

WAYNE COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE

2025 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 2025.

In 2025 the County Engineer's Office had expenditures totaling \$9,839,959.97. The 2025 Wayne County road and bridge improvements are summarized as follows:

- Replaced / Rehabilitated 6 bridges;
- Replaced 3 large culverts and 32 small culverts;
- Road improvements on 112.34 miles of roadway;
- Striped 192 miles of centerline and 127 miles of edge line

For additional information about the Wayne County Engineer's 2025 activities and to view our proposed 2026 work plan, please visit our website:

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

TAX MAP OFFICE

Stacy Peppard, Tax Map Supervisor
Lisa Burns, Tax Map Specialist

HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Pat Miller, Bridge Superintendent
Dave Corbett, Fleet and Facility Manager
TJ Shamp, Highway Superintendent
Kevin Miller, Drainage Superintendent (11/3/25)

Tristin Baker ~ John Baldner ~ Sarah Decker ~ John Eubanks ~ Rick Fletcher ~ Brad Gross ~ Rodney Hartzler
Lukus Hawk ~ Jon Hudson ~ Mike Hyatt ~ Corey Keplar ~ Adam Keys (1/5/26) ~ Nate Klepper
Jeremy Leckrone ~ Aaron Mackey ~ Kyle McAfee ~ Kevin Miller ~ Erik Ogden ~ Don Phillips ~ Cooper Smith
Matt Swartz ~ Trent Swinehart ~ Dustin Taylor ~ Cody Truman ~ Adam White (1/5/26)

Sign Shop ~ Jeff Metcalf, Dave Richard

Mechanic (Shop) ~ Joe Burns, Ryan Sowers

Summer Help ~ Paige Becker, Connie Boggs, DJ Corbett, Jakoda Hammitt, Luke Stokes

Retired/Resigned:

Courtney VanDyne, Tax Map Specialist – Resigned 6-18-2025

Jr. Mowrer – Highway Maintenance Worker III - Retired – 9/30/2025

Jesse Sax – Highway Maintenance Worker II - Resigned – 11/12/2025

Dean Whitman, Assistant Highway Superintendent – Retired – 2/28/2026

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.

2025 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

2025 INCOME		
\$ 4,993,368.26	License Fees & Permissive Tax	50.67%
\$ 3,956,771.80	Gasoline Tax	40.15%
\$ 905,126.05	Other (fines/fees/misc)	9.18%
\$ 9,855,266.11		100.00%
2025 EXPENDITURES		
\$ 4,127,312.20	Labor & Fringes	41.94%
\$ 2,766,636.37	Road Materials/Contracts	28.12%
\$ 1,116,057.71	Bridge Materials/Contracts	11.34%
\$ 583,799.18	Vehicle - Repair - Fuel	5.93%
\$ 49,630.65	Issue II Projects/Loans	0.50%
\$ 919,742.54	Equipment	9.35%
\$ 276,781.32	Building Supplies and Contracts	2.81%
\$ 9,839,959.97		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 2025 resulted in 18 bridges being submitted to ODOT with new or updated load limits. In addition, the posted load limits were removed on three bridge in 2025. Zero (0) bridges were removed from bridge inventory. Wayne County currently has **68** load limit bridges.

2025 BRIDGE PROJECTS:

Replaced or Rehabilitated Bridges:

CHE-TR107-0.71, Rathburn Road, \$54,854.28

WAY-CR54-1.82, Canaan Center Road, \$179,850.20

SUG-TR105-5.19, W. Lebanon Road, \$205,771.26

EAS-TR359-0.44, Secrest Road, \$139,584.30

PLA-CR157-3.33, Jefferson Road, \$117,334.11

CHE-TR85-0.25, Reedsburg Road, \$556,350, Fechko Excavating, LLC, LBR Funded

TOTAL: \$1,253,735.15

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: Three (3) large culverts were replaced or extended by county forces in 2025:

Thirty-two (32) small culverts (less than 48”) were replaced/repared by county forces; the county maintains 2,183 small culverts.

HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE

County Force Account for 2025 were as follows:

- Chip and Seal – 41.05 miles - \$538,735
- Drag Patched – 59.87 miles - \$686,016

Contract Projects for 2025 were as follows:

- Smithville Western and Honeytown Roundabout – Fechko Excavating, LLC - \$1,592,315
- Smithville Western and N. Elyria Roads Reclamation – 4.66 miles Melway Paving - \$71,592
- Guardrail Spraying and ROW Spraying – DCS DeAngelo - \$57,763
- Pleasant Home/W. Salem Road Paving (OPWC) – 6.76 miles Melway Paving - \$870,123

SNOW & ICE: County crews spent 4368 regular hours and 2,725 overtime hours salting/plowing county roads during the 2025/2026 snow season on 47 individual snow events.

Labor:	\$ 212,369
Equipment:	\$ 266,469
Material:	<u>\$ 318,281</u> (3838 Tons Salt, 0 Gal.Brine, 2006 Tons Salt/Grit)
Total:	\$ 797,119

Salt:	2025/2026	\$59.81 per ton
	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

2026 Mack Dual Axle Cab and Chassis - \$169,890.00
2026 Mack Dual Axle Cab and Chassis - \$167,829.00
Concord – Dump Body and Upfit - \$146,242.31
2025 Gradall XL4100 - \$501,569.76
2025 Chevy Colorado - \$33,694.45
2024 Disc Mower 107M - \$13,740.00
2001 Freightliner FL70 Used Distributor - \$18,000.00
Shop Press 75 Ton - \$5,845.97

TRAFFIC CONTROL

The primary responsibility of our traffic control staff is the inspection and maintenance of 8,445 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 337 signs in 2025 and cleaned/repaired another 203. Set up and coordinate detours bridge and culvert projects.

The Traffic Control staff performs centerline, edge line, railroad crossing symbols and stop bar painting on county roads. Yellow centerline stripes were added to 192 miles of county roads. They also painted 127 miles of white edge lines, 0 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 2025:	Drive Culverts	70
	Utility	75
	Ditch Enclosure	40
	Special Haul	20
	Access Management	60
		Total = 265

SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Emerson Road – Waynedale School Complex – Added new school zone with flashing beacon signs
Hutton Road/ Friendsville Road – Installed LED Blinking Stop Signs
Britton Road/ Friendsville Road – Installed LED Blinking Stop Signs

SPEED ZONE STUDIES

Sterling Road west of Rittman Corp. Line – 50 mph Study result – No Change Proposed

INTERSECTION SAFETY STUDIES

Arnold/Wenger for new Provia Factory in Dalton review for 4-way stop – Not warranted
Winesburg/Durstine review for 4-way stop - Not warranted

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. 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 57,748 tax parcels in Wayne County. There were 4,569 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 35,147 surveys dating back to 1815. These surveys include numerous plats of allotments, subdivisions, and annexations. In 2025, this department reviewed and processed 246 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 2025

Deed Affidavit	471
Deed Transfer	3277
Land Contracts	18
Transfer on Death	710
Transfer on Death Completed	93