

Washington Township Public Records Policy

Access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business is a right of every person in this state. Records of the Washington Township Trustees which are not exempt from disclosure under the law are available for inspection and copying in accordance with the Ohio Public Records Act. Requests for records may be made calling Fiscal Officer Karen Doney at (937) 760-0616 or via email to washingtontownship@gmail.com.

If you wish to view public records of our office, we will make them available to you at our normal meetings. If you wish to receive copies of records, we will provide them within a reasonable period of time. "Reasonable" takes into account the volume of records requested, and the necessity for any legal review of the records requested.

Once we have received your request, we will provide our response or acknowledge your request and provide you with an estimate of when you should expect our response, an estimated cost if copies have been requested, and the items (if any) that we expect may be exempt from disclosure. If at any time prior to completing our response, we believe our response will take longer than initially estimated (because of the volume of records requested or the complexity of the legal review); we will inform you of this change.

It is within your right not to:

- Disclose your identity when you request records.
- Provide our office with a written request; and
- Provide a reason why you have requested these records.

If any portion of your request for records must be denied because the records are exempt from disclosure under the law, we will inform you which records you have requested are not public by clearly marking the portion "redacted" or we will explain which portions of the record(s) have been redacted. In addition, we will provide you with the legal authority upon which we have relied.

Please note that if we have denied your request because it is overbroad, ambiguous, or doesn't reasonably identify our records, we will provide you with information about how our records are maintained and if you wish, you may revise your request for the records.

A fee for copies of public records may be charged, which covers the direct cost of duplication incurred by the Township; currently this fee is \$.05 per page and \$1.00 per CD-ROM. In addition, actual cost of postage or other delivery may be charged. We may require payment of these fees prior to processing your request.

Feel free to ask the Trustees or Fiscal Officer any questions you may have about public records.