

Auditor's Outreach Program

Presentation to Fairfield Township Trustees

March 22, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.

(2nd/4th Wednesday monthly, 7 p.m., Twp Admin Bldg., 6032 Morris Rd)

Trustees: Shannon Hartkemeyer, Susan Berding & Joe McAbee

Fiscal Officer: Nancy Bock

Administrator: Julie Vonderhaar

Intro: Julie Joyce-Smith, Real Estate Manager, BC Auditor

2nd Quarter August Talking Points

Settlements - Mobile Home and Real Estate first half tax settlements have been certified by the Treasurer's Office. This year's first half certified collections amount is \$261.5 million (about a \$38.7 million increase, or 17.5 percent). Last year's first half certified number was \$222.7 million.

16TY 1st half - \$4,524,991.85 Almost all of the \$457,000 increase is in the 2 Fairfield Twp TIF buckets*

15TY 1st half - \$4,067,458.87

Skimmer Update:

There have been **no skimmers** found by the Auditor **since Feb. 10** when we pulled two out of different pumps at a Monroe Shell station. The total number found since Nov. 2015 stands at 13.

Those have been the only two found in the county during 2017. There were 8 found in 2016.

Our inspectors have made 52 weekly skimmer checks of every gas pump at approximately 120 service stations in the county since last June. We were out checking pumps during the Memorial Day weekend but did not find any.

Triennial Update:

2017 is a triennial update year for Butler County. Our office conducted a full reappraisal of all properties in 2014. In a triennial update, values are based on sales data. We are examining sales from 2014, 2015 and 2016 and those sales numbers will help us apply a fair, conservative value to Butler County properties as of 1-1-17 for taxes due in 2018.

Homestead Exemption:

The Homestead Exemption signup period is now available throughout the year (old deadline was first Monday in June). Those homeowners 65 and older, as well as those applying for the exemption as permanently and totally disabled, must have a **total income in 2016 of \$31,800 or less to qualify for 2017.** Total income is defined as "Ohio adjusted gross income of the owner and the owner's spouse" for the year preceding the application. (Line 3 of the Ohio Income Tax return)

For those qualifying homeowners, up to \$25,000 of the market value of their home is exempt from all local property taxes.

See our website at ButlerCountyAuditor.org for more details or to download forms.

Property Tax Relief :

Our office put out a recent press release alerting those that sustained flood damage from the torrential rainfall experienced in the Hamilton and Seven Mile areas on May 24 that they may be eligible for property tax relief. If there is damage which will affect property value for tax year 2017, payable in 2018, an Application for Valuation Deduction for Destroyed or Damaged Property should be filed with the Butler County Auditor's Office.

Before any consideration of value can be determined for the tax bill:

DTE Form 26, must be completed, notarized and returned to the Butler County Auditor's Office.

The property tax reduction is based on how much damage was done and which quarter of the year the damage occurred. The percentage deduction allowed is 100% Jan-March; 75% April-June; 50% July-Sept.; and 25% Oct.-Dec. The application deadline is Dec. 31 of the year the damage occurred for the first three quarters and January 31 of the following year for fourth quarter damage.

Personal property loss, such as furniture, appliances or vehicles, is not considered by our office. The value deduction is based on real property damage only.

The DTE Form 26 is available to download from the Butler County Auditor's web site at www.butlercountyauditor.org.

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Auditor's web site: www.ButlerCountyAuditor.org