

Mad River Township Roads Frequently Asked Questions

1. ***What is involved in road maintenance?*** Road maintenance includes snow and ice removal, repairing cracks and potholes, mowing and clearing brush from roadsides, replacing culverts, maintaining ditches next to roads, maintaining road signage, pavement marking, maintaining curbs and gutters (where present), and resurfacing roads.
2. ***How many miles of road does Mad River Township maintain?*** 51.817 miles.
3. ***Where does the township currently get the money to maintain roads?*** The township receives money from State taxes, Clark County taxes, and a small portion of the property tax that people pay on their homes. Last year the total amount brought in for road maintenance was \$296,221.42. For a detailed breakdown see the attached spreadsheet.
4. ***Have the township's road revenues decreased? YES.*** Between 2009 and 2013 the township received a total of \$494,802.43 from Estate Taxes. That money was spent on our roads. We will no longer receive this money because the Estate Tax has been eliminated. The township used to receive almost \$8,000 a year in tangible personal property tax. These taxes have also been eliminated. The township used to receive approximately \$45,000 a year from the local government fund. That fund is being reduced every year. It is down to about half of what we used to receive and will continue to decline.
5. ***Have road maintenance costs increased? YES.*** The cost of asphalt and road salt are two good examples. In the last ten years the cost of asphalt has risen from about \$28 a ton to \$70 a ton. Road salt has risen from about \$33 per ton to over \$100 a ton. Currently, the cost to repave one mile of road without curb and gutter is over \$80,000 dollars. Curb and gutter replacement adds on average another \$30 per foot.
6. ***Why doesn't the township just apply for grants?*** We have done that and have been able to fund roadwork in Green Meadows, repave Mosier Road, and purchase signs that meet the new reflectivity standards. Unfortunately there are fewer opportunities for grants now, but the township is committed to keep trying for any and all grants that they might qualify for.
7. ***Why is the township asking voters for a road levy now?*** The township cannot afford to do the maintenance required to keep our roads from deteriorating beyond repair. Revenues have declined and costs have gone up.
8. ***How much is the road levy and for how long?*** It is a five year 1.7 mill levy.

9. ***How much will the road levy cost us?*** It will cost the average homeowner in Mad River Township about a dollar a week.
10. ***How much money will the road levy bring into the township?*** According to the County Auditor, it will bring in \$307, 000 a year starting in 2015 and ending in 2020.
11. ***Can the money raised from this levy be used for anything other than road maintenance?*** **No**, it will go into a special fund that can only be used for road maintenance and repair. The township will not be constructing any new roads.
12. ***What roads will be repaired?*** The township has a flexible five-year road plan. Recently the township has been unable to keep to the plan because of the lack of funds. Priorities are set based on safety factors and road conditions.
13. ***How can the township afford to do the expansion of Dayton-Springfield Road?*** This is not a township project. Dayton-Springfield Road is a County road. It is a Clark County project administered by the County Engineer's office and paid for with federal and state grants.
14. ***Why are township roads in such bad shape now?*** The deteriorating condition of township roads is due to a combination of factors. Last winter was a particularly bad one for road damage due to the repeated freezing and thawing. Because road funds have declined as costs have gone up, the township has not had the money to repave roads. Instead they have had to use a "bandaid" approach by skim-coating roads and filling cracks and potholes.
15. ***Will this levy bring in enough money to help?*** **YES**. The township will be frugal and work within the limits imposed by the budget to provide safe roads for all residents.