

## In the Community

### Birthdays

#### April

John Gilbert  
Ann Hall  
Doug Bruce  
Jerry Bradley  
Stephen Wessels  
Dan Inman  
Gary Thomas  
Tay Boyle



#### May

Bill Stautberg  
Curtis Compton  
Jerry Waddell  
Howard Seal  
Bill Scholl  
Donna Steinau  
Barbara Weghorn  
Joe Cresap  
Jean Heenan  
Bud Wells

#### June

Michael Glacking  
Kenneth Fields  
Tony Martini  
Joe Merkt  
Chris Neff  
Tom Friedhoff  
Mike Jackson  
Daniel Meier

### Years of Service

#### Five

Annie Smith

#### Ten

Michael Glacking

#### Fifteen

Don Benbow  
Chris Neff

### Announcements

- Will Perkins was re-called as MRW2, he will be working at 237 W.H.T.
- Doug Bruce was promoted to FMW2, he is working at the Justice Center
- Bill Obermeyer is temporarily working at 222 E. Central Parkway
- Jim Helton transferred to 2020
- Ian Zellner was promoted to MRW 2 at the Courthouse

## Holiday Schedule for 2010 Second Quarter

Mother's Day  
Memorial Day  
Father's Day

Sunday, May 9th, 2010  
Monday, May 31st, 2010  
Sunday, June 20th, 2010

## Opening Day

[www.baseball-almanac.com](http://www.baseball-almanac.com)



For over a century, baseball has been hailed

above all other sports as America's National Pastime. And no other game during the regular one-hundred sixty-two game season has been as eagerly anticipated as Opening Day. Just look at any die-hard baseball fan's calendar. Vacation? Holidays? Anniversaries? All are often forgotten and pale in comparison with the coveted first game of the season. Ask any fan what the "official" start of Spring is. Chances are their answer will be Opening Day. Much more than just an event, it is an experience.

Major League Baseball's first officially recognized franchise the Cincinnati Reds were historically awarded the privilege of "opening the Openers" and hosted the outings from 1876-1989. Only twice during this time (1877 and 1966) were they forced to debut on the road due to rain. Finally in 1990, the tradition was broken and the Reds were scheduled to appear as the visitors against the Houston Astros. Despite the prestige of being christened as baseball's opening act, Cincinnati has posted an average record of 50-52-1 that has been shadowed by the countless spectacles off the baseline including parades, fireworks, circus performances and the opening of new ballparks in 1884, 1894, 1912 and 2003.



A national event, Opening Day has also become a "political pitcher's" arena for U.S. Presidents to show their "stuff." On April 14, 1910, President, and baseball enthusiast, William Howard Taft attended the home opener in Washington D.C. Since then, eleven sitting U.S. presidents have tossed out the season's ceremonial first pitch. One standout, Harry S. Truman, showcased his ambidextrous talent when he threw out balls with both his right and left arm in 1950. Beyond Presidents, Opening Day has witnessed many other historical performances: Ted Williams was a .449 hitter in openers, with three home runs and fourteen runs batted in during fourteen games.

Opening Day 1940 witnessed one of the most famous pitching events as Cleveland ace Bob Feller and White Sox hurler Eddie Smith went head-to-head. Smith blinked, but Feller remained in control and tossed the only Opening Day no-hitter in Major League history.

Hall of Fame pitcher Early Wynn, who played for the Washington Senators, Cleveland Indians and Chicago White Sox, summed up the essence of Opening Day when he said, "An opener is not like any other game. There's that little extra excitement, a faster beating of the heart. You have that anxiety to get off to a good start, for yourself and for the team. You know that when you win the first one, you can't lose 'em all."

Regardless of the outcome, Opening Day still remains as the number one date in the hearts, minds (and on the calendars) of baseball fans everywhere. The official countdown begins after the last pitch of the World Series when we can't wait to hear those two magic words again, "Play Ball!"



Hamilton County Facilities Department

# Facility Management Quarterly

[www.hamiltoncountyohio.gov/facilities](http://www.hamiltoncountyohio.gov/facilities)

2010 Second Quarter News

## Letter from the Director

During the next six months we will be moving towards becoming more GREEN as a department. We presently have our design partners looking at what we need to do to meet the Board of County Commissioners requirement to have our buildings certified as LEED-EB:O&M at the Silver Level.

Going GREEN will result in changes in how we operate and maintain our facilities. In a lot of areas we are already GREEN, but we are not documenting it. In the next several months we plan to do GREEN Cleaning by identifying what products meet the GREEN requirements. The effort of going GREEN is to get a building certified at the Silver Level which will take several years. We have targeted 800 Broadway since it's an Energy Star facility which helps us greatly in achieving the necessary points for certification.

- Thanks, Ralph

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## Welcome to the Department of County Facilities!



Cecil "Bud" Wells  
Property/Security  
Manager



Rodney Lofland  
Safety Manager



William Perkins  
Maintenance  
Repair Worker II



James Grant  
Custodial Worker II

## Safety News

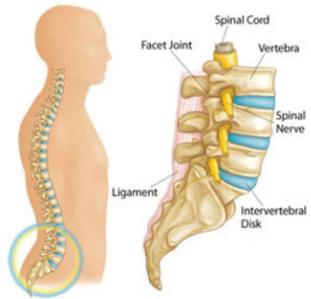
By Rodney Lofland

### Who's got Your Back?

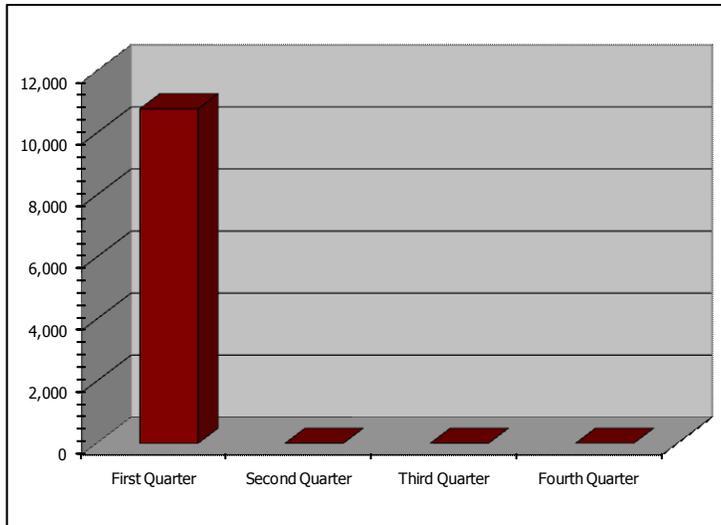
The answer is you! You are the first line of defense in preventing injuries to your back and spine. Did you know that back injuries are cited as the most common reason for absenteeism in the general workforce after the common cold? About 80 percent of adults are estimated to experience a back injury in their lifetime, and about 10 percent will suffer a re-injury. Awareness and prevention are your keys to preventing back injuries and pain.

### Most Back Pain Results from Wear and Tear

Every time you bend over, lift a heavy object, or sit leaning forward, you put stress on the components of your back and spine. Over time, they can start to wear out and become damaged. Many of the problems that cause back pain are the result of "wear and tear" degeneration of the discs between the vertebrae. Eventually, discs can collapse or become herniated; vertebrae can



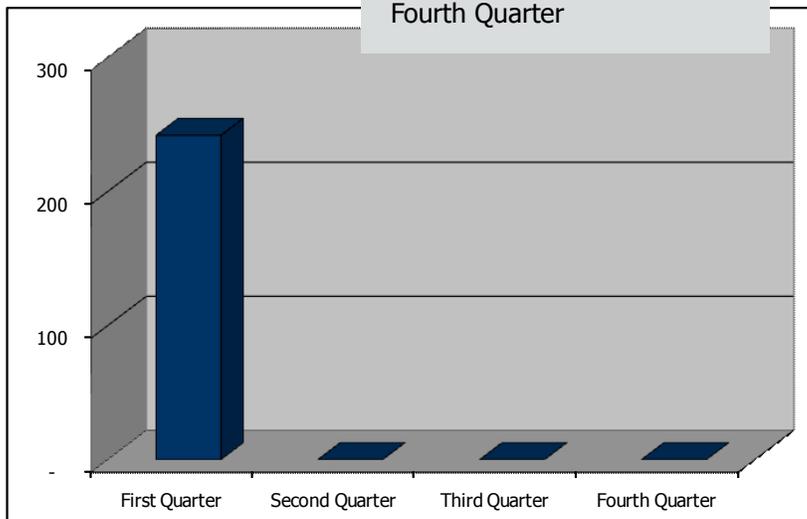
## Work Requests Completed by Problem Type First Quarter 2010



First Quarter	10,783
Second Quarter	
Third Quarter	
Fourth Quarter	
Year-To-Date	10,783

American Corrections Association	9
Americans with Disabilities Act	0
Audio Visual	3
Blinds	9
Replacement of damaged ceiling tiles	25
Cleaning	430
Compliance Management Inc.	30
Computer	5
Conference room configuration	6
Copier Issues (JFS only)	0
Custodial Services	241
Deliveries for other dept w/in your bldg.	61
Doors	157

## Open Work Requests at the Beginning of the Quarter First Quarter 2010



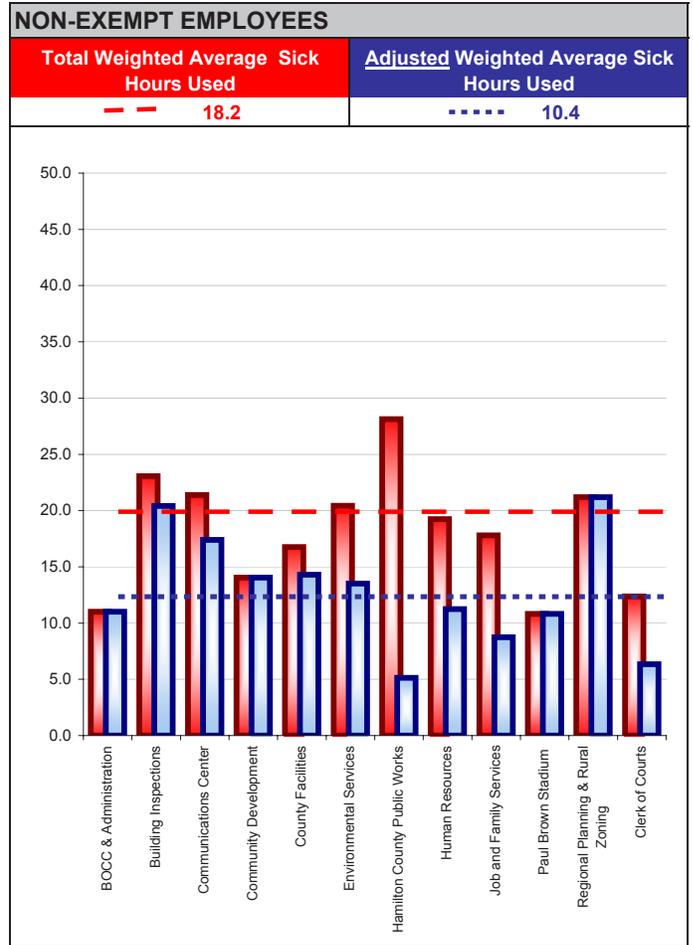
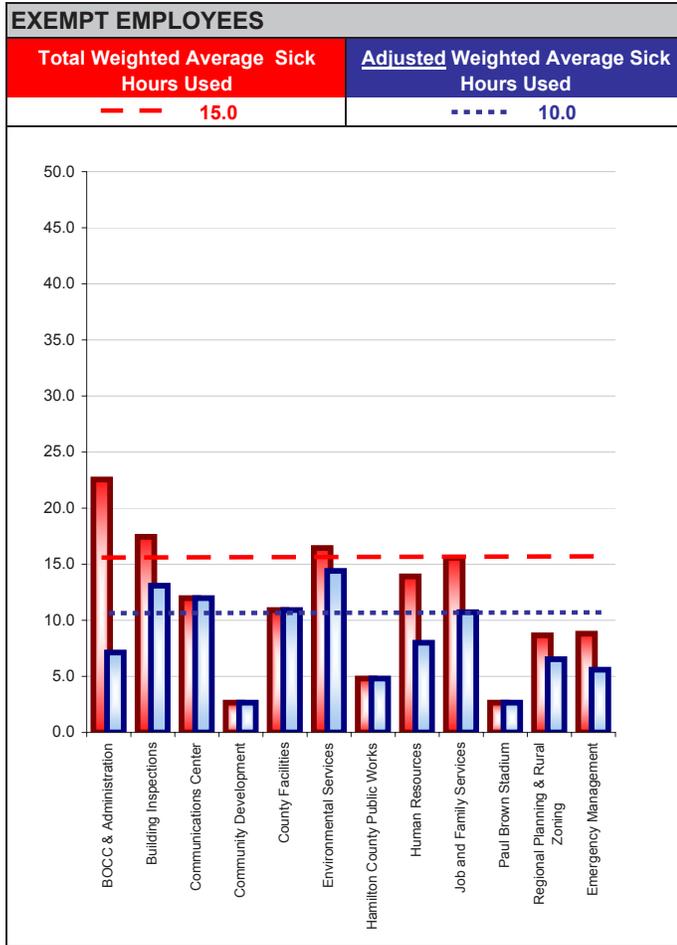
At the Beginning of:

First Quarter	242
Second Quarter	
Third Quarter	
Fourth Quarter	

Drywall patching/replacement	13
Electrical issue	329
Building Automation System, Repairs / Mint	9
Electronic Security System	3
Electronic Lock	28
Repair TV's, Remote's, Amp's, DVD/VCR	2
Elevator Repairs/Maintenance	28
Escort Non-badge Persons	10
Escort LEADS	4
Escort Non-LEADS	4
Drills, Fire Drs/Smoke Evac./Dialer Tests, etc.	14
Fire Suppression System	5
Fire System Repair/Maintenance	24
Fleet Management issue	121
Flooring Repair	19
Furniture/Furnishing issue	205
Grounds/Landscape	104
Hillcrest Hygiene Supply Kit	0
New installation	116
Purchase Supplies, Stock Inv, Distribute	62
Jared's Law	0
Make/change keys	67
Appliance Repair, Food Cart Repairs	26
Kitchen Failure	9
Kitchen Inspection	8
Laundry Services	101
Leaking problem	51
Light bulb	609
Mechanical problem	293
Move a piece of equipment and/or furniture	162
Non Electronic Lock	36
Paint as required	50
Public Emp. Risk Reduction Prog.	11
Pest control activities	56
Phone Problems	10
Plumbing problem	998
Police the grounds, restrooms, etc	2
Pre-Bag Filters	6
Preventative Maintenance	5,778
Project (Fac Mgmt only)	1
Quality Assurance Inspections	0
2-Way Radio, Repeater, Tests/Repairs, etc.	57
Move, Inv, Store, Transport, Destroy Records	11
Roof	0
Safety	78
Safety Services (CMCuse only)	1
Security Fixture Repairs	79
Signage	26
Special event setup	37
Store rooms - Maint. and Building Services	20
Stocking paper supplies in Tenant Areas	25
Temperature is too cold	44
Temperature is too hot	20
Towing	1
Transporting	9
Waste Exposure	21
Window or glass problem	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,783</b>

# Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners: Quarterly Sick Leave Report

Weighted Average Sick Leave Usage per Employee:  
County Facilities Trend Report



These charts show the weighted average quarterly sick leave usage for our department in comparison to the BOCC average for each quarter. This chart provides a snapshot of our department's average sick leave usage over time, it should help you to identify any trends in usage. Additionally, it provides a snapshot of our department's average sick leave usage compared to the average BOCC employee's usage. From this chart you will be able to tell whether our department's average sick leave usage is higher or lower than the average BOCC employee's usage.

shift; and nerve compression and bone spurs can develop.

Although our backs hold up well, our lifestyles and activities can lead to back pain and injury. Here are some things that can go wrong:

**Strains and sprains** are acute or immediate injuries to the back caused by tearing or straining ligaments and muscles. A torn ligament will result in severe back pain.

**Ruptured or slipped disk** is not uncommon and occurs when the disk presses on a nerve.

**Chronic tension or stress** can result in muscle spasms and aggravate persistent and painful backache.

**Poor Posture**, whether standing, sitting, or reclining, affects the amount of strain put on the back. The wrong posture increases strain on the back muscles and may bend the spine into positions that will cause trouble.

**Poor Physical Condition** can also lead to back pain. Being overweight can put extra strain on the spine. An estimate is that every extra pound up front puts ten pounds of strain on the back. Other conditions such as kidney infection and prostate can result in nagging back pain.

### Protect Yourself

Many back injuries tend to be the result of cumulative damage suffered over a long period of time. But there are certain actions, motions, and movements that you should avoid that are more likely to cause and contribute to back injuries. These are:

**Heavy Lifting...** Don't lift more than you can handle. Bend at your knees, not at your waist; and lift with your legs keeping your back straight. Keep the weight close to your body. When you put a load down, use these same guidelines in reverse.

**Twisting at the waist while lifting or holding a heavy load...**

This frequently happens using a shovel. Always face the load you are about to lift. Once you're standing, change directions by pointing your feet in the direction you want to go and turn your whole body. Avoid twisting at your waist while carrying a load.



**Reaching and lifting...** Avoid reaching and lifting over your head, across a table, or out the back of a truck.

**Lifting or carrying objects with awkward or odd shapes...** The farther an object is from your body, the greater the force is on your back. Get help with lifting and carrying awkwardly shaped objects.

**Working in awkward positions...** Kneeling and tasks that require you to bend over for long periods of time can cause stiffness and pain. Taking a one minute stretch break every now and then can help you avoid chronic pain. Sitting or standing too long in one position... Take frequent, short (micro) breaks and stretch.

**Poor Posture...** Good sitting posture should put employees' knees slightly higher than their hips. Hips should be to the rear of a chair with the lower back not overly arched. Also, shoulders and upper back should not be rounded. Reclining posture is important, too. Sleeping should be done on a side with the knees bent or on the back. Sleeping on the stomach, especially on a sagging mattress with the head on a thick pillow, puts too much strain on the spine. Result: morning backache.

Awareness and prevention can keep your back out of trouble. Every time you think about lifting, you should think defensively about your back and the possibility of a back strain. Follow good lifting techniques, not only at work, but also at home. With proper exercise, a good diet, and the proper lifting techniques, your chances of developing chronic or severe back pain are greatly reduced.

## Project Management

### Prevailing Wage Law on Public Improvement Projects

By: Bert Watts

Whenever a Public Authority, Elected Official, or one of its Department Heads decides to conduct a Public Improvement Project the Prevailing Wage Law applies, the majority of the time. The Ohio Department of Commerce Director sets thresholds for when the Prevailing Wage Law will apply to a Public Improvement

Project. This dollar amount is adjusted biannually to account for inflation. The current thresholds for Public Improvement Projects were adjusted January 1, 2010. The thresholds are presently listed as follows: Any new construction project that has a cost equal to or exceeds \$78,258 is subject to the Prevailing Wage Law. Any Reconstruction, enlargement, alteration, repair, remodeling, renovation, or painting project that has a cost equal to or exceeds \$23,447 is subject to the Prevailing Wage Law. When you are looking at the total cost of a project, you must take into account not only the contractor's bid amount, but any design fees or material vendors costs that will be associated with the project, such as furniture, carpet, curtains, etc. Ohio Prevailing Wage Law is not the only type we must enforce here in the County. Hamilton County's Public Improvement Projects have 99% of the time fell within the guidelines of the Ohio Prevailing Wage Law. Now that more and more Federal dollars are being distributed to local governments it may affect how we enforce Prevailing Wage Law in Hamilton County. Federal Prevailing Wage Law or "The Davis Bacon Act" may apply to any of those projects that are funded by Federal funds.

First, let us take a look at the Ohio Prevailing Wage Law and for those that are unfamiliar with what they are. The meaning of Prevailing Wage is defined in the Ohio Revised Code by the sum of the following: "1. The basic hourly rate of pay; 2. The rate of contribution irrevocably made by a contractor or subcontractor to a trustee or to a third person pursuant to a fund, plan, or program; 3. The rate of costs to the contractor or subcontractor which may be reasonably anticipated in providing the following fringe benefits to laborers and mechanics pursuant to an enforceable commitment to carry out a financially responsible plan or program which was communicated in writing to the laborers and mechanics affected: Health Insurance, Pensions, Life Insurance, etc." A Public Improvement Project is defined by the Ohio Revised Code as follows: Any structure, road, sewers, etc constructed by a public authority of the state or any political subdivision there of or by any person

who is contracted by the public authority to do the work. When any work is conducted on a private owner's building to suit for lease or rent by a public authority within six months of completion of the work it falls within the Public Improvement definition. The Department of Commerce has an hourly Prevailing Wage Rate, which differs County by County, that each classification on a project must be paid. Below is an example of an Electrician's required hourly pay rate on a Public Improvement Project:

Classification	Electrician
Base Hourly Rate	\$26.11
Health & Welfare	\$5.20
Pension	\$6.13
App Tr.	\$0.49
Vacation	\$0
Annuity	\$1.25
Other	\$0.65
Total PW Rate	\$39.83
Overtime Rate	\$52.89

This is to allow for fair bidding on Public Improvement Projects, so contractors will all be bidding the same hourly rate for labor on the project. Each Public Authority shall issue one of its own employees to be the Prevailing Wage Coordinator for all Public Improvement Projects within its jurisdiction. The Public Authority has another option of assigning any one of its own employees to be the Prevailing Wage Coordinator on an individual project basis within ten days of when the first payment is due to the contractor. It is the awarded contractor's responsibility to follow the requirements of the Prevailing Wage Law. Once a month, usually with their pay applications, the contractor will supply the Prevailing Wage Coordinator with certified payrolls listing the employees' name, their classifications, and a breakdown of their hourly pay rate as shown in the example above. If the contractor shows discrepancies in their paperwork the Prevailing Wage Coordinator will attempt to rectify the problem. If the contractor is non-responsive the Prevailing Wage Coordinator will notify the County Administrator and the State of Ohio's Director of Commerce. A Prevailing Wage Law complaint can be filed with the Department of Commerce for up to two years after the final payment on the project. A complaint can be filed by any of the following: Public Authority, employee working on the project, or interested party. If it is found that the contractor violated the Prevailing Wage Law they can be fined the amount owed to the employees on the job that were not being paid the prevailing wage rate plus an additional 100% of that amount for penalties that goes to the state. If the contractor is found to be intentionally non-compliant of the law that contractor could face misdemeanor charges, jail time, fines, and debarred from bidding public improvement work as a contractor or subcontractor for a period of one year. The Prevailing Wage Coordinator does have his or her own responsibilities to follow the Prevailing Wage Law. Under ORC 4115.071 the Prevailing Wage Coordinator has six primary responsibilities 1. He or she shall set up and maintain, available for public inspection, files of payroll reports and affidavits submitted by contractors and/or subcontractors; 2. Ascertaining from each contractor or sub the dates during its life when payments of wages to employees are to be made; 3. He or she shall make sure they receive certified payrolls for all contractors and subcontractors; 4. Establishing

and following procedures to monitor the compliance by each contractor and subcontractor with the requirement imposed by this section for timely filing of copies of payroll records; 5. Receiving from each contractor and/or subcontractor upon completion of the project and prior to final payment their affidavit required by ORC 4115.07; 6. He or she shall report any delinquency in filing of the certified copy of the payroll and the affidavit to the chief officer of the contracting public authority and director of commerce. If it is found that a Prevailing Wage Coordinator intentionally knew of a violation and did not do his or her duty that person could be held personally liable and be charged with a misdemeanor.

The Federal Prevailing Wage Law or "Davis Bacon Act" is somewhat different than the State of Ohio's Law. Instead of hourly wages being determined County by County, these wages are determined by a regional area, so the potential of hourly wage rates being higher on Public Improvement Projects following the FPWL is greater. Generally, if an excess of \$2,000 of federal funds are used on a Public Improvement the federal agency giving those funds must determine if Federal Prevailing Wage must apply. Now that more and more Federal funding is being distributed to local governments through the stimulus bill, Public Authorities are finding that the fine print says Federal Prevailing Wage Law must be followed when these funds are used on Public Improvement Projects. It is best to find this requirement during the design phase of the project. This way a project estimate can include the federal hourly wage rates. If the federal wage rates are not put into the bid documents this could cause the Public Authority to have to reject all bids and rebid the project with the federal wage rates and requirements listed.

To conclude, this goes to show how much more work goes on behind the scenes of a Public Improvement Project than meets the eye. With an economic recession going on and private entities not putting as much money into construction as the public sector, Prevailing Wage Law is becoming more and more important when Public Improvement Projects are conducted. Prevailing Wages are a great way to equal the playing field for union and non-union contractors when bidding on Public Improvement Projects. When a Public Authority assigns a Prevailing Wage Coordinator to monitor contractors on projects this individual should make sure that this equal playing field is maintained by reporting any non-compliance to the chief officer of the Public Authority and the Director of Commerce. Does your Public Improvement Project have any federal funds involved? If so, you may need to follow the Federal Prevailing Wage Law. It is best to find out quick before you put together a project budget or go out to bid. Both the contractor and Prevailing Wage Coordinator should not take non-compliance of the Prevailing Wage Law lightly. Either party could be held personally liable.

You can find more information on the Ohio Prevailing Wage Law at [www.com.ohio.gov/laws/](http://www.com.ohio.gov/laws/). You can also find more info on the Federal Prevailing Wage Law at [www.dol.gov/dol/topic/wages/index.htm](http://www.dol.gov/dol/topic/wages/index.htm)