



STATE OF THE VILLAGE 2009 Groveport Annual Report Lance Westcamp, Mayor



Mayor Lance Westcamp, left, with Village Council Members Ed Rarey, Jean Ann Hilbert, Jim Staebler, Donna Drury, Ed Dildine and Shawn Cleary.

It is with great pleasure that I present this Annual Report of the administrative activities and programs for the Village of Groveport 2009.

Like the homeowner who needs to maintain his/her home in good repair, the Village must ensure that our streets are in good repair and it is essential that we maintain our facilities and infrastructure. Despite the recession, the Village was able to do this and continued to provide the best quality services possible to our residents.

Despite the recent economic downturn, the Village of Groveport obtained an A2 bond rating from Moody's, a national financial rating agency. This is an excellent rating for a community the size of Groveport and this will enable the Village to borrow and finance projects at lower rates when such borrowing is necessary.

The attraction and expansion of businesses is still a top priority for the Village. Although the current recession slowed our economic growth in 2009, we still were successful in welcoming some new companies to our growing industrial community. Such continued industrial growth has a direct impact on our ability to provide the stated services and maintain our facilities throughout the Village.

I am proud of what has been accomplished in 2009, and I look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve each of you in the future, knowing that there is still much more we can accomplish.

As your Mayor, I am very proud of our rich tradition, but I am even more excited about our future.

Lance Westcamp



ADMINISTRATION Steve Morris, *Administrator*

Last year was very challenging for me in my first year as administrator, and also for the employees of the Village. Nevertheless, we have been able to successfully face these challenges, by relying upon the talents of our employees, the leadership of Mayor Westcamp and the strong decisiveness of the Village Council.



The Village has been fortunate not to have been hit as hard economically as other communities in our region. We do have some financial hurdles ahead. However, these impediments will allow us to look at how we do business, and, more importantly, to enable us to ensure that we are providing the residents of the Village with the most cost effective services.

We did experience some slow down in our industrial growth in 2009. In spite of this, we still had many inquiries regarding the availability of facilities in our industrial areas by a number of national and international companies. All indications lead us to believe that we will continue to experience interest in the growth of our development community in 2010.

The Village's financial position remains strong. Although, our revenues were down in 2009, our employees pulled together to minimize expenses without sacrificing essential and effective services to our residents.

We will continue to work hard to enhance the quality of these services in the Village in 2010.

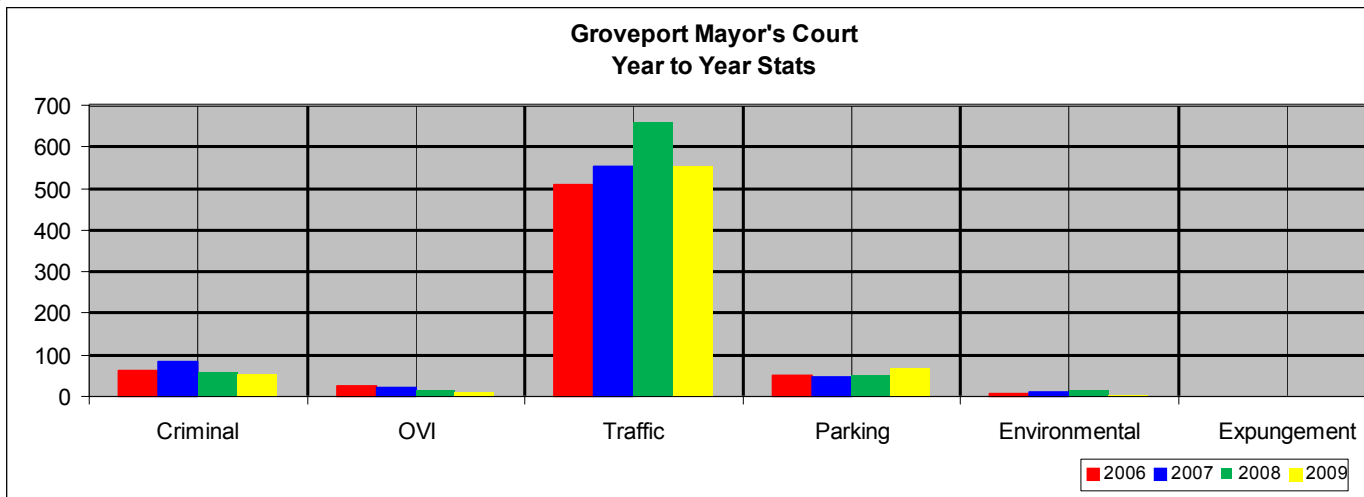
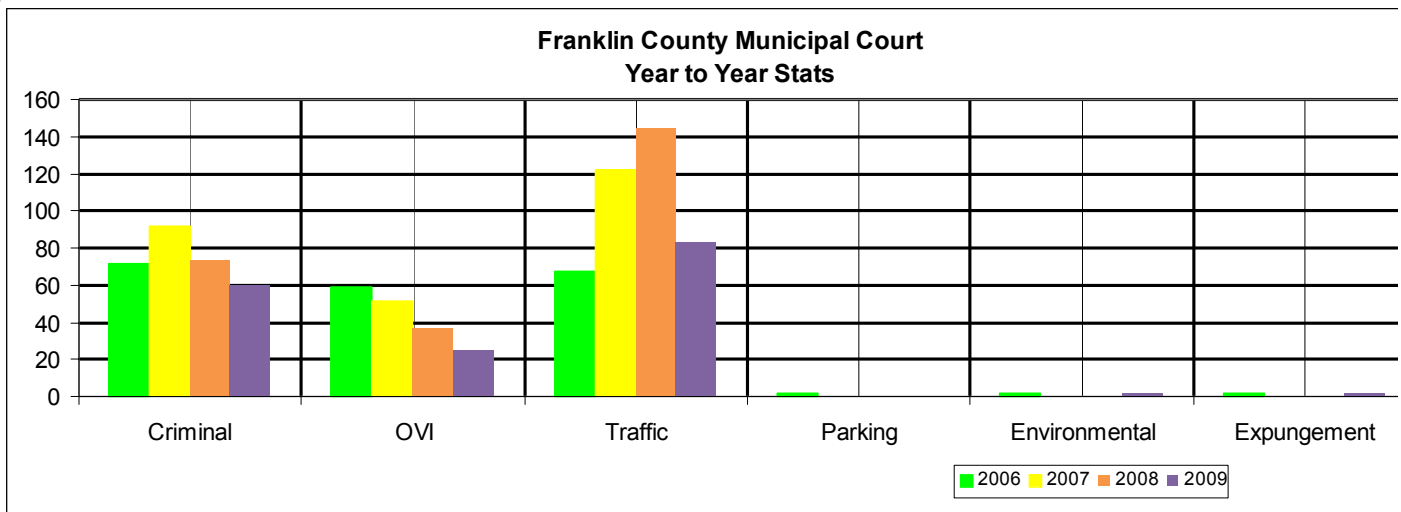
LAW DEPARTMENT Kevin Shannon, *Law Director*

In 2009, there were 172 criminal and traffic cases initiated by the Village of Groveport which were either filed in or transferred to the Franklin County Municipal Court. Of that number, there were 60 criminal cases, 25 OVI cases, 2 environmental cases and 83 miscellaneous traffic cases. 15 of these cases were transfers from Groveport Mayor's Court and 2 were expungements. This number did not include the number of cases that were already pending in Municipal Court from 2008. 166 cases were terminated in 2009.





Law Department *(continued)*



With respect to Mayor's Court, 692 cases were filed in 2009. This included 60 criminal cases, 68 parking cases, 10 OVI cases, and 554 miscellaneous traffic matters. A total of 713 cases were terminated during Mayor's court proceedings in 2009.

Of the number of cases filed in Mayor's Court 4 involved property maintenance code violations. Nearly all of these cases were resolved by obtaining property compliance with the Village's property maintenance provisions.



FINANCE DEPARTMENT Ken Salak, *Finance Director*

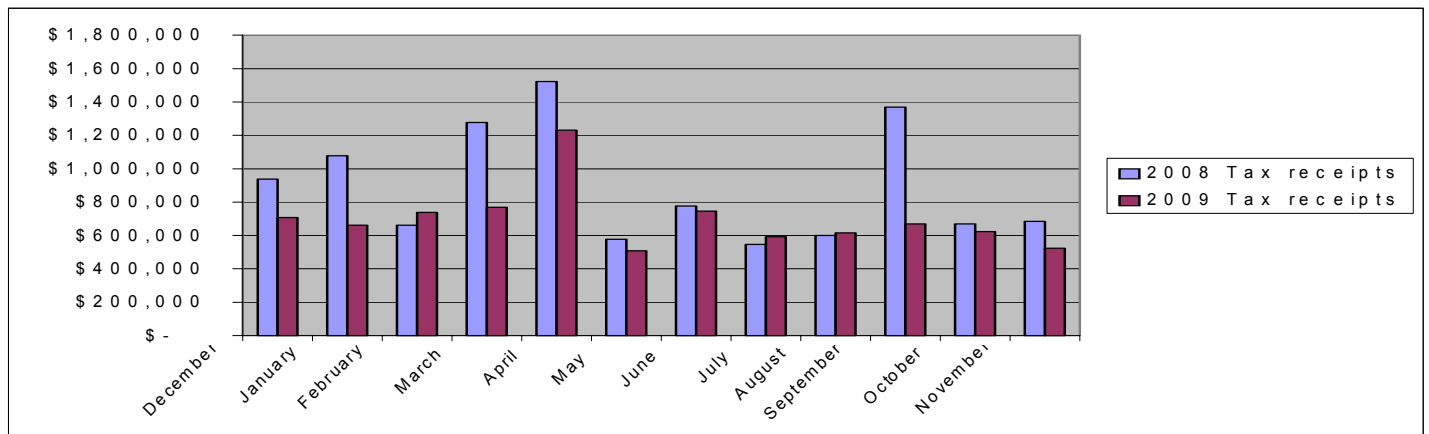
The Village of Groveport gave up most of the 2008 income tax gains in 2009. The total income tax collections for 2009 were \$8,384,308 compared to \$10,699,369 in 2008. The total change was (\$2,315,061) or (21.64%). Other notable revenues were also down in 2009. Real Estate tax (4.5%) (\$11,552), Local Government tax (16.25%) (\$40,647) investment (59.9%) (\$129,346). The primary reason for the downturn was the U.S. economy and unemployment increase. The bright spots in the revenue picture were the Recreation Center and the Golf Course up respectively by 2% and 13%.



The Village did complete a major street reconstruction with the Kessler Street contract. The total cost of the project was \$490,615 with the work completed by the Shelley Co.

To control operating expenses in 2009, Village Council passed a new appropriation ordinance to allot only what was actually used in 2008. Each department worked diligently to control their expenses. This resulted in expending only 91% of appropriated funds. The village continues to use cooperative purchasing programs wherever possible to reduce expenses.

Income Tax Collections





POLICE DEPARTMENT Ralph Portier, *Chief of Police*

I want to begin the annual report by saying “THANK YOU” to Mayor Lance Westcamp for giving me the opportunity to become the Chief of Police for the Village of Groveport. The support from Village Council, the administration and employees of the Village has been tremendous.



The members of the Groveport Police Department are professional, courteous and care about their community. The motto “Community Service...Together we can make a difference,” exemplifies their service to the community.

In the latter part of 2009, the officers provided input about giving back to the community, which developed into providing Women’s Self Defense classes, which will be on going throughout the year.

Officers logged 209,449 miles during the year. They assisted in over 700 mutual aid responses to neighboring public service agencies. Officers responded to nearly 7,408 calls of service, of which 4,588 calls where dispatched by the Franklin County Sheriff’s Department. Officers also responded to 502 accidents.

2009 was an active year for the Department’s Detective Bureau, with over 110 mostly felony cases assigned for further follow up or investigation. The trend for the year was a decrease in violent personal crimes along with a huge increase in financial crimes reported. There was not only an increase in the numbers of these crimes, there was a huge increase in the dollar amount of loss to the victims. For the first time I can recall the bureau worked two cases in one year where the loss to each victim was over \$250,000. Some case highlights of the year 2009 follows:

An arson case at a local distribution center which was assigned in late 2008 was brought to a successful prosecution this year. The suspect had set fire to a rack of clothing which caused the business to be evacuated and caused \$80,000 of loss. The result of the joint investigation with the Fire Department was submitted to the Grand Jury and the suspect indicted. Eventually they plead guilty to a lesser included offense and were sentenced to five years probation and ordered to pay full restitution.



Police Department (continued)

In July 2009, a stabbing case was assigned in which the victim was stabbed with a broken bottle after a fight at a residence in town. The victim received serious wounds to the back and face. The scene was processed and witnesses interviewed; based largely on blood spatter evidence found and photographed the suspect was indicted and is currently awaiting trial.

In November 2009 a local manufacturing company reported the theft of \$50,000 worth of stainless steel product. Leads were developed and a suspect located who happened to work next to the business. Records were obtained from a salvage yard where the suspect sold the material for scrap. He was subsequently indicted and is awaiting trial. The Groveport Police Department has increased patrols utilizing unmarked vehicles to help deter crime.

The Police Department acquired two police cruisers from another agency and placed them in service allowing us to forego purchasing new cruisers in 2010, saving the Village nearly \$50,000. 2010 will be a very active year as officers will be visible in the community by providing classes, lectures and visits.

THE LINKS AT GROVEPORT Tom Walker, *Director of Golf*

2009 was a great year for the Links at Groveport. Rounds played for the year were up 35%. Rounds played in 2008 were 20,144 and rounds in 2009 were 31,303. The new fee structure approved by the Village Council in March of 2009 was a great success and will remain the same for the 2010 golf season. Barring any climatic difficulties, we are anticipating another good year at the course.



For the fourth year in a row, the Links at Groveport was host to the Girls Ohio High School Sectional State Qualifier. Also at the high school level, the Links was the home course for Groveport Madison and Madison Christian golf teams.



COMMUNITY AFFAIRS Linda Haley, *Community Affairs Director*

Due to budgetary concerns, many of the Village’s special events were cancelled in 2009. However, the Sunday evening summer concert series at the Heritage Park Stage continued through the generosity of the Center for Groveport-Madison Human Needs which sponsored performances by local groups.



There were 206 classes held in Town Hall’s Cultural Arts Center during 2009, plus 24 community events sponsored by the Department, e.g. Keep Groveport Beautiful Day. Reservation of Town Hall, KidSpace, Palm’s Pond, Heritage Park, Degenhart Park and Blacklick Park brought 1,055 groups for private parties, special events and Village-sponsored activities. Eighty-nine nature programs were hosted by Heritage Nature Center and Metro Parks.



Crooked Alley KidSpace, an arts and education center for children, opened in June 2009 at 630 Wirt Road in conjunction with the annual Nature Fair at the adjacent Heritage Park. Hand painted tiles created by area children during the past year are now mounted at the entrance of the facility, with a 15’ treehouse prominently featured in the enclosed playground. KidSpace is designed to provide creative programming for

children primarily up to the age of 12, including Grow With Me Preschool Playgroup, arts and crafts programming, junior theatre, dance programs, as well as a rental site for birthday parties and other children’s events.

Town Hall’s Art Gallery hosted monthly displays from area artists and collectors, concluding the year with a two-month exhibit of Antique Toy Trains and Erector Sets and “Between Fences,” a travelling exhibit from The Smithsonian Institution.

Groveport-Madison Senior Transportation provided 3,222 medical and personal appointments for residents of Groveport or the unincorporated areas of Madison Township. Effective January 1, 2010, the program will serve only Village of Groveport residents.

A departmental reorganization in January 2010 will relocate the Groveport Senior Transportation Program, Heritage Nature Center and scheduling of park shelters to Groveport Recreation Center.



PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT..... Kyle Lund, *Parks & Recreation Director*

The sluggish economy did not seem to negatively affect membership sales at the Groveport Recreation Center as over 5,000 people from around southeast Ohio either renewed their membership or became new members. Close to 193,000 people attended the GRC in 2009. This is an 8% increase over 2008 and made 2009 the busiest year ever at the GRC. The “Merry Fitness” and “Happy New You” marketing campaigns continue to attract new members.



Memberships for the outdoor water park (Groveport Aquatic Center) were down 13% as compared to 2008. Despite being the coldest July on record, over 30,000 people attended the facility between Memorial Day and Labor Day. At the end of the summer swim season, over 200 dogs frolicked in the water during our Annual Paws in the Pool event.

The Parks & Recreation Department continues to administer a number of programs, including but not limited to:

- Youth Soccer Clinics & Leagues
- Youth Flag Football
- Daddy Daughter Dance
- Photo Contests
- Lunch with Santa
- Kids Night Out
- Community Garage Sale
- Baby Bargain Boutique
- Men’s & Adult Co-Rec Softball Lgs.
- Swim Lessons
- Life Guard Certification Classes
- Water Safety Instructor Classes
- Birthday Party Packages
- and numerous Fitness Classes
- Youth Basketball Clinics & Leagues
- Youth Fall T-Ball
- Lunch with The Bunny
- Touch-A-Truck
- Swim with Santa
- Parent-Tot Open Gym & Swims
- Crafter’s Bazaar
- Men’s Basketball Leagues
- Adult Co-Rec Volleyball Leagues
- Paws In The Pool
- Life Guard Instructor Classes
- Mile Climber’s Club
- Holiday Getaways

In the early fall of 2009, staff developed the Rec News E-Blast Newsletter. Current Groveport Recreation Center members now receive a monthly e-newsletter filled with information regarding upcoming programs, coupons, specials, training tips, Member Appreciation Days, reminder regarding holiday closure and more.



Parks and Recreation *(continued)*

Canal Winchester High School held their After-Prom event at the GRC in 2009. Students swam, played basketball & volleyball, dined and danced. The Village is currently working with other high schools in the area to offer similar services.

Mark DiGiando was hired as the Park Maintenance Department's new Park Superintendent. Mr. DiGiando came to the Village from Capital University where he spent the previous 27 years. Mark and his crew of five full-time staff did an outstanding job maintaining the Village's parks, athletic fields, greenways, entrance signs and other recreational facilities. The Park Maintenance staff also planted a tree at Glendening Elementary School on Arbor Day and passed out White Pine tree seedlings to a number of students. Go Groveport provided assistance to the Park Maintenance crew in 2009 by finding volunteer groups to take care of thirteen giant flower pots in the Village along Main Street.

In 2009, Council approved the allocation of funds for staff to work with EMH&T to create the Village's first ever **Park System Master Plan**. The plan will guide decision making in regards to operations, capital improvements (including bikeways), park maintenance staffing and improve existing park space for the future. Village staff along with EMH&T analyzed outdoor facility needs, developed schematic renderings of each existing park and future parks and developed preliminary cost estimates for capital items. Return mail surveys were distributed to every residence in the Village of Groveport and two public meetings were conducted to get resident input. The Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission also provided guidance to the planning team throughout the process. In the near future, staff hopes to have the completed plan on the Village's website for the community to view.

The **Groveport Senior Center** continues to serve more than 600 members year after year. Our members participate daily in various card and board games, line dancing, crafting, quilting, traveling and more. In 2009 we traveled to Myrtle Beach, Niagara Falls, the French Riviera and Switzerland as well as to dinner theatres, Cincinnati Reds ball games and casinos. The Senior Center is located within the Recreation Center and has a separate, secure entrance. Business hours are typically weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Membership dues are still just \$6.00 per year for age 55 and older, regardless of residency. Stop in for a tour and to join the fun.



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT Jeff Green, *Development Director*

Economic Development

Although the economy was only beginning to turn around in 2009, the Village’s development began showing signs of renewed vigor by the 4th quarter of the year. The Development Department was busy with several potential projects, including the relocation of Kraft Foods from Columbus to a new 936,000 square foot facility on Spiegel Drive at Alum Creek Drive. This project, formally announced in December, will result in the creation of as many as 200 new jobs for the Village, along with \$22 million in new investment.



In spite of sluggish retail and automotive sales, most of the distribution centers in the Village told us their employment counts remained relatively strong. In the first quarter of 2009, more than 5,000 people were employed in the Village and we anticipate an increase in 2010 numbers.

In 2009, the Village took its first steps into social media by creating a presence on the popular networking website Facebook. We encourage everyone to check out the Village’s page where you’ll find information about events, activities and amenities in and around the community.

Building & Zoning Division Stephen Moore, *Chief Building Official*

The Building & Zoning Division is responsible for the enforcement of all applicable building, zoning, sign, landscaping, property maintenance and other property related codes adopted by Council. The Divisions staff consists of the Chief Building Official, one Building Inspector, and the Building Clerk. Electric and plumbing inspections as well as commercial and residential plan review services are out sourced under contract. The Building and Zoning staff serves as support for the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals.



The Planning Commission heard 1 case and the Board of Zoning Appeals heard 19 cases in 2009. Staff is responsible for processing the applications, reviewing and writing staff reports for each case.



Planning and Development *(continued)*

In 2009, for the Village of Groveport, the Building Division issued 240 building permits for residential and commercial with a total valuation of \$5,285,554.00 and 76 zoning compliances in 2009. Other permits issued include 66 electrical, 31 HVAC and 23 plumbing permits. The division also issues water and sewer tap permits and special flood hazard development permits.

The Department is under contract to provide permitting and inspection services for commercial projects in Madison Township. Twenty three building permits were issued for this jurisdiction. Other permits issued for this jurisdiction include 10 electrical, 1 HVAC permit.

The Building Division conducted inspections throughout the Village and the contracted jurisdictions with 1323 building, zoning, and property maintenance inspections being performed in 2009.

PUBLIC WORKS & WATER DEPARTMENT Dennis Moore, *Public Works Supt.*

The Public Works Department was proud to be part of all the events that took place in 2009. The Department participated in the set up and clean up of the Village Fourth of July Celebration, Apple Butter Day, Veterans' Day Salute, Halloween and Christmas tree lighting. The continued growth of our area brings with it increased demands for betterment of the Village by the Department, and crews worked regularly to maintain roadways, grounds, buildings, lights and signs throughout the area.



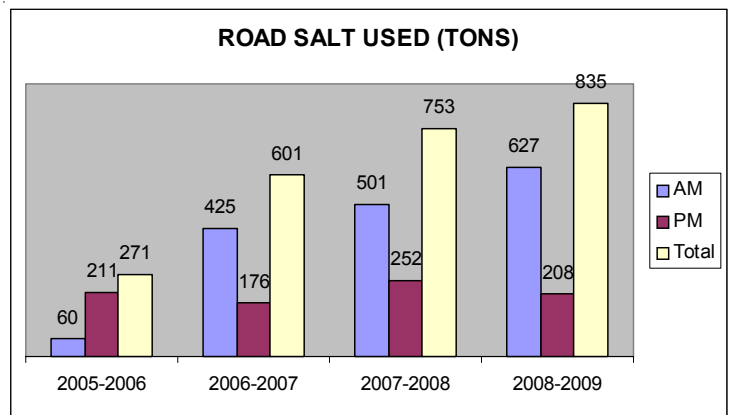
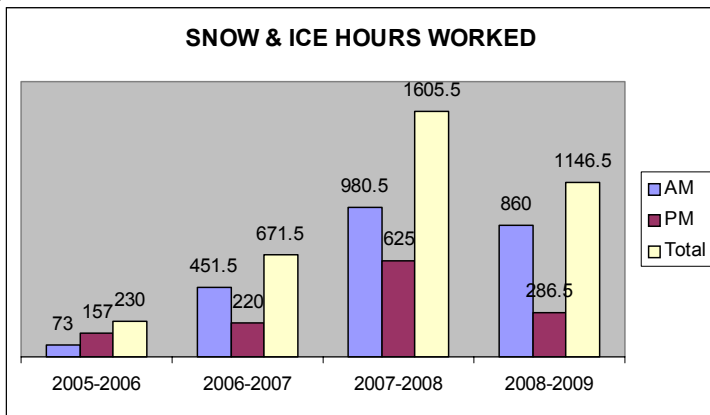
Spring brought duties such as road side mowing, brush pickup, clear and cut sight distance on signs and roadways, and the beginning of the Mosquito Prevention program in May, which consists of spraying when West Nile Virus has been tested as positive within the corporation area and the application of an abatement pesticide to all standing water to kill larvae.

Summer and Fall duties included asphalt and concrete repairs, drainage and signage repairs, brush pickup and leaf pickup. Several of these duties continued into the Winter as weather permitted.



Public Works (continued)

Winter tasks included maintenance on trucks and equipment and Snow/Ice removal preparation. During Snow/Ice events, employees are assigned to either an AM or PM 12 hour shift. Below are charts showing the man hours worked and road salt used in the past four winters:



The Water Plant continues to provide water service for 1,155 customers in the Village and strives to maintain good customer relations with regular meter readings, meter repairs, and timely response to customer questions.

2009 WATER CUSTOMER SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS:

Residential Customers.....	1,085
Business Customers.....	59
Government Customers.....	11
Overall Water Usage.....	72,360,000 gallons
Average Quarterly Usage(per customer)	17,000 gallons
Average Quarterly Bill.....	\$172.04
Delinquent Accounts (door tagged).....	124
Shut-Offs.....	21
Meter Work Calls (re-readings, repairs, finals).....	136
Water Line Breaks.....	6



CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT 2009:

(All Groveport Water customers will receive a new CCR in the spring of 2010, which will show data for 2009 water.) During the past year (2009), we have taken all the required samples by the EPA to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below only shows those contaminants that were detected in the water. Although all of the substances listed here are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), we feel it is important that you know exactly what and how much was present in the water. The EPA requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. Some data, though accurate is more than one year old. Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in Groveport Water Department drinking water.

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detection	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	NA	60	10.65	8.5-12.8	No	2007-08	Disinfection by-product
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	NA	80	42.95	37.2-48.7	No	2007-08	Disinfection by-product
Nitrate (ppm)	5	<0.10	<0.10	N/A	No	2008	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.304	<0.05-0.449	No	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (ppb)	0	15	6.15	<5-12.2	No	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing
Bacteriological Contaminants							
Total Coliform	0	<5%	0%	0%	No	2008	Naturally present in environment
Inorganic Chemicals							
Barium (ppb)	1	2	89	N/A	No	2008	Erosion of natural deposits
Radiologicals							
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	5	5	<1	N/A	No	2008	Erosion of natural deposits
Total - Alpha (pCi/L)	15	0	<3	N/A	No	2008	Erosion of natural deposits

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	MCLG	The level of a contaminate in drinking water below which there is little or no expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
Maximum Contaminate Level	MCL	The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Picocurie per Liter	pCi/L	A measure of radiation
Parts per Million	PPM	Units of measure for concentration of contaminant. One part per million
Parts per Billion	ppb	Units of measure for concentration of contaminant. One part per billion.
"<" Symbol		A symbol which means less than. A result of <5 means that the lowest level that could be detected was 5 and the contaminant in that sample was not detected.
N/A		Not Applicable

Matching your remote meter with the master meter.

The master meter is located within your residence/business. The remote meter is located on the outside of your residence; this meter is for your convenience as well as ours. Please take the time to read both meters to ensure they match. Non-matching meters should be reported promptly to avoid inaccurate billing. Please call 836-3910 to schedule appointments.