

# Wood County, Ohio

# 2022

ANNUAL REPORT

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# WOOD COUNTY, OHIO 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

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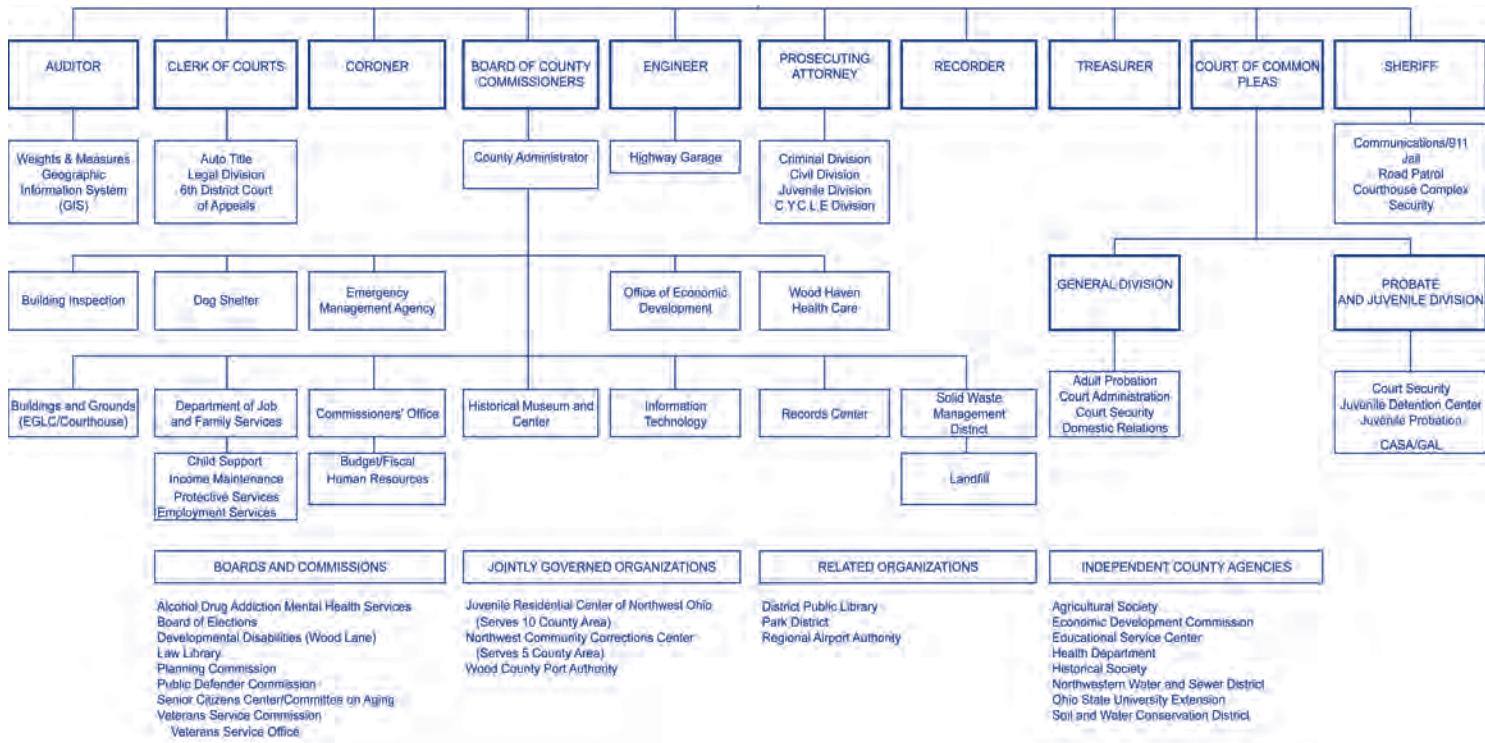
## Wood County Elected Officials



Pictured from Left to Right: Front Row: Judge Joel Kuhlman, Engineer John Musteric, Judge Mary "Molly" Mack, Judge Matthew Reger, Clerk of Courts Douglas Cubberley, Commissioner Craig LaHote, Sheriff Mark Wasylshyn, Treasurer Jane Spoerl. Back Row: Auditor Matthew Oestreich, Commissioner Theodore Bowlus, Coroner Douglas Hess, Commissioner Doris Herringshaw, Judge David Woessner, Recorder Jim Matuszak, Prosecutor Paul Dobson. Photo taken June 29, 2021.

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# A Message from the Board of County Commissioners

Given the challenges of the last two years, we are thankful 2022 was a more normal year for County government. Most departments returned to regular operations despite lingering pandemic-related issues. Supply chain delays, material and equipment cost increases, and staffing shortages continue to cause disruption. However, we are learning to adjust by planning our purchases and projects well in-advance and exploring new ways to attract and retain employees.

In May, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency approved the County's expansion permit for the landfill. The permit will provide for nearly 100 years of expansion capacity on land purchased by the Commissioners decades ago. Due to improved compaction over the last year, approximately 2.5 years of useful life remains in the current landfill cell. Construction to expand the landfill will begin in early 2024. We are pleased to move forward with this project as environmentally responsible landfill capacity is important to the future of Wood County.

In September, construction started on the Jail renovation and expansion project that was previously delayed due to the pandemic. The project includes construction of a new booking area, medical offices and observation cells, and a new female inmate housing unit. Renovations will be made in several other areas of the Jail. We anticipate significant progress over the

next year. The projected completion date is September 2024.

As part of the jail project financing, Moody's Investors Services completed a review of the County's financial status and affirmed the County's Aa1 bond rating. This excellent rating reflects the County's sizable tax base, low direct debt burden, consistent governmental operations, and positive sales tax collection trends. Moody's expects the County's financial position will remain strong given the County's conservative budgetary approach and reserve levels. We appreciate the efforts of the Auditor's Office, Treasurer's Office, and Commissioners' Departments in collecting and presenting the data and financial information needed for this important process.

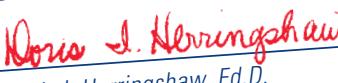
Economic development continued to thrive in 2022. First Solar broke ground on an approximately 1.5 million square foot research and development facility in Perrysburg Township. This new \$270 million investment is expected to be the first of its scale in the United States. Abbott Laboratories announced the largest project of the year with its plan to build a formula plant in Bowling Green with an investment of over \$500 million and creation of 450 jobs. Construction will begin in 2023 with plans to be fully operational in 2027. As a result of continued economic growth, the County's unemployment rate hit a record low of 2.6 percent.

In May, County Administrator Andrew Kalmar announced his retirement. Mr. Kalmar was hired in January 2000 and is the longest serving Administrator in Wood County history. During his 22 years, Wood County maintained a strong financial position, experienced significant economic development, and made key improvements to county facilities and departmental operations, including the construction of the Alvin L. Perkins Atrium. He was also instrumental in guiding the County through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. His steady leadership, calm demeanor, and great sense of humor will be missed. We are grateful for his contributions and wish him the best.

Once again, we thank you, the citizens of Wood County, for the opportunity to serve you as County Commissioners. We are very optimistic about the future of Wood County and look forward to working with you in the year ahead.  
Sincerely,  
The Board of County Commissioners,  
Wood County, Ohio

  
Craig LaNote, President

  
Dr. Theodore H. Bowlus

  
Doris I. Herringshaw, Ed.D.

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*The Board of County Commissioners is the administrative coordinator of County Government and has direct oversight responsibility for 13 agencies and departments. Together the Commissioners manage County funds, buildings and property, and serve as the County's contracting and tax authority. The Board is authorized to perform its duties under Chapters 305 and 307 of the Ohio Revised Code.*



Doris I. Herringshaw, Ed.D.



Craig LaHote



Dr. Theodore H. Bowlus

As a result of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Wood County government received \$25.6 million dollars of federal funds. In late June, the Commissioners finalized the allocation of these funds, focusing on eligible projects that would impact a large number of County residents and provide lasting benefits to the community. Key projects include water, sewer and stormwater improvements, identification and replacement of lead water service lines, air-handling system upgrades in county-owned buildings, financial assistance to the Cocoon Shelter

and Habitat for Humanity, and other public infrastructure projects. Additionally, the Commissioners approved a county-wide computer aided dispatch, records management, and jail management (CAD/RMS/JMS) system upgrade to enhance electronic communication and information sharing among all first responders in the County.

In March 2020, the State of Ohio and local governments banded together to create the OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which established a mechanism to disburse settlement proceeds

from national opioid litigation into Ohio's communities to help abate the opioid crisis. Wood County is a participant under the MOU, and in June, received its first payment from a OneOhio settlement in the amount of \$52,569. The County will receive payments under this settlement for 18 years. The settlement funds must be used for certain approved purposes defined in the MOU, including expanding the availability of substance use treatment; implementing prevention strategies for substance use; providing substance use avoidance and education; decreasing the oversupply of opioids; and supporting addiction recovery services. Additional opioid litigation settlements are pending.

In July, the Commissioners appointed Carri Stanley to serve as County Administrator following the retirement of Andrew Kalmar. She served as Assistant County Administrator since 2019. Prior to that position, she worked for 11 years in the Wood County Prosecutor's Office as a Senior Assistant Prosecutor in the Civil Division. She is a graduate of the University of Findlay and the University of Toledo College of Law.

Dan Scherger, formerly the Finance Manager at Wood Haven Health Care, was selected to fill the Assistant County Administrator position. As part of his role, he will also serve as

the Director of the Wood County Solid Waste Management District. Mr. Scherger is a graduate of Bowling Green State University and comes to the County with over 20 years of business and finance experience.

In September, the Commissioners welcomed Annette Wells as the new Museum Director replacing former director Kelli Kling who relocated out of the area. Ms. Wells has a passion for history and previously served as the Director of the Maritime Museum of Sandusky and the Edison Birthplace Museum in Milan, Ohio. She is a graduate of Mercyhurst College in Pennsylvania.

The County celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Records Center in 2022. In its first 20 years, the Records Center brought in a total of 18,462 cubic feet of records for storage and removed 9,700 cubic feet of records via destruction at the end of the retention period and/or by reformatting the records. Center staff continue to work to ensure the County's permanent records are properly maintained through microfilm since it is considered a more reliable medium than digital formats.

Commissioners' session agendas and minutes are posted on the County's website. Residents are welcome to attend the Commissioners' session held on Tuesday and Thursday of each week.

### County Employees Give Back to the Community

Commissioner Craig LaHote, Prosecutor Paul Dobson and County Administrator Andrew Kalmar volunteered to be splashed by employees during the Employee Picnic in June. The "Big Splash" was a fundraiser for the County's United Way Campaign.

Elected Officials hosted an Employee Cornhole Tournament in November which raised \$720. The top three winning teams selected Wood County charities to receive the proceeds from the event. The United Way Day of Sharing was also held in conjunction with the tournament and raised an additional \$963 for the local United Way.

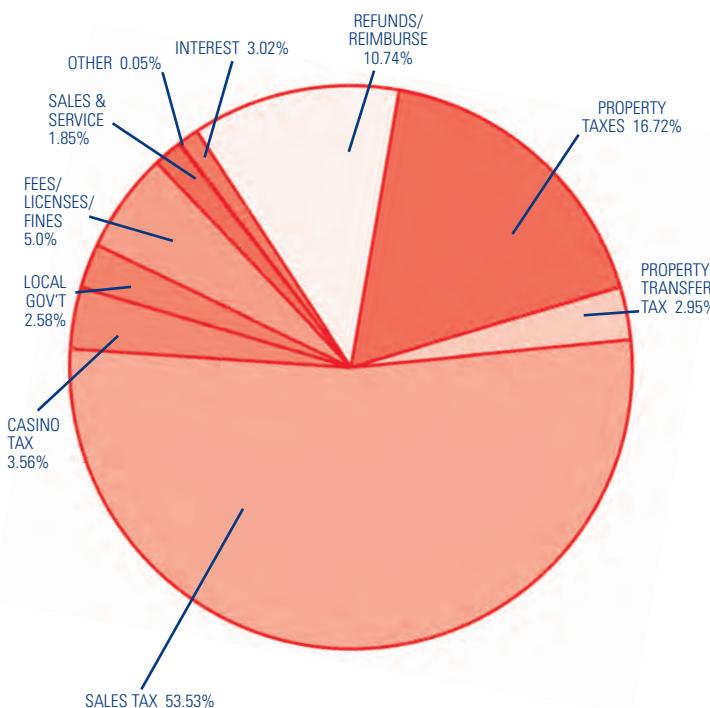
Other volunteer opportunities included four blood drives in the Alvin L. Perkins Atrium and the Holiday Helping Hands that provided employees the opportunity to donate hats, gloves, and mittens for distribution to agencies serving Wood County.



One of the duties of the Board of County Commissioners is preparing, adopting, and monitoring the annual operating budget for the County. The County fiscal year extends from January through December. The Commissioners work with all County Elected Officials in preparing the budget. Fortunately in Wood County, there is a great working relationship among all of the Elected Officials as they strive to contain costs while providing quality services to County residents.

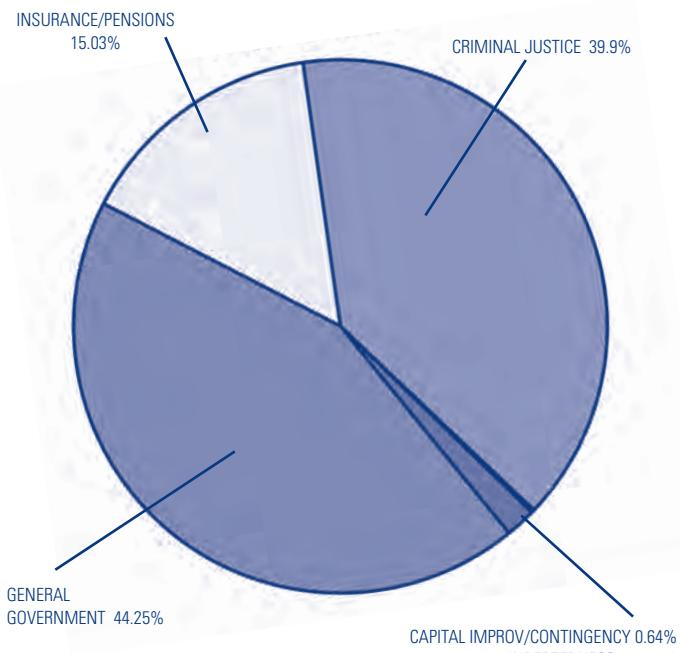
### 2022 ACTUAL RECEIPTS

**\$53,306,101.26**



### 2022 ACTUAL EXPENDITURES

**\$51,965,644.84**



### SALES TAX RECEIPTS

2022	<b>\$28,538,142.65</b>
2021	<b>\$26,403,972.18</b>
2020	<b>\$24,529,961.15</b>
2019	<b>\$22,904,876.40</b>
2018	<b>\$21,938,607.20</b>

### CASINO TAX RECEIPTS

2022	<b>\$1,896,285.77</b>
2021	<b>\$1,774,137.05</b>
2020	<b>\$1,245,792.94</b>
2019	<b>\$1,595,690.04</b>
2018	<b>\$1,559,237.10</b>

## NOMINATE SOMEONE YOU KNOW FOR A SPIRIT OF WOOD COUNTY AWARD

Nominations for the 2023 Spirit of Wood County Awards are being accepted through August 15.

Award categories include Self-Government, Agricultural Leadership, Religion and Liberty, Liberty Through Law/Human Freedom, Education for Civic Responsibility, Industrial/Economic Development, and the Lyle R. Fletcher Good Citizenship Award.

Nomination forms and a listing of prior award recipients can be found on the County's website. The 2023 awards will be presented in October during a special ceremony in the Alvin L. Perkins Atrium.

The 2022 award recipients include Bowling Green residents

Suzanne Clark, Industrial/Economic Development; Timothy J. Brown, Liberty Through Law/Human Freedom; and Jonathan Jakubowski, Education for Civic Responsibility; Village of Millbury resident Pastor James Nevel, Religion and Liberty; Grand Rapids Township resident Shannon Fisher, Self-Government; Montgomery Township resident Gary Garrison, Agricultural Leadership; and Washington Township resident Jean Scott was selected for the Lyle R. Fletcher Good Citizenship Award.

With the exception of 2020, the Spirit of Wood County Awards have been presented annually since 1988 to honor services rendered by Wood County citizens.

## Buildings and Grounds

Steve Blausey, Facilities Director

*Buildings and Grounds staff oversee the day-to-day maintenance of the buildings at the Courthouse Complex, East Gypsy Lane Road Complex, and satellite offices including the Clerk of Courts Title Office, Highway Garage, Public Defender, and Veterans Assistance Center. Department staff provide maintenance, repair, and groundskeeping for the buildings owned by the Wood County Commissioners. Custodial services are also provided at the Courthouse Complex.*

Buildings and Grounds staff placed special emphasis on updating the landscaping around the Courthouse and East Gypsy Lane complexes.

Projects at the Courthouse included painting of the Emergency Management Agency, Emergency Operations Center, and Court Administration offices. New carpet was installed in Court Security, Court Administration, and in the Commissioners' Hearing Room. Roof work was performed on the Courthouse and Office Building. A new sump pump and updates to the chiller were completed in the Office Building. A new interior wall was built in the Records Center to provide more office space and a security gate was installed in Board of Elections.

New tube heaters were installed in the Sign Shop Building at the Highway Garage facility on Poe Road.

At the East Gypsy Lane Complex, roof replacements were completed at the Child Support Enforcement Agency and Juvenile

Residential Center; the kitchen floor tile at the Jail was replaced with Eco-Grip flooring; and new cooling units were installed in the IT server room in the Sheriff's Office. The Juvenile Detention Center underwent another round of toilet/lavatory replacements along with a painting and door replacement project. Improvements at Wood Haven included updates to the shower rooms and installation of a new banner fence on the southeast corner of the property.

Two major construction projects started in 2022: a renovation project at the Health Department and renovation/expansion project at the Jail.

The custodial staff provided cleaning services for the Highway Garage, Records Center, Courthouse, Office Building, and Fuel Facility. Their responsibilities include daily and weekly cleaning cycles and the handling of recycled materials at each location.

The Buildings and Grounds Department operates under the Board of County Commissioners.

### Jail Expansion/Renovation Project Underway

After being put on hold due to the pandemic, plans moved forward in 2022 on the expansion and renovation of the Wood County Jail.

When complete, the Jail capacity will be approximately 300 beds, with more overall housing for females and additional maximum security housing for males. Current capacity is around 220 beds of which only 32 are designated for females. To better meet population changes, one area consisting of 12 beds will be available to adjust between male and female housing.

The project will add 26,429 square feet to the 74,386 square foot building creating a new entrance to the facility and updated intake area. The existing indoor recreation area will be converted into female dorms and the master control will be relocated. A designated medical area will be constructed to include medical observation cells. New offices and classrooms are included in the plan. The mechanical room equipment will also be updated.

The estimated project cost is \$28,149,512 with construction expected to be complete in September 2024.



## Building Inspection

Michael Rudey, Chief Building Official

*Building Inspection provides residential and non-residential building code enforcement throughout Wood County. In order to protect the health, safety and welfare of residents, all construction (including new construction, additions to existing structures, and remodeling) must meet a series of requirements set forth by specific state building codes. In addition, the department provides non-residential enforcement in Hancock, Henry, and Fulton Counties as well as residential code enforcement for the cities of Napoleon and Wauseon.*

Due to rising interest rates and supply chain issues, the number of permits and inspection requests for residential and commercial construction declined for a second year in a row.

The majority of new single family home construction took place in Perrysburg and Perrysburg Township. Manufactured home applications decreased from 34 to 18 and a total of 124 multi-family units were started in the County during the year.

Occupancy was granted to several large commercial projects including North Star Steel (Fulton County), First Solar and FedEx. Work started on the APA solar field (Henry County), UPS, and R & L Carriers (Hancock County) projects.

Building Inspection operates under the Board of County Commissioners and is set up as an enterprise fund, operating solely on permit revenue. Building codes utilized during 2022 included the 2017 Ohio Building Codes for non-residential structures and the 2019 Residential Code of Ohio for One, Two, and Three Family Dwellings.

### 2022 BUILDING INSPECTION STATISTICS

Permits Issued .....	5,301
Total Permit Revenue .....	\$2,736,118
Wood County .....	\$1,780,293
Hancock County .....	\$.398,420
Henry County .....	\$.187,189
Fulton County .....	\$.370,216
Total Inspections Completed .....	12,726
Wood County .....	9,365
5,726 Residential/3,639 Non-Residential	
Hancock County .....	1,567
Henry County .....	866
290 Residential (Napoleon)/576 Non-Residential	
Fulton County .....	928
109 Residential (Wauseon)/819 Non-Residential	

## Dog Shelter

Jodi Harding, Chief Dog Warden

*The Dog Shelter is a department operated under the direction of the Wood County Commissioners. The Dog Warden and deputies enforce Chapter 955 of the Ohio Revised Code. They issue dog licenses through the County Auditor, ensure proper housing of dogs, impound and care for stray dogs, investigate injuries and bites caused by dogs, designate dogs as nuisance, dangerous and vicious, and perform other related duties. User fees, dog licenses, kennel fees, fines, and penalties are the primary funding sources for the Dog and Kennel Fund which is used to pay for the Shelter's operations.*

Monthly enrichment nights continued in 2022. Volunteers made dog toys and treats for the Shelter dogs and participated in dog walks at the facility. Monthly activities were also introduced at the Dog Park.

Dog license enforcement continued with phone call follow-ups for non-renewed licenses and door-to-door license checks conducted throughout the year.

### 2022 DOG SHELTER STATISTICS

Total Dogs Impounded.....	361
Redemptions .....	155
Adoptions .....	114
Euthanized .....	13
Deceased .....	2
Owner Surrenders for Euthanasia .....	18
Dogs Transferred to Rescues.....	52
Live Release Rate.....	94.4%
Owner Surrenders .....	39
Incidents Investigated .....	427
Total Licenses Sold .....	17,689
One Year Dog Licenses Sold .....	15,983
Three Year Dog Licenses Sold.....	1,447
Permanent Dog Licenses Sold .....	259
Total Licensed Dogs .....	21,202
Kennel Licenses Sold .....	236
Licenses Sold Online .....	8,982

### DOG PARK OFFERS MEMBERSHIPS

The Wood County Dog Park registered 149 members in 2022. Located next to the Dog Shelter, the Park features three fenced enclosures and water stations. The cost of an annual membership is \$40. Visit the Dog Shelter or County website for membership information.

## Department of Job and Family Services • Dave Wigent, Director

The Department of Job and Family Services, which operates under the Board of County Commissioners, administers federal, state, and county legislated and regulated basic needs assistance; workforce development; child and adult protective services; child support; and social services.

The Employment and Support Services Unit received a Rural Healthcare Grant totaling \$313,711 with 40 individuals participating and obtaining employment in healthcare occupations that directly impact patient care. Seven manufacturers in the County were involved in a unique 18-month apprenticeship program to train ten individuals for an Industrial Maintenance Apprenticeship Certificate. This project was successful because of the collaboration of the training provider, employers, and the Ohio Means Jobs Center. In March 2022, an in-person Career Premiere event was held for over 300 high school students to explore careers in manufacturing, trades, health care, IT and logistics and to meet area employers. The unit assisted 650 children with school supplies, coats and shoes. A new program, CREW Wood County, was launched to assist youth ages 16-18 to provide educational and employment support.

The Protective Services Unit received two incentive awards during 2022. The first award was for meeting the State's benchmarks

in timeliness in investigations. The second award was for the face-to-face visitations. Combined, the incentive awards totaled approximately \$160,000. The ongoing unit responsible for follow-up protective services received recognition by being named the first in the State for large counties for face-to-face visitations. The Agency also received a foster care recruitment grant focused on recruiting foster parents for teen placements. Adult Protective Services received three grants in 2022 to assist elders with additional support services.

The Child Support Unit received recognition from the State Office of Child Support for best performance on current support collections for medium sized caseloads and best performance in the support establishment category.

The Income Maintenance Unit continued assisting recipients of public assistance during the public health emergency which was continued into 2022 by several Federal extensions.

### INCOME MAINTENANCE UNIT

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)	
cash payment cases (MA).....	217
Medicaid recipients (MA).....	20,640
Medicaid issuance .....	\$178,258,798
Food assistance recipients .....	10,204
Food assistance issuance .....	\$21,025,746
Food assistance issuance per case (MA).....	\$485
Children issued food stamps (MA).....	2,790

### CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

Wood County children served .....	5,258
Average case load size .....	719
Total collections.....	\$18,120,320
License suspension program .....	\$101,358.66
Financial institution data match .....	\$28,056.79
Insurance settlements .....	\$2,000.00
Payouts from casino/racino prizes.....	\$19,998.57
Other legal unit collections .....	\$105,155.68
Public assistance returned to State of Ohio .....	\$367,651.03
Recouped through income tax refund offset.....	\$847,675.43
Reimbursements for children in foster care .....	\$81,932.81
Civil and criminal proceedings initiated (accepted referrals) .....	392
Completed requests for modifications.....	209

### OHOMEANSJOBS/WOOD COUNTY

Resource room users .....	1,176
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) adult and dislocated worker participants .....	56
CCMEP Youth Employment Program participants.....	59
On the job training contracts .....	15
Incumbent worker training contracts .....	20

### PROTECTIVE SERVICES UNIT

Children served.....	2,049
Children placed in substitute care .....	36
Cost for substitute care .....	\$2,903,901
Home protective services children .....	83
Reports of child abuse/neglect investigated .....	969
Adoptions finalized.....	4
Certified foster/adoptive homes provided with services .....	25
Adult protective services assessments completed.....	310
Adults receiving chore services .....	39
Homemaker visits provided .....	264

### SUPPORT SERVICES UNIT

Information and referrals .....	1,200
Families provided emergency assistance through Prevention, Retention and Contingency program (PRC).....	540
Children who received child care services (MA).....	322
Transportation (1 way trips) to Medicaid & Title XX services.....	10,827

MA = Monthly Average

Federal poverty levels are used to determine eligibility for certain programs and benefits.

### 2023 POVERTY GUIDELINES

Persons in Family/ Household	Poverty Guideline	138% of Poverty	200% of Poverty
1	\$14,580	\$20,120	\$29,160
2	\$19,720	\$27,214	\$39,440
3	\$24,860	\$34,307	\$49,720
4	\$30,000	\$41,400	\$60,000
5	\$35,140	\$48,493	\$70,280
6	\$40,280	\$55,586	\$80,560

For more than 6 persons, add the following for each additional person.  
\$5,140      \$7,093      \$10,280

## Emergency Management Agency • R. Jeffrey Klein, Director

*Emergency Management is the organized analysis, planning, decision-making, and assignment of available resources to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from the effects of disasters. The concept of Emergency Management requires the input and cooperation of all first responders, local officials, community partners, businesses, residents, and volunteers in order to be successful. The Agency operates under the Board of County Commissioners.*

The EMA continued working with county and community partners to update, build capabilities, and train users on CodeRED, the mass communication system used to provide emergency, weather, and community specific alerts. Access to the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) was added in 2022, allowing alerts to telephones and television.

Preparations for the April 8, 2024, solar eclipse continued in 2022. This event is expected to bring thousands of people to the area and has the potential to impact traffic and daily operations.

EMA staff participated in community fairs, public safety days, presentations to local senior centers and other agencies, and weekly interviews with Clint Corpe on the Morning Show BG. Trainings offered included G-402 ICS for Elected and Senior Officials, Hazmat for Dispatchers, OH-197 Planning for Access and Functional Needs, K 105 Public Information Basics and G-318 Mitigation Planning Workshops for Local Government. In conjunction with BGSU, the first in-person SKYWARN training in over two years was conducted.

The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) conducted a tabletop exercise involving Bowling Green Water Treatment Plant, Middleton Township Fire and EMS, Wood County Sheriff, American Red Cross, Ohio EPA and Ohio EMA. The LEPC also monitored two significant pipeline releases, one in April and the second in December. The April release was used as a case study due to how well the response went and was later presented at the State LEPC Conference in September.

The EMA aided public safety forces during the Wood County Fair and National Tractor Pulling Championships. Staff continued to monitor hazardous material reports, spills, and assist with the recovery of financial cost for first responders.

Outreach via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram continued, and a quarterly newsletter (both in-print and electronic format) was created to help better communicate and prepare residents in the event of a disaster.

## Office of Economic Development

Wade Gottschalk, Executive Director

*The Wood County Office of Economic Development operates in partnership with the Wood County Economic Development Commission, an Ohio nonprofit corporation, to expand Wood County's employment base through existing industry development and the systematic recruitment of new businesses. The office actively markets Wood County and its communities to outside industrial prospects, while continuing to provide services to the County's communities and existing industries by helping them broaden and diversify their tax base and create and retain jobs.*

Wood County saw another successful year for economic development with nearly \$1 billion in new private sector investments and a commitment of over 800 new jobs.

Long time Wood County business First Solar held a groundbreaking for a 1.5 million square foot research and development facility in Perrysburg Township. When complete, this new \$270 million investment is expected to be the first of its scale in the United States. First Solar also announced a \$185 million investment to upgrade and expand its Northwest Ohio manufacturing footprint, making Ohio home to the largest fully vertically integrated solar manufacturing footprint outside of China.

In Perrysburg Township, IMCO Carbide Tool began a \$39 million expansion project that will result in 92 jobs, nearly doubling their operations when complete.

In nearby Rossford, Scannell Properties constructed two, 200,000 square foot multi-tenant industrial buildings, with the first building already housing a UPS operation.

Recent projects in Rossford enabled the Wood County Port Authority

to leverage over \$2 million in federal grants to fund a rebuild of Deimling Road on the northern boundary of the Amazon site.

In Henry Township, across from the CSX intermodal facility, UPS purchased a 400,000 square foot building from Northpoint Development and will begin operations in the second quarter of 2023 bringing approximately 600 jobs to the facility.

Nearby in North Baltimore, Hancock-Wood Electric Cooperative in partnership with Nooter (Toledo) announced plans to build a 100,000 square foot spec building off the Insley Road I-75 interchange.

Earlier in 2022, Bowling Green secured an investment from Scannell Properties to construct a 250,000 square foot facility for a FedEx Ground distribution center in Woodbridge Business Park.

Late in the year Bowling Green landed a significant project with the announcement of an Abbott Laboratories formula plant that will involve an investment of over \$500 million and create 450 jobs when complete.

The Office of Economic Development staff are employees of the Wood County Commissioners, while the Economic Development Commission coordinates planning and policy for the office.

## Historical Museum and Center

Kelli Kling, Director (Jan. 1 - Sept. 2, 2022)

Annette Wells, Director (eff. Sept. 3, 2022)

*In 1816, the Ohio General Assembly authorized Boards of County Commissioners to construct poor houses to care for those unable to provide the basic necessities of life for themselves. The County Commissioners opened Wood County's Poor Farm in 1869, which remained in operation until 1971 before becoming a museum in 1975. Financial support for the Museum is derived from County tax dollars and through the private fundraising activities of the Wood County Historical Society. The 50-acre County-owned site is part of the system of parks maintained and patrolled by the Wood County Park District.*

A new exhibit opened, *Allure & Illusion: A Rose-Colored Romance*. It featured Harlequin Romance novel cover art by Frank Kalan (through a partnership with the BGSU Pop Culture Library) and spotlighted a collection of more than 40 wedding dresses and attire from Wood County residents dating back to the 1850s.

Behind-the-scenes, a major project included the installation of custom-built, conservation quality cabinets spanning the three wings of the nearly 4,000 square foot museum attic. New document storage cabinets in the archive and alumni rooms also aided staff in effectively preserving, storing, and organizing items. Projects around the grounds included adding a parking pad near the Herb Garden, a newly-made cement fence courtesy of Wood County Parks, and repairs to the Brandedberry Wall, porch decks, and the Women's Privy. Renovations to the old Powerhouse began at the end of 2022 to make it usable for events and programs in the future.

Events and programs through the year included ten Teas & Talks, Living History Day, whiskey tasting, Music at the Museum concert on the East porch, drone golf ball drop, virtual auction, Wood County AG-Venture, German-American Day, and over 120 traveling educational programs.

The Commissioners employ four Historical Museum and Center staff, while the Historical Society Board oversees the collection, activities, and events at the Museum.

### MUSEUM STATISTICS

Visitors (museum/events/grounds): .....	7,049
Members: .....	552
Donations to the collection (objects): .....	240
Research requests: .....	60
Adult Education (77 programs/tours).....	1,449
Student Education (42 programs/tours/trunks) .....	2,582

### MUSEUM TEMPORARILY CLOSED

The year ended on a wet note for the Museum. The extreme cold weather in late December caused several radiators to burst which led to water damage in portions of the building, resulting in a temporary closure.

## Information Technology

Ben Hendricks, IT Director

*Under the direction of the County Commissioners, the Information Technology (IT) staff provides technical related support to many County offices. Staff is responsible for maintaining PCs, servers, networking hardware, phone hardware, and other IT-related equipment. The IT Director provides strategic guidance, policies, and procedures for County government and assists the Automatic Data Processing Board with research and discussion related to technical issues.*

The Department added a full-time staff member to work closely with the Common Pleas Courts and associated offices. Staff continued to work with departments to expand their knowledge and use of Microsoft Office 365.

## Records Center

Brenda Ransom, Records Manager

*The Records Center provides records management services to County offices. The Center, which opened in 2002, offers secure, environmentally sound storage of paper records, preservation microfilming, and digital imaging services. The storage rooms contain high-density mobile shelving units with a maximum storage capacity of 10,545 cubic-foot records boxes. The Records Center operates under the Board of County Commissioners.*

The Records Center entered its third decade with a renovation project. New furniture was purchased, and the records manager's office was moved from the basement to the main work area on the first floor. The basement office was then transformed into a work area housing the Zeutschel microfilm writer and microfilm inspection equipment. The move enabled creation of a better workspace for the Center's two scanner operators contracted through Work Leads to Independence.

A total of 31 County offices, departments, and agencies received services related to records management in 2022, including guidance, storage, reformatting, and disposal. Various scanning and microfilming projects increased accessibility and guaranteed preservation for records of the Sheriff, Public Defender, Auditor, and Board of Elections. Revenue was realized by creating microfilm for Hancock, Mercer, and Williams Counties.

### 2022 RECORDS CENTER STATISTICS

Records stored (cubic feet) .....	9,089
New records (cubic feet).....	540
Eligible for disposal (cubic feet).....	626
Storage space recovered (cubic feet) .....	113
Pounds of records shredded and recycled .....	28,887.5
Pages/microfilm images scanned .....	400,400
Rolls of microfilm created .....	154

## Solid Waste Management District • Carri Stanley, County Administrator

A department under the Board of County Commissioners, the Solid Waste Management District operates the Wood County Landfill and ensures adequate landfill capacity for local waste disposal. The District also prepares and implements an Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) approved Solid Waste Management Plan.

In May, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) approved a permit for the vertical and lateral expansion of the Wood County Landfill. The Landfill expansion will be constructed on County owned property adjacent to the existing landfill to the north and will provide approximately 100 years of additional landfill space for future waste disposal needs. Remaining capacity of the current landfill cell is approximately 2.5 years, based on current tonnage collection rates. Construction of the first phase of the expansion project is expected to begin in late 2023.

Work continued on the OEPA required five-year Solid Waste Management District Plan update. The draft plan was submitted to OEPA for review in May. OEPA issued a Non-Binding Advisory Opinion letter in June that offered several suggestions and improvements for the plan. The District will begin the ratification process in 2023 and must submit the plan to OEPA for final approval by August 18, 2023.

The Recycling Outreach Coordinator met with over 300 people at the District's informational booth at the Wood County Fair, and provided educational programs for over 600 individuals during 2022.

To aid in recycling efforts, the District loaned out clear stream recycling containers for many local events throughout the year including Firefly Nights, Black Swamp Arts Festival, Better BG Bash, and the Pemberville Free Fair.

The District's 24/7 Residential Drop-Off Recycling Program remained popular with residents. The program collected 703.6 tons of recyclables in 2022, a slight increase from 2021 collections. The District is in its fifth and final contract year with the current provider and will be seeking competitive proposals for the program in 2023.

### RECYCLE WOOD COUNTY!

MANY THANKS TO OUR RESIDENTS FOR RECYCLING RIGHT AND KEEPING THE RECYCLING SITES CLEAN!

FOR A MAP OF DROP-OFF LOCATIONS AND TO SEE A LIST OF ACCEPTABLE ITEMS, VISIT [WWW.RECYCLEWOODCOUNTY.ORG](http://WWW.RECYCLEWOODCOUNTY.ORG).

## Wood Haven Health Care

Jeff Orlowski, Administrator

Wood Haven Health Care, a 93 bed short-term rehabilitation and long-term health care center, provides both skilled and intermediate level care and services. Rehabilitation programs offered at Bordner Therapy Care include physical, occupational, and speech therapies. Health care services include 24-hour professional nursing care; nutritional evaluation and meal planning; social services and family support; therapeutic recreational programs; psychological intervention; and physician oversight. Alzheimer's Care, Parkinson's Care, Hospice, and short-term Respite Care are also available. Wood Haven Health Care is Medicare and Medicaid certified, serves individuals covered under various nursing care insurance plans, and accepts most insurance plans. Wood Haven is a member of the Ohio Health Care Association, Leading Age Ohio, and the Ohio County Home Association. The facility operates under the Board of County Commissioners.

### WEBSITES OFFER ACCESS TO UNCLAIMED FUNDS

Unclaimed (or abandoned) money and other assets not used for a length of time or whose rightful owner cannot be located are turned over to the Ohio Department of Commerce Division after a specific period of time has passed. You can search to see if you have unclaimed funds by visiting [www.com.ohio.gov/unfd](http://www.com.ohio.gov/unfd). The Wood County Clerk of Courts also provides a list of local unclaimed funds from the court system. To see if your name is on the Unclaimed Funds Report, visit the Wood County website, [www.woodcountyohio.gov](http://www.woodcountyohio.gov), and select the Clerk of Courts under Elected Officials link.

Wood Haven continued to focus on customer service which resulted in recognition and awards during 2022. Wood Haven Health Care was voted Best Nursing Home in Wood County and received the Northwest Ohio Top Workplaces award for the seventh consecutive year.

Many activities were offered to the residents throughout the year including: trips to the Hollywood Casino; the Wood County Fair; shopping trips; lunch outings; dinner outings; bowling; picnics at Bowling Green parks; Historical Museum visits; the zoo; BGSU Planetarium; Christmas lights trip; and ice cream trips.

### 2022 WOOD HAVEN STATISTICS

Admissions by Pay Type:

Privately funded residents .....	4.98%
Medicaid residents .....	2.71%
Medicare residents .....	47.97%
Insurance/Managed care residents .....	41.63%
Hospice .....	2.71%

# GOVERNING BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Individuals from across the County provide representation on a number of Wood County governing boards and commissions. Their role is to provide knowledge and support to enhance the functioning of County government. The Board of County Commissioners greatly appreciates the willingness of so many citizens to accept appointments and serve on these Boards and Commissions to help keep Wood County a great place to work, live, and raise a family.

If you are interested in serving as a member on a County Board or Commission, please complete an Application for Volunteer Service located on the Commissioners' web page on the County website or contact their office for a copy of the application.

## ALCOHOL, DRUG ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BOARD

Allan Baer, Karen Baron\*, Matthew Battiato\*, Judy Ennis\*, Scott Kleiber\*, Dan Lambert\*, Brandy Laux, Frank McLaughlin\*, Leslie Miller, Rachel Moore, Jason Morris, Hallie Nagel\*, Erica Parish\*, Amanda Sharp\*, Corey Speweik\*, and three vacancies

## BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Tim Brown\*, Rebecca Ferguson, John Janas\*, Ed Metzger, Jerry Miller\*, Marlene North\*, and Martha Woelke\*

## COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS BOARD\*\*

Brent Baer, Steve Callejas, Paul Dobson, Ann Garcia, Tony Hetrick, Patrick Jones, Craig LaHote, Molly Mack, Rebecca McMonigal, Mark Reddin, Matthew Reger, Carri Stanley, Lori Tretter, Mark Waslyshyn, Cary Williams, Ryan Wolaver, and Chris Zografides

## COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION MEMBERS

Dr. Theodore Bowlus, John Eckel, Doris Herringshaw, Andrew Kalmar, Michael Keys, Craig LaHote, Cathy Newlove-Wenig, Matthew Oestreich, Donna Schuerman, Jane Spoerl, and W. David Steiner

## COURTHOUSE COMPLEX BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE \*\*

Steve Blausey, Rob Eaton, Doris Herringshaw, Earlene Kilpatrick, Cathleen Nelson, Matthew Oestreich, Matthew Reger, Michael Sibbersen, Irma Wolf, and Karen Young

## DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Becky Bhaer\*, Ellen Dalton, Nathan Eikost\*, Greg Esposito, Kenneth Frisch\*, Brian Paskvan\*, and Michael Sibbersen

## FLOODPLAIN VARIANCE AND APPEALS BOARD\*\*

Jim Carter, John Musteric, and Mike Rudey

## GREAT LAKES COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP

Total Membership - 24  
Wood County Members:  
Ashley Dickey, Dr. William Donnelly\*, Erin Hachtel, Dean King, Carmen Ortega\*, and Jane Wengel

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Julie Baumgardner\*, Lois Bowlus, Gordon Bowman\*, Denise Brennen, Hal Brown, Frank Butwin, Sandy Gill, Michael Ginnetti, Corinne Gordon, Scott Gross, Dave Hollinger, Becky Mancuso, Erika Miklovic, Brenda Ransom, W. Dave Steiner

## JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES PLANNING COMMITTEE\*\*

Bridget Ansberg, Brent Baer, Tim Brown, Sandi Carsey, Julie Launstein, Stephanie Lauwers, Denise Niese, Cathleen Wenig, David Wigent, and two vacancies

## LAW LIBRARY RESOURCES BOARD

Linda Brown\*, Sarah Bushong\*, Carrie Mancuso, Heather Pentycofe, and Dan Weiss

## NORTHWESTERN WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

Steve Arnold, Bill Barnhart, Brooke Hahn, Bill Hirzel\*, Melinda Kale, Chuck Latta, J. Douglas Miller\*, Tim Phillips, Mark Sheffer and Elizabeth Wick\*

## PLANNING COMMISSION\*\*

Steve Arnold, Dr. Theodore Bowlus, John Brossia, Brendyn George, Doris Herringshaw, Craig LaHote, John Musteric, Jeffrey Schaller, John Schuerman, Brian Swope, and Matthew Tewers

## PORT AUTHORITY

Cheryl Johnson\*, Milton F. Knight, Ed Nagle\*, James Rossler\*, John Rust Jr., Thomas Uhler\*, and Martha Woelke\*

## PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION

David Drain, Rex Huffman\*, Richard Karcher, Frederic Matthews\*, and Phillip Walton\*

## REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY\*\*

David Anderson, William Davis, Don Deters, Marissa Muniz, Nancy VanderLugt, Jack Waddell, and Jamie Weidner

## RESIDENTIAL BOARD OF APPEALS\*\*

Ron Bechstein, Tim Enright, Robert Maurer, Laurie Melchior Huskisson, Connor Rose, and Connie Workman  
ALTERNATES: Tom Pendleton and one vacancy

## TAX INCENTIVE REVIEW COUNCIL\*\*

John Cheney, Valerie Hovland, and Cathy Newlove-Wenig  
ALTERNATES: Tim Harris and Michael Sibbersen

## TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Jim Bagdonas, Roger Bostdorff\*, Walter Celley, Joe Fawcett, Maggie Fawcett\*, Bob Mack, John Musteric, Megan Newlove, Mike Rywalski, Jonathon Smith, and Robert Watrol

## WOOD HAVEN ADVISORY BOARD\*\*

Norman Carney, Frank McLaughlin, Laurie Newlove, Denise Niese, and two vacancies EX-OFFICIO  
MEMBERS: Jeff Orlowski, Carri Stanley, Darlene Selvey, and the President and Vice President of the Resident's Council

## AUDITOR



Matthew Oestreich

*The Auditor serves as the County's chief fiscal officer and appraiser. He prepares financial reports, acts as payroll agent, and reviews and pays all County bills. The distribution of real and manufactured home tax settlements to the subdivisions and the distribution of local government funds are also the responsibility of the Auditor. An agent for the Ohio Department of Taxation, the Auditor sells vendor's licenses. He is the sealer of weights and measures and is also secretary of the Budget Commission, Board of Revision, and Data Processing Board. The Auditor is authorized to perform his duties under Chapters 319, 322, 323, 5701-5743, et al. of the Ohio Revised Code.*

To continue to reduce costs and increase efficiencies, the Auditor's Office introduced online applications for the following: Homestead Exemption, Homestead Exemption for Disabled Veterans and Surviving Spouses, and the Application for Owner-Occupancy Tax Reduction. These online applications are reliable, use less paper and postage, and have a more expedient turn-around process.

## TREASURER



Jane Spoerl

*The Treasurer oversees the receipt and disbursement of funds for the County and collects taxes for the County, as well as for the schools, municipalities, and townships within the County. Twenty area financial offices serve the County as real estate tax payment sites. Qualifying taxpayers may utilize an available escrow program or delinquent tax repayment program. The Treasurer's Office also collects taxes on manufactured homes and inheritance. The Treasurer serves on the Budget Commission, Board of Revision, and Data Processing Board in addition to her duties as Investing Authority for the Investment Advisory Board and is authorized to perform her duties under Chapters 321 and 323 of the Ohio Revised Code.*

### 2022 TREASURER STATISTICS

Real estate tax collected .....	\$240,751,479.80
Manufactured home tax collected.....	\$1,240,959.94
Investment income.....	\$1,296,367.04
Taxpayers enrolled in monthly automatic withdrawal plan .....	1,890
Taxpayers enrolled in semi-annual/yearly ACH plan.....	1,138

### INVESTMENT INCOME

2022	<b>\$1,296,367.04</b>
2021	<b>\$592,249.96</b>
2020	<b>\$2,013,253.04</b>
2019	<b>\$2,516,299.44</b>
2018	<b>\$1,553,808.26</b>

### Distribution of Real Estate, Public Utility Tax, and Special Assessments by the County Auditor in 2022

Wood County.....	\$7,994,507
Northwestern Water & Sewer District.....	\$1,300,979
County Ditch Maintenance/Construction .....	\$895,002
County Sewer and Waterline Projects.....	\$331
Maumee Watershed Conservancy.....	\$112,436
Board of Developmental Disabilities .....	\$19,554,609
Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services.....	\$7,991,391
Park District.....	\$2,912,869
Committee on Aging .....	\$3,124,221
Board of Health.....	\$1,595,398
Historical Center .....	\$169,144
Job & Family Services.....	\$2,840,052
Wood County Library Bond .....	\$289,124
Townships .....	\$22,624,527
Municipalities .....	\$15,481,936
Schools.....	\$147,441,049
Libraries.....	\$3,566,743

Visit the Auditor's web page on the County website for a complete breakdown.

### 2022 AUDITOR STATISTICS

Parcels of real property assessed (valued at over \$3.4 billion).....	76,680
Conveyances processed.....	4,438
Individual land parcels .....	7,085
Forfeited land sale proceeds.....	\$1,441
Parcels.....	1
Manufactured homes.....	6
Acres of farmland enrolled in CAUV (Current Agricultural Use Value).....	314,801
Residents enrolled in Homestead Exemption program .....	7,648
Dog licenses sold.....	17,689
Weights and Measures Inspections:	
Commercial Scales.....	582
Gas Pumps.....	1,496
GIS requests.....	85

### INTERNET AUCTION VENDOR CHANGE

On May 11, 2022, the Commissioners contracted with GovDeals to provide disposal of personal property that is not needed for public use, obsolete, or unfit for use. Members of the public can view and purchase available items by registering as a buyer at GovDeals.com or using the Internet Auction Quick Link available on the County's website, [www.woodcountyohio.gov](http://www.woodcountyohio.gov).

## CLERK OF COURTS



Douglas Cubberley

*The Clerk of Courts maintains the records of Common Pleas Court, issues motor vehicle and watercraft titles, and serves as Clerk for the Sixth District Court of Appeals. By statute he is a member of the Data Processing Board, Investment Advisory Board, and Records Commission.*

### TITLE DOCUMENTS PROCESSED

Auto Titles, Duplicates & Memo Titles	66,829
Motor Vehicle Mortgages Recorded	16,690
Salvage Titles	300
Penalties (for not transferring titles timely)	2,946
Inspections	6,262
Affidavits	19,513
Manufactured Home Archives Recorded	333
Boat titles, Duplicates and Memo Titles (includes charged replacement titles)	1,470
Watercraft Mortgages Recorded	342
Watercraft Affidavits	799
Watercraft Penalties	233
Watercraft Registrations	1,137

### TITLE DISBURSEMENT TOTALS ..... \$33,130,289.68

Clerk of Courts Certificate of Title Fund Receipts	\$838,658.00
Wood County General Fund	\$118.21
State of Ohio Motor Vehicle and Watercraft	
Casual and Dealer Tax	\$32,084,928.97
BMV Certificate of Title Fees	\$168,577.50
DNR Watercraft Fees	\$3,813.00
DNR Watercraft Registrations	\$34,194.00

## CORONER



Douglas W. Hess, M.D.

*The Coroner, an Ohio licensed physician in good standing, evaluates and rules on all violent, accidental, and suspicious circumstance deaths including homicides, suicides, and sudden deaths of persons in apparent good health. The Coroner is authorized to perform his duties under Chapter 313 of the Ohio Revised Code.*

The Coroner reviewed 276 cases in 2022, of which 96 were determined by the Coroner.

### 2022 CORONER CASES

Auto Accidents	9
Drug Accidents	17
Other Accidents	14
Natural	28
Suicide	17
Homicide	1
Undetermined	1
Pending	9

### LEGAL CASES AND DOCUMENTS FILED (Partial List)

CasesAppealed to 6th District Court of Appeals	71
Domestic Relations Cases Filed	302
Custody Proceedings	1
Domestic Violence Civil Protection	155
Dating Violence Civil Protection Order	5
Domestic Cases Reopened	134
Foreign Support	3
Civil Stalking/Sexually Oriented Offense Protection Orders	154
Foreign Judgment	1
Parental Rights	1
Custody and Support	6
Visitation and Companionship	3
Criminal Cases Filed	558
Civil Cases Filed (Includes 144 Civil Foreclosure Cases)	633
Land Foreclosure Cases	50
Mobile Home Foreclosure Cases	30
Certificate of Qualification	2
Foreign Subpoena	5
Miscellaneous	2
Judgment Liens Filed	889
State Tax Liens Filed	4,204
Foreign Judgment Liens	4
Executions Filed (Aid & Writ)	1
Debtor Exams	12
Garnishments	231
Publications	90
Wrts of Possessions	10
Total Number of Judgment Entries	14,303
Passport Applications Accepted	263
Criminal Investigations	4
Search Warrants	145
Coroner's Reports Filed	101

### LEGAL DISBURSEMENT TOTALS ..... \$2,097,830.13

General Fund	\$424,457.94
Legal Research Fees	\$7,959.96
Computerization Fees	\$115,448.93
Interlock Fees	\$774.00
Traffic Fines	\$3,619.50
Mediation Fees	\$43,143.97
Fines Paid to the Law Library	\$1,250.00
Statutory fees paid to non-Wood County entities	\$90,701.27
Funding Shelters for Victims of Domestic Violence	\$10,518.00
Fees Paid to Adult Probation Supervision	\$25,429.10
Fines to Prosecutor Law Enforcement Trust Fund	\$282.19
Fees Paid to the Sheriff	\$93,209.09
Fines Paid to the Sheriff	\$7,656.13
Fees Paid to Realauction.com	\$1,980.00
Fees Paid to Appraisers	\$12,000.00
Sundries – includes, but not limited to: bond refunds; deposits less costs or deposits in whole refunded; court ordered civil, domestic, and criminal disbursements (i.e. restitution); and appropriation disbursements	\$1,259,400.05

## PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



Paul Dobson

*The Prosecuting Attorney's Office consists of four legal divisions: criminal, juvenile, civil, and appellate. The Prosecuting Attorney manages a staff including a director, 15 attorneys, a victim services unit, two investigators, two Addiction Response Collaborative (A.R.C.) staff, and support staff. The Prosecuting Attorney is authorized to perform his duties under Chapter 309 of the Ohio Revised Code.*

In early 2022, much attention was given to the prosecution of fraternity members responsible in the hazing death of BGSU student Stone Foltz.

Other major crimes prosecuted in 2022 included State v. Heather Henning for Involuntary Manslaughter in the drug overdose death of Jeffery Henning and State v. Marquise Brown for felonious assault in firing a gun in downtown Bowling Green, wounding a bystander.

The Juvenile Division participated in a regional training on the assessment of school threats.

The Civil Division prepared for transition after Assistant Prosecutor Charles Sulek was elected as a judge of the Sixth District Court of Appeals.

At the annual law enforcement seminar, retired Perrysburg Township Police Detective and Wood County Prosecutor's Office Senior Investigator Todd Curtis was presented with the Prosecutor's Office Servant and Sword Award. Additionally, over 500 Wood County elementary and junior high students participated in the Safety Kids Calendar Contest with the printed calendar featuring 12 monthly award winners and 12 honorable mentions.

## 2022 PROSECUTING ATTORNEY STATISTICS

### CRIMINAL DIVISION

Cases opened .....	558
Indictments.....	448
Bills of Information for adult felony cases.....	9
Cases resolved by jury or court trial	
(13 guilty/5 not guilty).....	18
Cases disposed.....	688
Cases disposed in Municipal Court .....	171
Victims of crimes served.....	1,567

### CIVIL DIVISION

New client matter files opened .....	293
Contracts prepared/reviewed.....	478
Formal opinions issued.....	7
Public records requests .....	41
Total bank foreclosures .....	157
Total real estate tax foreclosure.....	50
37 dismissed with payment/8 sold/3 forfeited/2 pending	
Total mobile home tax foreclosure .....	30
24 dismissed with payment/1 sold/2 forfeited/3 pending	

### JUVENILE DIVISION

Delinquency cases.....	802
Unruly cases .....	118
Traffic cases.....	409
Permanent custody cases filed .....	5
Felony level offenses adjudicated .....	42
Adult contributing to minors.....	60
Abuse/neglect/dependency cases filed.....	463

### APPELLATE DIVISION

Sixth District Court of Appeals Merit Briefs submitted .....	48
Cases decided (41 successful/2 unsuccessful).....	43
Ohio Supreme Court Merit decisions (unsuccessful) .....	1
Jurisdictional decisions (successful) .....	11

### ADDICTION RESPONSE COLLABORATIVE (A.R.C.)

Referrals .....	78
(32 Entered Treatment/Jail with 26 ongoing; 8 Referred to Other Programs; 8 Rejected A.R.C./Could not be located)	
Fatal Overdoses Reported to the Program .....	7

## RECORDER



James Matuszak

*The Recorder's Office is responsible for making a complete, accurate, and permanent record of every document pertaining to the conveyance and encumbrance of land within the County. As the repository of records for all property transactions in the County, the Recorder's Office safeguards every property owner's title. The Office also records and maintains financing statements relating to personal property, military discharge papers, and a listing of veteran's graves in the County. The Recorder is authorized to perform duties under numerous sections of the Ohio Revised Code. The Recorder serves on the Data Processing Board and the Records Commission Board.*

A total of 16,731 documents were recorded and/or filed, with \$1,109,401.40 collected in fees. Of this amount, \$550,333.11 was remitted to the State of Ohio for the Ohio Housing Trust Fund; \$65,012.00 was deposited into the Recorder's supplemental technology fund; and the remaining \$494,056.29 was paid into the County's general fund.

In 2022, a revamping of the electronic indexing system was implemented which increased productivity and reduced costs.

## 2022 RECORDER'S DOCUMENTS

Deeds .....	4,000
Judgment entries and certificates for transfer.....	147
Mortgages .....	4,391
Mortgages released .....	4,897
Land Contracts .....	25
Rights of way and easements.....	179
Leases .....	31
Mechanics liens .....	31
Plats .....	11
Federal Tax Liens.....	24
Financing statements .....	100
Terminations.....	110
All Others .....	2,795

## COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

### General Division

*The Court of Common Pleas, General Division, adjudicates felony criminal cases, civil actions, divorces, and dissolutions; allocates parental rights and responsibilities; and enforces child and spousal support. The Judges work collaboratively with the appointed Court Administrator to supervise the Domestic Relations, Adult Probation, and Court Security Departments. The Judges also appoint members to the Veterans Service Commission, Public Defender Commission, Law Library Board, and Public Library Board. The Court operates under Title 23 of the Ohio Revised Code.*

### COURT ADMINISTRATION

Brandy N. Hartman, Court Administrator

Court Administration is responsible for oversight of the Courts, pursuant to the Ohio Supreme Court's Rules of Superintendence. The Court Administrator is responsible for policy implementation, human resources management, fiscal administration, strategic planning, information management, technology management, jury management, mediation services, community relations, and research and advisory services.

### ADULT PROBATION

Ryan N. Wolaver, Chief Probation Officer/Director

The Adult Probation Department conducts pre-sentence investigations for purposes of sentencing and supervises felony level offenders placed under court-ordered supervision. Adult Probation is dedicated to aid in the reduction of criminal behavior in the community through the supervision, treatment, and rehabilitation of offenders, while protecting the public's safety; and providing compliance with the orders of the Court.

### COURT SECURITY

Scott Kleiber, Chief Court Constable

The Court Security Department consists of constables serving under the appointing authority of the judiciary to ensure the safety and security of the Judges, staff, and citizens in all the courtrooms and adjacent offices, Domestic Relations area, and the Adult Probation Department. Constables are trained law enforcement officers and are required to complete annual continuing education and qualifications.

### DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Jill Varnes-Richardson, Chief Magistrate  
Michelle Christie, Magistrate

Two magistrates preside over the Domestic Relations Court and hear most cases related to civil protection orders and the termination of marriage including dissolution, divorce, legal separation, and post-decree motions.



Matthew Reger  
COURTROOM 1



Mary "Molly" Mack  
COURTROOM 2



Joel M. Kuhlman  
COURTROOM 4

During 2022, Judge Matthew Reger served as Administrative Judge and represented the county on the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District Court; Judge David Woessner served as Presiding Judge; Judge Molly Mack represented the Court on the Judicial Advisory Board for the NorthWest Community Corrections Center and served as Court Security Judge; and Judge Joel Kuhlman served as the General Division Judge assigned to back up the Probate and Juvenile Division.

The Judges appointed two new Magistrates to the Domestic Relations bench following retirements in those positions. Chief Magistrate Jill Varnes-Richardson and Magistrate Michelle Christie each bring more than 25 years of litigation experience to their respective roles.

In 2022 the Court upgraded hearing assistance devices to improve audibility of court proceedings for individuals in the courtroom. Additionally, juror communications progressed to allow for electronic correspondence which will reduce costs and offer expedient information sharing with potential jurors.

### 2022 COURT OF COMMON PLEAS STATISTICS

Cases completed .....	1,384
Pending cases.....	1,216
General Civil cases completed.....	691
Criminal cases completed.....	693

### COURT ADMINISTRATION

Cases referred to Mediation .....	113
Jury/Court trials .....	19
Panels of jurors summonsed .....	66

### ADULT PROBATION

Pre-sentence investigations conducted.....	276
Intervention in Lieu reports .....	83
Pre-arraignment reports .....	482
Expungement/Record sealing reports.....	64
New offenders under department supervision .....	451
Offenders on probation.....	1,157
Individuals terminated from supervision .....	519
Drug tests conducted.....	3,370
Offenders referred to Intensive Supervision Program .....	69
Offenders placed on Intensive Supervision .....	160
Offenders placed on Electronic Monitoring.....	158
Offenders committed to Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (ODRC) .....	189

### COURT SECURITY

Public escorts .....	768
Persons taken into custody .....	169
Prisoner escorts.....	725

### DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Cases completed .....	916
Stalking/Domestic Violence hearings .....	400

## COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

### Probate and Juvenile Division

Cases heard in Probate Court involve decedent's estates, guardianships, conservatorships, trust related actions, civil actions, adoptions, mental illness, minor settlements, and wrongful deaths. In addition, the Probate Court provides registration services for births, name changes, miscellaneous filings, and marriage license applications. The Judge also makes a number of appointments to Boards and agencies as allowed by law and performs his duties under Chapter 2101 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Probate Court case filings stabilized in 2022 following a post-Covid spike in 2021. However, numbers remained above average with 858 new filings, as well an additional 39 cases re-opened for further action.

Of significance is the miscellaneous category, which has continued to grow for several years. In addition to the record number of name change petitions, the miscellaneous category contains a diverse set of cases for which the Probate Judge is responsible. These include, but are not limited to, disinterment of remains, medical records actions, and special appointments.

The Court adopted a technology plan and implemented modifications in the courtroom to improve video quality along with sound capability for hearing-impaired individuals.

#### 2022 PROBATE COURT STATISTICS

New cases opened .....	858
Re-opened cases .....	39
Estates.....	601
Guardianships and Conservatorships .....	52
Adoptions .....	26
Civil actions .....	20
Trusts .....	2
Marriage applications .....	668
Minor settlements .....	14
Name changes.....	111
Birth registrations/corrections.....	10
Mental Illness.....	2
Emergency actions (Guardianships, Mental Illness, Adult Protective Services) .....	19
Other miscellaneous.....	14
Active volunteer guardians.....	18

The Juvenile Court provides services and support for youth and families throughout the county and works closely with service providers and schools. The Court has jurisdiction over juvenile delinquency and unruly cases; juvenile traffic cases; abuse, neglect, and dependency cases; paternity, custody, and child support cases; as well as limited adult criminal cases. In addition, Judge Woessner oversees the administration of the Wood County Juvenile Detention Center and the Juvenile Residential Center of Northwest Ohio. The Juvenile Court's jurisdiction is described in part in Section 2151.23 of the Ohio Revised Code.



David E. Woessner

In 2022, overall case filings increased by 16 percent. There was a 19 percent increase in abuse, neglect, and dependency filings; a 24 percent increase in detention center commitments; and a 50 percent increase in youth under community control or probation.

#### 2022 JUVENILE COURT STATISTICS

Cases filed .....	2,689
Cases disposed of.....	2,738
Cases of alleged abuse, neglect or dependent children.....	463

#### JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

Pretrial and short-term commitments .....	438
Males housed .....	298
Females housed.....	140

#### JUVENILE PROBATION

Youth and adults under supervision.....	277
Families served under Intervention/Diversion.....	125
Community service participants .....	127
Community service hours.....	2,317
Restitution paid to victims.....	\$7,301.32

#### COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE/ GUARDIAN AD LITEM PROGRAM (CASA/GAL)

Volunteers .....	38
Children served .....	107
Child cases appointed.....	58

## Looking for a way to give back to your community? Become a Volunteer!

Probate Court is seeking volunteers to serve as guardians for community members who are no longer able to care for themselves. A volunteer guardian is responsible for making decisions in the best interest of the incompetent adult, known legally as a "ward." Guardians play a vital and necessary role in the lives of people. For more information, contact Probate Court at 419-354-9230.

Volunteers are needed to serve as Court Appointed Special Advocates/Guardian ad Litem (CASA/GAL) to advocate for the best interest of children who have allegedly been abused, neglected, or dependent.

For more information about volunteer opportunities, please contact the Juvenile Court at 419-352-3554 or email [casa@woodcountyohio.gov](mailto:casa@woodcountyohio.gov).

## SHERIFF



Mark Wasylshyn

*As the County's chief law enforcement officer, the Sheriff preserves the peace and provides correctional and civil services to residents. The Office of the Sheriff is unique among law enforcement organizations as the Sheriff is the only elected law enforcement official in the State of Ohio. The Sheriff is authorized to perform his duties under Chapter 311 of the Ohio Revised Code.*

## 2022 WOOD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT

### 911 DIVISION/COMMUNICATIONS

Calls answered:	
911 .....	40,946
Administrative calls .....	42,312
Dispatched calls:	
WCSO deputies .....	23,496
Non WCSO law enforcement .....	49,144
Fire/EMS .....	18,044
State/National database entries:	
Warrants .....	1,742
Protection Orders .....	687

### CIVIL DIVISION

Sheriff foreclosure property sales .....	37
Proceeds from parcels sold .....	\$2,168,695.47
Execution of Certificates of Judgment .....	10
Service fee income to General Fund .....	\$110,648.34
Warrants, summons, subpoena	
& indictments served .....	2,713
Civil Protection Orders served/attempted to serve .....	658
Child support warrants served .....	105
Inmates extradited from out of state .....	39
Prisoners transported to penal institutions .....	201
Prisoners transported between agencies .....	650

### DETECTIVE BUREAU

Cases assigned .....	364
Cases cleared by arrest/closed/inactive .....	279
Cases pending investigation .....	85
Theft/fraud/forgery .....	146
Burglary/Breaking and Entering .....	37
Suspicious incident/departmental .....	16
Death/suicide .....	34
Sex offense/child abuse .....	43
Narcotic investigations .....	74
Fines/forfeitures to Drug Fund .....	\$10,418.40
Task Force Seizures .....	\$14,969.50
Fire/arson .....	9

### SEX OFFENDERS REGISTERED .....

## SHERIFF SALES MOVE TO ONLINE FORMAT

Effective September 22,2022, the Sheriff's Office started conducting the sale of all real estate subject to foreclosure on a website operated by Realauction. The process and procedures are detailed on the Sheriff Sales Quick Link on the County website.

Tax sales and Probate sales will continue to be sold on location in the Alvin L. Perkins Atrium in the Courthouse Complex.

### ROAD PATROL DIVISION

Complaints received and investigated .....	23,496
Criminal charges .....	397
Traffic citations .....	938
Traffic warning written/verbal .....	3,356
Weight enforcement stops .....	74
Weight enforcement citations .....	73
Crashes investigated .....	840
Injury crashes .....	120
Injured persons .....	161
Fatal crashes .....	7
Driving under the influence – DUI .....	70
Driving under suspension – DUS .....	54
Miles driven by all Sheriff's vehicles .....	1,388,137

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ENFORCEMENT

Domestic violence arrests .....	59
Court case victim assistance .....	112
Sex offense/crimes against children .....	6
Cases assisted .....	299
Temporary protection order violation arrests .....	25

### COURTHOUSE COMPLEX SECURITY

Individuals checked upon entry .....	92,203
Packages scanned .....	52,431
Prohibited items held .....	1,041
Calls for service .....	34
Defendants processed/booked .....	163

### WEAPON PERMITS & BACKGROUND CHECKS

Concealed Carry Weapon Permits:	
Issued .....	474
Renewed .....	1,106
Denied .....	19
Revoked .....	3
Persons fingerprinted for background checks .....	1,107

### JAIL

Inmates booked .....	2,603
Inmates released .....	2,537
Average daily population .....	110
Inmates transported to local courts .....	1,009
Total meals served	
– Jail .....	133,051
– Juvenile Detention Center .....	23,118
– Juvenile Residential Center .....	34,361
Average meals served per day .....	.522
Average meal cost (with labor) .....	\$3.65
Out-of-county inmate housing income .....	\$35,557

### D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education)/S.R.O. (School Resources Officers)

*Participating School Districts: Eastwood, Elmwood, Otsego & St. Louis*

D.A.R.E. core students .....	706
D.A.R.E. students grades K-6 .....	1,943
D.A.R.E. students grade 7 .....	335
Education/prevention classes .....	38
Education/prevention students .....	710
School staff members .....	474
Children participating in 1 Safety Town .....	150

### VOLUNTEER AUXILIARY PROGRAM

Members .....	29
Special events worked .....	17
Funeral escorts .....	239
Hours of work volunteered .....	3,650

### EXPLORER PROGRAM

Members (Young adults 15 - 20) .....	14
Hours volunteered .....	414
Classroom hours .....	48
Field Trips .....	2

### SPECIAL RESPONSE/CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM

Callouts .....	7
Community outreach events .....	11

## ARE YOU OKAY? PROGRAM AVAILABLE TO RESIDENTS

Do you know a Wood County senior who lives independently or is disabled in some way? The Are You Okay program offered by the Sheriff's Office can help assure their well being.

The system is free to County residents and is a pre-recorded message that calls a participant at a specific, designated time on a day(s) of their choosing. This software system will then acknowledge that the participant answered the call and will call them at their next scheduled time. If the participant does not answer, the system will call back a determined number of times before a deputy is sent to check on the individual.

To learn more about this program call 419.354.9005

## 2022 COMPLETED PROJECTS

### ROAD PROJECTS

Resurfacing/Rehabilitation County Roads..... 41.53 miles

Kellogg Road (Grand Rapids and Washington Twps.)..... 3.32 mi

Kellogg Access Road (Grand Rapids Twp.)..... 0.03 mi

Liberty Hi Road (Henry Twp.)..... 0.31 mi

Insley Road (Henry Twp.)..... 0.75 mi

Eagleville Road (Bloom and Henry Twps.)..... 0.20 mi

Grant Road (Bloom Twp.)..... 0.82 mi

Wayne Road (Freedom and Montgomery Twps.)..... 3.63 mi

Lime City Road (City of Rossford and Wood County)..... 1.11 mi

Napoleon Road Round-about (Center Twp.)..... 1.00 mi

Various Township Roads..... 30.36 mi

Surface Treatment (Chip/Seal) County Roads..... 38.53 miles

Cygnets Road - stone (Jackson Twp.)..... 0.67 mi

Custer Road - cold mix section (Jackson Twp.)..... 3.50 mi

Business Park Drive (Henry Twp.)..... 0.46 mi

Bloomdale Road (Bloom Twp.)..... 0.77 mi

Various Township Roads..... 33.13 miles

Microsurfacing County Roads..... 27.48 miles

Wayne Road (Montgomery and Perry Twps.)..... 3.38 mi

Bays Road (Montgomery Twp.)..... 2.25 mi

Pelton Road (Bloom and Perry Twps.)..... 6.12 mi

Bloomdale Road (Bloom Twp.)..... 0.77 mi

Cygnets Road (Bloom and Perry Twps.)..... 8.62 mi

Eagleville Road (Bloom Twp.)..... 0.55 mi

South Dixie Highway (Bloom Twp.)..... 0.45 mi

Business Park Drive (Henry Twp.)..... 0.46 mi

Deshler Road - Old Route 18 (Henry Twp.)..... 0.88 mi

Various Township Roads..... 4.00 mi

### Pavement Markings

Center line..... 135.46 mi

Edge lines..... 206.64 mi

### Culvert/Storm Sewers

Quarry Road (Henry Twp.)

Pemberville Road and Ayers Road (Lake Twp.)

Wood County Fairgrounds ditch enclosure

### PERMITS ISSUED

Storm Water..... 68

Special Haul (Overweight/Oversize)..... 307

Driveway/Culvert..... 43

Utilities..... 21

Road Cuts/Bore..... 7

### BRIDGE PROJECTS

Long Judson Road over Ditch 2244 (Plain and Washington Twps.)

Cloverdale Road over Ditch 2230 (Bloom Twp.)

Fostoria Road over Dry Creek (Northwood)

Various Bridge Maintenance

### DRAINAGE PROJECTS

#### Maintenance Ditches

Cleanouts..... 24.28 Miles

Debrushing..... 12.21 Miles

Bank protection and repair..... 0.28 Miles

Sprayed vegetation..... 223.20 Miles

Mowing..... 37.13 Miles

#### Storm Water

Construction site inspections..... 327

Outfalls screened..... 89

Storm water drainage complaints..... 44

Illicit discharges..... 19

### TAX MAP REVIEWS

Deed pre-approvals..... 1,831

Deed final approvals..... 3,180

New parcels..... 572

Total parcels reviewed..... 8,983

## ENGINEER



*The Engineer has the responsibility of maintaining the County's 244 miles of road, 437 bridges, more than 2,500 culverts, 3,725 traffic signs, and four traffic control signals. In addition to managing the County's Storm Water Management Plan, the Office also manages ditch construction and is charged with maintaining 668 miles of open streams and ditches under the Ditch Maintenance program, which is just part of the more than 3,000 miles of open watercourses in the County. The Office serves as the Engineer for the County's 19 townships providing cost estimates for road repair projects, assisting with grant applications, right-of-way location surveys, investigating drainage problems, and applying surface treatment to some of the 968 miles of Township roads. The Engineer's Office also reviews surveys, subdivision plats, annexations, vacations of roads, and maintains an extensive file of survey field records. The Office maintains tax map records of daily land transactions and reviews new and existing legal descriptions for all land transactions. The Engineer is authorized to perform his duties under Chapter 315 of the Ohio Revised Code.*

## 2022 SOURCES OF INCOME

Motor vehicle license fees	\$5,317,490
Gasoline tax	\$3,700,502
Permits	\$97,175
Other receipts	\$904
Refunds	\$996
Traffic fines	\$135,376
Grants	\$165,334
Interest	\$82,525
Reimbursements	\$1,106,047
Storm Water MS4	\$66,920
General Fund	\$637,307
Capital Improvement Fund 315	\$200,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,510,876</b>

## EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM AVAILABLE COUNTY-WIDE

Residents can sign up for CodeRED to receive phone calls, text messages, and/or email alerts of critical communications including weather alerts, road closures, boil water advisories, etc., based on location. To register for this service, visit the County's website and select CodeRED under Quick Links.

# INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

## BOARD OF ELECTIONS • Julie Baumgardner, Director; Terry L. Burton, Director

*The Board of Elections is responsible for voter registration, voter database management, and election administration within the boundaries of Wood County. Activities include administration of Election Day; management of the early vote program; precinct election official recruitment and training; auditing of campaign financial reports; verification of candidates and ballot issues; and the securing, programming, and testing of all electronic voting devices. In addition, the office maintains all current and historical records for voter information, election documentation, and precinct maps.*

The redistricting process for U.S. Congressional lines and Ohio Legislative lines was the focus of the office for the first half of 2022. The result of the process divided Wood County between the 5th and 9th Congressional Districts, reverting back to the Districts in place between 1992 and 2000. The process also divided the County between the 44th and the 75th Ohio House Districts, moving Northwood City, Walbridge Village, Millbury Village and Lake Township to the 44th House District. The rest of the County remained in the 75th House District.

The Wood County Board of Elections administered three elections in 2022. A primary election on May 3 was held for U.S. Senate, U.S. Congress, statewide offices, county offices

and eight local issues. An August primary was held for state legislative offices and state party central committee offices due to redistricting process delays. The November 1 general election included all successful primary candidates from both May and August primaries as well as 19 questions/issues.

In 2022, Wood County ended the year with 93,282 registered voters. Voter participation in 2022 was 18.94 percent for the May election, 8.66 percent for August second primary election and 53.23 percent for the November general election.

The Wood County Board of Elections operates under the Laws of the State of Ohio. Directives and advisories from the Ohio Secretary of State provide additional guidance along with the four-person local board.

## HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Benjamin Robison, MPH, Health Commissioner

*The Wood County Health Department works to prevent disease, promote healthy lifestyles, and protect the health of those living in the County. The Health Department also provides essential medical care through the Community Health Center, protects the County's food and water, and ensures women and children have access to nutritious food.*

In 2022, the Health Department worked with partners from various sectors to set priorities to improve the County's overall health through the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). A copy of the Plan is posted on the Department's webpage.

Infectious disease surveillance continued to be a priority. In July, staff identified a high number of E. coli cases as part of a multi-state outbreak. Staff also monitored trends in respiratory illnesses and informed the public of actions they could take to protect themselves.

In late 2022, the Health Center began a renovation project that will allow for expanded services, including behavioral health counseling.

The 10-member Board of Health appoints the Health Commissioner and oversees the activities of the Wood County General Health District.

## WOOD COUNTY FAIR CELEBRATING 150 YEARS IN 2023

Join the Wood County Agricultural Society in celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> Wood County Fair from July 30 to August 6, 2023. The fairgrounds are located on Poe Road in Bowling Green.

## LAW LIBRARY

Sarah Renda, Law Librarian

*The Wood County Law Library, operating under Section 307.51 et seq. of the Ohio Revised Code, provides legal resources to the citizens, courts, and government with both print and electronic materials. The print collection includes Ohio primary sources: statutes, regulations, and cases as well as legal encyclopedia, treatises, and practice materials with an emphasis on Ohio law. Online databases provide access to federal and other states' law. The governing board, the Law Library Resources Board, is composed of five members - two appointed by the County Commissioners and one member each by the Municipal Courts, Common Pleas Court, and the Prosecuting Attorney.*

The Law Library received approximately 330 visitors in 2022 by in person visits, phone calls, and emails.

The Law Library staff cannot provide individuals with legal advice, but can provide assistance in finding forms and information during regular Courthouse hours.



**Wood County, Ohio**

**Small towns. Big events.**

[www.woodcountytourism.com](http://www.woodcountytourism.com)

New to the area?

Learn more about what Wood County has to offer.

- Things to Do
- Upcoming Events
- Parks and Attractions

## OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Megan Arnold, Area Leader

*The mission of The Ohio State University Extension Office is to create opportunities for people to explore how science-based knowledge can improve social, economic, and environmental conditions. The Extension Office is a cooperative effort between The Ohio State University, the Wood County Commissioners, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.*

A highlight of the Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) program was a local Agronomic Field Day with 65 growers in attendance. Additionally, ANR staff assisted producers with identifying and controlling potential crop diseases and timing of fungicide application. Staff also utilized the research-based Nitrogen rate calculator to assist growers with determining the maximum return on investment by finding the most profitable Nitrogen rate.

Master Gardener volunteers continued to be active within the community in helping educate the public about horticulture. Most of the volunteers serve at city and county parks to help the parks maintain their grounds, serving over 1500 hours throughout the County.

The Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) team continued educating the public on diabetes by conducting Diabetes Dialogue sessions and Dining with Diabetes classes. Wellness Wednesday lunch and learns were also conducted with Wood County government employees throughout the year. SNAP-Ed, a free nutrition education program serving participants and low-income individuals, provided healthy resource programming in collaboration with local non-profits, head start centers, and County agencies and schools.

The Wood County 4-H program enrolled more than 1,000 members and 175 volunteers. Members from 46 clubs completed a total of 1,546 4-H projects and served 21,000 milkshakes in August at the Wood County Fair and National Tractor Pulling Championships. Additionally, 4-H staff implemented new programs and initiatives including 4-H Family Info Night, Beginner Quality Assurance, and the Wood County Alumni and Friends Organization. As part of the Senior Smiles project, 22 4-H clubs made 735 "goodie bags" for seniors receiving delivered meals through the Committee on Aging. This community service program received recognition at the state and regional levels.

## AG-VENTURE TOUR PROMOTES DIVERSITY IN AGRICULTURE

The second Wood County AG-Venture Self Driving Farm Tour was held Saturday, September 17, 2022. With the cooperation of five hosting sites and 92 volunteers, more than 961 visitors completed the 25-mile route, visiting working operations expressing the diversity in Wood County Agriculture. The next Ag-Venture tour will be held in 2026 in Wood County.

## PLANNING COMMISSION

W. David Steiner, Director

*The Planning Commission administers policy concerning zoning regulations, land use issues, and residential, commercial, and industrial subdivisions. The staff approves parcel splits, assigns rural addresses, and issues floodplain development permits. They administer the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and the Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP). The Planning Commission is also responsible for revising and promoting adherence to the Wood County Comprehensive Land Use Plan and assisting townships and villages in their local zoning programs.*

Office staff worked with the Ohio Department of Development to expand the existing Perrysburg Township Enterprise Zone to encompass the entire township, aiding in efforts to promote economic development in the area. Staff also assisted Troy and Plain Townships with updates to zoning resolutions.

Wood County partnered with Rossford, Northwood, and Bowling Green and received CHIP grant funds totaling \$1.8 million to address housing needs of low to moderate income homeowners throughout the County. Additional grant funds were received to assist Bloomdale with storm water sewer projects and a sanitary sewer project in the Sugar Ridge area.

A \$383,000 CDBG grant received in 2022 was allocated for ADA renovations to the Village Hall restrooms in Bradner; storm sewer improvements in Bloomdale; ADA restroom modifications for The Cocoon Shelter in Bowling Green; and funding assistance for low to moderate income households to cover the costs of tapping into sanitary sewers through the Northwestern Water and Sewer District.

Projects completed under the 2020 CDBG grant included parking lot improvements at Bloomdale's village hall; recoating of the water storage tank in Bradner; and the installation of 8,800 square feet of new sidewalks in the Maryland Place Subdivision in Northwood.

The Commission heard and reviewed rezoning requests throughout the year, three of which involved text changes to current zoning resolutions in Lake, Troy, and Middleton Townships. The remaining requests involved the rezoning of existing lands in Troy, Perrysburg, and Middleton Townships. The Planning Commission operates under Chapter 713 of the Ohio Revised Code.

## 2022 PLANNING COMMISSION ACTIVITY

Minor parcel split transactions.....	67
Total acres in minor parcel splits.....	353.695
Transactions involving parcel combinations.....	36
Total acres in parcel combinations.....	817.1324
Rural addresses issued.....	114

## PUBLIC DEFENDER

Kathleen Hamm, Chief Public Defender

(Jan. 1, 2022 - May 2, 2022)

Justin Daler, Chief Public Defender (eff. May 3, 2022)

*Established in 1979, the Public Defender's Office provides constitutionally mandated legal representation for indigent defendants in juvenile and criminal cases within Bowling Green, Perrysburg, and Fostoria Municipal Courts; Juvenile Court; and Common Pleas Court. To be eligible for representation, an individual must qualify under the Ohio Public Defender Commission Standards of Indigency, as listed in the Ohio Administrative Code Rule 120-1-03.*

In 2022, the Office of the Public Defender represented approximately 2,500 clients.

Funds for appointment of counsel were budgeted by the Commissioners, with an average of 95 percent of the budget reimbursed by the State in 2022. Ohio law mandates that individuals requesting representation pay a \$25 application fee. The County retained 80 percent of the fee to offset the costs of providing legal representation.

A five-member commission, appointed by the Common Pleas Judges and the Board of County Commissioners, oversees the office administration. A satellite office located at the Perrysburg Municipal Court accommodates the significant case load in the Northern part of the County.

The duties of the Public Defender are outlined in Chapter 120 of the Ohio Revised Code.

## SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

James Carter, District Administrator

*The Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) includes all the lands within the County. The District, chartered in 1949, is a subdivision of the State of Ohio operating under Chapter 940 of the Ohio Revised Code. The major function of the District is to determine the natural resource needs and implement programs to protect and develop these resources. The County Commissioners provide annual funding to the District, which is matched by the Ohio Department of Agriculture's Soil and Water Conservation Commission. Policies are set by a five-member board of supervisors who are elected to serve a three-year term.*

Staff spent a large amount of time administering the H2Ohio program, which focuses on incentivizing farmers to implement best management practices to reduce phosphorus runoff and improve water quality. As a result of H2Ohio, more than 62,600 acres in the County are covered under nutrient management plans that follow Tri-State Fertilizer Recommendations. Under this program, 11,000 acres were seeded with overwintering cover crops, and 14 drainage water management structures were designed and installed.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) worked with producers to plan five new Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) contracts on 705 acres for \$365,500 in cost-share funds. Contracted practices included manure storage facilities, cover crops, and nutrient management.

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) provided an additional \$111,700 in annual payments for conservation efforts on 1,675 acres. The local partnership provided support to 14 existing contracts to continue conservation efforts on 9,300 acres.

Four private ditch cleanouts were completed totaling six miles. Additionally, eight projects totaling over 28 miles have been assisted and are nearing construction.

## VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE • Zach Migura, Executive Director/County Veterans Service Officer

*The Wood County Veterans Service Office provides advocacy and representation for veterans and their eligible dependents before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The Office also assists service members and the veteran community in obtaining benefits at the state and local levels. The Office provides funding for transportation for veterans' VA medical appointments, provides emergency financial assistance, and has an Honors Detail that presents the final honors at a veteran's burial. The Veterans Service Commission operates under Chapter 5901 of the Ohio Revised Code.*

### Are You a Veteran Living in Wood County?

Call and schedule a phone, virtual, or in person appointment with the Veterans Service Office to make sure you are receiving all the benefits to which you are entitled. Call 419-354-9147 or visit the County website to learn more.

The Office also issues state Veteran Identification Cards containing the veteran's photo, address, branch of service, dates of active military service, and character of discharge.

### VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE STATISTICS FOR 2022

Estimated Veterans residing in the County .....	8,056
Total client contacts .....	4,708
Veterans transported to medical facilities .....	436
Veterans photo I.D. cards issued .....	85
Memorial Day appropriations .....	\$15,000
Flags/grave markers distributed .....	9,512
Federal VA claims/benefits/appeals submitted .....	228
Number of persons assisted - emergency financial .....	69



Many Wood County residents may not know where to turn when they need help.

Wood County's No Wrong Door program provides information about services and resources with one call to any of the member agencies.

No Wrong Door can help with the real life challenges that touch Wood County residents and provide guidance for issues like home repair, employment, food, clothing, shelter, financial assistance, and more.

If you need help and don't know where to turn, just call any one of the agencies listed and they will guide you to the services you need.

## NO WRONG DOOR Agencies

24 Hour Information and Referral - United Way 2-1-1 .....	Dial 2-1-1
24-Hour Wood County Crisis Line.....	419-502-HOPE (4673)
Harbor Wood County (formerly Behavioral Connections) .....	419-352-5387 or 419-872-2419
Bowling Green City Schools.....	419-352-3576
Children's Resource Center .....	888-466-KIDS or 419-352-7588
City of Bowling Green .....	419-354-6203
Unison Health (formerly Family Service Counseling Center).....	877-352-4624 or 419-352-4624
American Red Cross.....	855-891-7325 or 419-329-2900
United Way of Greater Toledo - Wood County Office .....	419-352-2390
Alcohol, Drug Addiction, Mental Health Services.....	419-352-8475
Board of Developmental Disabilities .....	800-356-3218 or 419-352-5115
Commissioners' Office .....	866-860-4140 or 419-354-9100
Committee on Aging .....	800-367-4935 or 419-353-5661
OSU Extension.....	419-354-9050
Job and Family Services .....	888-282-1118 or 419-352-7566
Educational Service Center.....	419-354-9010
Health Department.....	419-352-8402
Wood County Hospital .....	419-354-8910 (ER) or 419-354-8900
Juvenile Court.....	866-860-4140 or 419-352-3554
Prosecuting Attorney's Office.....	866-860-4140 or 419-354-9250
Great Lakes Community Action Partnership (formerly WSOS).....	800-775-9767 or 419-353-7407

*No Wrong Door is a program of the Family and Children First Council of Wood County, a partnership of Wood County human and social service agencies, schools, law enforcement agencies, government, and the courts, dedicated to assisting Wood County residents in need.*

## WOOD COUNTY QUICK FACTS

<b>Population:</b> 2020 Census: .....	132,248
2010 Census: .....	125,488
2000 Census: .....	121,065
<b>Land area in square miles:</b> .....	617.4
<b>Land in farms (acres):</b> .....	268,767
<b>Number of farms:</b> .....	1,069
<b>Total cash receipts from farms:</b> .....	\$159,265,000
<b>Private sector goods/service establishments:</b> .....	3,049
<b>Total households:</b> .....	50,589
<b>Estimated median household income:</b> .....	\$64,702

### Major employers in Wood County:

Bowling Green State University, Amazon, FedEx Ground, Magna International, First Solar, Inc., Home Depot, Wood County Government, Owens Community College, NSG Group, Wood County Hospital

Sources: Ohio County Profile from the Ohio Department of Development Office of Research - 2021 Edition, U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics



## A BRIEF HISTORY OF WOOD COUNTY

Wood County was organized on February 12, 1820, when the Legislature carved 14 counties from the lands purchased from the Indians as a result of the Lower Maumee Treaty of September 29, 1817. Lucas County was then a part of Wood County. By law, Maumee was named as the temporary Seat of Justice. The Act further provided that the unorganized counties of Hancock, Henry, Putnam, Paulding, and Williams should be attached to Wood County for civil purposes until further provisions were made by law.

Wood County was named for Colonel Eleazer Derby Wood, a graduate of West Point, a gallant soldier and the engineer who planned Fort Meigs.

The selection of County officers took place on April 1, 1820. In May

1822, the Commissioners designated Perrysburg as the first County Seat. It remained so until 1868 when the Seat of Justice was moved to Bowling Green.

The County lines were the same as now, except that the northern boundary extended to Michigan. In 1835, Wood County was dismembered when Lucas County was formed and the Maumee River became its northern boundary.

Out of the Great Black Swamp of yesterday has emerged a well drained, rich, fertile, and productive county.

Today, Wood County covers 617.4 square miles and consists of five cities, 21 villages, and 19 townships.

**Wood County Government**  
One Courthouse Square  
Bowling Green, OH 43402

Pre-Sort Standard  
US Postage  
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Toledo, OH  
Permit 133

**HOW TO CONTACT US...** Call 419-354-9000 and let us help you or call toll-free 1-866-860-4140.

## WOOD COUNTY HOTLINES

**Report Child/Elder Abuse**  
419-354-9669 or  
1-866-860-4136

**Report Welfare Fraud**  
419-373-6964 or  
1-800-627-8133  
[jfs.ohio.gov/fraud/index.htm](http://jfs.ohio.gov/fraud/index.htm)

**Public Assistance Call Center**  
1-844-640-6446

**Medicaid Consumer Hotline**  
1-800-324-8680

**NetPlus Transportation  
Network**  
1-844-353-6779

**Addiction Response  
Collaborative (ARC)**  
419-373-3900

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

**[www.woodcountyohio.gov](http://www.woodcountyohio.gov)**

**The County's website provides links to Elected Official and Departmental websites as well as quick links to the following information:**

- CodeRED (Emergency Management Agency)
- Real Estate Information (Auditor)
- Real Estate Tax Payment (Treasurer)
- Real Estate Index Search (Recorder)
- Voter Location Search (Board of Elections)
- Dog Adoptions (Dog Shelter)
- Building Permit Inquiry (Building Inspection)
- Internet Auction (Commissioners)
- Marriage License and Probate Records (Probate Court)
- Dog License Purchase and Renewal (Auditor)
- Sex Offender Database (Sheriff)
- Sheriff Sales (Sheriff)
- Bids/Requests for Proposals (Commissioners)
- Court Records Search (Clerk of Courts)
- Road Closings, Storm Water Management & Interactive Maps (Engineer)
- Household Recycling Information (Solid Waste Management District)
- Spirit of Wood County Awards (Commissioners)
- History of Wood County

