Butler County

Government

Butler County

Cities in Butler County: Fairfield, Hamilton, Middletown, Monroe, Oxford, (part of) Sharonville, Trenton

Townships in Butler County: Fairfield Twp, Hanover, Lemon, Liberty, Madison, Milford, Morgan, Oxford, Reily, Ross, St. Clair, Wayne, West Chester

Butler County Facts

County government predates statehood. By the time Ohio was admitted to the union in 1803, nine counties had been established under the provisions of the Northwest Ordinance of 1787.

Butler County was formed on March 24, 1803 from portions of Hamilton County. It is named for Richard Butler of Pennsylvania, a major general in the American Revolutionary War. Butler died in 1791 fighting American Indians in northern Ohio. His army marched out of Fort Hamilton, where the city of Hamilton now stands.

The area of Butler County is 470 square miles. The population is 385,648 as of 2020. Butler County is among the *top six percent of all U.S. counties* in terms of total population.

The largest city in Butler County is Hamilton (62,000+ pop'n), which is also the county seat. The largest township is West Chester Township (65,000+ pop'n).

Sheriff

The Butler County Sheriff is the law enforcement officer for the county. The Sheriff's duties include:

- Maintaining security in all county courts
- Operating the county jail
- Transporting prisoners including court appearances, transfers between facilities, and extraditions
- Traffic control and enforcement including vehicle crash investigation
- Providing 911 dispatch for multiple law enforcement and fire/EMS agencies
- Civil process service including delivery of summonses, subpoenas, and lawsuits
- Conducting foreclosure sales for delinquent property
- Serving as Dog Warden to protect the health, safety, and welfare of animals

Prosecutor

The Butler County Prosecuting Attorney is responsible for:

- Prosecution of all felony criminal cases under county jurisdiction
- Advising law enforcement officers about legal questions which may arise during investigations
- Presentation of cases at preliminary hearings, grand jury, and at trial
- Serving as counsel for all county offices and agencies, townships, and school districts
- Providing legal opinions, preparing legal documents, reviewing contracts, initiating law suits on behalf of the governmental agencies, and defending them in courts and before administrative agencies

Clerk of Courts

The Butler County Clerk of Courts is responsible for:

- Maintaining the records and for all documents filed within those records for all Courts including General Division, Domestic Relations Division and the 12th District Court of Appeals
- Collecting and disbursing all court costs
- Issuing titles for all types of vehicles, including watercraft and manufactured homes, and collecting the required taxes and fees
- Processing passport applications
- Issuing watercraft registrations

Courts (15 judges)

The Butler County Court of Common Pleas is the county's system of trial courts. Common pleas judges are elected to six year terms. The courts are divided into separate divisions including:

- General Division – all criminal felony cases and all civil cases over $15,000
- Domestic Relations Division – divorce, annulment, separation, spousal support and parental rights
- Juvenile Division – criminal cases involving minors and adult cases related to children
- Probate Division – wills, estates, competency and marriages

The Sheriff, Prosecutor, Clerk of Courts and Justice System account for 58% of all General Fund expenditures, signifying the main priority of Butler County is public safety and legal justice.

Auditor

The Butler County Auditor has several responsibilities, including:

- Serving as chief fiscal officer of county government
- Sealing gas pumps, scales and other measuring devices
- Appraisal and assessment of property
- Licensing dogs, vendors, and others
- Calculating taxes and administering assessments
- Administering tax exemptions for senior citizens, the disabled, charities, and churches
- Distributing money to schools and local governments

Treasurer

The Butler County Treasurer's responsibilities include:

- Collecting real property and manufactured home taxes
- Producing and mailing approximately 315,000 tax bills annually and collecting over $565 million in tax revenue
- Chief investment officer responsible for managing the county's investment portfolio, which has an average balance of $450 million
- Depositing monies collected from various county offices into the county's bank accounts
- Maintaining records of deposits and withdrawals and reconciling bank statements on a daily basis, thus assuring their accuracy and the safety of county funds

Recorder

The Butler County Recorder is responsible for keeping all vital public records pertaining to real estate (land) including:

- Deeds and mortgage/ lease documents
- Annexations
- Land contracts and other legal agreements
- Plats – drawings showing location of lots and boundaries
- Liens against property
- Zoning resolutions, maps and amendments

Coroner

The Butler County Coroner is a specially trained medical doctor and is responsible for determining the cause, mode, and manner of death. These duties include:

- Investigation of all unusual or sudden deaths
- Autopsy in cases where foul play is suspected or there is the possibility of legal proceedings
- Working with police and other investigative agencies
- Providing information and compassionate support to families of the deceased

Engineer

The Butler County Engineer is responsible for the maintenance and upgrade of the county's transportation system. This includes:

- Designing, building, and maintaining all roads and bridges under county or township jurisdiction
- Creating and maintaining the county tax map and surveys
- Planning and placement of traffic signals, signs, and speed limits
- Snow and ice removal, mowing, and brush control on roadways
- Stormwater District – maintenance of water quality and runoff control

Commissioners (3)

The Butler County Commissioners are the general administrative body for county government, and have many responsibilities including:

- Holding title to all county property
- Serving as the sole taxing authority for the county
- Control of county purchasing
- Budget and appropriating authority for the entire county government, including all agencies, courts, and elected officeholders
- Management of county debt and investments

Agencies under the authority of the Butler County Commissioners

- County Administrator
- Finance
- Planning
- Child Support Enforcement
- County Care Facility
- Records Center
- Department of Development
- Information Services
- Human Resources
- Facilities
- Regional Airport
- Central Purchasing
- Water and Sewer
- Solid Waste District
- Job and Family Services
- Children Services

The Citizens of Butler County

- Auditor
- Treasurer
- Recorder
- Engineer
- Coroner
- County Commissioners
- Prosecutor
- Sheriff
- Clerk of Courts
- Common Pleas Cou

County Commissioners
County Administrator

Finance	Planning
Child Support Enforcement	County Care Facility
Records Center	Dept. of Development
Information Services	Human Resources
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