

**MUSKINGUM COUNTY  
ENGINEER'S OFFICE**

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# THE 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

By forecasting the budget through 2015, MCEO is able to focus on not only the larger projects, but smaller ones as well. With revenues on a slight decline and material cost on the increase, project prioritizing has become more important than ever.



Maintenance of roads and bridges is challenging in the current economic times. The majority of the Engineer's Office budget comes from fees paid when you fill up your vehicle at a gas station or renew your license plates. The difficulty of stagnant revenues is that they do not cover the rising costs of materials and, therefore, result in a reduction of projects completed.

One of the biggest stories of 2009 was the Rockies Express Pipeline (REX). Now that the natural gas pipeline has been installed, it is time to begin the process of rebuilding roads in the southern portion of the county. We ask for your patience as we continue negotiations with REX for financial restitution of the damage to numerous roadways. Our hope is that we will reach a compromise as the winter comes to a close and repairs can begin soon thereafter.

Upcoming projects on county roadways include a major bridge replacement on North Dresden Road between the Village of Dresden and Bottom Road. Twenty three (23) miles of roads will receive a new asphalt overlay in 2010. Several sanitary sewer projects are also crossing county roads, including the Coopermill Road area, Dunzweiler Drive, and Sonora Road. Lastly, a turn lane will be installed on State Route 93 near the East Pointe Industrial Park, which will be administered by the MCEO for the Port Authority.

As a public agency, we are highly interested in what you think about issues related to the roads within the county. Please take a few moments to complete a survey on our website ([www.mceo.org](http://www.mceo.org)) about the roads in Muskingum County. Please check back from time to time. We hope to have other survey opportunities available in the future, as well. In addition, we have a feedback form for more detailed inquiries or comments. We welcome your ideas and viewpoints.

In an effort to reduce costs, this version of the annual report has been abbreviated. For a more detailed report for 2009, please visit our website.

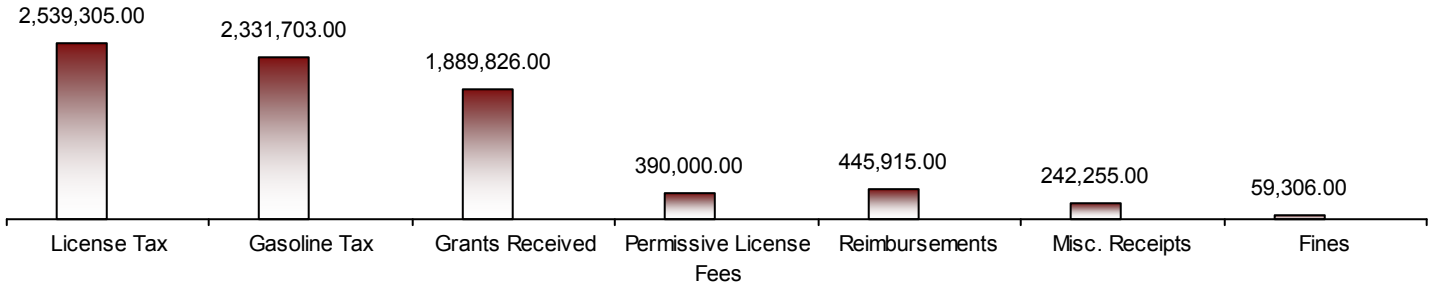
Thank you for reading your newsletter.

**DOUG DAVIS P.E., P.S. -  
MUSKINGUM COUNTY ENGINEER**



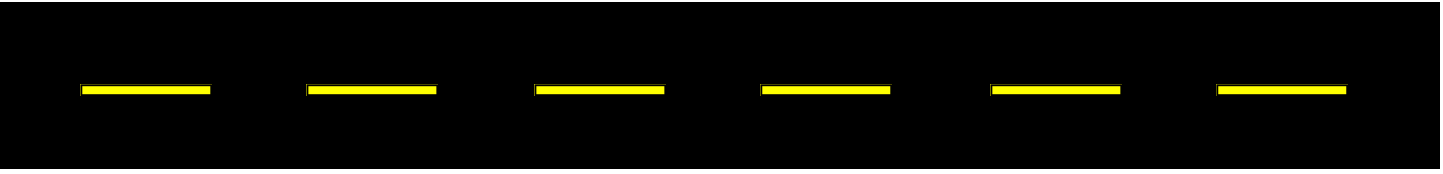
## 2009 REVENUES

TOTAL = \$7,900,620.00



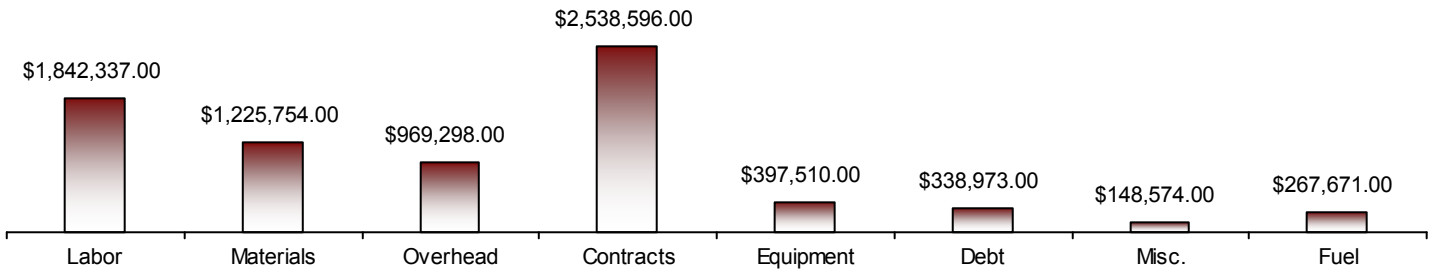
License Tax	32.14%
Gasoline Tax	29.51%
Grants Received	23.92%
Permissive Lic. Fees	4.94%
Reimbursements	5.64%
Misc. Receipts	3.07%
Fines	0.75%
Interest Earned	0.03%

The majority of revenues received by the Engineer's Office comes in the form of Gasoline and Vehicle License Taxes. When you fill up your gas tank or visit the license bureau to renew or buy new license plates, the Engineer's Office receives a portion of those taxes after the funds are distributed at the state level. Since taxes are distributed on a state-wide basis, buying gasoline anywhere in Ohio will assist the Engineer's Office with improving and maintaining the highways within Muskingum County. All 88 counties in the State of Ohio receive the same share of gasoline taxes regardless of size or amount of road miles.



## 2009 EXPENDITURES

TOTAL = \$7,728,713.00



<b>Labor</b>	23.84%	- Payroll for highway and bridge crews, as well as office and administrative staff.
<b>Materials</b>	15.86%	- Stone, salt, cinders, asphalt for patching, cold mix and seal emulsion, bridge, and culvert materials.
<b>Overhead</b>	12.54%	- Retirement, Insurance, Worker's Compensation, Medicare, etc.
<b>Contracts</b>	32.85%	- Work by contractors, consultants (asphalt paving, bridge design, road and bridge repairs, etc.)
<b>Equipment</b>	5.14%	- New equipment, equipment rental, repairs, and preventative maintenance for the county highway fleet.
<b>Debt</b>	4.39%	- Debt paid on highway, bridge, and equipment loans.
<b>Misc.</b>	1.92%	- Utilities, signs and traffic control, safety items, office supplies, computers and software, misc. items.
<b>Fuel</b>	3.46%	- Gasoline and diesel fuel for trucks and equipment operated by highway crews and supervisors.

IMPROVEMENTS	COUNTY FUNDS	GRANT FUNDS	MAINTENANCE	COUNTY FUNDS	MAINTENANCE	COUNTY FUNDS
Asphalt Resurfacing & Paving (Including Miscellaneous Repair)	\$575,301	\$1,437,868	Mowing	\$227,134	Tree/Brush Removal	\$374,676
Bridge Repairs	\$189,059		Chip-Seal	\$177,824	Traffic Control	\$21,988
Culvert Replacements/Installations	\$123,199		Ditching	\$303,648	Hauling Stone	\$225,004
Guardrail Repairs/Replacements	\$29,455		Snow Removal	\$513,639	Asphalt Patching	\$303,584
			Traffic Signs	\$26,073	Shoulder Restoration	\$29,458
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$917,014</b>	<b>\$1,437,868</b>			<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$2,203,028</b>

## Creamery Road Receives "Green" Asphalt

Creamery Road received a special new surface in June. In a multi-agency effort, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources developed a grant to use Ground Rubber Tires mixed in with the asphalt to create "green projects". This grant, which was scheduled a few years ago, allowed Muskingum County to obtain a

product that will last longer, and the money received from the ODNR helped offset the costs.

Furthermore, the "green project" used recycled asphalt grindings to utilize as a berm surface. The nearly six mile stretch of roadway is being nominated across the state and nationally as a top "green project".



There was approximately two tires used per one ton of asphalt. An estimated total of 16,000 tires was used on the project. Along with the solid base now under the roadway,

the lifespan of Creamery Road will last many more years than other asphalt surfaces.

The roadway was striped with thermo-plastic paint, which is expected to result in greater visibility and a more durable life span. We have begun the use of a thermo-plastic paint on other roads throughout the county.



## Salt Creek Stabilization Project

The Salt Creek watershed encompasses 96 miles of water. Salt Creek begins in northern Muskingum County and winds its way through culverts, under bridges, and empties out below Duncan Falls into the Muskingum River.

This is known as channel protection.

The two locations of the channel protection are on Cutler Lake Road in Blue Rock Forest State Park, and on Clay Pike near Spry Road. MCEO crews performed the work under supervision from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

In conjunction with the Muskingum Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), two locations along Salt Creek were stabilized with stone materials so that the roadways and creek banks at the edge of the creek do not give way.

The grant money issued to the Muskingum SWCD demonstrates great cooperation and engineering amongst different levels of government. If a major flood occurred in the area

and these locations were heavily affected, the results would have been catastrophic. The cost of roadway repair would have exceeded this project total many times over.

The watershed is composed of 93,000 acres of agricultural, wooded, and urban areas. Eleven townships fall under this watershed: Adams, Blue Rock, Highland, Meigs, Perry, Rich Hill, Salem, Salt Creek, Union, Washington, and Wayne (Source: [www.muskingumswcd.org](http://www.muskingumswcd.org)).



Clay Pike — Salt Creek Township



Clay Pike — Salt Creek Township



Cutler Lake Rd — Blue Rock State Forest



Cutler Lake Rd — Blue Rock State Forest



## Improving Site Distances on County Roads

Numerous county roads have locations where site distance around curves are hindered by trees and vegetation. The obstructions do not allow sunlight to penetrate to the roads. Sunlight must hit the roads to melt snow and ice, as

well as to dry roads.

MCEO is constantly working to improve site distance issues such as on Narrows Road (see pictures). Removing the trees and vegetation made the line of site better.

Another location that MCEO crews improved site distance was on Old River Road north of Philo. In a location where sunlight never reached the road and caused poor winter travel conditions, this road now receives ample sunlight.



## CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE — WWW.MCEO.ORG

Our website has been carefully redesigned in an attempt to better inform the traveling public using Muskingum County roadways.

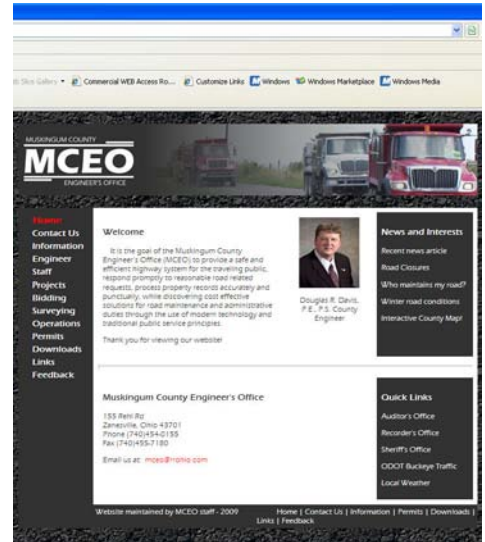
One new link that was added displays road closures. This provides information regarding where a road is closed, how long it will be closed, and who to contact for that closure. Daily closures, such as for culvert installations, are usually posted the day before. It is our hope that this link will be helpful to school districts, mail carriers, delivery companies and residents throughout the county. Another item new to the website is the “bidding link”. This link allows contractors to print all information needed to bid on a project, as well as see bid results after the sale date. We urge all contractors to access the website for current projects being advertised.

Another new feature to the website includes an interactive map. This map will allow you to view the whole county or zoom in on a particular township or roadway.

Recent MCEO news is also posted on the website. Information about office closings, new policies, or general news and information may be found under this link.

You can also visit our “permit link” that allows you to access permits for new driveways, right-of-way work, general storm water drainage, and special hauling.

The website also contains a link to contact information, a feedback form, and information about Muskingum County and other local agencies.



## ROADWAY RESURFACING AND MAINTENANCE

2009 PROJECTS COMPLETED		2010 PROJECTS PLANNED				2009 MAINTENANCE	
ASPHALT	MILES	ASPHALT	MILES	ASPHALT	MILES	OPERATION	TOTAL
Hicks Rd.	1.32	Bellview Dr	1.47	Panther Dr	0.29	Ditching	115 Miles
Hoover Ave.	0.50	Lutz Ln	0.70	Richvale Rd	1.45	Chip - Seal	42 Miles
Hoover St.	0.16	Millers Ln	4.25	Ridge Rd	3.95	Mowing	2,120 miles
Hopewell-Nat'l Rd.	1.66	Mt. Perry Rd	2.60	Shannon Rd	4.13	Culvert Pipe	5,640 Feet
Jersey Ridge Rd.	1.37	North Dresden Rd	1.80	Spry Rd	1.20		
Old Town Rd.	1.63	N River Rd West	1.16				
Rix Mills Rd.	5.58			GRAND TOTAL	23.00		
Shannon Valley Rd.	3.40						
Sonora Rd.	1.68						
GRAND TOTAL	17.30						

Thank You For Reading The Muskingum County Engineer's Office Annual Report