

*Office of the Lucas County Engineer*

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June 28, 2023

TO: Joint Board of Fulton and Lucas County Commissioners  
Attn: Judy Balogh, Clerk

FROM: Mike Pniewski, P.E., P.S., Lucas County Engineer

SUBJECT: **2023 ANNUAL DITCH CONDITION REPORT AND ASSESSMENT  
RECOMMENDATIONS**

Honorable Commissioners,

In accordance with Section 6137.06 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC), the annual report is hereby submitted on ditches which were improved under Sections 6131.01 to 6131.64 of the ORC. Our recommendations for maintenance and required assessments are given below.

**Schmitz Ditch #424** – (Recommend assessment of \$5,000 to be collected in 2024) Based on field inspections performed in 2023, the ditch require brushing along portions by spraying and/or mechanical means.

**Ballard Petition #888** – (Recommend assessment of \$10,000 to be collected in 2024) Based on field inspections in 2023, the ditch requires annual brush control through mechanical methods. Minor regrowth of vegetation will be controlled through spraying.

**Beecher Ditch #1866** - (Recommend assessment of \$10,000 to be collected in 2024) Based on field inspections in 202, the ditch requires annual spraying of regrowth.

**Bench-Haggerman Ditch #1917** – (Recommend assessment of \$20,000 for 2024)

Soil and Water plans to continue contracting for brush along the ditch in 2024. The lower 10,000 feet of ditch has severe bank erosion. Lucas County Engineer's Office and Lucas Soil and Water intend to apply for a H2Ohio two-stage ditch grant for this portion of ditch in 2024 to subsidize costs. In addition, poisonous hemlock was encountered in brushed portions which will require annual mowing and spraying followed by re-establishing a grass filter strip.

Total recommended assessments for 2024 is \$45,000

Very respectfully,

Mike Pniewski, P.E., P.S.  
Lucas County Engineer