### ROUNDTABLE

The Commissioners met at 1:00 p.m. at the Fairfield Center at 12935 Stonecreek Dr., Pickerington, OH. Commissioner Davis called the meeting to order, and the following Commissioners were present: Steve Davis and David Levacy. County employees present: Aundrea Cordle, Jeff Porter, Rochelle Menningen, Bennett Niceswanger, Dan Neeley, Abby Watson, Jon Kochis, Jason Grubb, Rick Szabrak, Dave Burgei, Michael Guerriero, Bev Hoskinson, Sheriff Alex Lape, Shannon Carter, Corey Clark, Recorder Lisa McKenzie, Nikki Drake, Josh Anders, Engineer Jeremiah Upp, Dr. David Uhl, Treasurer James Bahnsen, Michael Kaper, Judge Terre Vandervoort, Tiffany Wilson, Bart Hampson, Marcey Shafer, Holly Mattei, Scott Duff, Miranda Gray, Leighann Adams, Joe Ebel, Austin Lines, and Kelly Frank. Also in attendance: Kara Lockard and Nathan Dilley

# **WELCOME**

Commissioner Davis opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance.

Commissioner Levacy stated that he always looks forward to the Roundtable meetings and to hearing from everyone in attendance.

# **COUNTY ADMINISTRATION**

Aundrea Cordle thanked everyone for taking the time out of their schedules to attend and added that she also looks forward to each Roundtable meeting. She invited everyone to reach out to her if they had a topic they would like to discuss, or learn about, at the meetings.

# **RECORDS RETENTION**

Bennett Niceswanger provided a presentation on records management. He defined and explained records retention schedules (RC-2) and how departments should use the schedule as a guide for retaining and disposing of records properly. He explained the sections of the RC-2 and added that each schedule could be updated as often as needed. Mr. Niceswanger advocated for departments to update their schedules to allow records to be stored in electronic format, explaining that it allows for better accessibility, organization, and a faster response time to public records requests.

Commissioner Davis asked if there was a cost associated with having records stored electronically.

Daniel Neeley stated that there would be a cost to increase the storage on the county servers to allow additional room for increased electronic records.

Joe Ebel asked if records that have reached their retention period should be listed on the one-time disposal form.

Bennett Niceswanger explained that the one-time disposal form (RC-1) is used exclusively for obsolete records. The certificate of records disposal (RC-3) is used for all other records that have reached their retention period. Mr. Niceswanger provided the proper procedures for storing and obtaining records from the Fairfield County Records Center. He explained that not all county records are stored at the Records Center and, if an agency needs to access their records or present records for storage, they should contact Records Center staff who would help coordinate. Administrator Cordle stated that the purpose of the Records Center is to have a high-quality storage facility that improves the retention practices of important county records.

# **GEOPRO Imaging, LLC**

Nathan Dilley introduced himself and spoke about how he began in the documents and spatial imaging industry. He spoke about the preservation of public records, and improved accessibility and space savings of electronic records. Scanning benefits include compliance and transparency, disaster recovery, and operational efficiency. The top reason to scan is preservation of the record.

Kara Lockard stated you should consider the volume and document types, indexing and organization of records, storage needs, and retention schedules when contemplating a scanning project. Various sizes of documents can be scanned, including large format, as well as those contained in bound books, and on microfiche and microfilm.

Nathan Dilley spoke about other services offered by Geopro including those for cemetery lot management.

Kara Lockard spoke about 3D spatial imaging which can be used in museums, concert venues, and theatres to capture building assets.

Commissioner Levacy spoke about the significant change in accounting records since the 1960's.

Commissioner Davis stated that staff could reach out to Bennett Niceswanger for additional assistance pertaining to records.

Engineer Upp stated his office had met with Geopro regarding records.

Sheriff Lape asked if Geopro had heard discussions on legislative changes regarding some of his office's permanent records.

Nathan Dilley stated he had not and thanked everyone for the opportunity to present.

# **COUNTY UPDATES**

# State of the County

Aundrea Cordle stated that the 2025 State of the County would be held on September 30<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m. at the new Sheridan Center facility. She added that the event is expected to sell out, so everyone is encouraged to register early.

Jon Kochis stated that the facility could hold up to 350 individuals.

Aundrea Cordle added that the Liberty Center is still an option but is not often available. She added that there will be times that the community can rent the Sheridan Center event space . Ms. Cordle spoke about capturing the "Serve, Protect, Connect" model at the State of the County Address. The Commissioners' Office, along with Krile Communications, will be reaching out to departments for information. She asked employees to think about initiatives and services that will resonate with county residents and to also consider those things for which their department is the proudest.

Commissioner Davis asked if the room occupancy was 350 with tables.

Jon Kochis replied that the room will hold 350 people with tables and that the county purchased both rectangular and round tables.

Aundrea Cordle stated there will be a kitchen at the Sheridan Center, but it is not a full kitchen due to the complexity of code requirements. She reminded everyone to share the State of the County event with their stakeholders. A "Save the Date" for the event was to be provided by email.

# Centralized Purchasing

Jeff Porter spoke about the County's plans for centralized purchasing. The county is going to start centralized purchasing with copiers. There is a team of four who are currently working on this. When your current copier lease is up, or your copier needs replaced, the County will have options available that have already been negotiated with the vendor. The request for proposals will go out in late August or early September. The county believes this will benefit departments with lower costs and increased efficiency. This also greatly benefits the Prosecutor's Office, which currently reviews approximately fifteen contracts per day.

Daniel Neeley stated that this will ease operations for IT and increase their efficiency in helping County employees with connectivity and other print device related issues.

Aundrea Cordle stated this will be for new contracts.

Commissioner Levacy spoke about the ease of the process with centralized purchasing. This provides departments with the best deal, a variety of options, and a decrease in time invested.

Jeff Porter stated the county will be looking at both lease and purchase options.

# New Benefits Administration System

Jeff Porter started by speaking about the August 22<sup>nd</sup> Employee Appreciation Event. The event will be held for the first time at one of the County Parks. It will be at Smeck Park in Baltimore. He also stated that Jett Dental will be returning to the Records Center and added that the Benefits Fair will also be at the Records Center on October 9<sup>th</sup>. A new mammography service called Bexa will be coming for county employees. The accuracy of the Bexa service is over 99%. Mr. Porter thanked the payroll staff, IT, and Bev Hoskinson for their assistance implementing a new employee health benefit platform named bswift.

Abby Watson stated the new bswift platform will replace what is currently used in ESS. The platform and the enrollment center will be personalized to employees and their families.

Jeff Porter added that it is a decision support tool. We are working with the bswift platform to ensure it is as robust as possible.

Abby Watson continued by stating that the bswift platform contains Emma, an AI assistant. You can ask as little or as much as you like of Emma. The last screen of the platform is the benefit summary which also shows the amount the county is paying for your benefits.

Jeff Porter added that the system feeds directly to the county's health benefit vendors. It eliminates human intervention, and because of this, grant money can be utilized to pay for the system. He again thanked everyone involved in the integration to bswift. Mr. Porter reported that the county is moving away from Wellbeats and will have another wellness option that will be announced in August.

# **Artificial Intelligence**

Daniel Neeley spoke about solicitated responses regarding using AI in County departments. He added that we understand people are attempting to use AI. The IT department is seeing indications that there are already 100 employees using AI in the county and leadership has voiced interest in additional staff being able to implement the use of AI.

Commissioner Davis asked if there was an overarching guide for the use of AI.

Danel Neeley said that it is like the onset of the internet, and the use of Google's tools.

Jeff Porter stated the County is focusing on the protection of data. AI is a great tool, but we must ensure we are protecting county data and the data of our citizens. The county is working on available protection options.

# Recredentialing Project

Daniel Neeley stated that the recredentialing project is moving along and added that the process was necessary due to technology changes and security requirements.

# **Vending**

Jason Grubb spoke about the county's vending machine contracts and added that departments/buildings need approximately 50 people to have a vending machine in their facility.

Rick Szabrak stated the Workforce Center has the new vending machines and added the machines are very clean and the food in them looks great.

Jason Grubb encouraged departments to fill out the vending surveys because they help the vendor.

Commissioner Davis asked if the vending machines were stocked with any healthy options.

Jason Grubb replied that there were some healthy options such as salads.

# <u>Break</u>

Commissioner Davis called for a break at 2:15 p.m. before continuing with Departmental Updates.

# DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

Dave Burgei stated that the real estate reappraisal values had been posted. Letters would be sent out to residential property owners before the end of the week.

Commissioner Davis asked what the average property value increase was across the county.

Dave stated that the average increase was approximately 28%, which was based on the county's own numbers and not the State's numbers.

Michael Guerriero spoke about his job duties with GIS and gave his appreciation for the opportunity to work in Fairfield County.

Bev Hoskinson stated the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, and the Popular Annual Financial Report had been released. She added that the audit was performed in record time, and she is hopeful that next year's audit will be just as successful.

Sheriff Lape provided an update on departmental activities, noting that training efforts are ongoing, with one employee currently enrolled in NACo training. The department is actively working toward full-service jail accreditation and is part of the second cohort under the new Ohio Collaborative standards released in January. Sheriff Lape also reported that they are still in the process of finalizing a contract with the U.S. Marshals Service to hold federal prisoners at the jail; he clarified that these holdings are not related to immigration. Additionally, the department is cross-training employees to ensure operational coverage during staff absences.

Shannon Carter reported that Master Gardeners in the county recently held a plant sale, and 4-H is currently conducting summer project judging. She also noted a concern that the SNAP-Ed program is at risk of losing its funding.

Corey Clark announced that back-to-school clothing vouchers will be offered, with just under \$200,000 allocated for the program. He also encouraged everyone to wear green on August 6th in support of Child Abuse Awareness. Additionally, the department will be celebrating its 25th anniversary on September 25th.

Recorder McKenzie reported that her office is currently seeking a new employee. She also shared that she has begun outreach efforts with homeowners' associations to provide information about fraud alert services.

Nikki Drake noted the contrast between last year's drought and this year's persistent heavy rainfall, including a recent 500-year rainstorm event and a 1000-year rainstorm event within areas of the county. She also reported that the recent household hazardous waste event on Saturday was successful, with a large amount of fuels, chemicals, and batteries collected.

Holly Mattei is assisting communities with the adoption of a model zoning code, noting that Thurston and Millersport have already adopted it. She also mentioned that some Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) activity has slowed, with fewer new projects initiated this year.

Jon Kochis reported that the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) is experiencing significant flooding issues. He encouraged community members to contact Soil and Water or EMA directly for assistance with flooding concerns.

Josh Anders provided an update regarding discounts available for eligible utility customers and spoke about some of the Utility Department projects.

Engineer Upp reported that construction season is underway, with paving projects starting on Airport Road, Old Columbus, Hamburg, Carroll Eastern, and Carroll Northern. He also mentioned upcoming bridge replacements and microsurfacing projects.

David Uhl shared that they are collaborating with the Educational Service Center due to space limitations. Developmental Disabilities (DD) is leasing space at the mall to offer classes for students with significant behavioral needs. The parking lot at Forest Rose has been repaved and is used during concerts in partnership with the festival. To continue summer break support, speech therapists provide in-home services to students. DD has organized a group of property tax-funded entities across the county to engage legislators about the discussions regarding eliminating property taxes.

Commissioner Levacy asked Jeremiah to explain microsurfacing.

Engineer Upp stated it is a type of pavement that is 1-inch thick and seals the road without having to completely repave it.

Dan Neeley spoke about recent issues with security cameras. The IT department transitioned to a new cloud-based system, but a bug in the system affected users who still had cameras on older systems.

Treasurer Bahnsen reported that the Treasurer's Office has been busy collecting taxes and assisting people in setting up escrow accounts to help budget for tax payments.

Michael Kaper stated that Belinda Nebbergall with the Land Bank will soon retire, and they have hired someone from the Recorder's Office to fill that position.

Judge Vandervoort, who works with trauma-affected youth, expressed strong support for the alternate classroom options provided by ESC and DD.

Tiffany Wilson announced that a full council meeting would be held later that week and spoke about the new parent education calendar. She encouraged parents to attend the programs.

Bart Hampson stated that level three budget entry access will soon end. He also reported that the data for the drainage maintenance districts was ready and on track to meet the deadline.

Commissioner Davis discussed recent state budget vetoes and noted that the county is currently assessing its position in response. He also mentioned concerns regarding the Big Beautiful Bill. The Commission is aware of these issues and is actively working to address them.

Marcey Schafer reported ongoing flooding issues in County parks, noting that several sites have been forced to close due to flooding. She also shared that trail extension projects are underway, including a new trail connecting Liberty Union schools to a heron observation area.

Rick Szabrak reported that the Workforce Center (WFC) had 69 student graduates in 2025, and 35 students were hosted at signing day. The WFC is launching a new semiconductor program this year, with renovations expected to be completed by October. The WFC is also running multiple summer camps and received \$700,000 from the state budget to fund programs for high school students. Nine more Transit buses will be wrapped, and a study will be conducted to explore ways the transit system can better support local businesses.

Scott Duff highlighted recent technological investments and discussed their assistance using cameras with a crime investigation in Buckeye Lake. He noted successful collaborations with Hicks Partners as the Major Crimes Unit is a grant-funded agency. Additionally, they conducted search warrants on three vape shops selling to minors, and the items which were seized are currently being analyzed.

Miranda Gray reported that the STARLight Center is fully operational. They collaborated with the land bank to secure a grant for demolishing buildings. Construction is currently underway at Venture Place, and several upcoming events are planned.

Leighann Adams reported that a new volunteer program is being rolled out at the Dog Shelter. The shelter has experienced an increase in intakes, and efforts are underway to develop new social media initiatives. She also noted a rise in reported dog bites and is collaborating with the prosecutor's office to pursue prosecutions.

Joe Ebel reported that they have received a couple of new grants and back-to-school vaccinations are being administered.

Austin Lines reminded everyone that the civil team is always available to answer any questions.

Kelly Frank reported that the Coroner's Office has two new employees that attended the Coroners Association conference in May and recently toured SCI.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 3:42 p.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows: Voting aye thereon: David Levacy and Steve Davis

The next Roundtable is scheduled for November 4, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Fairfield County Workforce Center.

Motion by: David Levacy

Seconded by: Steve Davis

that the July 15, 2025, Roundtable minutes were approved by the following vote:

YEAS: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix ABSTENTIONS:

NAYS: None

David Levacy

Commissioner

\*Approved on July 22, 2025

Commissioner

Steve Davis

Commissioner

Rochalle Manningen Clark

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#### BOARD 0 F COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners: Steven A. Davis Jeffrey M. Fix David L. Levacy

**County Administrator** Aundrea N. Cordle

**Deputy County Administrator** Jeffrey D. Porter

# Roundtable - Elected Officials/Department Heads

July 15, 2025, ~ 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Fairfield Center, 12935 Stonecreek Dr., Pickerington

Purpose Statement:

The purpose of the roundtable discussion is to facilitate the review, discussion, and analysis of topics with relevance for Fairfield County elected officials and department heads. The meeting marks a time to provide information, network with peers, and plan.

Clerk Rochelle Menningen

#### <u>AGENDA</u>

1. Welcome Jeffrey M. Fix Steven A. Davis David L. Levacy

2. County Administration Aundrea Cordle

3. Records Retention

Fairfield County Records Center a. Bennett Niceswanger

Retention Schedules/Records Management b.

Imaging/Electronic Records GEOPRO Imaging, LLC c.

4. County Updates

a. State of the County, September 30, 2025, 11:30 a.m. Aundrea Cordle b. Centralized Purchasing Jeff Porter

c. New Benefits Administration System

d. Artificial Intelligence Daniel Neeley

e. Recredentialing Project

f. Vending Jason Grubb

5. Break

6. Departmental Updates All Participants

## <u>ADJOURN</u>

Next Roundtable is November 4, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Workforce Center

If you have suggestions for topics to address during the next Roundtable, please contact: Aunie Cordle, Aundrea.Cordle@fairfieldcountyohio.gov.

> SERVE CONNECT • PROTECT

# Roundtable Index

# Updates from Elected Officials and Department Heads

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- 21-22. OSU Extension
- 23. Facilities and EMA
- 24-26. Soil & Water
- 27. Park District
- 28. Treasurer and Land Bank

7/15/2025 010

### Topics in this report include:

- the real estate assessment sexennial update,
- a new payroll program called Savings Stash,
- the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report,
- the Popular Annual Financial Report, and
- the audit for the period ending December 31, 2024.

#### Real estate assessment sexennial update

- All Fairfield County residential property owners will be receiving a letter in the mail about the sexennial update, the required update of real estate property values.
- As in the past, there will be opportunities for informal hearings to review those new values.
- The **lien date for these values is 1.1.2025**. and collections of associated property taxes will occur in 2026.

## Commonly asked questions and answers:

# How do appraisers do their work?

Appraisers use a detailed system to get accurate valuations. First the appraisers look at similar properties that have sold, their sale prices, and the terms and conditions of each sale. Studying things like age, square footage, and location helps appraisers determine how comparable one property is to another. Even seemingly small details like an extra bathroom or finished basement can result in a difference in value in two otherwise identical homes.

Appraisers maintain a thorough database of real estate information to make this process as precise as possible. Changes in value are typically the result of local real-estate market sales or major changes to a property.

# What is a sexennial update?

In Ohio, a **sexennial update** refers to a **full, general property reappraisal** mandated by state law to occur once every six years. This process is overseen by the County Auditor under the direction of the Ohio Department of Taxation. Triennial updates occur every three years. The sexennial update is a full update, including commercial properties.

1

# Does an increase in the market value of my home mean a dollar for dollar increase in property taxes that I will be required to pay?

An increase in property values does not mean there will be a "dollar for dollar" increase in property taxes. For example, a renewal levy is based on the original valuation of property (the value at the time of the levy passing originally), as opposed to the new, updated values.

### What are some key aspects of a sexennial reappraisal?

7/15/2025

- **Comprehensive Property Valuation:** This process involves determining the "true value in money" of each property, which is then used to establish the taxable value for property tax purposes.
- **Purpose:** The primary goal is to ensure that property assessments reflect current market values as of a tax lien date.
- **Notification and Public Engagement:** Once the reappraisal is completed, property owners will receive updated valuation notices. As with the triennial update, the County Auditor will hold informational sessions to explain the reappraisal process and address questions from residents.

2

012

### **Introducing... SAVINGS STASH!** Smart. Simple. Automatic.

We get it — budgets are tight, and every paycheck counts.

But saving doesn't have to mean setting aside a large amount. With Savings Stash, even small, consistent contributions — \$5, \$10, whatever works for you — can add up over time. It's not about having "extra" money; it's about building a habit that fits your own reality.

This new service is designed to help make saving automatic and stress-free, so you can start building toward your goals one step at a time. Because even a little stash can lead to big peace of mind.

# Jumpstart Your Savings the Easy Way!

Savings Stash lets you split your paycheck into two accounts through direct deposit — helping you build your savings automatically, your way! Whether you're planning for something big, thinking about a future responsibility, or want a cushion for the unexpected, Savings Stash makes it easy to stay on track.

Why Use Savings Stash? Here are three examples...

#### **Save for Big Goals**

Cars, vacations, homeownership — whatever you're dreaming about, set up a separate account to help you reach it faster.

# Stay Ready for Municipal or Local Taxes

New state rules ended voluntary tax deductions in 2024, but we can help you plan — stash away funds for future responsibilities of municipal or local taxes where you live.

Bonus: We'll give you tools to help you with your estimates!

#### # Build a Rainy Day Fund

Life throws curveballs — and even a little backup goes a long way.

#### What You Need to Do:

- 1. Fill out the **Savings Stash form** (attached)
- 2. Choose how much you want to stash each pay period and where you want it to be deposited
- 3. Then, feel more confident about reaching your goals, one step at a time

# You Set the Goal.

We Help Make It Happen.

Questions? We're here to help!

Start today — because your future self will thank you.

# Fairfield County Auditor's Office Releases Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

**Lancaster, Ohio** – Fairfield County Auditor, Dr. Carri L. Brown, has announced the release of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for Fairfield County, Ohio. The report covers the financial activity of the county through December 31, 2024, and can be found here: <a href="https://www.co.fairfield.oh.us/auditor/fc-financial-reports-ACFR-PAFR.html">https://www.co.fairfield.oh.us/auditor/fc-financial-reports-ACFR-PAFR.html</a>. The electronic version is identical to the printed version.

The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report provides a true picture of the County's overall financial affairs. The 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report received an unmodified opinion from independent auditors and is expected to conform to the requirements of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting program of the Government Finance Officers Association. The County has received the Certificate of Achievement for the past 35 years (1989 - 2023).

Dr. Brown stated, ""This is one of the most thorough and transparent financial reports you'll see from a local government. It's not just for accountants or officials—it's a helpful tool for residents, small business owners, investors, and anyone who cares about the county and financial stewardship."

Questions regarding the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report can be directed to Dr. Brown, County Auditor, at <a href="mailto:carri.brown@fairfieldcountyohio">carri.brown@fairfieldcountyohio</a> or (740) 652-7096.

###

# Fairfield County Auditor's Office Releases Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR)

**Lancaster, Ohio** – Fairfield County Auditor, Dr. Carri L. Brown, has also announced the release of the Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024.

The purpose of the report, which has previously earned an Outstanding Achievement Award from the Government Finance Officers Association, is to provide citizens with summarized financial data in a user-friendly format. It is a report which helps to increase awareness and knowledge of County operations.

The financial information within the Popular Annual Financial Report has been taken from the 2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for Fairfield County. While the Popular Annual Financial Report is relatively brief, the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report consists of more than 300 pages of detailed financial statements, notes, schedules, and statistical tables.

The cover of the Popular Annual Financial Report has historically featured a park of the Fairfield County Parks District.

Dr. Carri L. Brown, County Auditor, stated, "Several parks were considered for the cover due to the abundance of scenic and historically significant parks throughout our county. Ultimately, Lockville Canal Park was selected for its unique blend of natural beauty and historical importance. As part of the original Ohio Canal system, the park features remnants of three canal locks, offering visitors a glimpse into the region's rich transportation history and heritage."

Find the Popular Annual Financial Report and the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report here: <a href="https://www.co.fairfield.oh.us/auditor/fc-financial-reports-ACFR-PAFR.html">https://www.co.fairfield.oh.us/auditor/fc-financial-reports-ACFR-PAFR.html</a>

For more information, contact Dr. Carri Brown, County Auditor, at <a href="mailto:carri.brown@fairfieldcountyohio">carri.brown@fairfieldcountyohio</a>, or (740) 652-7096.

# No comments. No Findings. No Citations.

Fairfield County is proud to share the news of a clean, successful audit for the period ending December 31, 2024!

This outstanding result is a true testament to the dedication, integrity, and teamwork of our financial leaders, department heads, elected officials, and every employee who played a role in this achievement. Your hard work and commitment to transparency and excellence are deeply appreciated—thank you!

As we celebrate this milestone, we're also moving forward with confidence: the federal audit is now underway, and we look forward to continued success as we uphold the highest standards of accountability and service to our community.

7/15/2025 016



# July 2025 Updates

# **Currently Coordinating Services**

Total Number Served: 1,751 People Early Intervention (EI): 283 Families

# **Forest Rose School**

Successful 2024-2025 School Year

Preschool Graduates: 18School-Age Graduates: 1

# **Levy Renewal**

On Tuesday, May 6, Fairfield County voters showed their support for our efforts by passing our renewal levy with a 66%-34% vote.

# 2025-2027 Strategic Plan

Work is in full swing on this year's initiatives. Work groups from across the agency have been formed, action steps are being created, and the work has begun.

# **Community Engagement**

Fairfield DD is participating in a variety of events, such as Healthy Kids Day at the YMCA, Downtown Movie Night, guest reading at Art and Clay Summer Storytimes, Trail Clean-Up, and Festival Fair Day.

# **Staff Engagement Survey**

Fairfield DD Team Member dedication is key to creating independence, and staff input is important. We surveyed team members to find areas of improvement as we strive for excellence for our team and those we support.

# **Union Contract**

Fairfield DD Administration successfully negotiated a mutually beneficial 3-year contract with the Forest Rose Education Association. Fairfield DD has a positive relationship with its union members. We are grateful for the professional and respectful negotiation sessions that led to the 3-year agreement.

Our mission is to bring about a vibrant community where people lead lives of greater independence and make meaningful contributions.







# **Mid-Year Report**



# From the Health Commissioner, Joe Ebel, REHS, MS, MBA:

This year we have been able to add a new Community Health Worker, who assists residents who need help accessing health care, housing, employment, food, mental health services, and other health and social services resources! Visit <a href="https://www.fairfieldhealth.org/Nursing-WIC/FDH-Community-Health-Workers.html">https://www.fairfieldhealth.org/Nursing-WIC/FDH-Community-Health-Workers.html</a> for more information.

We are currently conducting our 2025 Community Health Assessment. This will result in a report that describes the health status of our county, and is used to drive public health policy and funding decisions to address the health needs in our communities. Changes in federal policy, leadership, and funding have presented unique challenges in 2025. The federal government cancelled grants in communicable disease control, and has paused other grant funding that we had expected to receive in 2025. Funding for the Ohio Department of Health laboratory, and other programs that help the state and local health departments monitor and respond to communicable disease outbreaks, was also cut.

In 2024, 41% of FCHD's funding came from federal, state, and local grants. We are constantly working to improve efficiency and find new funding sources, but these federal grant funds are critical in supporting the department's work to provide core public health programs and services to our residents.

We are in the process of applying for re-accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board. We received initial national PHAB accreditation in 2020, and we must re-apply every 5 years.

Through all of these changes, we continue to focus on preventing disease, protecting the environment, and promoting healthy lifestyles so that all of our residents can live long and healthy lives.

# Stay in touch with us online!

@fairfield health





@fairfieldhealth





fairfieldhealth.org



# **Healthy Eating & Active Living**

Contact: bethany.carson@fairfieldcountyohio.gov



# **Lancaster Community Garden**

In May, Community members helped clean up the community garden at the Lancaster Camp Ground and get it ready for its second year of growing. Thank you to everyone who came out!

All six of the beds available for rent have been claimed this year, with the seventh garden bed being used for educational purposes. If you would like to schedule a class or group visit to use

the educational bed, please contact the Garden Coordinator at bethany.carson@fairfieldcountyohio.gov. We are also looking for volunteers to help care for the educational bed. Please reach out if you are interested!

# **Walk Audits**

A walk audit is a simple activity in which an individual or a team observes and evaluates the walkability of a location to document how and if pedestrians can safely travel along a street, navigate an intersection and get from point A to B, C and so on.

FCHD conducted walk audits along three routes in Lancaster last month. We were joined by Fairfield County Mobility Management, along with several other partners who had an interest in making Lancaster more accessible for individuals to walk, bike, and roll.



# **Older Adult Falls Prevention**

Contact: kipchoge.vanhoose@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

FCHD has continued to provide fall prevention resources to older adult program facilitation and the provision of fall prevention items. FCHD has collaborated with OhioHealth and the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging (COAAA) to host a Matter of Balance class at Pickfair Square retirement community. This class was taught from May through early July.

FCHD has also collaborated with OhioHealth to host a Stepping On class in Lancaster, which will be taught in the months of July and August. FCHD has also distributed falls prevention safety items and resources in the community. FCHD provided 40 non-slip mats to older adults at senior-focused events.



A MATTER OF BALANCE

MANAGING CONCERNS ABOUT FALLS





# Moms & Babies



# **Newborn Home Visiting**

FCHD continued has continued to provide new parents with extra support after baby is born through the Newborn Home Visit program. This program will allow a public health nurse to provide education to the caregiver on how to take care of themselves and the baby. Contact Shannon to get signed up and receive a free gift! For more information call 740-652-7169 or email: shannon.mentzer@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

# **Cribs for Kids**

FCHD continued to promote safe sleep practices for infants and newborns and distributed 69 free "crib kits" containing a cribette, fitted sheet, sleep sack, and educational materials from January-June of 2025. For more information on how to see if you are eligible for a crib, contact kaleigh.pulsinelli@fairfieldcountyohio.gov



WIC is continuing to focus on offering Nutrition

Education with various topics in several formats to make sure it is relevant and accessible for all participants! As a result of an increase in caseload at the Pickerington office, a Dietetic Technician and a Nutrition Assistant were hired, and the days of operation were expanded from two days per week to four days per week: Tuesday through Friday. Visit fairfieldhealth.org to view the new WIC income guidelines, effective July 1, 2025. For more information on WIC services, contact mary.smith@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

# Ohio Buckles Buckeyes (OBB)

FCHD continues to provide car seats to eligible families, properly installing the car seat and providing education to each family. Car seat checks are also provided to any Fairfield County residents. Between January and June 2025, our car seat technicians conducted 10 car seat checks, and distributed 88 convertible car seats and 10 booster car seats. For more information on car seat safety, contact hannah.josefczyk@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

# **Environmental Health**

# **Mosquito Control**

Mosquito season is here! Mosquitoes are considered vectors for many diseases including West Nile Virus. FCHD offers low-cost spraying as part of an integrated pest management approach to reduce mosquitos in Fairfield County. FCHD started spraying the end of May. If you are interested in contracting with FCHD for these services, please contact 740-652-2800



# **Retail Flexible Funding Model Grant**

FCHD is currently participating in the RFFM program through the FDA. This program enrolls us in the Voluntary Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards, which are proven to reduce foodborne illness risk factors. This program will allow us to strengthen our food safety program to better support Fairfield County residents and visitors.

# **Substance Use Prevention**



# **Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation**

FCHD continues efforts to reduce dependence on nicotine through the Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation grant. The two main goals of the program are to prevent youth and young people from starting using tobacco and nicotine-containing products, and to help adults to stop using tobacco and nicotine products.



FCHD conducted 53 compliance checks from February-April 2025. Six out of the 53 stores sold to minors, meaning Fairfield County had a compliance rate of 88.6%. FCHD also hosted an Anti-Vaping Video Contest. Youth were trained on the dangers of vaping and then came up with their own anti-vaping videos. Nine videos were submitted, with a total of 15 youth participating. Two media campaigns were completed, one promoting adult cessation, and one promoting youth vaping prevention reached over 161,000 people total.

Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Contact: hannah.josefczyk@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

# **Integrated Harm Reduction**

Harm Reduction Contact: megan.baker@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

FCHD is a proud recipient of the Integrated Harm Reduction Grant from the Ohio Department of Health. This funding supports our ongoing efforts to minimize preventable injury or death in our county.

With this grant, FCHD continues to provide naloxone and fentanyl test strips to the public. In addition, we have expanded our offerings to include a broader range of harm reduction supplies such as sharps containers, medication and/or firearms lock boxes, condom kits, Deterra drug deactivation pouches, pregnancy tests, and first aid kits.

Our collaboration with local first responders also remains a priority. FCHD is currently supplying naloxone to several fire departments throughout the county and plans to offer training sessions in the near future.

Distribution Highlights (January-June 2025):

- 30 units of naloxone to first responders
- 733 units of naloxone to general public
  - Of these, 59 kits were sent through our free mail-order program

FCHD is also excited to co-host Overdose Awareness Day again this year. Join us at the gazebo in downtown Lancaster on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025, from 6:30-8:30 to hope, heal, and remember.





NALOXONE SAVES LIVES
NALOXONE SAVES LIVES
NALOXONE SAVES LIVES

# Medical Reserve Corps & Emergency Preparedness









# **Emergency Preparedness**

Fairfield County is in the early stages of creating the Fairfield County Community Crisis Intervention Team for crisis intervention and psychological first aid deployment.

# Fairfield County MRC 2025 Mid-Year Check-in:

- 87 MRC Volunteers (+5)
- 101 volunteer hours
- Economic Value: \$2,872.59
- Volunteers have been engaging in community outreach events, assisting in teaching CPR and Stop the Bleed trainings, and assembling Project DAWN kits.



Contact Riley Ernst at riley.ernst@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

# **Traffic Safety**

# **Fatal Crash Data**

There has been 1 fatal accident this year, compared to 7 this time in 2024. Variables that contributed include, but are not limited to, drug-related, failure to yield-related, motorcycle-related, OVI-related, and unbelted-related variables.

The Safe Communities Coalition works to reduce these variables and the number of fatal crashes in Fairfield County. For more information or to be involved, reach out to bethany.carson@fairfieldcountyohio.gov

# **Bike Safety**

The second annual Tri-County Kids' Bike Safety Rodeo was held in Fairfield County this year. 20 children were fitted for a free helmet, learned about the "rules of the road", and practiced bike handling skills.



# **Public Health Nursing & Communicable Disease**



The Fairfield County Health Department has investigated a total of 737 reported disease cases, excluding Covid-19 from January 2025 to June 2025. The disease with the highest cases so far this year is Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations. 32% of total cases.

The table below highlights the top 5 reported diseases in our community for the first half of 2025.

Top 5 Diseases	Number of Cases			
Influenza-Associated Hospitalizations	234			
Chlamydia	200			
Pertussis	49			
Lyme Disease	47			
Gonorrhea & Hepatitis C (Chronic)	36 (for each disease)			

**Source:** Ohio Disease Reporting System (ODRS)

# **Back to School Vaccine Clinics**

As you prepare for your kids to go back to school, make sure they are up to date on their required vaccinations. some of the vaccines we offer include:

Dtap/Polio • Meningitis • MMR/Varicella • Tdap • HPV

# August 12

4:30pm-5:45pm by appointment 1550 Sheridan Dr. Ste 100 Lancaster, OH 43130

# August 20

10am-3pm by appointment 11050 Tussing Rd. Pickerington, OH 43147

FCHD also has vaccine clinics at our Lancaster office during regular business hours on Tuesday and Thursday every week. We also have a clinic at our Pickerington office once a month on the third Wednesday of each month, by appointment. Call 740-652-2800 to make an appointment for all clinics. Off-site clinics for flu and COVID-19 vaccinations can be held at workplaces, churches, schools, senior centers, and other locations.

# **Community Health Worker**

In February, FCHD hired a Community Health Worker (CHW). The CHW meets with Fairfield County residents to discuss their goals, needs, limitations, and then connects them with services around the county to help meet their health, social, and economic needs. The areas that our CHW can provide assistance on include but are limited to:

- Housing
- Food
- Clothing
- Education Utilities
- Transportation
- Dental
- Vision
- Legal Assistance Diapers
- Domestic Violence
- Substance Abuse
- Health Insurance
- Identification Assistance
- · Medical Referrals -Primary Care Doctors, Specialist, Mental Health 023

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- Utilities
- Legal Assistance
- Domestic Violence
- Substance Abuse
- Health Insurance
- Identification **Assistance**
- Medical Referrals -**Primary Care** Doctors, Specialist, Mental Health

# **FCHD** in the Community



FCHD participated in a CarFit event, facilitated by Fairfield County Mobility Management, to ensure drivers properly "fit" in their vehicles to prevent crashes

months working on projects to help local nonprofits and presented on them

Four FCHD staff completed the Lancaster Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce Leadership program. They each spent six

FCHD partnered with Lancaster Police to put on a Prom Promise presentation for the seniors of Lancaster High School

FCHD Environmental Health Staff put out **Tick Collection** Stations in parks around the county again this year. The ticks collected will be sent to a lab to be tested for diseases.



ancaster Commu

One of our Health Educators presented on the community garden at the noon Rotary Meeting in Lancaster

An MRC volunteer helped us do blood pressure checks at a health fair at Olivedale





We passed out household safety items at the Lancaster Farmers' Market for Safe Kids Month



# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners: Steven A. Davis Jeffrey M. Fix David L. Levacy

County Administrator
Aundrea N. Cordle

**Deputy County Administrator**Jeffrey D. Porter

Clerk Rochelle Menningen

Commissioners Finance Department Bart Hampson Budget Director

# Department updates:

- 2026 Budget
  - Level 3 budget entry access will end on August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025. This is the final time for General Fund departments to make changes in Enterprise ERP Budget Entry.
  - Level 4 will end December 1<sup>st</sup> for all non-general fund departments.
- The October Commissioners budget hearings have already been scheduled for 2026.
- Drainage Maintenance District
  - We have met with the Engineer's office and have started working through the data.
    - We have also set up a team to review the current process for 2026. The goal of the team is to look for ways to automate the process and improve accuracy.
- Staff continue to work with the Auditor's Office and other finance personnel on process improvements.

# Bart Hampson, MSM Budget Director







www.co.fairfield.oh.us

Fairfield County Commissioners Office • 210 East Main Street • Room 301 • Lancaster, Ohio 43130 P: 740-652-7090 • 614-322-5260 • F: 740-687-6048 • www.fairfieldcountyohio.gov

# **Coroner Roundtable Update**

July 15, 2025

We are pleased to welcome the following new employees to our department

- Meadow Pugh Administrative Assistant
- Holly Westhoven Death Investigator

Kelly Frank, Administrator, and Michael Hardway, Chief Investigator, visited, toured, and met with staff at the Southeastern Correctional Institution on 4/8/25. Collaborative discussion regarding the death of an incarcerated person, the coroner's role, ORC policy and procedure. We value this partnership and look forward to receiving an invitation to attend the next Local Support Agency (LSA) meeting.

Dr. Varney, Coroner, Kelly Frank, Administrator, and Michael Hardway, Chief Investigator, attended the Ohio State Coroner Association conference in Columbus on May 8-10, 2025.

7/15/2025 027

# **JFS Department Update**

# Presenter: Corey Clark, Director

- The recently passed State Budget contained many provisions that impact JFS. We are extremely grateful that the increases to the State Child Protection Allocation (SCPA) survived the negotiations and were included in the final Bill. Funding for Child Wellness Centers was also restored (after being removed by the Senate) and will be critical to our partnership with 8 other counties in the Safe Opportunity Foster Alliance (SOFA). There will also likely be changes with SNAP and Medicaid which will start at the federal level. Congress seems intent on moving more of the administrative cost of these programs to the State and Local levels.
- We participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade in Lancaster over the weekend. We had almost 50 people join us to walk the parade, distribute informational flyers and pass out candy to children. The theme was *protecting children and elderly*.
- We have distributed PRC applications for back-to-school clothes. This program is for OWF and Kinship families to receive \$250/child Walmart vouchers for school clothes. We have allocated \$170K for this program.
- August is Child Support Awareness Month and "Wear Green Day" is August 6<sup>th</sup>.
   The CSEA has many plans throughout the month to mark the occasion including staff recognition, social media posts, volunteer event with BB/BS, staff tee shirts and banner display.
- JFS 25 Year Anniversary Celebration will be September 25<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-5:00pm. The planning for this event is just getting started but would like to get that date on the calendar as soon as possible.
- The Elder Abuse Prevention Breakfast was June 11th at the Life Church Vineyard. We had a full house in attendance and enjoyed a presentation on the Elder Scam Response Program. Our partners from Fairfield Federal and Vinton County Banks shared their positive experiences with the program. Amy Brown-Thompson was recognized with the Partner in Supporting Seniors Award. Thank you to all who attended the event!

7/15/2025 028

# THE EXTENSION CONNECTION

# Highlights from OSU Extension in Fairfield County

July, 2025



#### **Master Gardener Volunteers**

It has been a busy spring for our Master Gardeners! On April 16, we embarked on our annual bus trip. This year we traveled north and visited Pearl Valley Cheese, a well-known Swiss cheese producer in the state and a major player in Ohio's dairy scene. Next, we spent time getting to know Berlin Seeds in Millersburg. The 54 attendees were lucky to receive behind-the-scenes tours at each stop.

The MGVs teamed up with 4-H on May 21 for a Community Day at the Fairfield County Fairgrounds. Our first annual MGV Plant Sale was held on May 31 at the Fairgrounds. With over 1000 plants, from perennials to tomato plants, we were thrilled with great support from the community - selling out in the first two hours! The MGVs are already planning for next year's sale.

#### **Local Food Outreach**

On March 19, we hosted a workshop with OSU South Centers on Social Media Marketing for local food producers. Attendees learned how to boost their social media skills and better connect with customers. On the third Saturday of the month, stop by our "Ask a Master Gardener" table at the Lancaster Farmers Market! OSU Extension & MGVs will be on hand to answer all of your growing questions and will be providing timely information on backyard gardening, pest management, and food preservation.

### **Invasive Species Education**

On April 12, OSU Extension teamed up with Fairfield County Parks and Wild Ones to host a hands-on invasive species identification and management program at Mambourg Park. More program collaborations to come!

Check out the April/May issue of Pickerington Magazine for an article by ANR Educator, Carrie Brown, aimed at raising awareness for one of our newest invasive pests - Spotted Lanternfly: If you Detect It, Collect It and Report It!

#### **Upcoming Livestock Programming**

July 31: "Culls: Right Way – Right Times" Session 1. First of three statewide programs on selecting, feeding and marketing cull cows. Hosted at Carl Bussert facility on Drinkle Road.

August 7: "Culls: Right Way – Right Times" Session 2. Hosted at Bay Packing in Pleasantville August 16 & 17: Grain safety demonstrations during the Antique Tractor Show at the Fairgrounds August 21: Wagnall's Garden Walk and Tomato Tasting



7/15/2025 029 Page 1



2025 Fairfield County 4-H Community Club Program Update

- 962 traditional members these members are 8 & in 3rd grade to 18 years old that are enrolled in 2716 individual projects on a variety of topics from food and clothing to STEM and gardening to livestock and pets.
- ◆ 196 Cloverbud members these members are 5 and in Kindergarten to 8 years old and participate in handson, group activities.
- 235 advisors adult volunteers who are 18 years and older that complete an application process and interview as well as attend annual trainings.

Fairfield County 4-H Camp

- ♦ 42 members attended Day Camp at Alley Park June 3-5, 2025
- 67 members attended Cloverbud Camp at Alley Park on June 7, 2024
- 93 members attended Junior Overnight Camp at Tar Hollow June 29-July 2, 2025
- 79 members attended Senior Overnight Camp at Tar Hollow July 6-9, 2025

Fairfield County Achievement Awards Winners

- ♦ 59 Junior Achievement Awards Winners, ages 8-13
- ♦ 49 County Merit Award Winners
- ♦ 7 State Achievement Award Winners and 19 State Alternates
- ◆ 24 youth awarded 4-H trip scholarships
- ♦ 7 youth awarded county 4-H scholarships

# **FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES**

# **Building Resilience Through Wellness Programming**

A wide range of wellness programs have been delivered in spring of 2025, covering key family and consumer science topics such as Winter Wellness, Beating the Winter Blues, Meal Planning, Mindful Wellness, Heart Healthy Living and Developing a Household Spending and Saving Plan. These programs were made possible through strong collaborations with valued community partners, including the Wagnalls Memorial Library, Fairfield County District Library, Pickerington Library, Lancaster Chamber of Commerce, Pickerington High School, Keller Market House, and OSU Extension Women in Agriculture team. Together, these partnerships helped promote healthier lifestyles and well-being throughout the community.

### Real Money. Real World.

In 2025, the *Real Money. Real World*. program was successfully implemented in six Fairfield County schools, reaching over 753 students with an engaging, hands-on financial literacy experience.

This dynamic program features an interactive spending simulation that challenges students to make real-life budget and lifestyle decisions, mirroring those faced by typical 27-year-old adults. Real *Money. Real World*. is made possible through a strong collaboration between the OSU Extension office, local

schools, and the business community— working together to prepare students for a financially responsible future.



# **SNAP-ED UPDATES**

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EDUCATION

SNAP-Ed Program Assistants finished teaching Fairfield County youth in Pickerington, Lancaster and Millersport this spring. They taught nutrition to over 5000 students since the beginning of the calendar year. This summer they are working with programs at several senior housing sites around the county as well as adult classes with the Recovery Center, Pearl House and the Fairhaven Veterans Shelter. Events at Job and Family Services, Lancaster Farmer's Market and local food pantries are also keeping them busy. Beginning in August they will be providing another Cooking Matters cooking class for adults.

Ohio State University Extension is part of The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences.

CFA ES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity

fairfield.osu.edu

030



# Facilities and EMA Roundtable Update July 15th, 2025

#### **Facilities**

- Completion of Projects
  - o 239 HVAC
  - Jail Security
- Ongoing and upcoming projects
  - o Sheridan Construction
  - Economic Development and Med Lab at Workforce
  - Airport Hangars
  - Assorted paving projects

# **Emergency Management**

- o New Court Security Position Andy Robberts
- o Two new part time staff members
  - o Jaura Johnston EM Specialist Focusing on Planning
  - Jim Paxton EM Specialist focusing on Operations
- EMA is actively supporting local jurisdictions with public safety special event support throughout the summer.
- We are hosing a Donations Management and Management of Spontaneous Volunteers training in October if anyone is interested in attending, they can register on our website fairfieldema.com/training
- O Planning a very active September as part of National Preparedness Month. All disasters start and end locally, and we are going to be at numerous community events throughout the month spreading preparedness information to community members. If anyone is aware of any events would be a good fit, please let us know.

7/15/2025 031

# **Fairfield Soil & Water Conservation District summary:**

The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) paid Fairfield Co. H2Ohio participants \$69,961 for nutrient management plan development. Next step for farmers is to submit their nutrient/fertilizer application data to receive 2025 crop year payment later this year.

Senate Bill 54's 2024 Drought Assistance Program provided \$10 million to 28 counties designated as primary natural disaster areas between 8/19/24 & 9/16/24. Fairfield Co. grazing farmers (132) were paid \$189,993 for relief from the impacts of the historic drought. Funds were provided to the ODA which were forwarded to SWCDs to disperse. When checks were picked up, recipients signed a thank you card that was later presented to Senator Tim Schaffer. ODA liked that idea and created canvas photos for the remaining counties to do the same.











Fairfield
Soil & Water

Save the date for our 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting:

When: Thursday, September 11, 2025

Where: Millersport Lions Clubhouse, 2905 Chautauqua Blvd., Millersport, OH 43046

**Time**: 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Cost: \$20 -- RSVP by Friday, August 29 (reservation form will be in upcoming newsletter)

Agenda:

5:30-6:30 p.m. – Board of Supervisor Election

6:00-6:45 p.m. – Buffet meal catered by Leith Smokin BBQ (pulled pork sandwiches with house-

made BBQ sauce, green beans, cheesy potatoes, salad, drinks and desserts)

6:45-7:15 p.m. – Presentation by Buckeye Lake Historical Society historian

7:15-7:30 p.m. – Conservation Awards

7/15/2025 032

# SWCD Technician Group Area 5 (17 counties)

Many years ago, us and Pickaway SWCD started a pretty active, organized Area 5 Technicians group. It started out mostly as a CAD users' group but quickly morphed into all things technical. We would meet 3-4 times a year to discuss pressing issues, sometimes have speakers, and generally just try to share resources. Earlier this year, we and Delaware SWCD got the group started back up to help provide mentoring and resources for newer staff.







# Earth Camp:

Fairfield 1/2

Conservation District

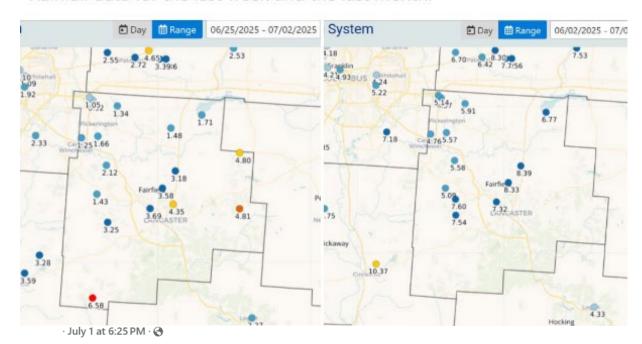
50 3rd-5th graders joined us at Smeck Park. Each day they rotated through 4 sessions learning about nature and conservation through games, crafts, and other activities. Two guests joined us for large group sessions. The Fairfield Co. Beekeepers Assoc. taught campers about beekeeping and bee biology. The Ohio Division of Wildlife taught campers how to do archery. At the end of camp campers performed their skits they had worked on throughout the week.



We've had some exceptional rain events recently. Below posts were shared on Facebook.

· July 2 at 11:36 AM · ❸

# Rainfall data for the last week and the last month.



Last Thursday brought flooding to the City of Lancaster and this morning again to the southern part of the county from Stoutsville and Tarlton to Berne Township. A local weatherman reported over 6" of rain over 48 hours in this SW part of the county. Both events were fast though, bringing much of that rain in a much shorter timeframe. For instance, if the Stoutsville area got 4" of rain in an hour, that would be a 1000-year storm event according to the chart below.

A 1000-year event is so rare, so let's learn what a 100-year rainfall event is. As defined by the National Weather Service, "a 100-year rainfall event (or more accurately the 100-year rainfall amount for a specified duration and at a given location) is an amount that on average is exceeded every 100 years, so its average recurrence interval is 100 years." This means that it has a 1% chance of occurring in any given year. The actual number of years between flooding events can vary dramatically; it can happen twice in one year, three times in 50 years, or any interval in between.

Similarly, a 50-year rainfall event has a 1 in 50 or 2% chance of occurring in a year.

Find out more at https://fairfieldswcd.org/100-year-rainfall-event/

	Average recurrence interval (years)									
Duration	1	2	5	10	25	50	100	200	500	1000
5-min	<b>0.345</b> (0.315-0.378)	<b>0.412</b> (0.375-0.451)	0.497 (0.453-0.544)	0.562 (0.511-0.614)	0.646 (0.584-0.706)	<b>0.711</b> (0.641-0.775)	0.773 (0.694-0.843)	0.839 (0.749-0.913)	0.925 (0.820-1.01)	0.989 (0.871-1.08)
10-min	<b>0.535</b> (0.489-0.587)	0.643 (0.586-0.704)	<b>0.772</b> (0.704-0.845)	0.868 (0.789-0.948)	0.987 (0.894-1.08)	1.08 (0.972-1.18)	<b>1.16</b> (1.04-1.27)	1.25 (1.12-1.36)	1.36 (1.20-1.48)	1.44 (1.27-1.57)
15-min	<b>0.656</b> (0.600-0.719)	<b>0.786</b> (0.717-0.861)	0.948 (0.864-1.04)	<b>1.07</b> (0.971-1.17)	<b>1.22</b> (1.10-1.33)	1.33 (1.20-1.45)	1.45 (1.30-1.58)	1.56 (1.39-1.70)	1.70 (1.50-1.85)	1.80 (1.59-1.96)
30-min	<b>0.868</b> (0.794-0.952)	1.05 (0.959-1.15)	1.30 (1.18-1.42)	1.48 (1.35-1.62)	<b>1.72</b> (1.56-1.88)	<b>1.91</b> (1.72-2.08)	2.09 (1.87-2.28)	<b>2.27</b> (2.03-2.47)	<b>2.51</b> (2.23-2.74)	2.70 (2.38-2.94)
60-min	1.06 (0.969-1.16)	<b>1.29</b> (1.18-1.41)	1.63 (1.48-1.78)	1.89 (1.72-2.06)	<b>2.23</b> (2.02-2.44)	<b>2.51</b> (2.26-2.74)	2.79 (2.51-3.04)	3.08 (2.75-3.36)	3.48 (3.08-3.78)	3.79 (3.34-4.12)
2-hr	<b>1.25</b> (1.13-1.38)	<b>1.51</b> (1.37-1.67)	1.91 (1.73-2.11)	<b>2.23</b> (2.01-2.45)	<b>2.67</b> (2.40-2.93)	3.03 (2.71-3.32)	3.41 (3.03-3.73)	3.80 (3.36-4.16)	<b>4.36</b> (3.82-4.76)	<b>4.81</b> (4.18-5.25)
3-hr	<b>1.32</b> (1.20-1.46)	1.60 (1.45-1.76)	2.02 (1.83-2.22)	2.35 (2.13-2.59)	2.83 (2.54-3.10)	3.22 (2.88-3.52)	3.63 (3.23-3.96)	4.06 (3.59-4.43)	<b>4.68</b> (4.09-5.10)	<b>5.18</b> (4.49-5.64)
6-hr	1.58 (1.44-1.74)	1.90 (1.73-2.10)	2.38 (2.16-2.62)	2.78 (2.51-3.05)	3.35 (3.01-3.66)	3.82 (3.42-4.17)	<b>4.33</b> (3.85-4.71)	<b>4.87</b> (4.30-5.29)	<b>5.66</b> (4.94-6.14)	<b>6.30</b> (5.46-6.82)
12-hr	1.85 (1.69-2.02)	<b>2.21</b> (2.03-2.42)	<b>2.74</b> (2.51-3.00)	3.19 (2.91-3.48)	3.85 (3.49-4.17)	<b>4.39</b> (3.96-4.75)	<b>4.98</b> (4.46-5.38)	<b>5.61</b> (4.99-6.05)	<b>6.52</b> (5.74-7.03)	<b>7.29</b> (6.35-7.85)
24-hr	<b>2.16</b> (2.02-2.33)	<b>2.59</b> (2.41-2.79)	3.18 (2.97-3.43)	3.67 (3.42-3.95)	<b>4.37</b> (4.05-4.68)	<b>4.93</b> (4.55-5.29)	<b>5.53</b> (5.07-5.93)	<b>6.16</b> (5.61-6.60)	<b>7.05</b> (6.36-7.55)	<b>7.77</b> (6.94-8.32)
2-day	2.50 (2.34-2.69)	5/2025	3.64 (3.40-3.92)	<b>4.18</b> (3.89-4.49)	<b>4.92</b> (4.56-5.28)	5.52 (5.10-5.92)	<b>6.15</b> (5.64-6.59)	6.80 (6.20-7.29)	7.70 (6.97-8.27)	<b>8.41</b> (7.56-9.05)





# Fairfield County Park District Spring/Summer Highlights

#### Fairfield County Leadership Roundtable July 15, 2025

Rock Mill continues to be a park district priority and a popular destination for visitors. After replacing the forebay in 2024 we have been able to resume milling this year. We will be replacing the walkway, which staff and volunteers use for maintenance and milling access, this summer. We are also using funds provided to park districts by ODOT to pave the parking lot and parking lot access drive. We frequently have to repair these areas, due to rainwater eroding the gravel, and we anticipate this improvement saving time and resources in the future.

We have opened a trail from Liberty Union-Thurston elementary/middle school campus to allow viewing of the heron rookery at Wagner Preserve. We have also granted access for the school to install a solar powered camera at the rookery site to allow remote viewing.

Recent flooding has led to temporary closures of Cross Mound Park, Wahkeena Nature Preserve, and the Oak Trail at Mambourg Park. Our operations staff worked to quickly clean up and reopen parks.

Ginger Caito, our longtime Finance and Administration Coordinator, retired in March. Thanks to everyone who joined us for Ginger's retirement Party. Chad Reed is now our Finance and Administration Coordinator.

We have two new staff members; Leah Conway, Assistant Naturalist at Wahkeena Nature Preserve and Detroit Duchon, Park Technician.

Work resumes in July on the H2Ohio funded wetland restoration project at Two Glaciers.

In May we had a fully booked field trip season at Wahkeena Nature Preserve.

We continued our partnership with Fairfield SWCD and Community Action Recycling and Litter Prevention to offer Earth Camp at Smeck Park. Earth Camp is no-fee, three-day camp offered to county students entering grades 3-5.



# OFFICE OF TREASURER

James N. Bahnsen, Treasurer

# July 15, 2025 Roundtable Departmental Update

# **Treasurer's Office**

- 1. We are currently in the midst of our 2<sup>nd</sup> Half 2024 (due in 2025) tax collection period. For those property owners who did not pay the full year tax due during the 1<sup>st</sup> half collection bills were sent the latter half of June 2025. The due date is July 17, 2025. Payments can be made by mail, online or at our office in the Courthouse. Unfortunately, due to much needed work, our drive-through location at 135 W. Chestnut Street in Lancaster is not available for this collection period. We hope to have it operational again in time for the January 2026 collection period.
- 2. We have experienced a marked increase the number of people taking advantage of our in-house tax escrow payment program. This is an opportunity for those taxpayers who do not, for one reason or another, escrow taxes through a mortgage company. It is an excellent budgeting option.

### **Land Bank**

- 1. The Land Bank has continued its partnership with Humanity for Humanity of Fairfield County to build new, affordable housing options. Habitat for Humanity recently completed a house on a lot donated by the Land Bank on Graf Street in Lancaster and has started work on a new house on King Street in Lancaster. Habitat is also working with the Eastland/Fairfield Career Center to build modular houses using student assistance, the first of which was installed on a former land bank lot on Arney Avenue in Lancaster, with plans for additional builds in the Fairfield Beach area.
- 2. Our Land Bank Mini-Grant program continues to fund projects throughout the county, with recent partners including the Destination Downtown Lancaster, the Lancaster/Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce, Fairfield Area Humane Society and the Short East Community Kitchen.

SERVE • CONNECT • PROTECT





Records
Management
can feel a little
like...

# Retention Schedule (RC-2)

- A records retention schedule is a document that outlines how long an organization should keep different types of records, and how those records should be disposed of (archived or destroyed).
- Components of an RC-2:
  - ▶ **Schedule number –** Unique identifiers to be used when completing an RC-3.
  - ▶ **Title and Description** Details what the record is.
  - Retention Period How long you must retain a record.
  - ▶ **Media Type** Paper, electronic, microfilm, etc.

## Commonly asked questions

- ▶ Does my office have a retention schedule (RC-2)?
  - ► All county RC-2's are listed on the county website. Navigate to Home Page > County Agencies > Records Commission.
- Can I dispose of records that are not listed on my RC-2?
  - ▶ No. If a record is not listed on your RC-2, it must be treated as permanent until it is properly accounted for on the RC-2.
- How do I update or amend an RC-2?
  - ▶ An RC-2 is meant to be a living document and can be updated as often as your office needs. Changes to an RC-2 must be reviewed and approved by the Records Commission and then the Ohio History Connection.

# Electronic Records Management

- Storing records electronically can be very beneficial.
  - Improved searchability
  - ► Takes up less physical space
  - ► Faster response to Public Records Requests (PRR)



# Records Center

138 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster



### Records Center Do's and Do Not's

- ▶ The Records Center does not store ALL records created by the county.
  - ▶ If someone submits a PRR, **do not** instruct them to go to the Records Center.
  - ▶ If you know it is stored at the Records Center, we will work with you to schedule a time to come down and help us look for it.
- ► Call us if.....
  - You need boxing material (Archival boxes, regular boxes, plastic label sleeves).
  - You need to present boxes for storage.
  - You need to look for a record.





### PRESERVATION OF RECORDS

PREVENTS LOSS OR DEGRADATION OF PAPER DOCUMENTS DUE TO AGE, DISASTERS, OR HANDLING.

ENSURES HISTORICAL AND LEGAL DOCUMENTS ARE PRESERVED INDEFINITELY IN DIGITAL FORM.

### IMPROVED ACCESSIBILITY

ALLOWS STAFF AND THE PUBLIC TO QUICKLY SEARCH AND RETRIEVE DOCUMENTS.
SUPPORTS REMOTE ACCESS FOR GOVERNMENT WORKERS AND CONSTITUENTS.

### SPACE SAVINGS

REDUCES THE NEED FOR PHYSICAL STORAGE ROOMS, FILING CABINETS, AND ARCHIVE FACILITIES.

FREES UP VALUABLE REAL ESTATE IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

# SCANNING BENEFITS

### COMPLIANCE AND TRANSPARENCY

ENSURES COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN RECORDS LAWS AND RETENTION POLICIES.
SIMPLIFIES FOIA (FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT) REQUESTS AND AUDITS.

### **DISASTER RECOVERY**

PROTECTS CRITICAL INFORMATION FROM FLOODS, FIRES, AND OTHER DISASTERS THROUGH OFF-SITE BACKUPS.
SUPPORTS BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANNING.

### **OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY**

REDUCES MANUAL HANDLING, MISFILING, AND DUPLICATE WORK ACROSS DEPARTMENTS.

### CONSIDERATIONS FOR A PROJECT



### **VOLUME & DOCUMENT TYPES:**

UNDERSTAND WHAT NEEDS TO BE SCANNED AND HOW MUCH

### **INDEXING & ORGANIZATION:**

DECIDE HOW FILES SHOULD BE NAMED AND SORTED

### **STORAGE NEEDS:**

PLAN FOR CLOUD, LOCAL, OR HYBRID STORAGE OPTIONS

### **RETENTION SCHEDULES:**

MAKE SURE SCANNED DATA MEETS WITH YOUR RETENTION POLICIES

### **DOCUMENTS**

WE IMAGE FROM BUSINESS CARD SIZES TO LETTER/LEGAL SIZES ON OUR HIGH PRODUCTION SCANNERS

### **BOUND BOOKS**

WE TAKE THE UPMOST CARE WHEN IMAGING HISTORICAL BOUND BOOKS. BOUNDS BOOKS ARE CRUCIAL FOR MANY ORGANIZATIONS TO PROTECT THEIR HISTORY

### MICROFICHE/MICROFILM

WE CAN TAKE MICROFILM AND MICROFICHE AND CONVERT IT TOO DIGITAL

### LARGE FORMATS

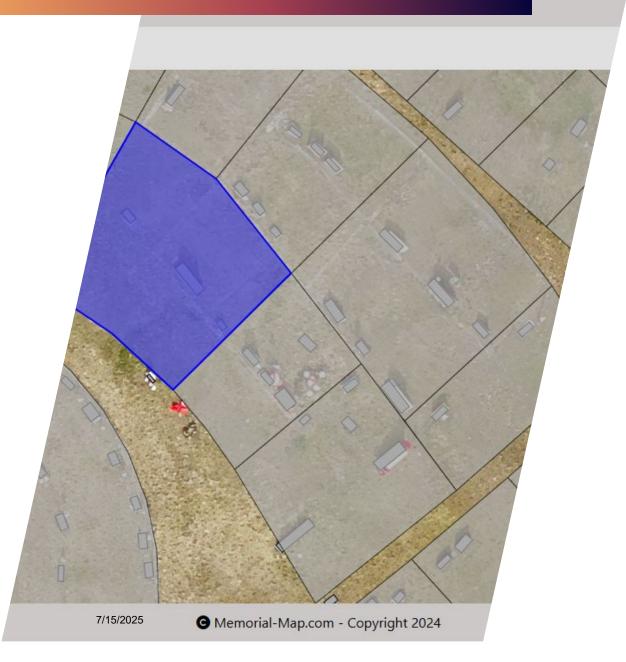
WE WORK WITH MANY ENGINEERING
GROUPS TO SCAN THEIR LARGE FORMAT
DRAWLINGS THAT INCLUDE ROAD PLANS,
HOUSES AND ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS

### **DOCUMENT SCANNING**





### CEMETERY LOT MANAGEMENT



### AERIAL DRONE IMAGERY

OUR DRONE PILOTS ARE FULLY TRAINED AND HAVE
THE KNOW HOW TO FLY YOUR CEMETERY. WE FLY
LIDAR DRONES TO PROVIDE AN INTERESTING TAKE

### SOFTWARE

WE WORK WITH YOU AND YOUR TEAM TO ENSURE ALL ITEMS ARE CAPTURED AND VISIBLE

### DATABASE

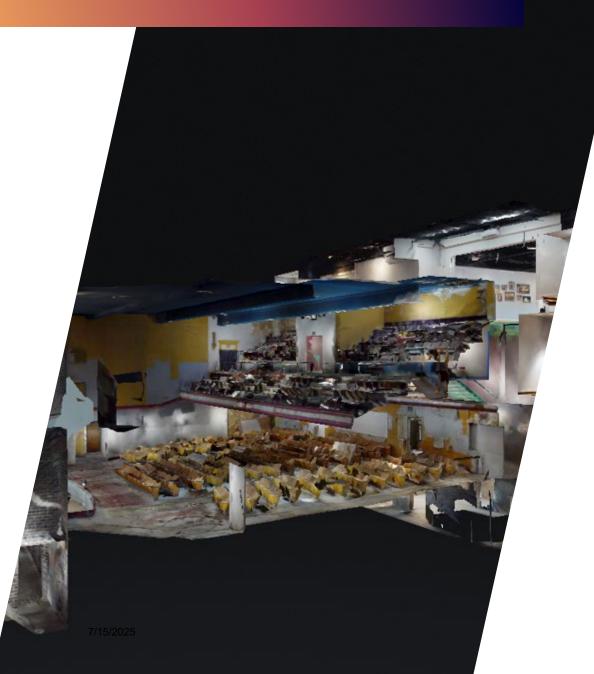
WE CAN CONVERT AND CREATE NEW DATABASES
FOR YOUR NEEDS

### **DOCUMENT IMAGERY**

WE CAN START BY SCANNING ALL OF YOUR
PERTAINING DOCUMENTS THAT NEED TO BE
PRESERVED

050

### 3D SPATIAL IMAGING



### MUSEUMS

WE WORK WITH SEVERAL MUSEUMS TO CAPTURE THEIR EXHIBITS TO ENABLE THEM TO REACH A LARGER AUDIENCE

### FACILITY MANAGEMENT

WE ENABLE CLIENTS TO KNOW THE CONTENT OF THEIR BUILDINGS WHICH INCLUDES ASSET IDENTIFIERS

### **TOURISM**

WE CAPTURE POINTS OF INTEREST TO ENABLE A SEAMLESS INTEGRATION TO LOCAL TOURISM LEADERS

### **CONCERTS & THEATERS**

WHEN CLIENTS WANT TO KNOW SEATING LOCATION VIEWS TO HOW MANY TRASH CANS ARE IN USE, WE CAPTURE ALL OF THESE ITEMS!



# QUESTIONS?

Kara Lockard

kara@geoproimaging.com

Nathan Dilley

nathan@geoproimaging.com

www.geoproimaging.com



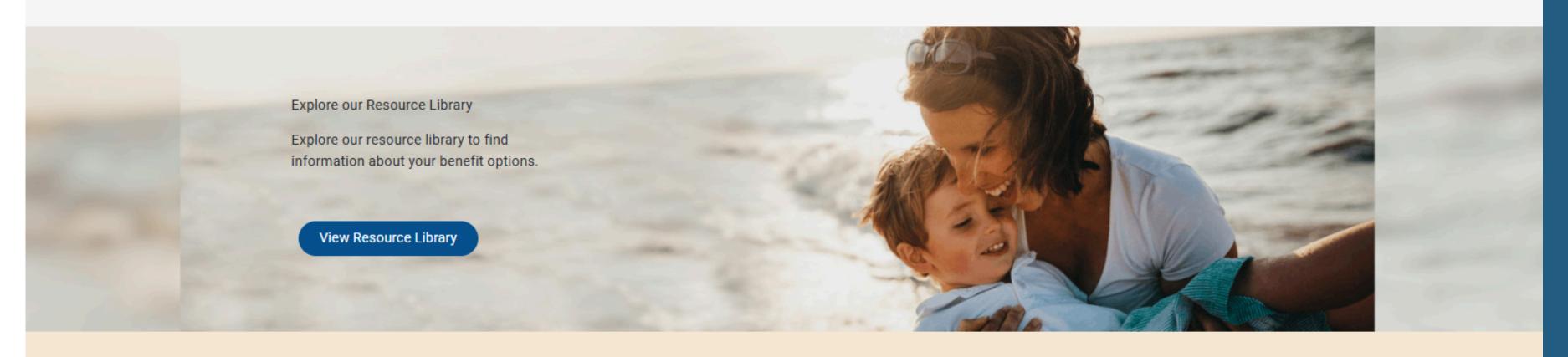
L ABBY WATSON ▼



My Benefits ▼

Learn ▼

# **Good Morning, ABBY!**



### **Common Actions**



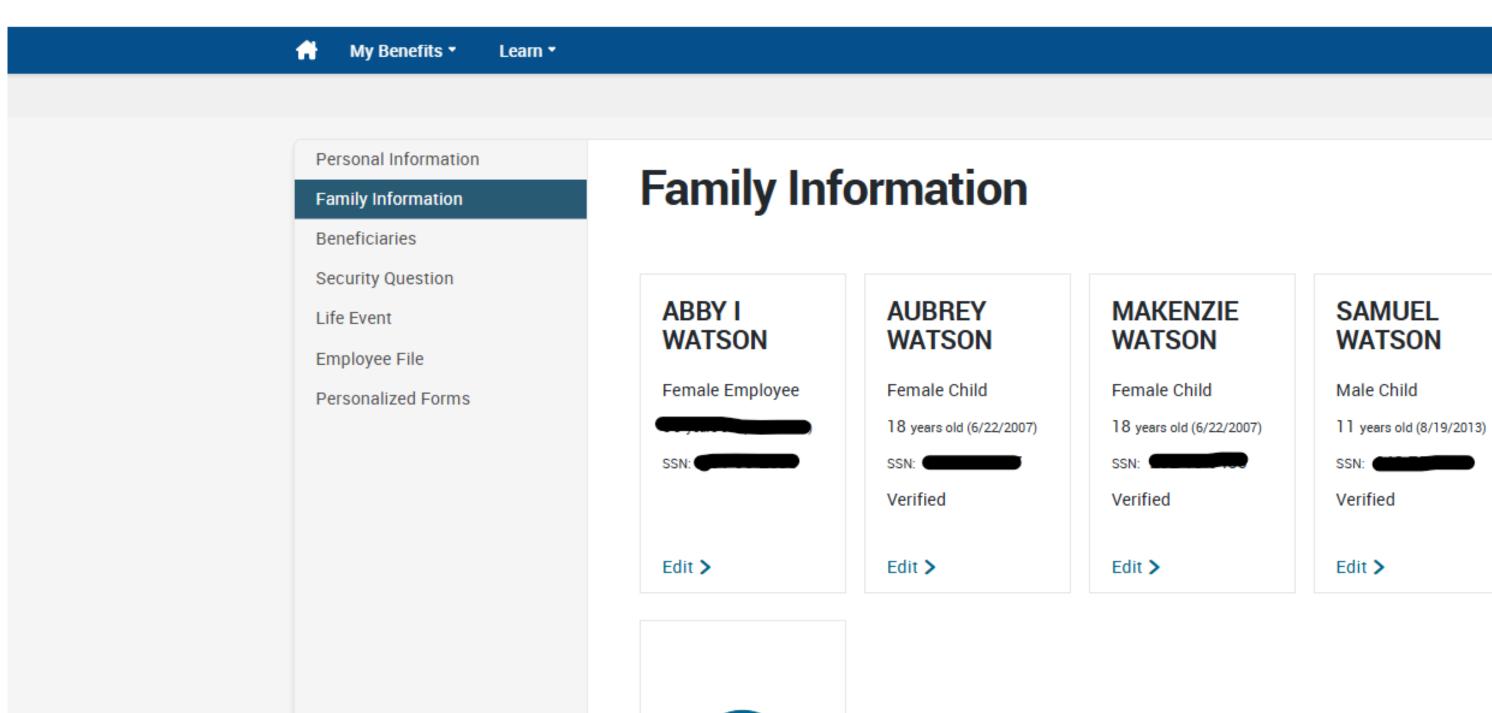
e View My Benefits

















My Benefits ▼

Learn ▼

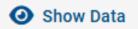
# **Benefit Summary**

Your Confirmation Statement is an overview of your new benefits and costs for your review and records. Please review your statement and verify that your elections are correct.

**View Detailed Summary of Your Benefits** 



Confirmation Statement



Viewing benefits as of date:

07/14/2025



### My Benefits



UnitedHealthcare Choice Plus Plan

\$XX.XX Your Cost

View Medical Plan Details



**Dental Plan** 

\$XX.XX Your Cost

**View Dental Plan Details** 



Vision Base Plan

Employee + Family Coverage \$XX.XX Your Cost

**View Vision Plan Details** 



Help ▼ ABBY I WATSON ▼



My Benefits ▼

Learn ▼

**Enrollment Center** 

# **Good Morning, ABBY!**



### **Common Actions**



**Update My Profile** 



View My Benefits



Birth, Marriage, or other Life Event





**Review My Files** 







**Enroll Now** 

Your Status: O Not Started

Enrollment Deadline: 07/28/2025 11:59 PM CT

View your options and make your benefit elections.

### **Enrollment Timeline**

### **Enrollment Begins**

Jun 30, 2025

You can view plan information for the upcoming year, compare your options and make your benefits selections.

You can make changes to your benefit selections at any time until the Enrollment Deadline.

### Enrollment Deadline

Jul 28, 2025

Your benefit elections are locked in and you cannot make any changes to your benefit elections after this date.

### Benefits Effective Date:

Aug 01, 2025

Your newly elected benefits will be active on this date.













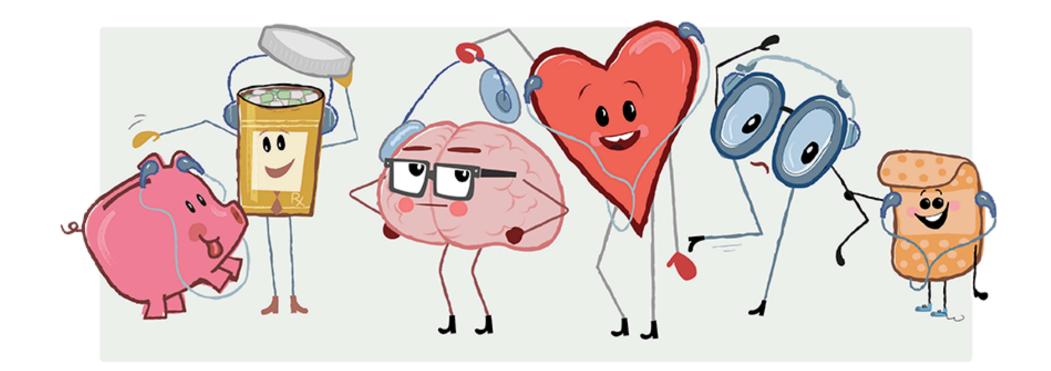






# askEMMA

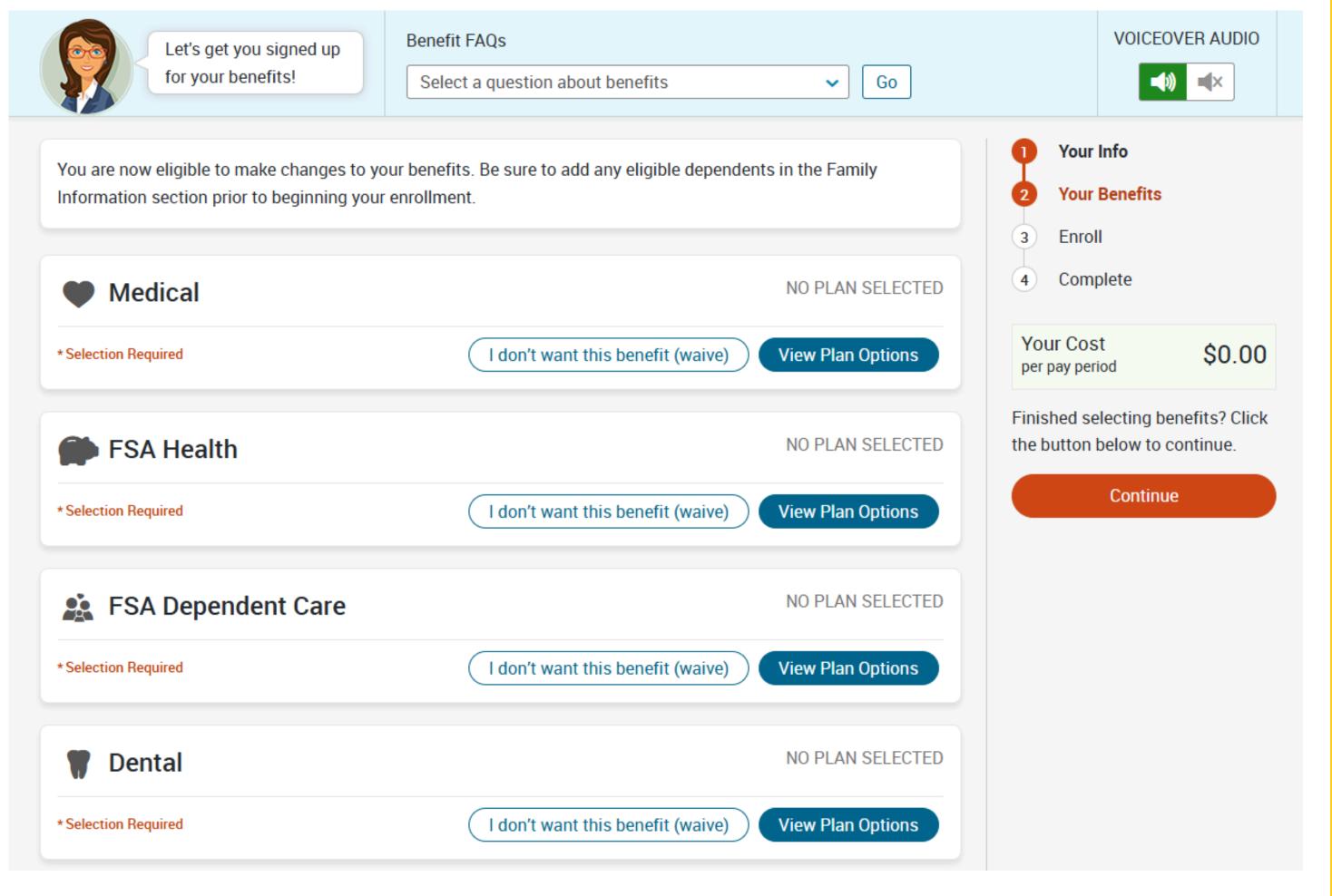
Get started with your benefits enrollment.



**(**1)

Start with Audio

**Enroll without Audio** 



# Need help understanding this coverage?

With my guidance, I can:

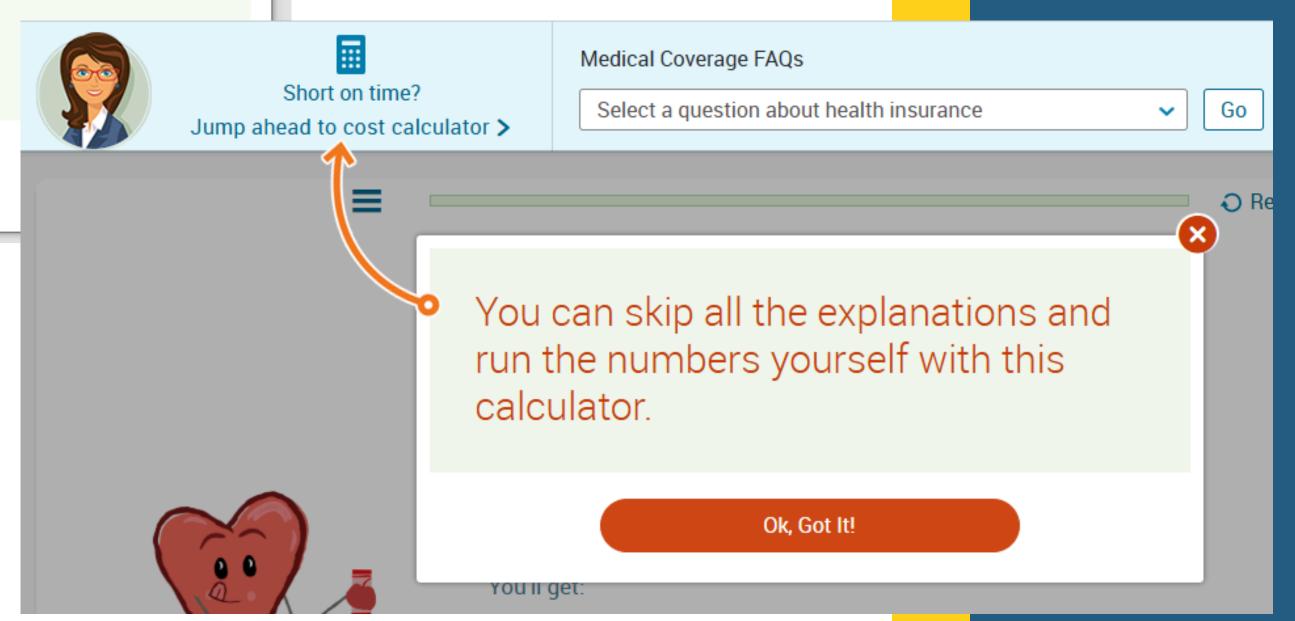
- Explain how this plan works
- Estimate what you could pay under the plan

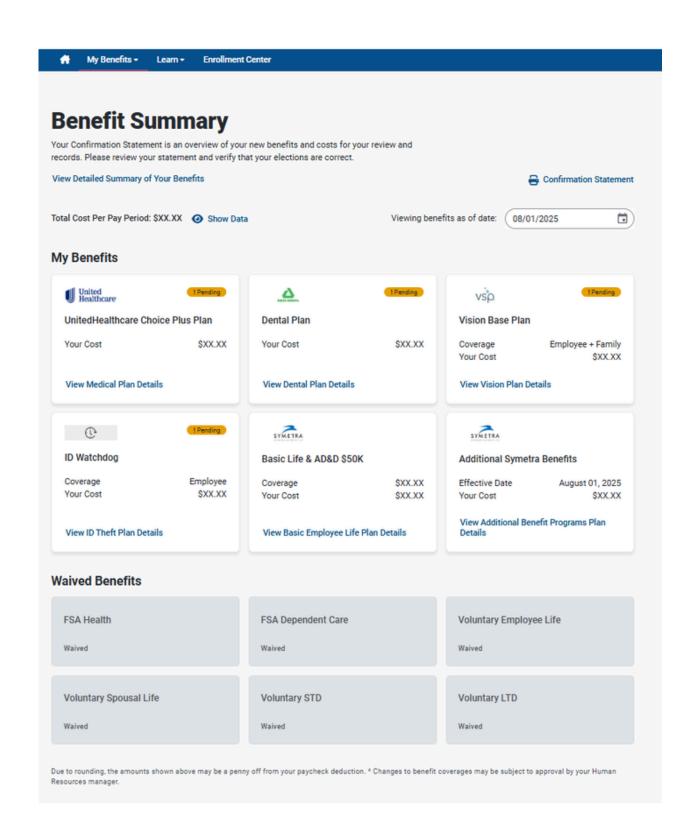
### Want me to estimate your annual costs?

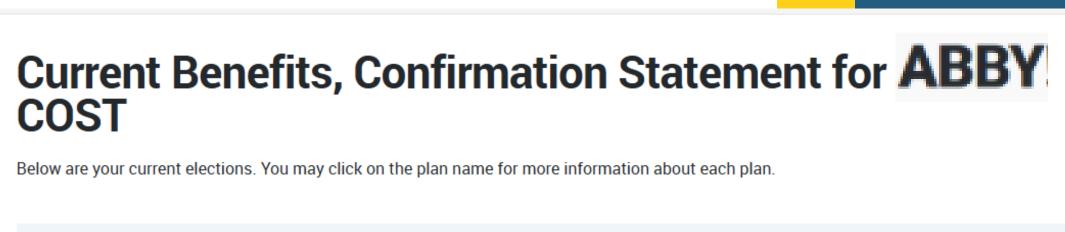
- Yes, estimate my annual costs
- No, not right now

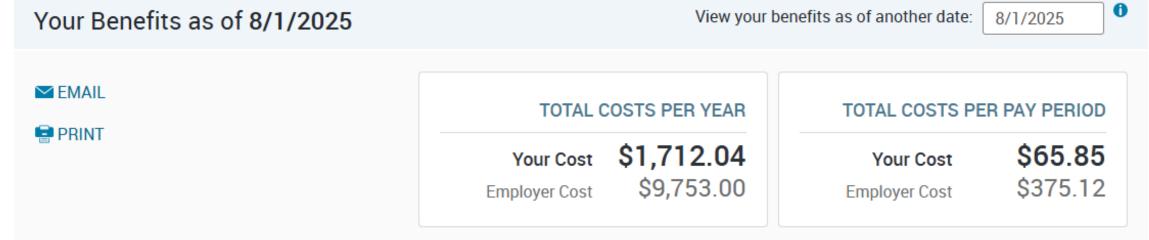
Continue











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