



## **Drainage Maintenance District Fact Sheet**

*Understanding a Drainage Maintenance District “DMD” and how it applies to your community*

- **What is a Drainage Maintenance District, a “DMD”?**

A DMD is a district established through Ohio Revised Code that allows the County Commissioners and County Engineer to maintain drainage features that are not part of the public roadway system.

- **What is the responsibility of the DMD?**

A DMD performs routine maintenance of existing stormwater infrastructure within the DMD boundary.

- **Why do we have DMDS?**

The funding for the County Engineer and Townships may only be spent on items that are part of the county and township public roadway system. Work done outside of these legal parameters, such as with a DMD, can be funded by assessment of the benefitting property owners.

- **Who is affected by the DMD?**

Any property owner located within the boundary of the established DMD is affected. Typically, this is the entire subdivision for which the DMD was created.

- **What do DMDS include?**

DMDS include infrastructure outside of the road right-of-way, such as swales in yards, natural drainage ways, retention ponds, storm sewers, drainage tiles, etc.

- **What do DMDS not include?**

DMDS do not include roadway ditches, roadway culvert pipes, bridges, offsite runoff, offsite tiles, offsite sewers, or any other drainage feature or infrastructure not located with the established boundary.

- **How is the assessment determined?**

The Ohio Revised Code establishes how the DMD assessments are calculated. They are based on 20% of the Engineer’s estimate of the drainage infrastructure construction cost, the number of lots, and the lot size. Common areas such as road rights-of-way and divided equally among property owners.

- **Can the assessment change?**

Yes, inflation and aging infrastructure may require DMD assessments to increase. The Ohio Revised Code allows reevaluation of assessments every 6 years.