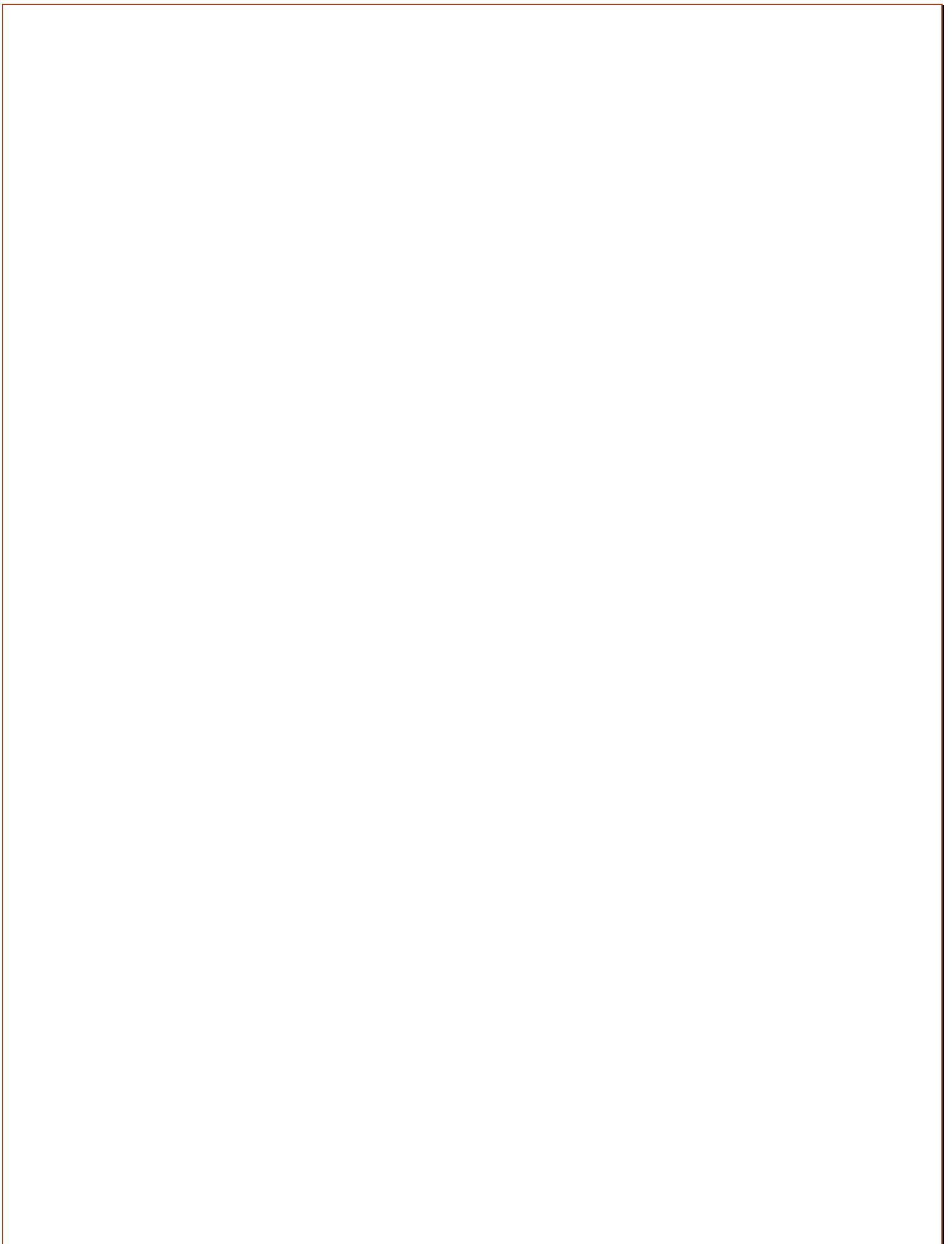


Defiance County 2019 Annual Report

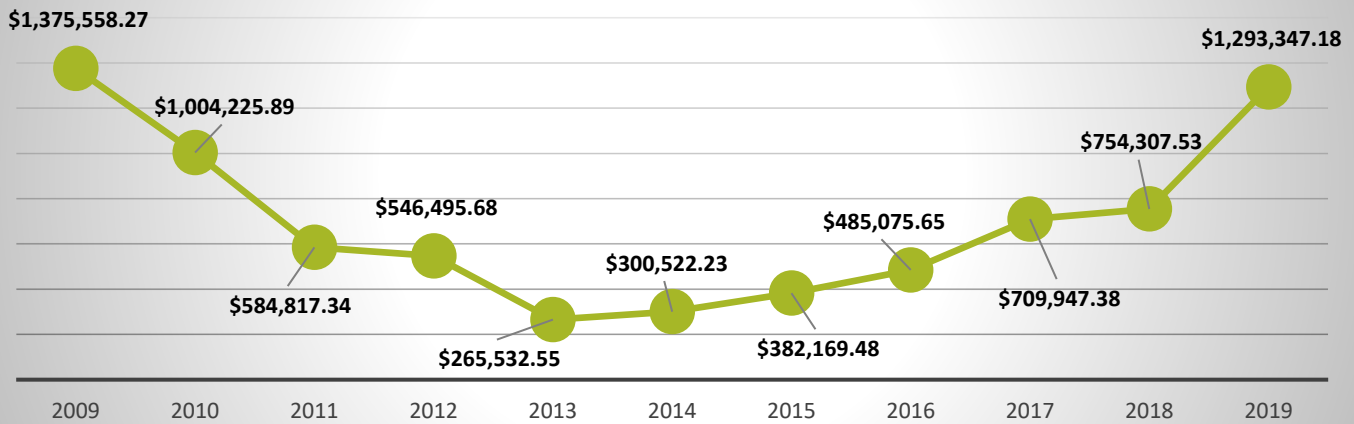


Defiance County Veterans/Senior Citizens Pavilion at Defiance County Fairgrounds

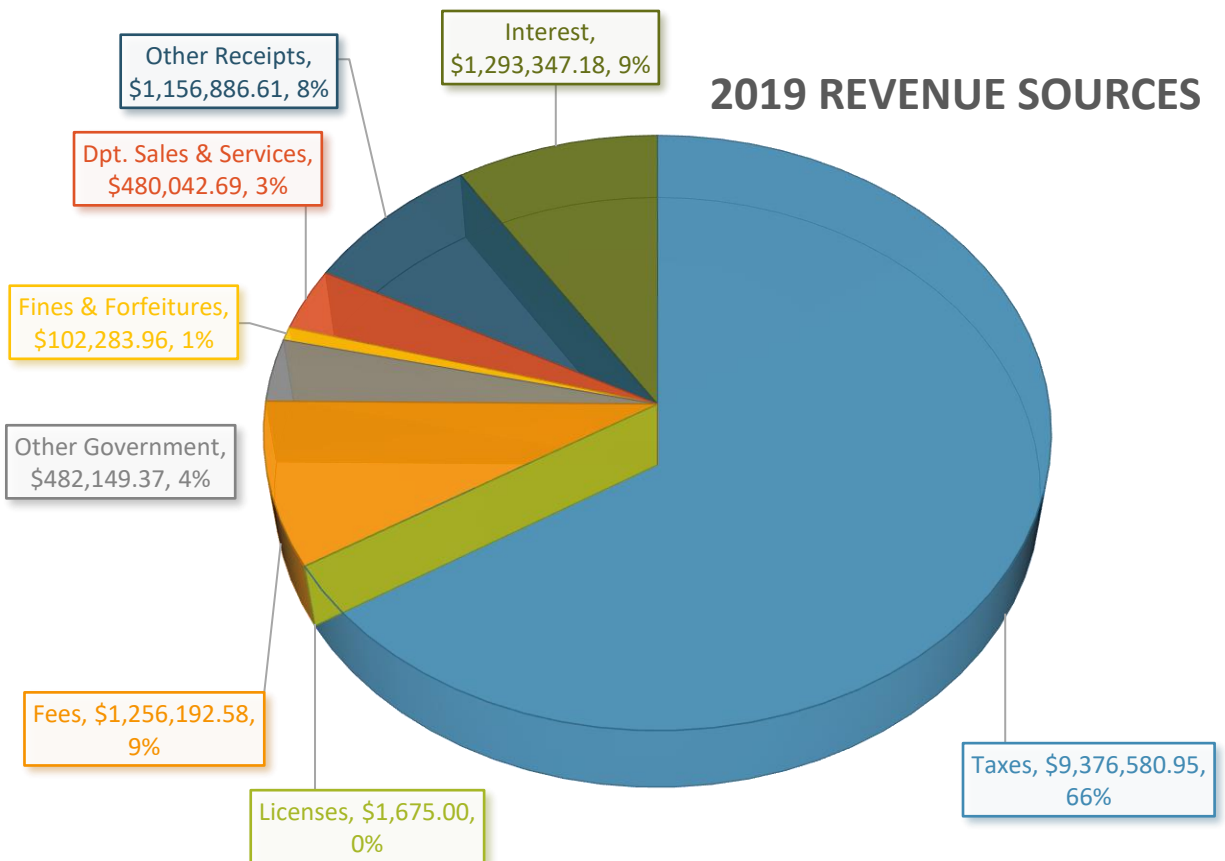


General Fund Revenue

Interest Income



2019 REVENUE SOURCES



General Fund Revenue

| DESCRIPTION | 2019 | DESCRIPTION | 2019 |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--|------------------------|
| GENERAL PROPERTY TAX | \$2,377,931.67 | RENTAL & LEASE REAL ESTATE | \$308,017.19 |
| HOMESTEAD & ROLLBACK | \$294,235.33 | SALE PERSONAL PROPERTY | \$868.50 |
| HOUSE TRAILER TAX | \$7,514.13 | SALE OF REAL ESTATE | \$0.00 |
| CIGARETTE TAX | \$499.96 | MISCELLANEOUS | \$171,157.00 |
| CO PIGGY BACK 1% SALES TAX | \$6,229,129.08 | TOTAL DEPT. SALES & SERVICES | \$480,042.69 |
| CASINO | \$466,270.78 | INDIRECT COST | \$223,996.42 |
| TOTAL TAXES | \$9,375,580.95 | DELQ TAX ADVERTISING COST | \$3,840.72 |
| VENDORS LICENSES | \$1,675.00 | ELECTION EXPENSES | \$23,070.32 |
| TOTAL LICENSES | \$1,675.00 | PROSECUTING ATTORNEY FOJ | \$5,641.50 |
| AUDITOR FEES TAX SETTLEMENT | \$187,480.23 | SHERIFF FOJ | \$38.14 |
| AUDITOR FEES CONVEYANCE | \$430,114.10 | K-9 DONATIONS | \$2,502.98 |
| AUDITOR FEES TRANSFERS | \$1,077.00 | INDIGENT DEFENSE-COSTS | \$120,377.19 |
| AUDITOR FEES-CONVEY MFG | \$2,591.10 | INSURANCE CLAIMS | \$7,870.63 |
| AUDITOR FEE-TRANSFERS MFG | \$62.00 | SOLID WASTE REIMBURSEMENT | \$27,041.76 |
| RECORDER FEES | \$116,924.70 | FORECLOSURE FEE REIMBURSEMENTS | \$2,246.78 |
| RECORDERS 1% HOUSING | \$1,633.40 | WORKERS COMP | \$191,037.50 |
| CLERK OF COURT FEES | \$174,397.16 | REFUNDS AND OVERPAYMENTS | \$29,720.89 |
| TREASURER FEES TAX SETTLEMENT | \$181,260.03 | REIMBURSEMENT JUV CT INDIGENT | \$74,723.00 |
| PROBATE COURT FEES | \$37,013.13 | REIMBURSEMENTS | \$1,250.25 |
| JUVENILE COURT FEES | \$24,727.68 | POP MONEY | \$270,514.46 |
| BOARD OF ELECTIONS | \$1,630.00 | PORT AUTHORITY | \$3,109.50 |
| PHOTOCOPIES | \$86.85 | REG JAIL-OTHER RECEIPTS | \$47,579.57 |
| PROSECUTING ATTORNEY FEES | \$3,783.37 | T - CAP | \$122,325.00 |
| REG JAIL-SHERIFF FEES | \$93,411.83 | TOTAL OTHER RECEIPTS | \$1,156,886.61 |
| TOTAL FEES | \$1,256,192.58 | TOTAL GENERAL FUND | \$12,854,811.16 |
| LOCAL GOVERNMENT | \$475,173.62 | INTEREST INCOME | \$1,293,347.18 |
| GRANTS | \$6,975.75 | TOTAL INTEREST | \$1,293,347.18 |
| TOTAL FROM OTHER GOVERNMENT | \$482,149.37 | TOTAL GENERAL FUND & INTEREST | \$14,148,158.34 |
| CLERK OF COURT FINES | \$37,815.42 | | |
| MUNICIPAL COURT FINES | \$51,493.04 | | |
| JUVENILE COURT FINES | \$110.71 | | |
| JUVENILE RESTITUTION | \$6,237.67 | | |
| MISC FORFEITURES (SHERIFF) | \$200.00 | | |
| REG JAIL-COURT FINES | \$6,427.12 | | |
| TOTAL FINES & FORFEITURES | \$102,283.96 | | |

General Fund Expenditures

| DEPARTMENT | 2019 BUDGET | 2019 EXPENDED | % DISBURSED |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Commissioners | \$821,453.55 | \$726,402.34 | 88.43% |
| Regional Jail | \$1,792,500.00 | \$1,691,215.35 | 94.35% |
| Auditor | \$246,363.02 | \$243,815.03 | 98.97% |
| Treasurer | \$146,761.50 | \$144,693.14 | 98.59% |
| Prosecuting Attorney | \$505,298.50 | \$504,732.26 | 99.89% |
| Bureau of Investigation | \$56,500.00 | \$54,254.20 | 96.03% |
| Data Processing | \$54,336.32 | \$51,381.80 | 94.56% |
| Court of Appeals | \$16,300.00 | \$13,428.89 | 82.39% |
| Common Pleas | \$538,511.13 | \$487,899.74 | 90.60% |
| Jury Commission | \$4,003.07 | \$3,438.99 | 85.91% |
| Adult Probation | \$131,513.32 | \$129,436.45 | 98.42% |
| Juvenile Court | \$535,101.14 | \$534,948.34 | 99.97% |
| Juvenile Probation | \$213,304.62 | \$208,604.26 | 97.80% |
| Probate Court | \$180,746.66 | \$170,704.56 | 94.44% |
| Clerk of Courts | \$208,253.00 | \$205,710.91 | 98.78% |
| Coroner | \$100,425.00 | \$92,705.44 | 92.31% |
| Municipal Court | \$187,046.00 | \$182,549.22 | 97.60% |
| Board of Elections | \$275,179.72 | \$257,745.79 | 93.66% |
| Land | \$500,000.00 | \$116,506.49 | 23.30% |
| Maintenance | \$1,042,863.29 | \$915,407.13 | 87.78% |
| Hanger | \$25,200.00 | \$25,200.00 | 100.00% |
| Courthouse Security | \$166,464.00 | \$165,406.65 | 99.36% |
| Sheriff | \$1,729,285.30 | \$1,645,120.19 | 95.13% |
| Recorder | \$110,299.00 | \$107,551.35 | 97.51% |
| Associate Deputies | \$7,000.00 | \$6,987.50 | 99.82% |
| Public Safety Services | \$133,524.03 | \$128,862.59 | 96.51% |
| Safety | \$1,143.27 | \$993.78 | 86.92% |
| Agriculture | \$405,766.51 | \$399,809.47 | 98.53% |
| Registration of Vital Stats | \$1,250.00 | \$0.00 | 0.00% |
| Other Health | \$60,921.32 | \$57,539.73 | 94.45% |
| Children Service Board | \$300,000.00 | \$300,000.00 | 100.00% |
| Soldiers Relief | \$273,584.10 | \$250,779.18 | 91.66% |
| Veteran Office | \$74,736.37 | \$71,119.02 | 95.16% |
| Public Assistance Grant | \$80,300.00 | \$72,830.76 | 90.70% |
| Airport Special Projects | \$50,000.00 | \$0.00 | 0.00% |
| Road Improvements | \$5,000.00 | \$647.52 | 12.95% |
| Insurance | \$2,677,347.82 | \$2,513,677.47 | 93.89% |
| Miscellaneous | \$508,679.99 | \$448,618.19 | 88.19% |
| DCE Maint Building | \$400,000.00 | \$0.00 | 0.00% |
| Contingencies | \$2,226,614.02 | \$3,201.00 | 0.14% |
| Total | \$16,793,575.57 | \$12,933,924.73 | 77.02% |

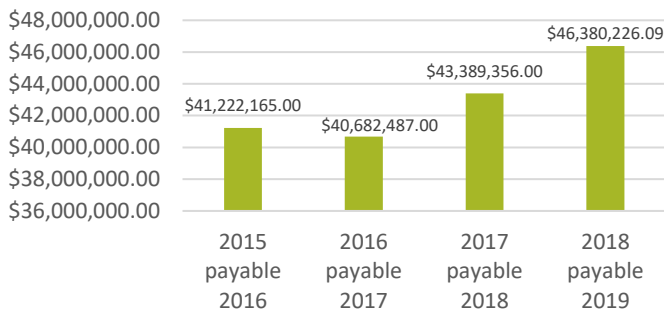
Treasurer

Vickie S. Myers, Treasurer

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.

PROPERTY TAXES TOTAL BILLED



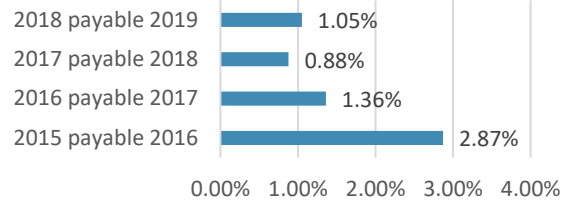
In addition, they record all monies received by any other county agencies. This encompasses everything from dog tag license fees and lunch money to MRDD funds and Health Department immunization fees.

NEW PAYMENT OPTIONS FOR PROPERTY TAXES:

- In Person: cash, check or credit cards
- Online at: www.defiance-county.com/treasurer
- Credit Card by Phone: 1-844-719-3086

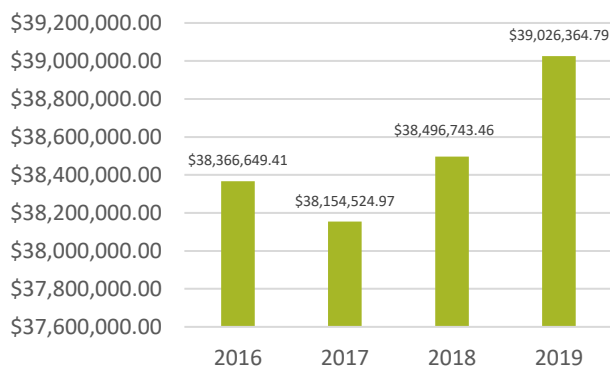
A Convenience Fee will be charged for all credit card transactions.

DELINQUENT PERCENTAGE

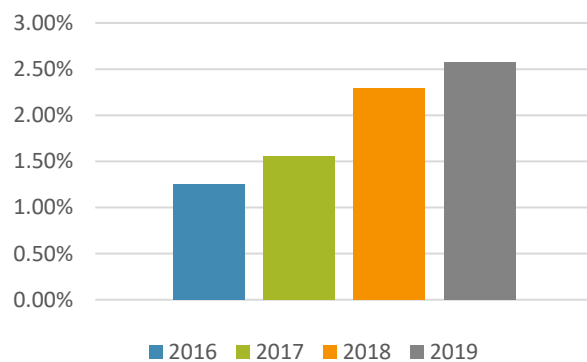


In addition to collecting and recording the County money, the Treasurer is responsible for the County Investment Portfolio. The office maintains various accounts ranging from simple depositories to complex trust accounts that hold all the county investments.

Total Invested



Average Yield



Defiance County Land Reutilization Corporation

Land banks are governmental entities or nonprofit corporations that focus on converting vacant, abandoned, and tax delinquent properties into productive use. Many vacant and abandoned properties have a defect of some sort. There could be clouded titles, or there may be delinquent property taxes that exceed what the property or land is worth in its current state. Land banks can clear a property's defects, turning what was once a liability into an asset for the community.

The Defiance County Land Reutilization Corporation (Land bank) was formed in April of 2019. Like other nonprofit corporations, the Land Bank is governed by a Board of Directors, comprising 5, 7, or 9 members according to statute, who serve without compensation.

Since its incorporation, the Defiance County Land bank has acquired one vacant, abandoned and tax delinquent industrial property. This site, the former SK Handtools property, has been abandoned for almost a decade. The site was contaminated by both hazardous substances and petroleum. This site has been a top priority of Defiance County for years. In May of 2020, the U.S. EPA awarded the Land bank \$380,000 for the cleanup of petroleum and hazardous substances at this site.

County Wide Demolition Program

The Defiance County Commissioners chose to continue the County-Wide Demolition Program in 2019. Below is a snapshot of the Program to-date:

2016

- \$91,509.35 spent for one round of projects;
- 7 properties completed (City of Defiance, Village of Hicksville, Adams Township, Farmer Township, Richland Township, Tiffin Township, and Washington Township);
- \$12,996.59 average cost per property;
- 4 properties required asbestos remediation.

2017

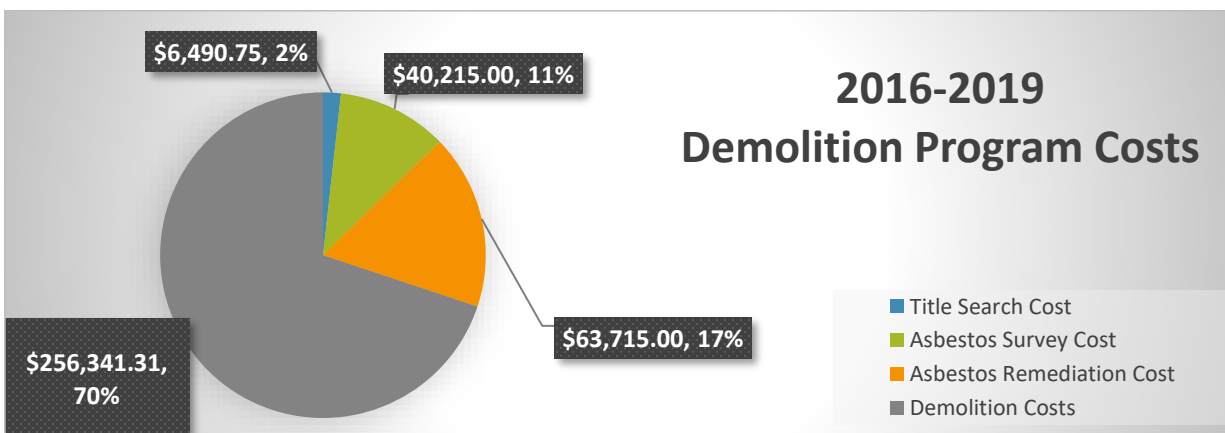
- \$135,994.00 spent for two rounds of projects;
- 5 properties completed in Round 1 (City of Defiance, Adams Township, Farmer Township, Hicksville Township, and Highland Township);
- 4 properties completed in Round 2 (Village of Sherwood, Delaware Township, Richland Township, and Tiffin Township);
- \$15,110.44 average cost per property;
- 8 properties required asbestos remediation.

2018

- \$95,508.96 spent for two rounds of projects;
- 6 properties completed in Round 1 (City of Defiance - 2 properties, Village of Hicksville, Delaware Township, Highland Township, and Milford Township);
- 3 properties completed in Round 2 (Village of Sherwood, Adams Township, and Farmer Township);
- \$9,976.14 average cost per property;
- 3 properties required asbestos remediation.

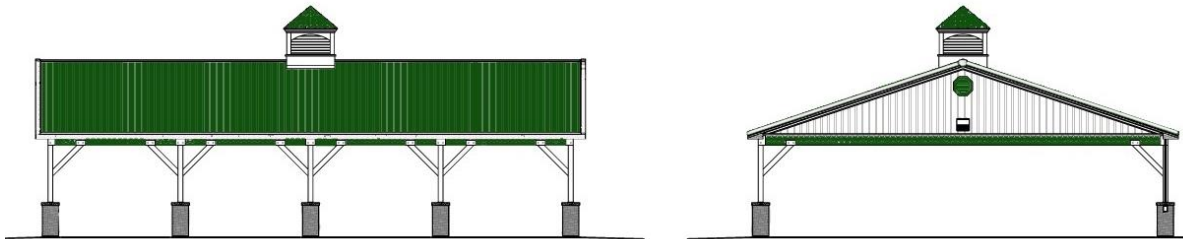
2019

- \$43,749.75 spent for one rounds of projects;
- 5 properties completed (Village of Hicksville, Hicksville Township, Highland Township, Mark Township, and Washington Township);
- \$8,749.95 average cost per property;
- 1 property required asbestos remediation



Veterans/Senior Citizens Pavilion

For years, the Senior Citizens and Veterans events at the Defiance County Fair were held in a large tent over a concrete pad. This concrete pad became cracked and began to heave, which created a hazard for the Senior Citizens and Veterans attending the events. In 2018, the Commissioners decided to remove the existing concrete pad and have a new concrete pad poured. At this time, the Defiance County Agricultural Society, the Commissioners, and Beilharz Architects, Inc. began to work together to design a new pavilion for the Senior Citizens and Veterans to use. The new structure was proposed to be approximately 40' x 52'. Below is a rendering of the new structure. The new structure was designed to be ADA accessible, and would utilize the new sidewalks installed in 2018. The new structure would include electricity and lighting.



The Prime Contractor for the project was JY Custom Builders. The final project costs totalled \$142,685.43. There was \$30,000 received from the State through the Capital Budget, \$6,000 received by the Defiance Agricultural Society from Defiance Area Foundation, and \$1,000 received by the Defiance Agricultural Society from Smith Brown Funeral Home for the project. The Commissioners utilized the County's Lodging Tax Fund to pay for the remaining project costs.

The front cover of this Annual Report provides a picture of the completed project. Below are some construction pictures and ribbon cutting ceremony pictures.



Ohio Michigan Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OMI)

The Ohio Michigan Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OMI) was officially formed on July 30, 2019 for the purpose of establishing a Tri-State Council of Governments with the stated intent of monitoring the water levels, mapping boundaries, and overall viability of the MICHINDOH Aquifer. The governing body is comprised of Defiance and Williams Counties in the State of Ohio; Hillsdale County in the State of Michigan; and Steuben County in the State of Indiana.

OMI worked with the State legislatures of the combined tristate area to secure funding for monitoring and surveying to be done in the MICHINDOH region. The State of Ohio pledged \$500,000 which to date is being used to monitor existing wells and planning of future observation wells so that modeling and mapping can be completed. Up to date information on the monitoring wells can be found on the United States Geologic Service website under the National Water Information System heading.



Community Historic Preservation Projects

In 2017, the Defiance County Commissioners were presented a one-time, \$50,000, opportunity to financially bolster the history of the County without expense to the County's budget and without incurring any on-going obligations. This was a result of the then-proposed Rover Pipeline Project. Defiance County Commissioners could use the funds for projects with the following purposes:

1. Preserve or rehabilitate existing cultural resources (historic properties);
2. Establish or support education programs to raise awareness of the benefits of historic preservation; or
3. Conduct other historic preservation-related activities as requested by the communities or proposed by the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) given the purpose of the Community Historic Preservation Fund. In this regard, it was Rover's preference that the funds be used to support efforts that provided a public benefit and furthered education concerning historic preservation; however the approval for each such activity was the sole discretion of the Ohio SHPO.

The Commissioners accepted applications for projects, and with consultation of the Ohio SHPO, the projects were awarded funds.

Original Allocation \$ 50,000.00

| | Amount Budgeted | Amount Spent |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Black Sea School Renovation | \$6,000.00 | \$5,460.26 |
| Riverside Chapel Restoration | \$9,270.00 | \$9,635.80 |
| Fort Defiance Markers | \$23,560.00 | \$23,560.00 |
| Flood Poles/Markers | \$7,000.00 | \$6,841.20 |
| Chautauqua Tour | \$2,500.00 | \$2,500.00 |
| Auglaize Village Educator | \$4,170.00 | \$4,170.00 |
| Total | \$52,500.00 | \$52,167.26 |

The Commissioners used the County's Lodging Tax Fund to cover the Projects' expenses beyond the \$50,000 grant.

Due to weather and issues with receiving materials, the projects were not fully completed and paid for until 2019.

Haymaker Road

On April 3, 2019, the Commissioners received a petition filed under ORC Chapter 5555 for the construction of Haymaker Drive. The petition was signed by 55% of the landowners whose real estate abutted the previously surveyed and reviewed Haymaker Drive, located off of Bowman Road between SR 66 and SR 15. The petition requested the Board to consider reviewing, surveying and constructing Haymaker Drive. The petition requested the assessments for the project to be made per lot.

On Friday, May 3, 2019, the Board viewed the area petitioned for improvement. On Friday, May 3, 2019, the Board held a public hearing, where they heard public input regarding said project. On Friday, May 3, 2019, the Board declared the Haymaker Drive Road Improvement Petition Project was of sufficient importance to proceed to further analyses, but not yet final approval. The Board fixed the route and termini of such improvement along the previously established right-of-ways for Haymaker Drive. The Board apportioned the cost of said project, in accordance with ORC 5555.41, by assessment per lot, as requested in the petition. The Board instructed the Defiance County Engineer to prepare the necessary surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates of cost, and specifications for the improvement, together with an estimated assessment, based upon the estimates of cost in the Commissioners' Office by May 29, 2019.

On May 29, 2019, the Defiance County Engineer filed the requested plans and estimates for the Haymaker Drive Road Improvement Petition Project. The estimate for the project, without any administrative costs, was estimated at \$108,873.75. The estimated per lot assessment, based upon the estimated construction costs without any administrative costs, was calculated to be \$12,097.08 per lot.

After receiving bids, the Board awarded the project for the cement stabilization of Haymaker Drive to Tenmile Creek Excavating, LLC. in the amount bid by them of \$94,420.00. The final cost of the project with administrative costs was \$121,323.09.

Based on the petition requesting the assessment for the project to be made per lot, the nine lots had assessments of \$13,480.34. The Commissioners wanted the landowners to have adequate time to pay their assessments. The Commissioners chose to allow landowners until March 31, 2021 to pay their total assessment in full or partial payment. Any unpaid balances would be divided evenly to their real estate taxes over a 20 year period along with a 3% administrative fee beginning with the first half 2022 real estate taxes (due approximately January 2022).

Lakeshore Drive/Leisure Shores Drive

On April 3, 2019 the Commissioners received a petition filed under ORC Chapter 5555 for Lakeshore Drive and a portion of Leisure Shores Drive to be repaired to County Standards. The petition was signed by 52% of the landowners whose real estate abutted the previously surveyed and reviewed Lakeshore Drive and Leisure Shores Drive. The petition requested the Board to repair Lakeshore Drive and a portion of Leisure Shores Drive. The petition requested the assessments for the project to be made per parcel.

On Friday, May 3, 2019, the Board viewed the area petitioned for improvement. On Friday, May 3, 2019, the Board held a public hearing, where they heard public input regarding said project. On Friday, May 3, 2019, the Board declared the Lakeshore Drive/Leisure Shores Drive Improvement Petition Project was of sufficient importance to proceed to further analyses, but not yet final approval. The Board fixed the route and termini of such improvement along the previously established right-of-ways for lakeshore Drive and Leisure Shores Drive. The Board apportioned the cost of said project, in accordance with ORC 5555.41, by assessment per parcel, as requested in the petition. The Board instructed the Defiance County Engineer to prepare the necessary surveys, plans, profiles, cross sections, estimates of cost, and specifications for the improvement, together with an estimated assessment, based upon the estimates of cost in the Commissioners' Office by May 29, 2019.

On May 29, 2019, the Defiance County Engineer filed the requested plans and estimates for the Lakeshore Drive/Leisure Shores Drive Road Improvement Petition Project. The estimate for the project, without any administrative costs, was estimated at \$116,047.50. The estimated per parcel assessment, based upon the estimated construction costs without any administrative costs, was calculated to be \$5,802.38 per parcel.

After receiving bids, the Board awarded the project for the cement stabilization of Lakeshore Drive/Leisure Shores Drive to Tenmile Creek Excavating, LLC. in the amount bid by them of \$135,425.00. The final cost of the project with administrative costs was \$161,767.70.

Based on the petition requesting the assessment for the project to be made per parcel, the twenty parcels had assessments of \$8,088.39. The Commissioners wanted the landowners to have adequate time to pay their assessments. The Commissioners chose to allow landowners until March 31, 2021 to pay their total assessment in full or partial payment. Any unpaid balances would be divided evenly to their real estate taxes over a 20 year period along with a 3% administrative fee beginning with the first half 2022 real estate taxes (due approximately January 2022).

Engineer/Highway Garage

Warren Schlatter, County Engineer

419-782-4751

2019 BRIDGE WORK AND MAJOR ROAD

| Bridge Replacements | |
|---|-------------|
| Location | Cost |
| Arrowsmith east of Rosedale | \$91,807.31 |
| Nagel east of SR 66 | \$44,233.51 |
| Walnut Grove north of Nagel | \$56,513.27 |
| Williams Defiance County Line west of Christy | \$61,934.60 |

| Road Paving | |
|---|----------------|
| Location | Cost |
| The Bend btwn Bradshaw & Blosser | \$122,450.68 |
| DAPB btwn Harris & Defiance Henry Co Line | \$271,696.11 |
| Harris btwn Blanchard & Hoffman | \$123,357.02 |
| Scott btwn Glenburg & Evansport | \$342,706.00 |
| CR 424 btwn N Clinton & Independence Dam St. Park | \$1,641,867.44 |

2019 Actual Income & Expenses

| Revenue | | Disbursements | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Permissive Tax | \$444,351 | Salaries | \$1,153,958 |
| Motor Vehicle License Tax | \$1,457,912 | Benefits | \$539,104 |
| Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax | \$2,939,200 | Materials & Supplies | \$1,379,774 |
| Court Fines | \$27,483 | Equipment | \$298,238 |
| Sales (Maps, Prints, etc.) | \$35 | Contracted Repairs | \$79,355 |
| Other | \$190,134 | Office Expenses | \$1,302 |
| Reimbursements | \$41,390 | Other Expenses | \$57,101 |
| Interest | \$30,754 | Contracted Services | \$15,354 |
| Transfers | \$4,999 | Contracted Projects | \$1,451,813 |
| State Reimbursement | \$15,874 | Land Acquisition | \$6,792 |
| State Grant Advances | \$75,000 | State Grant Advances | - |
| OPWC | \$643,831 | Grants to Townships | \$194,687 |
| Federal Grants | \$433,370 | Grant Matching Funds & FHWA | \$1,077,201 |
| Total Income | \$6,304,333 | Total Expenditures | \$6,254,679 |
| Outstanding Encumbrances | \$68,616 | Outstanding Encumbrances | \$185,920 |
| 2018 Carryover to 2019 | \$1,931,312 | 2019 Carryover to 2020 | \$1,863,661 |
| Total Disbursements | \$8,304,261 | Total Disbursements | \$8,304,261 |

Snow & Ice Control

| | 2016-2017 | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019 |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Labor | \$25,132.27 | \$35,491.20 | \$25,531.84 |
| Overtime | \$20,688.97 | \$36,964.79 | \$33,927.55 |
| Equipment | \$103,158.16 | \$179,107.43 | \$127,980.57 |
| Material | \$65,621.39 | \$81,752.88 | \$90,191.84 |
| Total | \$214,600.79 | \$333,316.30 | \$277,631.80 |

Crack Sealing

31,398 pounds of crack sealing material were applied to 19 miles of County Roads at a cost of \$34,694.79

40,340 pounds of crack sealing material were applied to 15 miles of Township Roads at a cost of \$44,575.70.

Road Resurfacing Program

County:

CR 424 4.66 miles
 DAPB Rd. 2.75 miles
 Harris Rd. 1.00 miles
 Scott Rd. 3.28 miles
 The Bend Rd. 0.98 miles

15,594 tons of asphalt applied

Townships:

5 Townships 5.51 miles

6,305 tons of asphalt applied

Total Cost: \$2,039,711.35

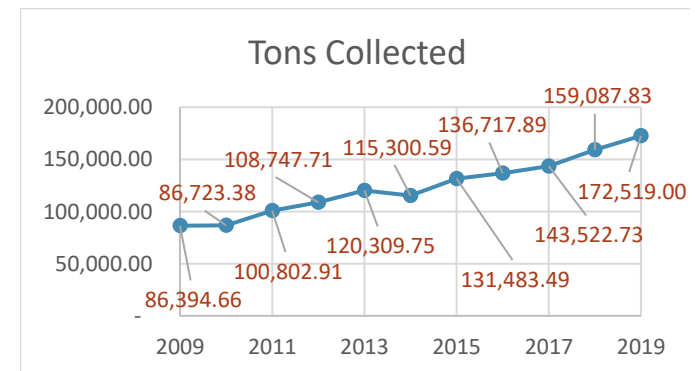
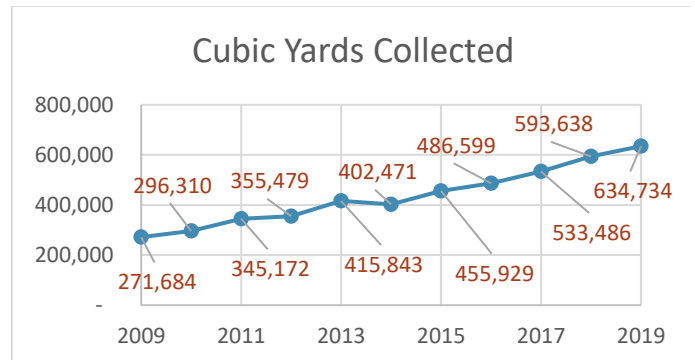
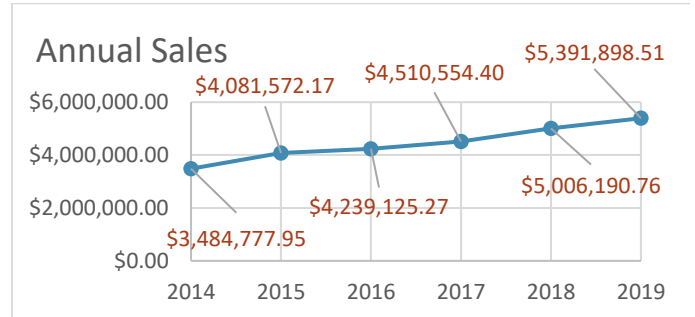
Landfill

Warren Schlatter, Manager

419-784-2844

The Defiance County Landfill is a publicly-owned facility that operates as a true business. The Landfill has expanded under a Best Available Technology (BAT) permit that was issued by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) in 2006. The current operating permit has the Landfill constructing new waste cells approximately every five years, with the most recent construction planned for 2020.

| 2019 Revenue and Expenses | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Salaries/Officials | \$137,735.81 |
| Salaries/Crew-Clerical | \$341,175.55 |
| Supplies | \$56,673.83 |
| Equipment | \$1,217,466.37 |
| Contract Services | \$15,575.78 |
| Contract Repairs | \$448,530.00 |
| Advertising | \$417.26 |
| Professional Services | \$186,609.85 |
| Other Expenses | \$106,570.62 |
| Transfer Out | \$50,000.00 |
| Transportation-Fuel/Oil | \$176,205.55 |
| Leachate | \$38,684.33 |
| Fees | \$1,102,972.35 |
| County Demolition Program | \$54,506.70 |
| Insurance | \$98,480.04 |
| PERS | \$65,866.38 |
| Workers Comp | \$5,277.97 |
| Advances Out | \$282,668.14 |
| Total Expenses | \$4,385,416.53 |
| Fees-Daily Receipts | \$5,360,990.13 |
| Hicksville Transfer Station | \$16,856.75 |
| Other Receipts | \$30,528.70 |
| Total Revenue | \$5,408,375.58 |



Ditch Maintenance

Kevin Hancock, District Administrator

419-782-1794

In December 1989, The Defiance County Commissioners and the Defiance County Engineer entered into an agreement with the Board of Supervisors for Defiance County Soil & Water Conservation District to manage and operate the Defiance County Ditch Maintenance Program, as required by Ohio Revised Code. There are currently 202 improvements under maintenance, totaling 358 miles.

Work Completed in 2019

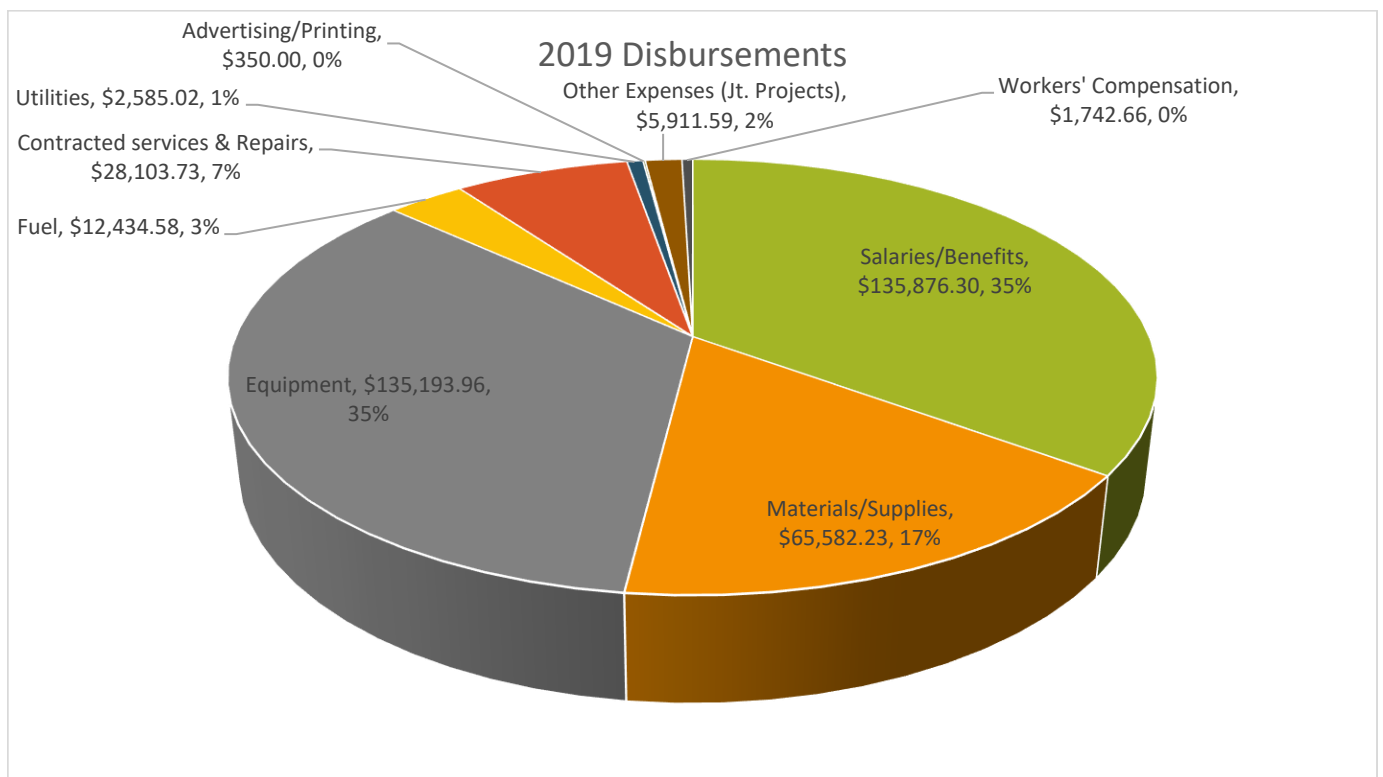
- 7.7 miles bottom cleaned on 10 improvements
- 167 miles brush and cattail control
- 327 tons of rock for bank protection
- 76 pounds of grass seed and fertilizer
- 44 improvements repaired
- 609 feet of tile/pipe repairs
- Leaning tree/log jam removal

2019 Revenue:

Local & Other Counties' Taxes: \$513,437.17
 Equipment Maintenance/Other: \$69,777.85
 Total Revenue: \$583,215.02

Ditch Maintenance Steering Board Members:

| | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Warren Schlatter | Gary Plotts | Mick Pocratsky | Ryan Mack |
| Mike Zeedyk | Louis Shininger | Gary Mavis | Dan Vetter |
| Keith Schroeder | Tom Beck | Bill Moats | Roger Zeedyk IV |
| Jeff Hange | Kyle Weber | Jason Roehrig | Ben Gerken |
| Jeff Peter | Terry Behnfeldt | | |



Soil & Water Conservation District

Kevin Hancock, District Administrator

419-782-1794

2019 District Accomplishments:

- Design, layout, and construction oversight of 6,656 lineal feet of grassed waterways including tile, blind inlet, rock chute/pad components. Also, over 3,849 lineal feet of waterways designed for 2020 construction.
- Facilitated the planting of over 800 acres of cover crops in prioritized watersheds.
- Western Lake Erie Small Grains Program – 2,513 acres.
- Western Lake Erie Buffer Program – 323 acres.
- Implementation of 3 Conservation Works of Improvement projects in addition to private drainage projects addressing flooding and erosion concerns.
- Design, layout, and construction oversight on 3 cascading waterways with a total of 6 pool areas.
- Rental of conservation establishment equipment including native grass no-till drill (194.9 acres), conservation cover seeder (207.8 acres), straw mulcher (17 hours), and tree planter (over 3,000 trees planted).
- Since 2012, well over \$1,418,500.00 (non-federal) has been brought into Defiance County as cost share for conservation implementation such as drainage water management, cover crops, wetlands, and precision nutrient management.
- District conservation tree sale with over 7,200 tree seedlings established.
- Conducted 47 site reviews for proposed rural development addressing drainage and flooding concerns, home siting, site suitability for home sewage treatment systems, pond excavations, and wells, in addition to access management.
- District oversees the investigation of WLEB fertilizer and manure application laws in addition to the Ag Pollution Abatement Program with 16 investigations performed in 2019.
- Adult education and outreach programs provided over 25,855 engagements with local residents, producers and ag retailers through newsletters, workshops, and social media.
- Youth conservation programs conducted with over 4,300 student presentations including classroom, field day, summer conservation camps, and recycling-specific programs. In addition, facilitated local schools' participation in the Area 1 Envirothon competition.
- Conducted an ag field day focused on the economics of conservation – highlighting soil health, and cover crops having over 200 in attendance.



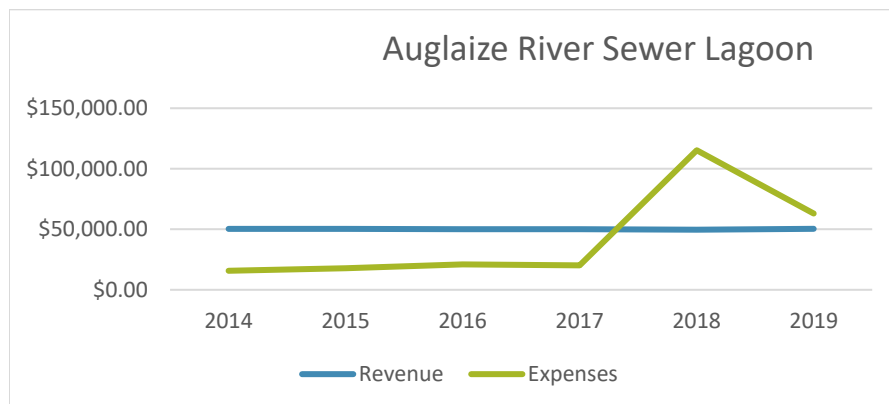
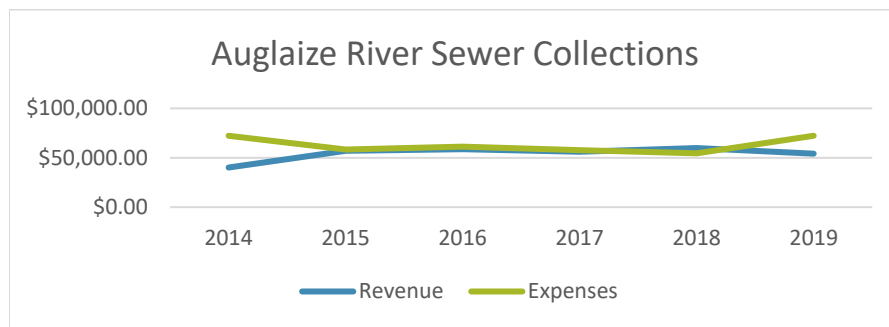
Wastewater Operations

Brad Fritch, Director

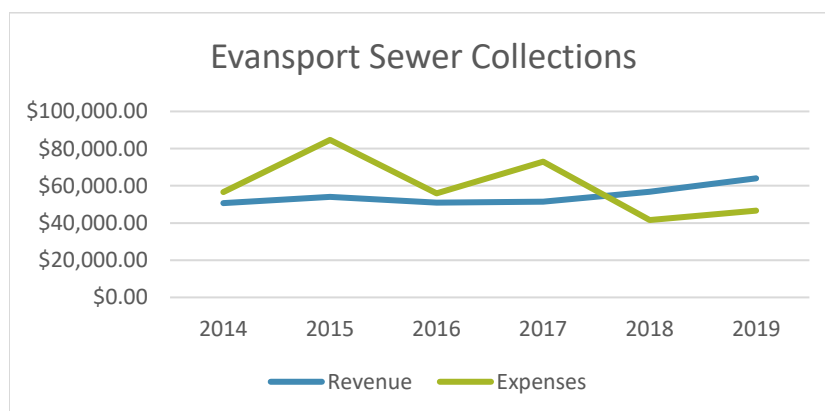
419-782-2230

The Defiance County Wastewater Operations Office oversees the operation of numerous wastewater collection and treatment facilities within Defiance County. In December 2019, Brad Fritch was hired to replace retiring Director Greg Reinhart. Brad had 19 ½ years' prior experience in this field when hired.

Auglaize River Sewer – 41,476 linear feet, 7 pump stations, 94 manholes



Evansport Sewer – 9,450 linear feet, 1 pump station, 29 manholes

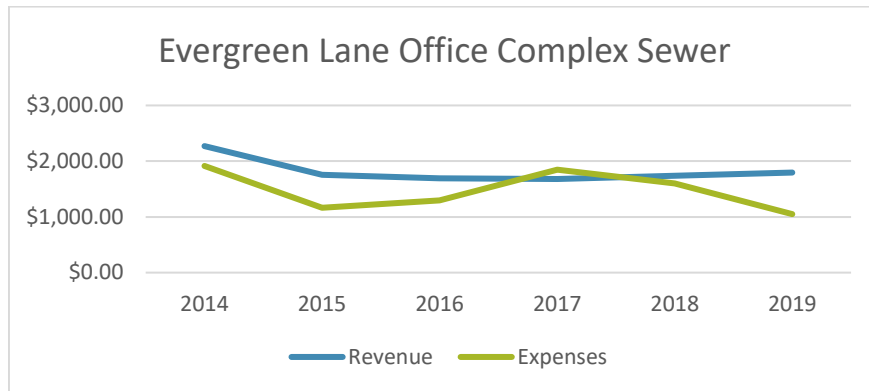


Wastewater Operations

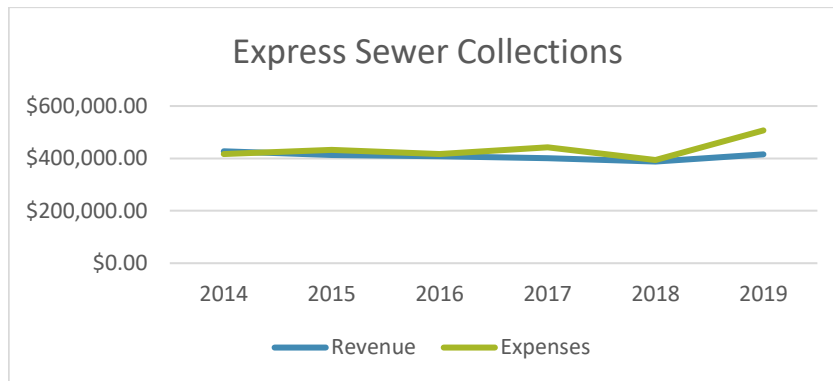
Brad Fritch, Director

419-782-2230

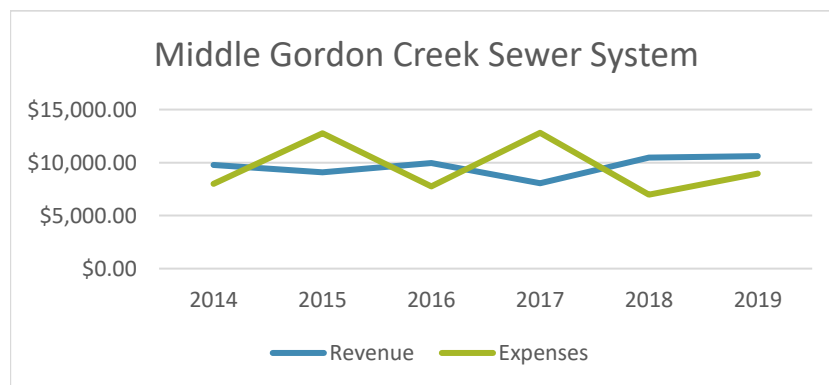
Evergreen Lane Office Complex Sewer – 7,772 linear feet, 0 pump station, 5 manholes



Express Sewer – 61,613 linear feet, 4 pump stations, 136 manholes



Middle Gordon Creek Sewer – 725 linear feet, 1 pump station, 4 manholes



Dog Warden

Randy Vogel, Dog Warden

419-784-2335

Per Ohio Revised Code 955.12, the warden and deputies shall make a record of all dogs owned, kept, and harbored in their respective counties. They shall patrol their respective counties and seize and impound on sight all dogs found running at large and all dogs more than three months of age found not wearing a valid registration tag. If a dog warden has reason to believe that a dog is being treated inhumanely on the premises of its owner, keeper, or harbinger, the warden shall apply to the Court of Common Pleas for the county in which the premises are located for an order to enter the premises, and if necessary, seize the dog.

2018 Statistics

Revenue: \$176,036.17
 Expenses: \$176,560.24
 Citations: 263
 Warnings: 72
 Dog Bites: 79
 Dangerous Dog licenses Sold: 28

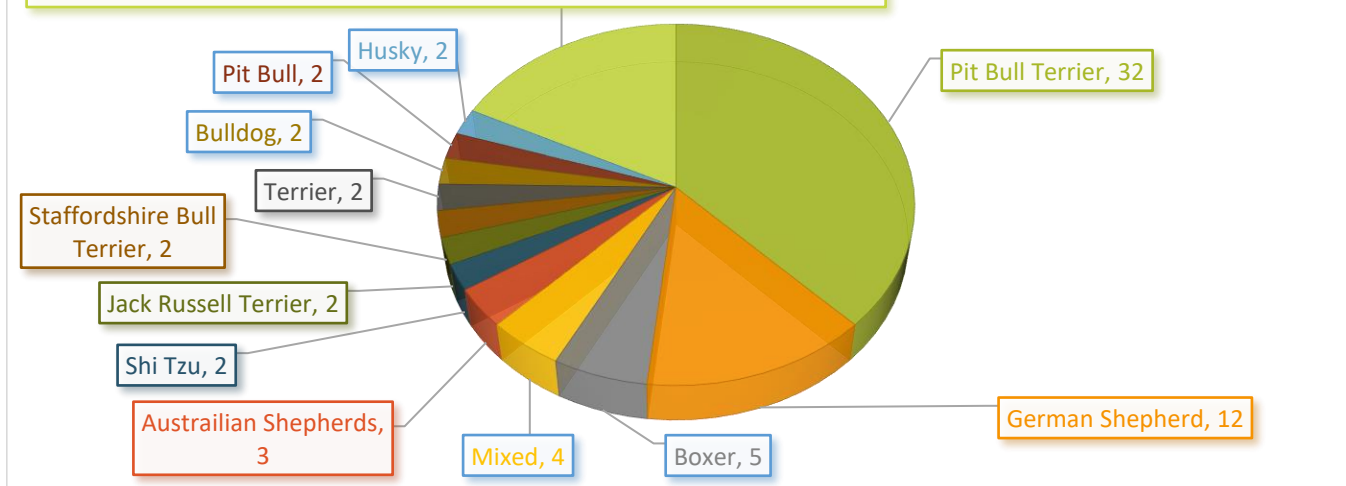
2019 Statistics

Revenue: \$177,319.53
 Expenses: \$185,789.97
 Citations: 343
 Warnings: 120
 Dog Bites: 103
 Dangerous Dog licenses Sold: 50

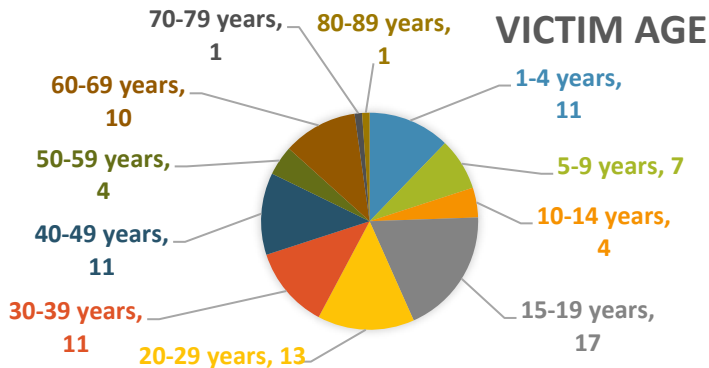
2019 Dog Bite Statistics

American Staffordshire, Beagle, Blue Heeler, Chihuahua, Doberman Pinscher, Golden Doodle Mini, Heeler, Lab, Pembroke Welsh Corgi, Rat Terrier, Saint Bernard, Schnauzer, Shepherd, Shiba Inu, Weimaraner (*1 each), 15

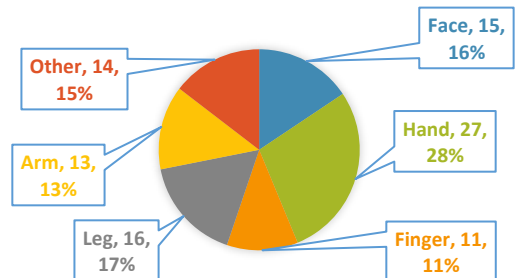
COMMON BREEDS



VICTIM AGE



VICTIM'S BITE LOCATION



Public Safety Services

Julie Rittenhouse, Director

419-782-1130

The Public Safety Services / Emergency Management Agency, in conjunction with the Local Emergency Planning Committee, coordinated hazardous material emergency planning and training development for first responders. A few of the trainings provided in 2019 were Weather Spotter, 8th Annual Hazmat Conference, Defensive Driving, Railcar Incident Response, Computer Aided Mapping for Emergency Operations, LICE, Stop the Bleed, Basic Public Information Officer, and Toledo Edison High Voltage training. PSS/EMA participated in a monthly MARCS Radio Communication Drill as well as the following exercises: Health Care Coalition Table Top and the Defiance County LEPC Full Scale Exercise. We also held an Annual Open House in September. The County elementary schools brought approximately 450 students to the Open House.

The PSS/EMA also prepares for and responds to weather events. The PSS/Defiance County Emergency Management Agency responds to flooding, winter storms, tornados, etc. The agency conducts damage assessment and coordinates response and recovery efforts.

Being part of a Weather-Ready Nation is about preparing for your community's increasing vulnerability to extreme weather events. Defiance County is a Storm Ready county, designated by the National Weather Service of North Webster Indiana.



PSS/EMA administers the State Emergency Response Commission grant, Emergency Management Performance Grant, Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning grant, and the County-Wide Cost Recovery program for hazardous material response. We responded to four suspected hazardous material incidents. The office helped collect \$1,621.175 for the County-Wide Cost Recovery program in 2019.

The County must have a FEMA approved mitigation plan in place to qualify for federal funding. The Defiance County All Hazard Mitigation Plan was approved in 2017. This plan is good for 5 years. We will begin the renewal process in 2021.

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

2019 Statistics

Appropriations: \$127,533.00

Grant Awards: \$ 65,021.91

Expenses: \$132,517.20

911 Center

Matt Hanenkrath, Director

2019 911 Center Information

Upgrade to Radio Systems

In 2018 the 911 Board along with all public safety entities engaged in an upgrade to the radio systems in Defiance County. At the end of 2019 the following was completed:

- All Law Enforcement received a portable radio;
- All Hicksville Police Vehicles received a mobile radio;
- 4 Sheriff Cruisers received a mobile radio;
- All Fire Departments in Defiance received funding through the State Fire Marshall's Office
 - \$496,256.56 was received.

The 2020 project goals include the following:

- Complete all Law Enforcement radio purchases;
- Complete upgrade of 911 radio system;
- Begin completing Fire Department needs.

Text 2 911 —

Text 2 911 was completed in Defiance County. In Quarter 3, Defiance County went live on text 2 911 providing citizens with another opportunity to reach 911 in case of an emergency.

Zuercher Upgrades —

Completed remaining parts of the Zuercher Computer project, which linked all cruisers and Law Enforcement Agencies in the County.

2019 Statistics —

Calls for Service—46,417

Senior Services

Amy Francis, Director

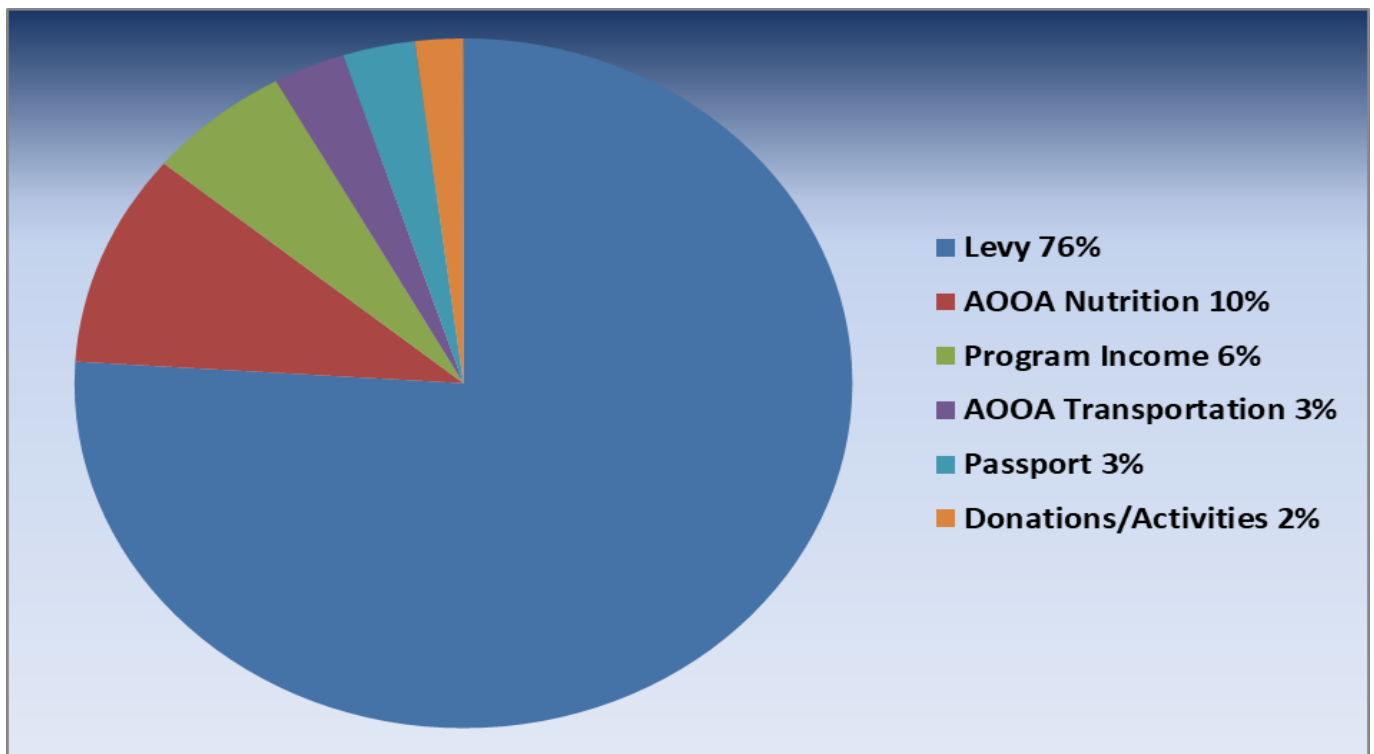
419-782-3233

Because of your generosity in 2019, Defiance County Senior Services provided 87,547 meals and 8,744 transports.

Over the past 5 years, Defiance County Senior Services provided 434,348 meals and 48,321 transports.

In 2019, there was \$1,585,403.57 in revenue and \$1,534,412.86 in expenses.

Defiance County Senior Services is primarily funded through a Defiance County voter-approved levy; the remaining funds are received through grants (The Area Office on Aging of Northwest Ohio and the PASSPORT Program) and donations.



Tina Hiler retired December 2019 after 38 years of serving seniors in Defiance County. Amy Francis is the new Senior Services Director.

Family & Children First

Julie Voll, Coordinator

419-782-6934

Our Mission: Promote and maximize relationships and collaborations to provide resources and support to the families of the Defiance County community

Defiance County Family & Children First Council (FCFC) is the “lead collaborative” as established in accordance with state statute addressing community issues affecting children and families. FCFC membership consists of representatives of mandated systems and government agencies, along with key stakeholders including family representatives.

Throughout 2019, FCFC conducted ongoing business as established by Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Family & Children First. FCFC members provided input to determine the strategic direction for Council, identifying the following strategic goals: promote and maximize relationship building within FCFC and the community, maximize resources to Defiance County families and optimize FCFC funding.

Our service includes several impact areas:

Service Coordination...an established process of service planning and system collaboration that provides individualized services and supports to families who have needs across multiple systems.

Early Intervention...a statewide system providing coordinated services to parents of infants and toddlers with disabilities or developmental delays in Ohio...Early Intervention services funded through FCFC were provided by Defiance County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

Family Services Guide...Our FCFC has a long, established history of providing a resource guide to increase awareness of currently available services to county residents...commonly referred to as the ‘orange guide’ for its recognizable orange cover.

Job & Family Services

Corey Walker, Director

419-782-3881

In the fall of 2019, the Defiance County Commissioners were fortunate to have a home and financial contribution donated to them by a local philanthropic family. The use of this gift is for the establishment of a residence to serve the children and youth of the community. With the generosity of the donation and support, the county will be able to fill a great need for children and families we serve. The home is expected to open in the summer of 2020.

Other 2019 highlights

- Comprehensive Case Management Employment Program (CCMEP) continued to grow through a partnership with Northwest State Community College and other community partners.
- The agency continued to expand our Foster Parent recruitment as well as sustained efforts to increase adoptions.
- The Income Maintenance department was recognized on several occasions for SNAP payment accuracy.
- Our Fiscal Department was awarded, for the second year in a row, the Ohio State Auditor award for Excellence in Financial Reporting in accordance with General Accepted Accounting Principles and Compliance
- The agency began an internal Quality Assurance program for Children Services to improve merit and evaluation of the department.

| Children Services' | |
|---|-----------|
| Screened in neglect cases | |
| Traditional Response | 17 |
| Alternative Response | 41 |
| Total neglect | 58 |
| Screened in Physical Abuse | |
| Traditional Response | 24 |
| Alternative Response | 72 |
| Total Physical abuse | 96 |
| Screened in Sexual Abuse cases | |
| Traditional Response | 48 |
| Total sexual abuse | 48 |
| Screened in Dependency | |
| Traditional Response | 16 |
| Total Dependency | 16 |
| Screened in Family in Need of Services cases | |
| Traditional Response | 14 |
| Total FINS | 14 |
| Screened in Emotional Maltreatment | |
| Traditional Response | 2 |
| Alternative Response | 4 |
| Total EM | 6 |
| Screened in Medical Neglect | |
| Traditional Response | 3 |
| Alternative Response | 7 |
| Total Medical Neglect | 10 |

| Income Maintenance | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Defiance | |
| SNAP (Monthly) | |
| Assistance Groups | 1,620 |
| Children | 1,277 |
| Adults | 1,908 |
| Amount | \$358,702.00 |
| TANF (Monthly) | |
| Assistance Groups | 73 |
| Children | 107 |
| Adults | 0 |
| Amount | \$25,194.00 |
| Medicaid (Monthly) | |
| Assistance Groups | 8,233 |
| Children | 3,713 |
| Adults | 4,520 |
| Amount by Recipient | \$3,977,359.57 |
| Amount in County | \$2,932,642.65 |
| | Defiance/Paulding |
| Fraud (2019) | |
| SNAP | \$53,349.87 |
| Ohio Works First | \$1,948.27 |
| Medicaid | \$1,306.67 |
| Total | \$56,955.21 |

Juvenile Court

Judge Jeffrey A. Strausbaugh

419-782-0226

SUMMARY OF CASES FILED IN 2019

Defiance County Juvenile Court has the responsibility to hear and determine all cases and issues concerning children in Defiance County. In 2019, there were 1,033 complaints and/or new cases formally filed. This total includes: 301 delinquent child complaints; 52 unruly child complaints; 253 juvenile traffic complaints; 56 dependency, neglect and child abuse cases; 3 permanent custody cases; and 368 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 2019, the Defiance County Juvenile Court had 301 delinquency complaints filed. Of the 301 complaints filed, 58 were felony charges and 243 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 2019, the Defiance County Juvenile Court had 52 unruly complaints filed.

JUVENILE TRAFFIC CASES: A 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 2019, there were 253 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 Department of 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 2019, there were 56 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 Department of Job & Family Services for eventual permanent adoptive placement of the child. Three (3) new motions for permanent custody were filed in the court in 2019.

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 one failure to send charges filed in 2019.

CUSTODY/VISITATION/PARENTAGE 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 2019, there were 114 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 2019, there were 10 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 2019, there were 240 support cases filed in the Defiance County Juvenile Court.

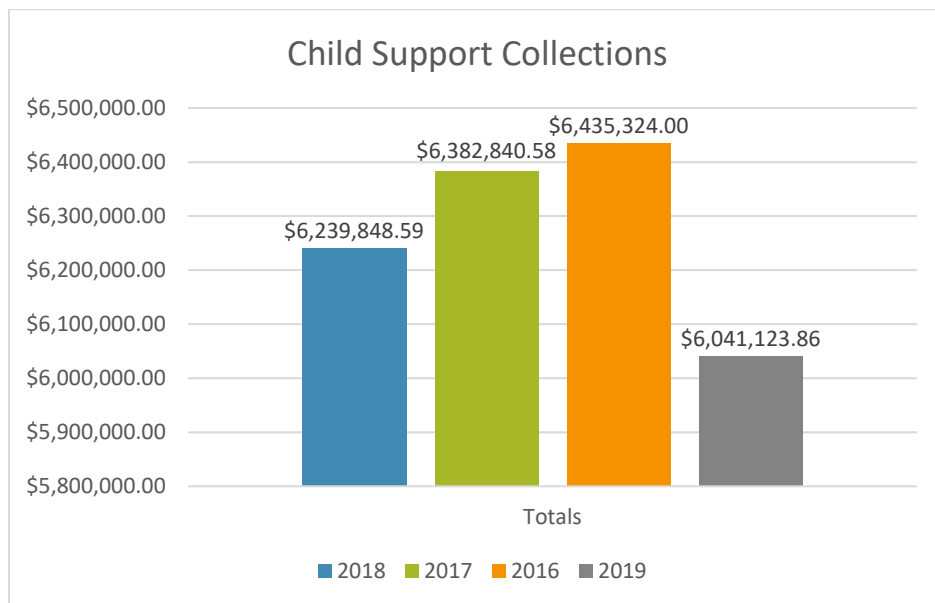
Child Support Enforcement Agency

Connie Bostelman, Director

419-784-2123

Every child has a legal right to the financial support of both parents, even if the parents are divorced, separated, or never married. The Defiance County Child Support Enforcement Agency provides services designed to insure that appropriate financial support is provided to children by their parent. Federal and State Laws set forth our responsibilities and provide a majority of the funding for operating the Agency. There is no fee charged, regardless of income and some services are available to either parent. We do not provide legal representation to either party; however, attorneys are available to answer questions regarding our services and procedures.

In 2019 there was a caseload of 2,596. There were expenditures of \$867,807.21 and receipts of \$869,995.81. There were 198 paternitys established and 437 administrative and/or court hearings held.



Recorder

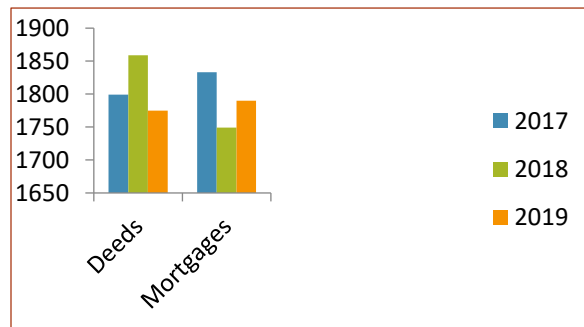
Cecilia Parsons

419-782-4741

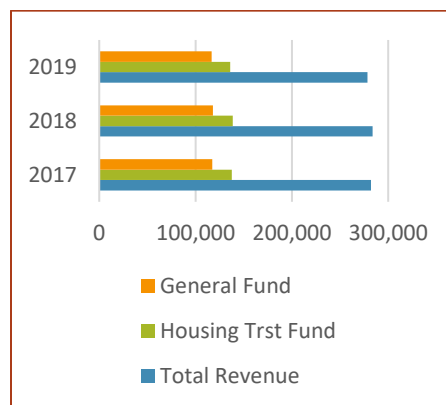
In December 2019, the Defiance County Recorder's office began accepting non-conveyance documents for E-Recording. E-Recording is the process of electronically recording documents by submitting, receiving and processing documents for recording via the Internet that would otherwise be sent to a county recorder's office by express mail or courier service. E-Recording can reduce the timeline for recording a document to minutes or seconds, while drastically lowering document rejection rates.

The Recorder's office is in the process of back scanning and indexing all deed records. Although this will be a lengthy process, when complete this will allow a searcher to look up any deed back to the start of the county in 1845 by name, property, date, etc.

The changes are designed to enhance the integrity of our records and provide more technologically advanced products to our customers.



Documents Received/Filed



Revenue & Disbursements

Commissioners' Lunch on the Road

In 2019, the Commissioners continued to hold their Lunch on the Road events throughout the County. The Commissioners feel these events provide the citizens an opportunity to meet with the Commissioners in an informal setting to discuss any concerns, complaints, or ideas they had for the County.



February 9, 2019 at Sherwood Pizza and Subs



December 13, 2019 at Slammin' Sammies

May 24, 2019 at Kissner's Restaurant



United Way of Defiance County's Dr. Seuss Reading Day

The Commissioners assisted with the United Way of Defiance County's Dr. Seuss Reading Day in the County's schools.



Commissioner Mack at Northeastern Local School



Commissioner Pocratsky at Hicksville Exempted Village School

National County Government Month Presentations

The Commissioners provided presentations at the local schools for National County Government Month. In 2019 they were able to provide presentations at Northeastern Local School, Ayersville Local School and St. John Lutheran School.

The Commissioners enjoy being able to help educate the young citizens about County Government and the local Elected Officials.

This year, they were able to utilize the NACo's Counties Work educational game. Commissioner Mack worked with the students to create and operated their own County.



Community Apiary - NACo Achievement Award

The Defiance County Commissioners were recognized with an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo) for the Pollinator Sanctuary and Training Facility of Defiance County. The award honors innovative, effective county government programs that strengthen services for residents.

NACo recognized Defiance County for its program, Pollinator Sanctuary and Training Facility of Defiance County, in the category of Community and Economic Development. The purpose of this project was to create a pollinator sanctuary and to provide a training facility for beekeeping classes. The facility is on a 2 ½-acre site owned by Defiance County. There is a 40 foot by 40 foot enclosed area for the community beehives with a large viewing window on each side to watch the beekeepers at work. The surrounding acreage will be planted with a native Ohio pollinator mixture of trees and plants to help feed the colonies.

Through the efforts of Mr. Jamie Walters and the Black Swamp Beekeepers Association, a groundbreaking ceremony for the Pollinator Sanctuary and Training Facility of Defiance County was held on May 11, 2018. With the combined aid of grants, hive stand sponsors, fence sponsors, donations and fundraisers, the group was able to secure nearly \$10,000 to build the sanctuary on September 22, 2018 and a grand opening was held. Between the September opening date and the end of 2018, the sanctuary has had 26 general public visitors and 28 area home school visitors.

The goal of the project is to increase the number of registered beekeepers in the area, with responsible beekeeping being another goal. This facility will teach the value of having disease, virus and pest free colonies. According to County Apiary Inspector Jamie Walters, The Pollinator Sanctuary and Training Facility of Defiance County is the first facility of this nature in the State of Ohio and the fourth in the Nation.

Commissioner Mick Pocratsky, "Award or no award, the winner of this is Agriculture. The Defiance County Commissioners are involved in a number of efforts to preserve and promote conservation practices in Defiance County. Although we are honored and humbled by this award, it would not have been possible without the cooperation and efforts of the Black Swamp Beekeepers Association and the Commissioners' staff." NACo President Greg Cox said, "Counties implement innovative programs that enhance residents' quality of life every day. This year's Achievement Award-winning programs demonstrate how counties build healthy, safe and vibrant communities across America."

Nationally, awards are given in 18 different categories that reflect the vast, comprehensive services counties provide. The categories include children and youth, criminal justice, county administration, information technology, health, civic engagement and many more.

NACo recognized award-winning counties at its 2019 Annual Conference and Exposition July 12-15 in Clark County, Nevada.



Grand Opening for Headquarters Barbershop



Proclamation Presentation for Child Abuse Prevention Month



Proclamation Presentation to E911 Dispatcher Kristi Booth for the Gold Star Award



*Thank you to Defiance County
citizens for allowing us the
opportunity to serve you!*