plan is October 2017. We are in the process of updating the Defiance County All Hazard Mitigation Plan to meet that deadline.

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

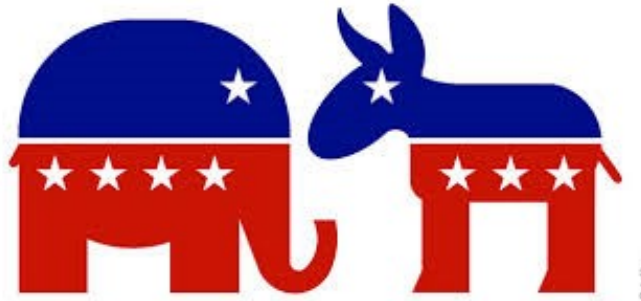
2015 Statistics

Appropriations:	\$120,700.00	Expenses:	\$126,207.00
	Grant Awards:		\$ 87,230.54

Defiance County Board of Elections

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

Tonya Wichman, Deputy Director



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

Defiance County Veteran's Affairs

Erin Clady, Service Officer • 419-782-6861



Nate Metz, Administrative Asst.; Tanya S. Brunner, Manager; Erin Clady, Service Officer

In 2015, a new charitable fund was established by Keller Trucking to provide emergency financial assistance to veterans and surviving spouses as well as National Guard and Reservists. The "KAVIC" (Keller Assists Veterans In Crisis) fund continues to grow with donations from individuals, businesses and organizations.

Also in 2015:

- 715 Claims were filed with the Department of Veterans Affairs
- \$4,631 was expended for burial and headstone assistance
- \$4,036 was expended to purchase grave flags and flag holders
- 114 veterans were transported to VA medical facilities

Veterans Service Commission

Peter Kennerk, VFW; Christopher Newton, American Legion; W. Tom Wiseman, Amvets; Darcy Lehman, Military Order of the Purple Heart; Thomas Kent, Disabled American Veterans