

HISTORY

When Ohio became a state in 1803, one of the original offices created by the General Assembly was that of the "County Surveyor." His only responsibilities had to do with surveying and mapping. As time went on those responsibilities gradually shifted to roads as our transportation modes changed.

In 1935 the title of the office was changed to "County Engineer." The Union County Engineer is elected for a four year term by a popular vote of all Union County voters. The Union County Engineer must be registered as an engineer and a surveyor in the State of Ohio.

The present Union County Engineer is Jeff Stauch, who took office in January of 2009.

In 1989 the Union County Commissioners combined the offices of County Engineer and Environmental Engineer.

The office of Environmental Engineer was originally created by the commissioners in 1972.

The present organization of the office is unique among the 88 Ohio counties. No other county engineer's office in the state has the same broad range of responsibilities. Combining those varied duties and responsibilities in one office has yielded direct benefit to Union County residents. More than any other county, Union County provides a "one-stop shop."

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

COUNTY ROADS & BRIDGES

All maintenance, repair, widening, resurfacing, construction, and reconstruction of county roads, bridges, culverts, and roadside ditches are the responsibility of the Union County Engineer. This responsibility includes mowing, snow removal, signage, etc. It includes all the necessary engineering and administrative planning and support.

The bridge responsibility includes the annual inspection of each county bridge and determining the load-carrying capacity of each bridge.

Currently there are:

465 miles	of roads,
320	bridges (including bridges on township roads, and certain municipal streets and state highways),
2459	culverts,
8500 (approx)	signs,
22 miles	of guardrail, and
930 miles	of roadside ditches

on the county road system for which the Union County Engineer is responsible.

TOWNSHIP ROADS

The Union County Engineer is the engineering advisor to all fourteen Boards of Trustees for the maintenance, repair, widening, resurfacing, and construction of township roads and culverts. Bridges on township roads are the full responsibility of the Union County Engineer.

The townships also look to the Union County Engineer as a contractor to perform many of their township road responsibilities on a cost reimbursement basis. There are over 160 miles of township roads in Union County.

MUNICIPAL STREETS & STATE HIGHWAYS

The Union County Engineer is responsible for bridges on certain municipal streets and state highways within municipalities.

PETITIONED DITCHES

The Union County Engineer is responsible for the maintenance and construction (as authorized by the commissioners) of all ditch improvements as petitioned by landowners in the county.

The Engineer contracts with the Union Soil and Water Conservation District to maintain the ditches.

57 miles of petitioned ditches are currently maintained on a cost reimbursement basis from the various petitioned ditch funds.

MAPPING

The Union County Engineer is responsible for preparing and maintaining a road map of the county, and is also responsible for maintaining Union County's tax map system.

The tax map system consists of approximately 300 manually maintained maps and a computer maintained geographic information system called Union County Mapping, Appraisal and Planning System (MAPS). MAPS is used to prepare the county map and serves as the basis for all property information on Union County's web site.

WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT

The Union County Engineer is responsible for the operation, maintenance, repair, construction and reconstruction of five small (package) wastewater treatment plants. This responsibility includes inspection, testing, housekeeping, etc. It includes all the necessary engineering and administrative planning and support.

Currently there are:

Five wastewater treatment plants and one future plant planned.

BUILDING REGULATION

Building plan review and inspection are the responsibility of the Union County Engineer for residential, commercial and industrial construction in the unincorporated areas of the county as well as in the City of Marysville, in the

Villages of Plain City, Milford Center, Magnetic Springs and Richwood.

Building permits are issued thru the engineer's office. Inspection responsibilities include structural, electrical, plumbing and mechanical. Occupancy certificates are issued before occupancy is allowed.

RURAL NUMBERING

The Union County Engineer is responsible for issuing house numbers for all new residences or new businesses in the unincorporated areas of the county.

The rural house numbering project was started in 1972.

FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION











The administration and enforcement of Union County's Flood Damage Prevention Regulations are the responsibility of the Union County Engineer. The regulations were adopted by the commissioners as required by the Federal Government. Flood Insurance Rate Maps as published by the Federal Government serve as the basis for the regulations. Flood Hazard Permits are issued for construction within flood hazard areas.

MAJOR SUBDIVISIONS




The Union County Engineer reviews preliminary and final plats, reviews construction plans, coordinates other agency reviews, inspects construction, and approves construction for all major subdivisions planned and constructed in the unincorporated areas of Union County. Construction may not begin until the construction plans have been approved. Lots are not permitted to be sold until the final plat is recorded.

OTHER

The Union County Engineer:

-  approves legal descriptions before transfer
-  approves minor subdivisions
-  maintains a record of all surveys
-  issues right-of-way work permits
-  issues driveway permits
-  issues oversize and overweight vehicle permits
-  issues airport zoning permits
-  generates and maintains census tract information
-  registers sewer tappers
-  registers plumbers

The Union County Engineer serves on:

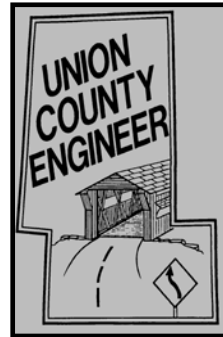
-  the Logan-Union-Champaign (LUC) Regional Planning Commission
-  the Ohio Public Works Commission District 11 Integrating Committee
-  the Board of Trustees of the Union County Community Improvement Corporation

FUNDING

Funding comes from the county's share of motor vehicle license plate fees and motor vehicle fuel taxes. Small amounts of funding come from the county general fund and from traffic fines. Some townships contribute monies to help pay for improvements on county roads in their townships.

Funding also comes from other sources. Monthly sanitary sewer service charges pay for costs associated with the operation and maintenance of our small package plants. Permit fees provide sufficient dollars to cover all building regulation costs.

The Union County Engineer utilizes state and federal grants or loans to the extent possible to reduce the burden on local taxpayers. From 1985 thru 2011, Union County received approximately \$26 million to help pay the cost of over \$50 million in road and bridge improvements.



Public Service with integrity

COOPERATION

The office of the Union County Engineer works closely with many county, township and municipal agencies and officials. While all are important, our close working relationships with the Commissioners, the Auditor, the Regional Planning Commission, the Township Trustees and the Board of Health are critical.

REQUESTS

If you have a question or suggestion, please let us know.

We will try our best to assist you or resolve your concern within the legal authority of our operations.

Contact Information

937.645.3018

engineer@unioncountyohio.gov

PERSONNEL

Our organization is made of **five teams** working together to meet the responsibility of serving the public.

The Administrative, Building/Development, Engineering, Environmental and Operations teams' main focus both internally and externally is to accomplish each task with attention to our **Guiding Principles**.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Be the **Change Maker**...Attack our challenges with **Innovation**
2. Remain a **Customer Focused Organization**
3. **Balance** our many needs vs. our resources
4. Approach our tasks with **Attention to Detail**...Will be a constant throughout our organization
5. Be **Accountable** for our product and use of public funds
6. **Ethics**...."the right thing to do"

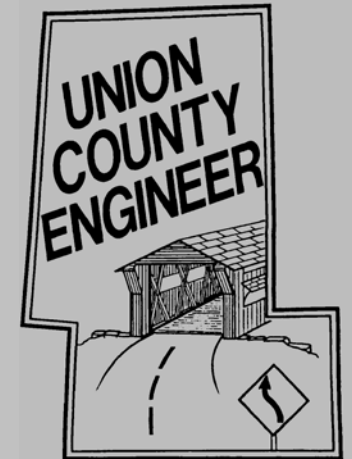
OUR PURPOSE

We will provide leadership and utilize taxpayer's money responsibly to enhance the quality of life and achieve infrastructure excellence in Union County

OUR PROMISE *Public Service with integrity*

The essential foundation in **Our Promise** is to sustain integrity in all we do. Honesty and reliability will be our main focus to those we serve whether our employees are plowing snow, inspecting a new building or construction project, or answering a customer's question.

Duties and Responsibilities Of Your



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Union County Engineer

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