

# WAYNE COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE

## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



Wayne County Engineer  
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Each year, the constituents of Wayne County entrust the Wayne County Engineer in coordination with the Wayne County Commissioners to maintain 499 miles of county infrastructure including 481 bridges. This annual report summarizes the efforts of the Engineer, Highway Maintenance and Tax Map departments for 2024.

In 2024 the County Engineer's Office had expenditures totaling \$9,716,152.53. The 2024 Wayne County road and bridge improvements are summarized as follows:

- Replaced / Rehabilitated 8 bridges and repaired 6 bridges;
- Replaced 5 large culverts and 25 small culverts;
- Road improvements on 136.81 miles of roadway;
- Striped 232 miles of centerline and 174 miles of edge line

For additional information about the Wayne County Engineer's 2024 activities and to view our proposed 2025 work plan, please visit our website:

[www.wayne-county-engineer.com](http://www.wayne-county-engineer.com).

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I want to express my sincere appreciation to my staff for compiling this report and to the Board of Wayne County Commissioners for their cooperation in achieving our goals.

Scott A. Miller, P.E., P.S.  
Wayne County Engineer

## **PERSONNEL**

SCOTT A. MILLER, P.E., P.S.  
WAYNE COUNTY ENGINEER

### **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

Michelle Hall, Office Manager  
Leighanna Cawrse, Administrative Assistant

### **ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

Andrew Jones, Assistant County Engineer  
Eric Liew, P.E., P.S., Bridge Engineer  
Ryan Marthey, P.E., Drainage/Roadway Engineer  
Brock Yoder, Permit & Traffic Safety Supervisor  
Shania Reed, Engineering Technician  
Craig Wuthrich, Engineering Technician  
Courtney VanDyne, Permit Coordinator – Part Time

### **TAX MAP OFFICE**

Stacy Peppard, Tax Map Supervisor  
Lisa Burns, Tax Map Specialist  
Courtney VanDyne, Tax Map Specialist – Part Time

### **HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT**

Pat Miller, Bridge Superintendent  
Dave Corbett, Fleet and Facility Manager  
TJ Shamp, Highway Superintendent  
Dean Whitman, Assistant Highway Superintendent

Tristin Baker ~ John Baldner ~ Sarah Decker (5/6/24) ~ John Eubanks ~ Rick Fletcher ~ Brad Gross  
Rodney Hartzler ~ Lukus Hawk ~ Jon Hudson ~ Mike Hyatt ~ Corey Keplar ~ Nate Klepper ~ Jeremy Leckrone  
Aaron Mackey ~ Kyle McAfee ~ Kevin Miller ~ Jr. Mowrer ~ Erik Ogden ~ Don Phillips ~ Jakob Robinson  
Jesse Sax (5/6/24) ~ Cooper Smith ~ Matt Swartz ~ Trent Swinehart ~ Dustin Taylor ~ Cody Truman

**Sign Shop** ~ Jeff Metcalf, Dave Richard

**Mechanic (Shop)** ~ Joe Burns, Ryan Sowers (4/15/24)

**Summer Help** ~ Paige Becker, Trevor Larson, Sarah Miller, Caleb Zimmerman

#### **Retired/Resigned:**

Shawn Franks – Resigned – 2/16/2024

Bob Ewing – Retired – 08/29/2024

## DUTIES OF THE COUNTY ENGINEER

The Engineer has the responsibility of performing for the County all duties authorized or declared by law to be done by a civil engineer or surveyor, and accordingly must hold registration certificates of the State of Ohio as both Professional Engineer and Professional Surveyor.

The Engineer, in cooperation with the County Commissioners, is responsible for all maintenance, repair, widening, resurfacing, reconstruction, and construction of roads and bridges on the county highway system; 498.206 miles.

The Engineer serves as an advisor to the Township Trustees for the maintenance, repair, widening, resurfacing, and reconstruction of their highways. The bridges on the township highway system are the full responsibility of the County.

The Engineer is also responsible for many bridges within municipalities. These bridges are located on streets which are extensions of county or township roads.

Also, the Engineer must maintain a perpetual inventory of all bridges on the county and township highway system, including an annual inspection and evaluation of the condition and load carrying capacity of each bridge.

The Engineer is the Tax Map Draftsman for the County and at the discretion of the County Commissioners, he may also serve as the Acting Sanitary Engineer.

## 2024 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

<b>2024 INCOME</b>		
\$ 4,985,131.38	License Fees & Permissive Tax	52.99%
\$ 3,871,744.51	Gasoline Tax	41.15%
\$ 551,665.30	Other (fines/fees/misc)	5.86%
\$ 9,408,541.19		100.00%
<b>2024 EXPENDITURES</b>		
\$ 3,843,898.48	Labor & Fringes	39.56%
\$ 3,391,092.91	Road Materials/Contracts	34.90%
\$ 685,890.04	Bridge Materials/Contracts	7.06%
\$ 532,735.22	Vehicle - Repair - Fuel	5.48%
\$ 255,848.23	Issue II Projects/Loans	2.63%
\$ 756,690.42	Equipment	7.79%
\$ 249,997.23	Building Supplies and Contracts	2.57%
\$ 9,716,152.53		100.00%

## BRIDGES

The Wayne County Engineer is responsible for inspection, maintenance, and construction of 481 bridges on county and township roads, and extensions of those roads through municipalities.

**INSPECTION:** Annual inspections for 481 bridges are performed in accordance with the latest Ohio Department of Transportation Bridge Inspection Manual. Some bridges are inspected and monitored more frequently because of known deficiencies.

**LOAD RATINGS:** To be in compliance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requires ratings on all structures with a span greater than 20'. The load rating is performed for the safety of the traveling public. The carrying-capacity of all bridges in the State of Ohio are rated using a standard set of vehicles, called "Ohio Legal Loads". In addition to the current Ohio rating practice of using Ohio legal trucks, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has implemented a plan of action in response to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirement to incorporate three (3) AASHTO Vehicles, Specialized Hauling Vehicles (SHV) and Emergency Vehicles (EV) as per AASHTO's "Manual for Bridge Evaluation, Second Edition" into all new load rating analyses.

Load ratings, performed on Wayne County bridges in 2024, resulted in 37 bridges being submitted to ODOT with new or updated load limits. In addition, the posted load limits were removed on one bridge in 2024. Four (4) bridges were removed from bridge inventory. Wayne County currently has 57 load limit bridges.

### 2024 BRIDGE PROJECTS:

Replaced or Rehabilitated Bridges:

SUG-TR334-4.86, Goudy Road, \$96,301.53  
WAY-CR51-2.58, Canaan Center Road, \$42,713.19  
CLI-CR233-0.07, Aylsworth Road, \$90,018.54  
SAL-TR44-1.78, Apple Creek Road, \$122,998.35  
CAN-TR108-3.38, Steiner Road, \$107,444.81  
PLA-TR85-1.34, Reedsburg Road, \$73,357.60  
EAS-TR302-1.51, Barnard Road, \$33,499.90  
**TOTAL: \$566,333.92**

Six (6) other bridge structures received repairs totaling **\$32,533.28**.

## CULVERTS

The Wayne County Engineer is responsible for inspection, maintenance, and construction of 317 large culverts on county roads. Large culverts are defined as culverts having a span or rise greater than or equal to 48” and less than 120” (10’). Structures with a span greater than/equal to 120” (10’) are considered bridges.

**INSPECTION:** Inspections of large culverts are performed on a five (5) year rotation in accordance with the latest Ohio Department of Transportation Culvert Management Manual. Some culverts are inspected and monitored more frequently because of known deficiencies.

At the request of the Township Trustees, the Wayne County Engineer’s Office will inspect the large culverts on township roads. There are approximately 244 large culverts on township roads.

**CONSTRUCTION:** Five (5) large culverts were replaced or extended by county forces in 2024:

Twenty-Five (25) small culverts (less than 48”) were replaced/repared by county forces; the county maintains 2,183 small culverts.

## HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE

County Force Account for 2024 were as follows:

- Chip and Seal – 74.58 miles - \$855,053.28
- Drag Patched – 62.23 miles - \$625,041.36

County Forces / Feikert Sand and Gravel:

- Intersection Safety Project – Moreland Rd. and Fredericksburg Rd. - \$41,000

Contract Projects for 2024 were as follows:

- Safe Streets for All (FHWA) Safety Action Plan – EDG - \$257,762.00
- Criswell Road Bridge(LBR) - McConnell Contracting – \$551,168.00
- Church Street Reclamation – Melway Paving - \$185,850.55
- Misc Road Reclamation – Melway Paving - \$206,788.29
- Apple Creek Guardrail(HSIP) – Cuyahoga Fence LLC - \$ 85,601.01
- Guardrail Spraying and ROW Spraying – DCS DeAngelo - \$76,213.40
- Mowing (three rounds) - Running G Farms, Inc. - \$64,000

**SNOW & ICE:** County crews spent 4,960.50 regular hours and 2,878.75 overtime hours salting/plowing county roads during the 2024/2025 snow season on 55 individual snow events.

Labor:	\$ 234,568.06
Equipment:	\$ 272,329.25
Material:	<u>\$ 318,819.49</u> (2,749 Tons Salt, 2,416 Gal.Brine, 3,972 Tons Salt/Grit)
Total:	\$ 825,716.80

Salt:	2024/2025	\$51.64 per ton
	2023/2024	\$53.34 per ton
	2022/2023	\$51.14 per ton
	2021/2022	\$45.28 per ton
	2020/2021	\$57.29 per ton

## **EQUIPMENT PURCHASES**

2025 Mack Dual Axle Cab and Chassis - \$167,040.00  
2023 Case 821G wheel loader - \$296,596.77  
2019 Mack Anthem 64T (semi tractor) - \$74,990.00  
(2)- 2024 Ford F250 Super Duty pick up - \$92,240  
Henderson – Dump Body and Upfit - \$123,481

## **TRAFFIC CONTROL**

The primary responsibility of our traffic control staff is the inspection and maintenance of 8,618 road signs, which includes over 1,300 road name signs and narrow/load limit signs at certain bridges on township roads. The sign shop updated or installed 721 signs in 2024 and cleaned/repaired another 305. To increase visibility 125 yellow post reflectors were added on warning signs and 95 red post reflectors were added on stop signs.

The Traffic Control staff performs centerline, edge line, railroad crossing symbols and stop bar painting on county roads. Yellow centerline stripes were added to 232 miles of county roads. They also painted 174 miles of white edge lines, 10 railroad crossing symbols and 25 stop bars at intersections.

## **PERMITS**

Our office oversees work within the county right-of-way by public utilities and property owners as well as overweight and oversize vehicles using the roads. This ensures that all utility work, including relocation of overhead and buried electric, phone, cable, water, and gas lines along and under the road, does not interfere with the safety and operation of the county roads. Also, any work that is done by a resident to the front of their property (inside the road right-of-way), including construction of new driveways, installation of drainage pipes, re-grading ditches or installing obstructions that would otherwise affect the operation or safety of the road must be reviewed by the permit department. Special Haul Permits are for vehicles that are oversize or overweight according to the limits set by Ohio Revised Code 5577.

Permits Issued 2024:	Drive Culverts	62
	Utility	120
	Ditch Enclosure	45
	Special Haul	10
	Access Management	60
	Total =	297

## **SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS**

Smithville Western Rd. & Geyers Chapel Rd. Wayne Twp., Widened intersection and improved visibility by relocating utility poles.

Fredericksburg Rd. & Nonpariel Rd., Joint project with Franklin Twp. Improve vertical alignment & sight distance at the intersection.

East Lincoln Way & Honeytown. Raised Honeytown Rd to match East Lincolnway at the intersection for improved visibility.

## **SPEED ZONE STUDIES**

Shank Rd. Chippewa Twp. Between Edwards & Clinton. Safe speed 48 MPH. No change.

Fox Lake Rd. Wayne Twp. Between SR 3 & Geyers Chapel. Safe Speed 50 MPH. No change

Clinton Rd. Chippewa Twp. Between Black Diamond & Calaboone. In progress.

## **INTERSECTION SAFETY STUDIES**

Eby Rd & Bechtel Rd. East Union & Greene Twp converted to a 4 way stop.

Elryia & SR 250. Removed trees and added signage.

## TAX MAP DEPARTMENT

The Primary function of the Tax Map Department is to process all deeds and record the parcel transfers on the appropriate map(s). Some of the instruments that the Department is required to review and approve are as follows: warranty deeds, quit claim deeds, executor's deeds, certificate of transfers, deeds of trustees, transfer on death affidavits, land contracts, sheriff's deeds, etc.

The Tax Map Department also retains and maintains historical tax maps, property surveys, railroad and highway right-of-way maps for public viewing and research. The Department provides a current set of tax maps to the County Auditor for taxation purposes. Every parcel of land in Wayne County is mapped and kept current with each landowner. These maps are available for viewing in the front office or on the department's website at [http://wayne-county-engineer.com/Tax\\_Maps\\_&\\_Surveys/default.html](http://wayne-county-engineer.com/Tax_Maps_&_Surveys/default.html). Tax maps of past years dated from 1929 forward are retained in a reference library and are available for viewing.

In 2024, there were approximately 57,312 tax parcels in Wayne County. There were 4,728 conveyances processed through this department during the year.

The Tax Map Department also administers the continuation of the county house numbering system. Numbers are assigned to new and existing building sites, cell tower sites, etc. that require an address. The new numbers are registered on a separate set of maps and index cards. New addresses are submitted to area post offices.

For many years, surveyors have been required to submit their survey plats for review and entry into the land records. There are approximately 34,901 surveys dating back to 1815. These surveys include numerous plats of allotments, subdivisions, and annexations. In 2024, this department reviewed and processed 269 survey plats.

This office prepares and maintains numerous volumes of other related maps, plats and drawings that form a part of the county mapping system. The office personnel deserve credit for performing the diversified duties that are required in serving the public and maintaining an efficient and well-managed Tax Map Department.

### Conveyances Processed 2024

Deed Affidavit	492
Deed Transfer	3,421
Land Contracts	28
Transfer on Death	697
Transfer on Death Completed	90