

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

2 COMMUNITY INFORMATION

As required by DMA2K, a community profile must be developed for the county and any jurisdictions participating in this effort. Because of the multiple jurisdictions involved in this plan, this section presents a demographical as well as historical description, if available, of each jurisdiction that will be adopting this plan. This brief profile of each jurisdiction gives some insight as to what types of communities exist in the county and provides a better understanding of the effect natural hazards, to be discussed in later sections, may have on this population. In numerous cases, the communities themselves provided the information that follows.

2.1 County Profile

Adams County is located in southern Ohio. The County has a total land area of 584 mi². It is bounded by Highland County to the north, Pike County to the northeast, Scioto County to the east, Lewis County, Kentucky to the south, Mason County, Kentucky to the southwest, and Brown County to the west. As of the Census of 2000, there were 27,330 people, 10,501 households, and 7,613 families residing in the County. The population density was 47 people/mi². There were 11,822 housing units at an average density of 20 units/mi².



There are 15 townships in Adams County. They are Bratton Township, Brush Creek Township, Franklin Township, Green Township, Jefferson Township, Liberty Township, Manchester Township, Meigs Township, Monroe Township, Oliver Township, Scott Township, Sprigg Township, Tiffin Township, Wayne Township, and Winchester Township. The incorporated areas of Adams County are the Village of Cherry Fork, Village of Manchester, Village of Peebles, Village of Rome, Village of Seaman, Village of West Union, and the village of Winchester. According to the 2000 Census, the largest areas of population are Village of West Union (2,903), and the Village of Manchester (2,043).

The County is mostly rural in setting with forest and agricultural areas dominating the landscape. The urban component of the County is comprised of a series of villages and unincorporated areas of development. The four-lane Appalachian Highway, S.R. 32, is the main thoroughfare, linking the County with major interstates, Ohio River ports to the east, and the Cincinnati metropolitan area. S.R. enters the County in Franklin Township and runs west around Peebles and then through Seaman and exiting just past Winchester. Other major highways include State Routes 41, 136, and 247, which run north-south, along with State Route 52 which runs east-west along the Ohio River through Rome and Manchester. There is one airport, the Alexander Salamon (AMT) Airport, located in West Union with a 4,000-foot runway.

The County Seat is located in the Village of West Union. The three-member board of County Commissioners is elected in even numbered years, serving a four year term. They are the legislative and executive body of the County. The Adams County Chamber of Commerce has 15 people serving on the board with unlimited term limits.

According to the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD), the County's major employers include ACES Ohio Valley Local School District, Adams County Hospital, Cedar Works Inc, DPL Inc/Dayton Power & Light Co, Eagle Creek Nursing Center, General Electric Co, Maca Plastics Inc, Toyo Denso Co/ Weastec Inc, and Wal-Mart Stores Inc.

2.2 County History

Adams County

Adams County, named after the second President of the United States, John Adams, is the third oldest County in the State of Ohio. On July 10, 1797, the County was proclaimed by Winthrop Sargent, Secretary of the Old Northwest Territory, acting on behalf of Governor Arthur St. Clair. The first official road blazed through the wilderness of Ohio was Zane's Trace. Laid out in 1796-1797, it crosses Adams County diagonally and roughly follows present day S.R. 41. Individuals such as Andrew Jackson, Henry Clay, and Thomas Hart Benton traveled this road in the early 1800s.

When first platted, Adams County included all the territory that is now Pike, Ross, Adams, Pickaway, Madison, Franklin, Union, and Delaware Counties, and parts of Scioto, Highland, Brown, Clinton, Fairfield, Clark, Champaign, Hardin, Marion, Morrow, Knox, and Licking Counties. As these new counties were created, Adams County was eventually reduced to its present size.

The Serpent Mound is the world's largest effigy mound and is a Registered National Historic Landmark. It is located approximately seven miles north of Peebles on State Route 73 in Bratton Township.

The Counterfeit House, built in 1840 is located on Gift Ridge Road just off S.R. 247 in Monroe Township. The home was erected by Oliver E. Tompkins and was designed for the purpose of counterfeiting 50 cent pieces and \$500 bills. Tompkins had a special trick lock put on the front door that could be opened by the "right persons" even when the door was locked. Slots were chiseled in some of the interior doors at the top. These slots held the counterfeit money which was purchased by the "right persons" and was replaced with authentic currency. Tompkins would watch these exchanges from secret compartments built to look like chimneys.

In the early 1820's the Underground Railroad appeared in Adams County. Manchester and Rome became the first stopping points or "stations" on free soil for hundreds of runaway slaves. Seeking only the right of individual freedom, black men, women, and children traveled by night and hid by day in many homes in the county on their way north to a new life. By the time of the Civil War, in addition to Rome and Manchester stations, the Underground Railroad included stopping points at West Union, Cherry Fork, Winchester, Mt. Lehigh, Tranquility, and Locust Grove.

Possibly the most exciting event that ever took place in Adams County occurred on July 15 and 16, 1863. This was the daring raid of Confederate soldiers under the command of General John Hunt Morgan. Morgan had crossed the Ohio River at a point west of Cincinnati and proceeded to travel in an easterly direction through Hamilton, Clermont, and Brown Counties. The main purpose of the raid was to distract and confuse Union forces rather than encounter them in battle. Shortly before entering Adams County, Morgan had split his troops (which numbered 2,500) into two separate groups. The southern group consisted of 500 men and was led by

Colonel Dick Morgan. They entered the County on the Russellville Road on the morning of the 15th and proceeded to Eckmansville, where they shot and killed a resident, William Johnson, by mistake. Another resident had taken a pot shot at the advancing party and then had hidden. Johnson was then only person in sight in the area from where the shot came, and so was killed by the Rebels. Johnson was the only non-combatant killed by the raiders throughout their incursion in Ohio. This same group of Rebels made their way to North Liberty (Cherry Fork) where they raided the stores, stole horses, and burned the bridge. From here they hit the communities of Youngsville, Tranquility, Harshaville, Unity, Wheat Ridge, Dunkinsville, and Jacksonville.

The northern group of Rebels, led by General Morgan, entered the county on the Winchester and Sardinia Road (now State Route 32) and rode into Winchester around 9:00 AM. Here they proceeded to loot the various stores and steal horses. From here they traveled down Grace's Run Road to Harshaville and travelled the same route to Jacksonville as their comrades had, just a few hours before. It was in Jacksonville that the two groups united and decided to camp for the night. At 7:00 AM the following morning, General Morgan rode into Locust Grove and had breakfast while his men systematically looted the village. From Locust Grove the raiders took the Piketon Road (now Hackelshin Road) into Pike County. Union General Hobson followed Morgan through the county with 7,000 men, but failed to make contact with the Confederates.

2.3 Jurisdictions

Village of Manchester

Manchester is located in Manchester Township. It is situated in southwest Adams County along State Route 52 and borders the Ohio River to the south. The Village has a total land area of 1.1 mi². As of the Census of 2000, there are 2,043 people, 882 households and 700 families residing in Manchester. The population density is 1,857 people/mi². There are 1,027 housing units at an average density of 933 units/mi².

Nathaniel Massie, a frontier surveyor, new a settlement in Ohio would be necessary in order to have protection and safe harbor from Indian attack if he were to survey the land. In Winter of 1790, Massie issued general notice in Kentucky of his intentions and offered the first 25 families who would accompany him a donation of one inlot, one outlot, and 100 acres of land, providing they would settle in a town he intended to lay out as his settlement. In a very short time, 30 families had signed the agreement.



Founded in 1791 and named after Massie's hometown of Manchester, England, Manchester is the oldest white settlement in Adams County. By the middle of March, 1791, the settlement was enclosed in a stockade with blockhouses at each corner, which served as lookouts for any attacks from the Indians. Cabins were erected, and Manchester was settled. It was also the last stockaded village to be built in what is now the State of Ohio. Manchester was settled on a well known landmark on the Ohio River known as Three Islands. Due to the narrow river channels created by the islands, the area was an excellent location for Indians to ambush white settlers on their way down the river. As soon as Massie had completed his station for defense, the whole population went to work and cleared the lower of the three islands, and planted corn on it. The island was very rich and produced heavy crops. The woods supplied a choice variety of game, including deer, elk, buffalo, bears and turkeys, which were abundant, while the river furnished a variety of excellent fish. Though food plentiful, luxuries were entirely unknown other than some Old Monongahela double distilled.

Since Manchester was the first white settlement in Adams County, it naturally became the first county seat until 1803, when it was moved to the more centralized Village of West Union.

The Village of Manchester occupies the whole of Manchester Township. As originally laid out, it contained 108 lots, to which additions have since been made. The village was incorporated in 1850. Abraham Perry was the first mayor and Joseph Shriver, the first town marshal. At the time of its incorporation it had a population of 434 inhabitants. The first mail route in Ohio crossed Adams County. This was over Zane's Trace from Wheeling to Limestone at which latter place the residents within the present limits of Adams County received their mail. In 1801, a post office, the first in the county, was established at Manchester with Israel Donalson postmaster. The first mill erected in the County was a little "tub-wheel" built by Nathaniel Massie on Island Creek about two miles from Manchester.

Village of Winchester

Winchester is located in Winchester Township. It is situated in northwest Adams County. State Route 136 bisects the Village east-west and State Route 32 intersects the Village north-south. The Village has a total land area of 2.7 mi². According to the 2000 Census, there are 1,025 people, 410 households and 280 families residing in the Village. The population density is 382 people/mi². There are 448 housing units at an average density of 167 units/mi².

Winchester has an Ohio Historical Marker honoring its founding. In 1990 the Village was declared a historical Ohio town. The marker reads:

"Founded November 8, 1815 by General Joseph Darlington and named for his Virginia birthplace. Winchester was incorporated in 1864 and later became the eastern terminus of the Cincinnati and Eastern Railway (1877-1880). The first locomotive to enter Winchester, the "Dick Thomson," was named after a local businessman who was largely responsible for building the railroad. Winchester was also the birthplace of Evellyn (Longman) Batchelder, first woman sculptor to become a full academician at the National Academy of Design in 1919."

The Village of Winchester was laid out November 8, 1815, by Joseph Darlington, and named by him for Winchester, Virginia, near which he was born. The original plat contained seventy lots. The Village was incorporated in 1865, at which time the population was around 800. Joseph Eylar kept the first hotel on the northwest corner of South Street. James and Joseph Bailey opened the first store in a log building that stood on lot forty-two, in 1819. Dr. A.C. Lewis was the first resident physician. The first tannery in the village was owned by Joseph Eylar; and the

first oil mill was built by Levi Sparks in 1830. The first railroad built in Adams County, the C.P. & V. was a narrow gauge from Batavia Junction, called the Cincinnati and Eastern. The first passenger train entered Winchester, August 7, 1877. It was an excursion train of flat cars, and carried a motley crowd of enthusiasts from along the line to the terminus of the road. Here the train was engulfed on its arrival in a struggling mass of humanity seeking a first view of a locomotive and train of cars.

Village of Peebles

Peebles is located in Meigs Township. It is situated in northwest Adams County along State Route 41. The Village has a total land area of 1.2 mi². As of the Census of 2000, there are 1,739 people, 705 households and 456 families residing in the Village. The population density is 1,434 people/mi². There are 788 housing units at an average density of 650 units/mi².

Peebles, located in the northern part of the township on the Cincinnati, Portsmouth and Virginia Railroad, sprang up with the completion of this railroad through Meigs Township in 1881. It was named, at the suggestion of N. W. Evans, for John G. Peebles, of Portsmouth, who subscribed liberally toward the completion of the railroad from Winchester to Portsmouth.

Starting in 1906 and continuing for the next few years, Chautauqua Days were held in Peebles. Chautauqua's were then being held across the country and consisted of public lectures, concerts, and other cultural events. The most notable speaker to ever appear at the Peebles Chautauqua was William Jennings Bryan. Bryan was a noted orator, congressman, and presidential contender. Chautauqua Days were held on the grounds that now make up the "Hollywood" section of Peebles.

Village of Seaman

Seaman is located in Scott and Oliver Townships and named after Frank Seaman, a farmer who owned most of the land where the town was located. It is situated in northwest Adams County just east of Winchester along State Routes 247, 32 and 770, with the majority of the Village located in Scott Township. The Village has a total land area of 1.0 mi². According to the 2000 Census, there are 1,039 people, 407 households and 271 families residing in the Village. The population density is 1,018 people/mi². There are 443 housing units at an average density of 434 units/mi².

The Village of Seaman was laid out after the extension of the Cincinnati, Portsmouth and Virginia Railroad, from Winchester to Portsmouth. As the railroad was being constructed in 1882, Mr. Seaman proposed that he would donate two acres of land for a station building if the station stop would be named Seaman. Seaman was one of the new and thriving villages that had sprung up along the line of that railroad. It was laid out on the lands of Mrs. Ann Mower in 1888. A post office was established on 1880 with A. Day first postmaster. The first store in the place was kept by J.Q. Roads. Around the year 1900 it contained two dry goods stores, one hardware and implement store, one millenary ship, two blacksmith shops, one saw-mill, two hotels, two livery stables, and had a population of 175 inhabitants.

The first manufacturing plant came to Seaman in 1902 when The Lanbertville Spoke Manufacturing Company started a spoke factory. At that time water was not as plentiful about the village so a number of citizens, in order to secure the factory, signed an agreement, in which they bound themselves to see that sufficient water was available for the use of the plant. Before

long the visible supply became exhausted due to a dry fall, so these guarantors had to haul water all winter, even cutting holes in the ice to bring water to town on sleds.

Electricity first came to Seaman in 1915 when C.O. Garrett, a young farmer, conceived the idea of building and equipping the Seaman's Electric Light & Power Plant. The news seemed too good to be true for most residents, as up to this time Seaman had been a "lantern town". Mr. Garrett ignored doubters and built his power plant himself.

Village of Rome

Rome is located in Green Township. It is situated in southeast Adams County along US Route 52. The Village has a total land area of 0.3 mi². As of the Census of 2000, there are 117 people, 46 households and 31 families residing in the Village. The population density is 440 people/mi². There are 58 housing units at an average density of 83 units/mi².

Rome was laid out in 1835 by William Stout on the Ohio River near the site of the old town of Adamsville. The terrain just above Rome contained a valuable resource.

"These high, rocky cliffs are composed largely of what is known as Waverly sandstone, and, consequently, are very valuable. Immense quantities have been gotten out, and shipped to all parts of the state and the United States for building purposes. Many of the very finest buildings in the country were built from material shipped from Greene Township."

In the early 1820s the Underground Railroad appeared in Adams County. Being situated on the Ohio River, Rome became one of the first stopping points or "stations" on free soil for hundreds of runaway slaves. Seeking only the God-given right of individual freedom, black men, women, and children traveled by night and hid by day in many homes on their way north to a new life.

Village of Cherry Fork

Cherry Fork is located in Wayne Township. It is situated in northwest Adams County along State Routes 136 and 770. The Village has a total land area of 0.1 mi². As of the Census of 2000, there are 127 people, 48 households and 36 families residing in the Village. The population density is 1,040 people/mi². There are 54 housing units at an average density of 174 units/mi².

Cherry Fork, formerly known as North Liberty, takes its name from the Cherry Fork of Ohio Brush creek for which the great number of large wild cherry trees that formerly grew in the valley gives name. The North Liberty Post Office was laid out in 1848 by Col. William McVey. He was a radical abolitionist and named the village North Liberty. Samuel Wright, who came from Kentucky to Cherry Fork and erected a cabin in March of 1799 was perhaps the first settler within the township. Samuel Wright also built the first mill, a tub-wheel, about the year 1802.



The last black bear ever seen in this portion of Adams County before their recent revival was caught in a trap by Samuel Wright's boys about the year 1835, near the mouth of Grace's Run on Cherry Fork. It weighed nearly two hundred pounds after being skinned and dressed.

Village of West Union

West Union is located in Tiffin Township in central Adams County. Several thoroughfares run through the Village including State Routes 41, 125 and 247. The Village has a total area of 2.6 mi². According to the 2000 Census, there are 2,903 people, 1,242 households and 757 families residing in the Village. The population density is 1,130 people/mi². There are 1,373 housing units at an average density of 535 units/mi².



Thomas Kirker is given credit for naming West Union. Kirker was one of the first pioneers to settle outside of the fort at Manchester in 1795 after the Indian threat was ended. He settled on a farm about three miles south-southwest of where West Union was later platted. Kirker later went on to become the second governor of the State of Ohio.

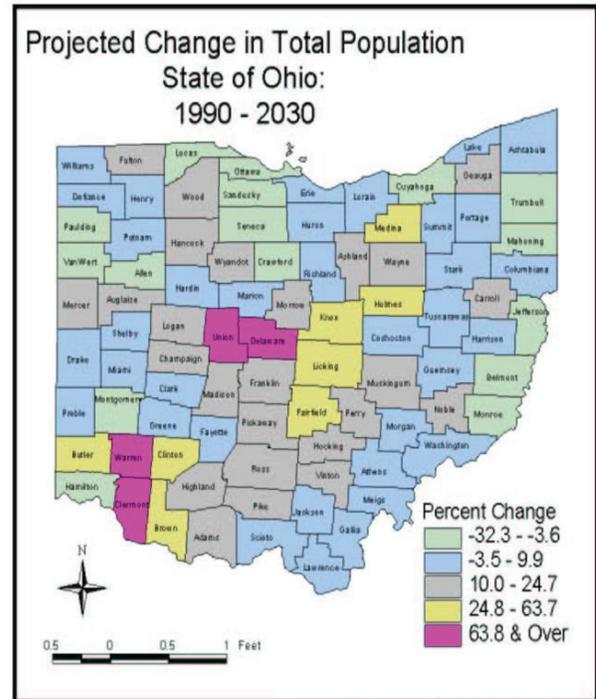
West Union was established as the county seat of Adams County in 1804. The original county seat was Manchester up to that time. The Village has been a fairly isolated community and the only county seat in Ohio that never had a train running through it during the railroad boom of the mid-1800's. Today, the Village is home to one of Ohio's active Amish communities and Miller's Bakery, Furniture, and Bulk Foods is a popular attraction.

West Union was established by act of the Legislature April 13, 1803. The act named Isaac Davis, John Evans, and James Menary, Commissioners to select a site for the new seat of justice for the County. On January 16, 1804, the Commissioners having made their report, recommending a site about one-half mile south of Zane's Trace, on lands owned by Robert McClanahan, and near the central portion of the county, an act was passed to locate the county seat there permanently. The land was surveyed and staked, with 131 lots on the plat. Henry Rape built the first house, a hewed log building, on lot No. 45. The first tannery in West Union was operated by Peter Shultz in 1805. The first tin shop opened in 1820 by Daniel Boyle. The village grew very slowly from its founding until about 1810. As Zane's Trace was widened to accommodate wagons and stagecoaches, the town experienced a building boom from 1810-1820. Population jumped from a few dozen to 400. When West Union was platted and sold, it was founded in literal wilderness. A few Shawnee Indians were still located in the vicinity and would remain for about a year. The site was covered with virgin timber that was home to numerous dangerous wild animals including the bobcat, mountain lions, panthers, black bears, and wolves. Even after several homes and the courthouse had been raised, some of these creatures walked boldly through town. The early settlers of the area also witnessed such natural marvels as the migration of the passenger pigeon. Flocks of these wild birds numbered in the millions. When passing overhead in the fall of each year, they would obscure the sunlight to the point that animals on the ground would become confused and start preparing for the night.

2.4 Census Information

2.4.1 State Population

The State of Ohio’s population in 2000 was 11,353,140 and it is projected to climb to 12,317,613 by 2030, an increase of 8.5%. However, it appears that the rate at which Ohio’s population is growing is diminishing. Several factors may be contributing to this decline. The birth to death ratio is much smaller than in faster growing states, with Ohio expected to have 4.4 million births and 3.6 million deaths. Net migration is a factor as well. Ohio may gain approximately 247,000 people through in-migration but may lose about 758,000 people through out-migration. Counties surrounding a major metropolitan area – Cincinnati, Columbus, and Cleveland – generally will experience higher growth rates. Counties in the north central and eastern region of the state are projected to experience a decline.



2.4.2 County Population Projection

According to U.S. Census for 2000, the total population of Adams County is 27,330. Adams County is rural in nature. The rural nature is shown by comparing the County’s inhabitants per square mile to the State’s inhabitants per square mile, 47 versus 277 respectively. The area of highest population density is the Village of West Union with 2,903 people.

The population of Adams County has steadily increased between the years 1800 and 1900. Between the years 1910 and 1970, the population gradually decreased, before jumping back up in 1980, and steadily increasing after that. The County population has experienced significant increases in population in short periods of time, including a 6,002 population increase from 1800-1810, a 5,700 population increase from 1840-1850, and a 5,371 population increase from 1970-1980. The 1800-1810 population increase was a factor of nearly 275%. Adams County is expected to increase in population to 33,510 by 2030. Please refer to Tables 2-1 and 2-2 for more demographic information.

Table 2-1
Population Table

Year	Total Population	Year	Total Population
1800	3,432	1910	24,755

1810	9,434	1920	22,403
1820	10,406	1930	20,381
1830	12,281	1940	21,705
1840	13,183	1950	20,499
1850	18,883	1960	19,982
1860	20,309	1970	18,957
1870	20,750	1980	24,328
1880	24,005	1990	25,371
1890	26,093	2000	27,330
1900	26,328	2006	28,516

Table 2-2

Projected Population Table

Year	Total Population
2010	29410
2020	31490
2030	33510

An Adams County demographic profile is also available on the ODOD’s website and provides more specific information for Adams County and its political jurisdictions.

<http://www.odod.state.oh.us/research/files/S0/Adams.pdf> (Appendix O)

2.5 County Land Use and Future Land Use

2.5.1 Topography

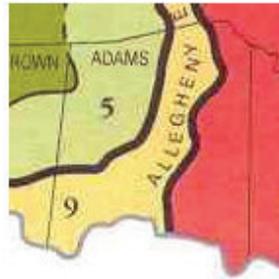
The surface of Adams County is diversified. In the west central and northwest, it is flat or gently undulating. In the central and northern portions it is more broken, the hills are loftier, their tops being gently rounded or spread out in broad table lands. In the east the surface is very broken; there are high ridges and lofty hills, with many knobs. In the south bordering the Ohio River is a range of beautiful hills, some almost attaining the altitude of mountains, affording a stretch of scenery as beautiful and picturesque as any found in the state.

Shallow to deep soils on unglaciated uplands make up about 64 percent of the county land area. The soils are moderately well drained and well drained, nearly level to very steep on the tops and sides of ridges in the uplands. They are primarily used as woodland, pasture, or cropland. The slope, the hazard of erosion, and a shallow or moderate depth to bedrock are the main limitations. Soils on valley fills, stream terraces, and flood plains make up about 10 percent of Adams County. They are well drained, moderately well drained, and somewhat poorly drained, nearly level to strongly sloping soils in preglacial valleys and on terraces and flood plains. They are used dominantly as cropland and pasture. Flooding, seasonal wetness, moderately slow or very slow permeability, a moderate or high shrink-swell potential, the slope, and erosion are the major limitations. Erosion is a major problem in Adams County. It is a hazard on about 81 percent of the cropland and 92 percent of the pasture in the county. Even in nearly level areas, erosion can reduce productivity or interfere with fieldwork. In areas where

slopes are more than 2 percent, special conservation practices are needed to keep erosion from significantly reducing productivity or increasing the cost of production.

Woodland makes up nearly 50 percent of the total land area. Most of the woodland is under private ownership. The state, however, owns a significant acreage of the woodland, the most extensive areas being located in the eastern half of the county. The woodland of Adams County is largely a mixed forest dominated by oak. Other major species of trees include hickory, beech, yellow-poplar, walnut, and maple. Maple tends to be an early successional species, and oak is the climax species. Thus, oak is characteristic of a mature forest.

According to the Department of Natural Resources, Adams County is divided vertically into four physiographic regions: *Illinoian Till Plain* to the north west corner of the county, *Dissected Illinoian Till Plain* on the west side, *Outer Bluegrass Region* in the central part of the county and *Shawnee – Mississippian Plateau* to the eastern side of the county.



Surface Water

Few counties in the state surpass Adams in the number and size of its fine streams and creeks. Adams County is classed in the Scioto Valley section of the hydrographic charts of the state, but it is properly designated an Ohio River county. Its system of drainage empties directly into the Ohio River, except a small area in the northeastern part drained by Scioto Brush Creek, a tributary of the Scioto River.

The largest of the County's creeks is Ohio Brush Creek, a stream that flows through the central portion of the county from the north and empties into the Ohio River. From the village of Newport at a junction of its west and east branches to its mouth at the Ohio, it traverses a distance of nearly forty miles. Next in size and importance to Ohio Brush Creek is its parent stream, the West Fork, which takes its source in Brown County. West Fork enters Adams County at the northwest, crossing Winchester and Scott Township and uniting with East Fork at the village of Newport. The East Fork takes its source at the junction of the "Three Forks", Baker's, Middle, and West, in the northern portion of Bratton Township. Scioto Brush Creek, the waters of which drain the eastern portion of the County, rises near the center of Jefferson Township and flows north, then east, before entering Scioto County.



Groundwater

Adams County falls in the Ohio EPA Southeast district and the Ohio River Main Stem watershed. Adams County Regional Water District (ACRWD) supplies water to Adams and Brown Counties – approximately 18000 people. The source for the water comes from eight deep wells that are approximately 75 feet deep. These are drilled into what is known as the "Ohio River Valley Aquifer". Ohio EPA considers this source to be ground water. The well field is situated on the south side of US 52 and just west of the Wrightsville area. From these wells ACRWD pumped 674,800,000 gallons of water in 2006. This is an average of 61.5 gallons per day per person served.

2.5.2 County Land Use

The existing land use in Adams County is principally agricultural. Adams County contains 373,761 land acres, of which 199,000 acres are used for farmland. Fifty-four percent of farmland is comprised of cropland, twenty-five percent is comprised of non-pastured woodland, and sixteen percent is permanent pasture, while the remaining land is classified as other. There were 1,310 farms, with the average farm size being 152 acres. Urban land consists of 3,319 acres, while 1,816 acres is open water.

The following map illustrates Adams County's land use in 1994.

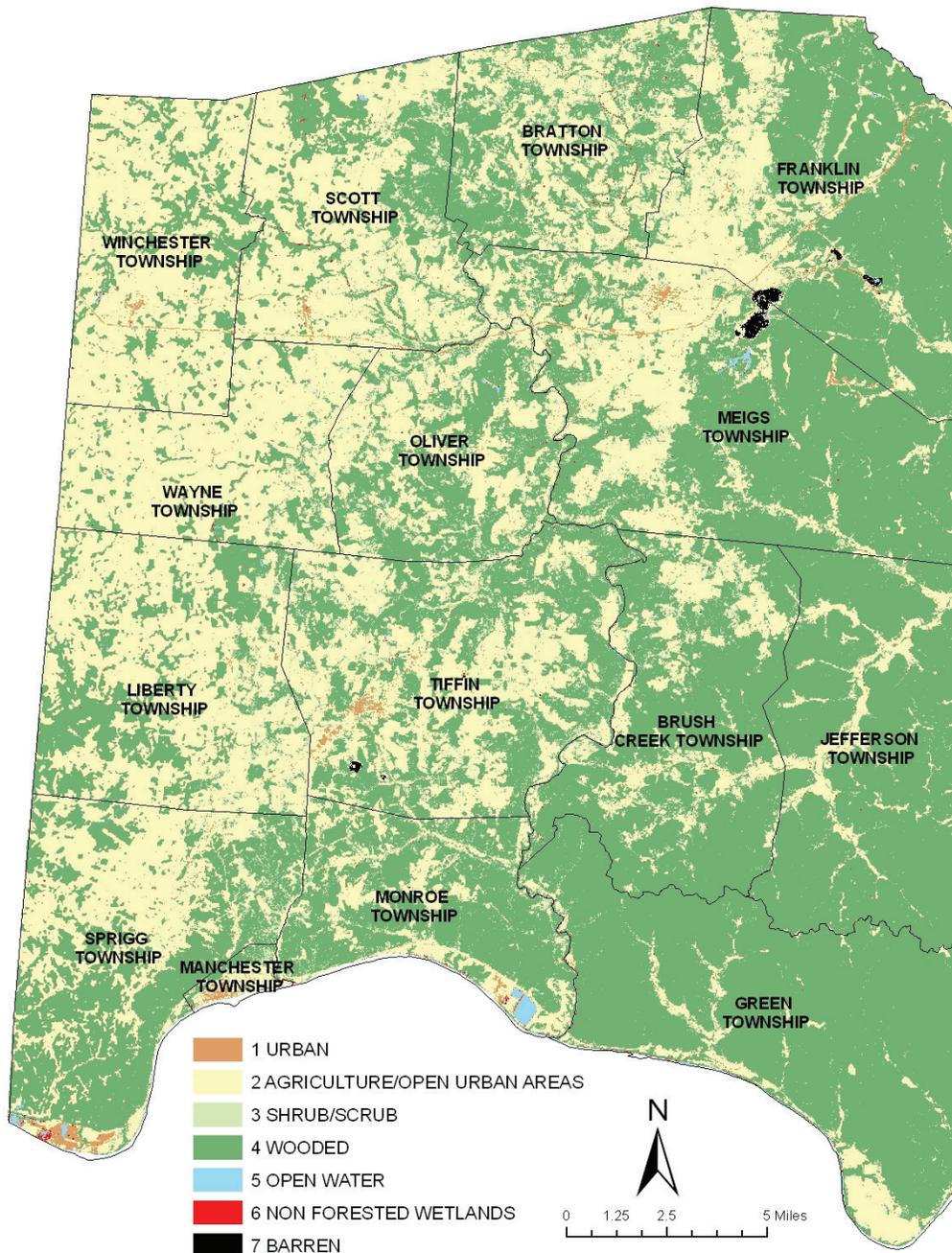


Table 2-3 shows land cover change in Adams County from 1982 to 1997.

Table 2-3

County Land Cover 1982 to 1997, from the National Resource Inventory Adams County, Ohio

Year	Total Acres (in 1,000's)					
	Total Acres Estimated	Total Urban Land	Total Forest Land	Total Farm Land*	Total Crop Land	Total Pasture
1982	374.9	8.9	195.3	162.7	85.6	77.1
1987	374.9	9.5	196.8	159.8	104.4	55.4
1992	374.9	9.9	198.3	157.3	109.7	47.6
1997	374.9	14.5	196.3	156.3	108.1	48.2

Year	Percentage of Land Cover**					
	Total Acres Estimated	Total Urban Land	Total Forest Land	Total Farm Land*	Total Crop Land	Total Pasture
1982	N/A	2.4%	52.1%	43.4%	22.8%	20.6%
1987	N/A	2.5%	52.5%	42.6%	27.8%	14.8%
1992	N/A	2.6%	52.9%	42.0%	29.3%	12.7%
1997	N/A	3.9%	52.4%	41.7%	28.8%	12.9%

*Total Farm Land equals sum of all crop land and all pasture land

**Percentages do not sum to 100%, due to omission of water and federal land use cover

The current land use percent as prepared by the Ohio Department of Development for the county is shown in table 2.4

Table 2-4

Land Use/Land Cover	Percent
Urban (Residential/Commercial/Industrial/ Transportation and Urban Grasses)	0.81%
Cropland	27.81%
Pasture	7.39%
Forest	63.18%
Open Water	0.55%
Wetlands (Wooded/Herbaceous)	0.00%
Bare/Mines	0.26%

Adams County is mostly forestland at about 63% followed by Cropland and pastures at 35%. About 196,000 acres of the total land area is in the form of farms, totaling to about 1290 farms. Urban land is only about 0.81%. or 9000 acres.

Serpent Mound, an Indian earthwork and an Ohio Historical Society site, is located in northern Adams County. The Serpent Mound is a 1,330-foot-long, three-foot-high prehistoric effigy mound located on a plateau of the Serpent Mound crater along Ohio Brush Creek. The mound is located on a plateau with a unique cryptoexplosion structure that contains faulted and folded bedrock, which is usually either produced by a meteorite or a volcanic explosion. This is one of the few places in North America where such an occurrence is seen. This is the largest effigy

mound in the world. The ownership of the property was granted in 1900 to the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society and it was designated the United States' first State park.

Forest areas include the Shawnee State Forest to the Southeast corner of Adams County, Whipple State Nature Preserve to the South, close to the Ohio River. Ridges here are pocketed with sinkholes while the valley is rimmed with cliffs and dotted with large slump blocks of dolomites. Chaparral Prairie State Nature Preserve and Johnson Ridge State Nature Preserve are close to the center of the county, Adams Lake Prairie State Nature Preserve and Adams Lake State Park close to West Union. Davis Memorial State National Park and Brush Creek State Forest are in the Northeast quadrant of the county and Tranquility Wildlife Area to the Northwest quadrant. Davis Memorial displays unique geological features like karsts and faulting. Apart from these there are numerous lakeside resorts, trails and retreats that make up the 63% of forestland.



Serpent Mound – Peebles, Ohio

The Ohio River flows through the south of the county for about 30 linear miles. The Ohio Brush Creek, a major tributary of the Ohio River flows for 48 miles from the North of the county dividing the county into two. Other smaller streams make up 109 linear miles. 19 square miles of the county is under the FEMA zone A floodplain.

(Note: Zone A is the flood insurance rate zone that corresponds to the 1-percent annual chance floodplains that are determined in the Flood Insurance Study by approximate methods of analysis. Because detailed hydraulic analyses are not performed for such areas, no Base Flood Elevations or depths are shown within this zone. Mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements apply.)

2.5.3 Future Land Use

The Adams County Commissioners established the 'Land Use Commission' to develop a Comprehensive Land Use Plan for the county. The Plan will identify important issues and make policy recommendations to guide future land use. The Land Use Commission is committed to creating a plan that will maintain while striving to enhance the quality of life for all citizens of the county and maximize the value of public and private investments in Adams County. The work of the Commission is divided among eight task forces. Each task force is charged with preparing a report on current conditions and recommendations for their subject area. Upon completion of

the task force reports, the Commission will compile the task force reports into the Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

Sheila Maggard, at the Ohio State University (OSU) Extension Center is the project coordinator.

Table 2-5

Land Use Commission Task Forces As Adopted 11/05/2007

Agriculture	Community Facilities	Economic Development	Environment
Uses of Land Generational Farming Loss of Farm Land Agricultural Easements Agricultural Districts Natural Resources Pollution/Manure Management Public/Private Forestry Location/Land Current Future	Emergency/Safety Services Government Administrative Facilities Government Service Facilities Educational Facilities Libraries Performing & Fine Arts Youth Activities Family/Adult Activities Vacant Buildings Location/Land Current Future	Industry Agriculture Small Business Travel & Tourism Insourcing Public Services Infrastructure Vacant Business/Industrial Buildings Retention/Expansion Commercial Areas Location/Land Current Future	General Preservation of Assets Ecosystems Watershed Forest Lands Greenspace Hardscaping Pollution (All Types) Waste Management Hazardous Waste Facilities Topography & Soils Nature Preserves Conservation Easements Location/Land Current Future
Housing	Recreation	Transportation	Utilities
Single Family Multi-Family Retirement Communities Assisted Living Subdivision Regulations Subsidised Housing Location/Land Current Future	Parks - State/Municipal/Private Outdoor Activities Entertainment Venues Historic Preservation Facilities Location/Land Current Future	Maintaining Infrastructure Highways Bridges Airport Railroad Ohio River Traffic & Commerce Rural Public Transit Financing Location/Land Current Future	Water Sewer Electric Distribution Capacity Alternative Generation Sources Natural Gas POTS (Plain Old Telephone Service) Cellular Phone Service Cable Television High Speed Internet Access Solid Waste Management Financing Location/Land Current Future

2.6 County Utilities

2.6.1 Electric, Telephone and Gas

The electric power for Adams County is provided by four utility companies: Adams REA, Columbus and Southern Power Company, Ohio Power and South Central REA. Phone companies that service Adams County include SBC Ohio and Verizon North. Natural and bottled gas is provided by Cincinnati Gas. According to a 1989 ODNR Map of oil and gas pipelines in Ohio, there is one gas pipeline located in Adams County.

See Maps in Appendix C for Service Areas of Telephone Service Areas in Ohio Electric Companies and Regulated Natural Gas Companies.

(<http://www.puc.state.oh.us/website/coldfusion/county/county.cfm?cnty=Adams>)

2.6.2 Water and Wastewater

Water

Drinking water within the County is supplied by private wells and two municipal water treatment plants located in Manchester. The County's largest public water system is the Adams County Regional Water District (ACRWD), which uses eight groundwater wells for its supply. The eight wells are drilled about 75 feet deep into the Ohio River Valley Aquifer. The well field is situated on the south side of US 52 and just west of the Wrightsville area. ACRWD pumped 674,800,000 gallons of water in 2006, an average of 61.5 gallons per day per person served. The number of customers served is 5800. The system is made up of 3,696,000 linear feet of waterline.

The other public water system in Adams County is the Village of Manchester which is supplied by three groundwater wells.

The following list describes the water facilities in the County and, if available, contains the most recent figures indicating water usage for each facility.

Manchester

Water service in Manchester is provided by the municipal water plant. The system has a 230,000 gallon per day (gpd) peak flow and averages 200,000 gpd. Storage capacity is 550,000 gallons and chlorination is the treatment type used.

- 400 Pike St, Manchester, 45144

Peebles

The Village of Peebles provides water service to its residents from the Adams County Regional Water District. The plant has a 2.3 million gallon peak daily flow and averages 1.9 million gpd. The water plant uses chlorination as treatment. An average daily flow of 175,000 gallons flows to Peebles customers.

- 1 Simmons Avenue, Peebles, 45660

Seaman

The Village of Seaman provides water service to its residents from the Adams County Regional Water District. The plant has a 2.3 million gallon peak daily flow and averages 1.9 million gpd. The water plant uses chlorination as treatment. An average daily flow of 98,000 gallons flow to Seaman customers.

- PO Box 248, Seaman, 45679

West Union

The Village of West Union provides water service to its residents from the Adams County Regional Water District. The plant has a 2.3 million gallon peak daily flow and averages 1.9 million gpd. The water plant uses chlorination as treatment. An average daily flow of 300,000 gallons flow to West Union customers.

- 517 N. Market Street, West Union, 45693

Winchester

The Village of Winchester provides water service to its residents from the Adams County Regional Water District. The plant has a 2.3 million gallon peak daily flow and averages 1.9 million gpd. The water plant uses chlorination as treatment.

- PO Box 156, Winchester, 45697

Rural areas in the County rely on private wells for their water supply. Groundwater is the major water source for rural households in Adams County.

Refer Appendix M for detailed system information by city.

Wastewater

Sanitary sewer service within Adams County is provided by septic service or wastewater treatment plants (WWTP). The septic systems are primarily located in rural incorporated portions of the County and small villages. The WWTPs are located in Manchester, Peebles, Seaman, West Union, and Winchester.

Manchester

The Village of Manchester's WWTP design is an activated sludge system with a capacity of 160,000 gpd. Average flow is 100,000 gpd.

- 2940 Buckeye Station Road, Manchester, OH, 45144

Peebles

The Village of Peebles' WWTP design is an activated sludge/ditches system. The system's capacity is 1.1 mgd and the average daily flow is 276,000 gpd.

- 195 Chautauqua Street, Peebles, 45660

Seaman

The Village of Seaman's WWTP design is a trickling filters system. The system's capacity is 250,000 gpd and the average daily flow is 180,000 gpd.

- P O Box 248, Seaman, OH 45679

West Union

The Village of West Union's WWTP design is a trickling filters system. The system's capacity is 1.0 mgd and the average daily flow is 325,000 gpd.

- 517 N Market St, West Union, OH 45693

Winchester

The Village of Winchester's WWTP design is a lagoon and aeration system. The system's capacity is 500,000 gpd and the average daily flow is 70,000 gpd.

- P O Box 156, Winchester, Oh 45697

Refer Appendix N for detailed system information by city.