

Ohio

**Department of
Agriculture**



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www.agri.ohio.gov/weights

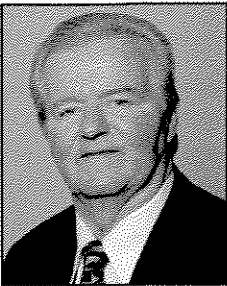
January 2012

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES PRIMARY STANDARD

John Kasich, Governor

Dr. Tony Forshey, Director

Fran Elson-Houston, Chief



A Message from Director Dr. Tony Forshey

This year certainly has been one of many challenges and changes. As Director Zehringer has been called to

lead the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, it is an honor to serve as Interim Director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture.

The Governor understands the importance of the agriculture industry, its agribusinesses, and the role the department plays in consumer safety. This year, the governor's budget has allowed the department to re-build consumer protection functions of the Division of Weights & Measures to establish a fair playing field for businesses and consumers. This funding is currently helping to re-build this program from 4 employees to 11.

This program will see a 200 percent increase over the previous Weights & Measures budget, for a total of \$1.3 million. This funding will help give our counties and cities much needed assistance so we can together help assure consumer confidence.

Preserving consumer confidence and protecting Ohio citizens is a shared responsibility among the Ohio Weights and Measures program and the county/city sealers, and one that we take very seriously.

Also new this year for the industry is the Device Registration Permit, which is required for commercial devices when they are used in assigning the final value of a commercial transaction. This includes vehicle, livestock and railway scales, in addition to bulk rack, vehicle tank and LPG meters.

In the coming year, we look forward to working with you to perform our statutory requirements of serving farmers and protecting consumers. Please accept my best wishes for a safe and productive new year.

Tony M. Forshey, DVM
Interim Director



From the Desk of Fran Elson-Houston, Chief, Deputy State Sealer



As we begin a new year, I hope everyone had a safe and wonderful holiday season.

ODA - The change in Administration brought a renewed budget for W&M. We began the year with Director Jim Zehringer and Assistant Director Fred Shimp working very hard to restore the weights and measures program. After a great deal of hard work and input from our stakeholders ODA was able to institute a W&M Device Permitting Program. This will allow us to re-organize the W&M program. On November 15, 2011 the Governor announced Director Zehringer and Fred Shimp would be moving to ODNR. Dr. Tony Forshey was appointed interim Director of Agriculture and Howard Wise was appointed to Assistant Director. We would like to thank Director Zehringer and Fred Shimp for their leadership, commitment and assistance in restoring the weights and measures program.

This year, the department provided 18 hours of continuing education to all local jurisdictions and, in most cases, was in each jurisdiction more than once. A sincere thank you and congratulations Craig Harris on a job well done!

The Ohio Metrology Laboratory hit another huge milestone this year as we achieved NIST/NVLAP accreditation renewal. For the 1st time since 2006 the Metrology Lab received a 2-year recognition from NIST. Congratulations to Ken Johnson on a job well done!

The Ohio NTEP Laboratory also deserves accolades. Mike Kelley and Earl Matthews did an exceptional job completing NTEP evaluations in a timely manner. NTEP assignments can be done in some cases within two weeks of receiving an assignment. Joe Morrison returned to weights and measures NTEP and has done a tremendous job of picking up right where he left off. Ohio NTEP will be participating in an evaluation in Oslo, Norway in January 2012.

Other Changes at ODA/W&M – State of Ohio W&M looks a lot different these days as staff changes have been made. Mike Kelley retired in September and Craig Harris has moved to the NTEP lab. David Finck, former Fairfield County Inspector accepted Field Supervisor position, and as previously mentioned we have Joe Morrison back in the NTEP lab. Daniel Walker has been hired as a Metrologist, Patrick Brighton, (SW), Brad Null (SE), Mark Sickmiller (NW) and Andrew Biller (NE) have been hired as field Inspectors. Kelly Rollins has been hired as a part-time office assistant. Please be patient as staff are trained. The trucks returned to the field on December 18, 2011. We will perform the Patrol run in January as well as begin to look at other devices. Welcome everyone!

Re-organization of W&M

Although we now have a budget, it isn't the budget that we had in the past therefore, re-organization of the division was critical to ensure we are as efficient and effective as possible. We have 2 Metrologists, and 2 NTEP Technicians that will be cross trained in both areas. We will have 4 field Inspectors. They will be headquartered in Stark (NE), Hancock (NW), Fayette (SW) and Perry (SE) Counties. The inspectors will be crossed trained to perform all functions in their area and will rotate the equipment through the state. The inspectors will be doing vehicle, livestock, vehicle tank, bulk rack and LPG meters, as well as following up on complaints and package checking. Your auditor will be notified of the dates when inspectors will have the equipment in the respective counties. Obviously with 4 less inspectors than we previously had, the amount of testing will be less. The goal this year will be to spot check as many devices as possible and ensure that the problem areas are identified and addressed. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. We are very excited to get back to checking scales, meters and packages as well as following up on complaints.

Have a fantastic 2012!

Fall Training



Fall Training - Fall Training was held at ODA, Reynoldsburg on November 15th. We had 103 inspectors and 1 city sealer representing 68 jurisdictions. We had a variety of important training topics that included: DEF and changes to Handbook 44. We also presented each jurisdiction an updated W&M Laws & Rules Booklet. Thank you to all who gave presentations and helped make the fall training a huge success!

CUSTOMER SURVEY

Please complete the customer survey and return it to us by via web, fax at 614-728-6424 or you can e-mail <http://www.agri.ohio.gov/divs/weights>. The survey is now interactive and can be submitted from the website. This will only takes a few minutes to complete.

THIS IS A REQUIREMENT FOR US TO MAINTAIN OUR NVLAP ISO 17025 Accreditation.

Small Volume Loop Provers for Retail Motor Fuel Dispensers (RMFD).

In August it was brought to our attention that a company was using a small volume loop prover to test RMFD.

This requires the nozzle be removed from the dispenser and it is hooked directly into a system that tests the meter. The method of testing a RFMD in Ohio is via a 5-gallon test measure. NIST has not approved this device for RMFD. In the jurisdictions that this was being used, inspectors were finding RMFD between 4-12 cubic inches short. The company that is using this device is making a presentation at the NCWM Interim meeting in January 2012.

There are many questions surrounding the use of this device and many states are not permitting it's use for RMFD only for VTM. Stay tuned for further information.

Registered Servicepersons Notice

Please check the dates for registered servicepersons on our Web site as the following aspects of the classes have been changed.

1. **FEE IS \$100.00 for Serviceperson**
2. Classes are limited to 15 attendees per class, and they must be **pre-registered**. Non-registrants may be asked to re-schedule if class is filled.
3. All paperwork must be submitted **prior** to sitting for the exam. This includes current calibration reports and placed in service reports.
4. Classes are held in the Weights & Measures Building.
5. Scale and Meter classes are being offered each month throughout the year.
6. Again, all pertinent paper work must be submitted prior to sitting for the exam.
7. Payment is due at the time of the test in the form of check or money order. No cash is accepted.

Remember!!!! Remember!!!!!!

Service persons must renew their cards before they expire. **There is no grace period.** Please check our Web site for a list of test dates — www.agri.ohio.gov/weights. Go to forms and use form 4300-003 & 4300-006.

RENEWAL NOTICES ARE NOT SENT OUT. Expiration dates are on your registration card.

Pricing for Registered Service Persons and Agencies.

Registered Serviceperson Fee - \$100
Registered Service Agency Fee - \$200

Check or Money Order is due at the time of the Exam!!! No cash is accepted. Made Payable to "Treasurer State of Ohio"

Annual Report Reminders



As many local weights and measures officials know, the annual report was distributed to the county auditors in November. If you did not receive a copy of the report, please contact our office at 614-728-6290 and we will be happy to send a hard copy or electronic version. Please read the report and the instructions booklet. The Annual Reports results are posted on ODA's web site for your convenience.

Annual Reports are due in our office by January 31, 2012. The report is important to both state and local government offices. It allows us to present statistics to legislators, industry and the public demonstrating the vital and valuable services that are provided each year

Metrology News



Ken Johnson, Daniel Walker and Joe Morrison attended the MIDMAP regional combined metrology training Sept. 19 – Sept. 23 in Columbus, OH. Several State Metrology Laboratories and private companies were represented. The training was provided by NIST and by members of MIDMAP.

Technical issues, including gravimetric calibration, mass calibration, Calibration Reports, Laboratory Safety, and Traceability Assessment were discussed at length during the meeting.

NOTE!!!

We have received various 5-gallon test measures in the laboratory that were not approved test measures; therefore we could not seal them. We have also received incomplete sets of weight kits. **Please make sure when you are in the field you are asking companies for copies of the calibration certificates and registration cards.** If you have any questions, please call our office at 614-728-6290.

Ohio Administrative Code section 901:6-8-01 (D)(1) requires equipment to meet Handbook 105 requirements.

NTEP News



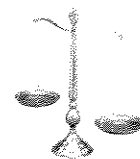
The Ohio NTEP lab continues to be involved with national committees for type evaluation. This better serves the industry and the Weights and Measures jurisdictions of Ohio. This keeps Ohio on the cutting edge of new technology and as a leader in National and International Weights and Measures.

The Ohio NTEP lab works closely with Measurement Canada (Canadian Weights and Measures) in type evaluation for indicating elements, weighing elements, complete scales and developing testing regulations for Multi-Dimensional Measuring Devices (MDMD).

Currently, Ohio houses the only regulatory standards for MDMDs in the United States and is the only lab authorized to test MDMDs for NTEP approval. Ohio has been asked to participate in a MDMD test in Oslo, Norway in January 2012. This will be a joint effort with Measurement Canada and OMIL.

It is great to have Joe Morrison and Craig Harris in the NTEP laboratory.

2012 National Weights & Measures Week



National Weights and Measures Week is annually observed March 1-7. The tentative theme is, "Taking Measure of our Worth". Please check the NCWM Web site to begin planning to publicize the importance of weights and measures in your community. This information should include, but is not limited to, news articles, publicity suggestions, talks to schools and store displays. For more information, please call 614-728-6290. Additional information can be found on various web sites, such as www.nist.gov or www.ncwm.net.

IMPORTANT! **Training Program** **For Local Jurisdictions.**



ODA's training program was very successful this year. All local jurisdictions were offered training one time and in most cases more than once. Please check with your auditor for 2012 training dates. These dates are not posted since it is important to control the number of attendees so that optimal training is given to each inspector in each jurisdiction.

David Finck, ODA field supervisor will train local jurisdictions weights and measures inspectors as well as the Registered Servicepersons Program.

ODA has changed current regional seminars from five-day training classes, in most cases, to two days in class and one or two days in the field at various local jurisdiction areas.

This will save on travel costs for each jurisdiction and allow local jurisdictions to participate in hands-on training, which has been a consistent request.

Your auditor, per CAAO will be notified as to dates, times and location for your jurisdiction. Please check with them regarding dates and times for your area.

ODA is looking for counties to volunteer to host training, which will feature a variety of topics each year to discuss. Each inspector may be issued a report form that includes a pass/fail score to be sent to the ODA office for approval by the supervisor. It has not yet been determined if a written test will be included.

ODA will continue to keep track of training credit hours and will begin to re-certify weights and measures officials on a five-year rotation.

The goal is to assure that everyone will have the opportunity to participate in continuing education.

It is critical for each inspector to attend the training sessions in their area and not wait until November to obtain training hours.

Training will be from the EPOs. Training ideas submitted for 2012 are Jewelry Scales, LPG meters and enforcement of Weights and Measures laws and rules. Suggestions for training topics are always welcome.

ODA will be contacting each Auditor/Sealer in the near future to discuss training dates. Training is scheduled to begin in January 2012.

ODA is communicating electronically as much as possible. It will be necessary for any jurisdiction unable to receive electronic communication to contact our office so we are aware and can make other arrangements.



Device Permitting Fee

Beginning July 1, 2011 large Commercial weighing and measuring devices are required to have a permit. Below are some FAQ regarding the device permit. Detailed information is on our website.

What is a Device Registration Permit?

Ohio Revised Code section 1327.501 now requires a device registration fee for the following commercial devices when they are used in assigning the final value of a commercial transaction.

Vehicle Scales	Bulk Rack Meters
Livestock Scales	Vehicle Tank Meters
Railway Scales	LPG Meters

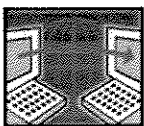
How much is a Device Registration Permit?

A device registration permit fee is \$75 per device annually

When is a Device Registration Fee due?

Device registration fees are due on July 1 of each year. Registrations received after June 30, 2012 will incur a \$20 late fee. For further questions please call our office. At 614-728-6290.

Visit Our Web Site



In an effort to save money on printing and postage, please visit www.agri.ohio.gov/weights for the following information:

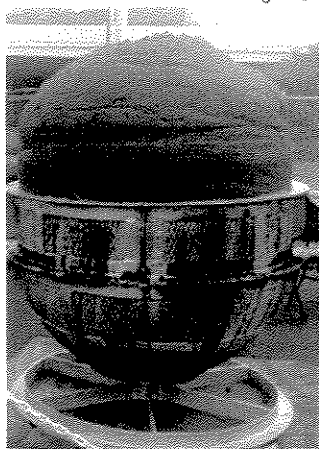
- Listing of Servicepersons and Agencies
- Calendar of Events
- Servicepersons/Agencies applications and test dates
- Links to NCWM, CWMA, CAAO
- Weights and Measures Laws and Rules
- NTEP worksheets under the forms section
- Metrology Customer Survey
- Annual Report Summary
- EPO'S
- Device Permitting FAQ's

We are also asking that all county inspectors send an e-mail to Fran Elson-Houston to verify their e-mail address.

You can e-mail Fran at Houston@agri.ohio.gov. Schedule letters will be sent via e-mail to **your Auditor**, per CAAO request to reduce postage costs. If you do not have access to an electronic copy and would like a listing of registered servicepersons/agencies, please contact our office. If you have any questions, please call Fran at 614-728-6290.

World's Record Set in Largest Meatball

ODA Weights & Measures was once again asked to assist the Columbus Italian Club in setting a Guinness World Record for the largest single Meatball. The club had attempted this record in 2010 and came up short. However, on Oct. 8, 2011 the final weight of the massive meatball came rolling in at a staggering 1,110.5 pounds. ODA was on hand to verify the weight.



ODA Weights and Measures 2012 Calendar of Events



DATES	EVENTS
January 23-26	NCWM Interim Mtg. New Orleans, LA
March 1-7	National Weights and Measures Week
May 9-10	ODA Training (Tentative) Local Jurisdictions
May 20 - 24	CWMA Annual Conference Cedar Rapids, IA.
June 14	ODA/W&M Training Reynoldsburg, OH
July 15-19	NCWM Annual Meeting Portland, MA
July 25 -26	ODA Training (Tentative) Local Jurisdictions
July 25 - August 5	Ohio State Fair Ohio Expo Center Columbus, OH
August 14 - 15	ODA Training (Tentative) Local Jurisdictions
September 10 - 13	CWMA Interim Meeting TBD.
September 18 - 19	ODA Training (Tentative) Local Jurisdictions
October 10 - 11	ODA Training (Tentative) Local Jurisdictions
October 17 - 18	ODA Training (Tentative) Local Jurisdictions
November 15	ODA/W&M Training Reynoldsburg, OH



Date: January 13, 2012

To: Ohio Weights & Measures Inspector Personnel

From: Fran Elson-Houston, Chief of Weights & Measures *feh*

Subject: Hours of Credit for ODA/W&M Sponsored and/or
Recognized Technical Training for 2012

At least 18 hours per year of continuing education training is required for Ohio's state, county, and city weights and measures inspectors. Listed below are dates, types of training, and the number of credited hours.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TECHNICAL TRAINING</u>	<u>HOURS of CREDIT *</u>
Jan. 23-26	NCWM Interim Meeting New Orleans, LA	8
Jan – Dec.	ODA/W&M Training Seminar 2 day in class training 2 day field training	10 10
Jan – Dec.	NCWM on-line testing with proof of completion	2
May 20-24	CWMA Annual Meeting and Cedar Rapids, IA	10
June 14	ODA/W&M Training Columbus, OH	4
July 17-21	NCWM Annual Meeting Portland, MA	10
Sept. 11-14	CWMA Interim Meeting TBD	8
Nov. 15	ODA/W&M Training Columbus, Ohio	4

