



# PRESS RELEASE

**Matthew R. Plybon, Mayor**  
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Our community in Orrville, Ohio on August 8, 2024 experienced a State of Emergency with a Flash Flood with 7 ½ inches falling in the span of just hours from the evening into the night. The last time Orrville has seen this much water was the flood of 1969, in which we lost 10 residents. Our Fire and Police Departments were answering calls by 7:30 PM along with urgent work from our Street Department and Utility Departments with our Waste and Water departments suffering the most water damage and overload.

Commendable efforts were completed by our Fire, Police, Wastewater, and Street Departments and City employees working alongside our residents and neighboring communities. The most thankful results of the Flash Flood of 2024 is that we did not lose a single resident and we maintained our electric and waste water services and the waters receded quickly by morning.

We had residents displaced from their home in the Hostetler Road and North Elm Street areas with the Red Cross and Landlords assisting our residents with housing.

Businesses have suffered great loss from Serpentini damaged vehicles to building damage at Smuckers, Morgan Truck, Moog, Orrville High School, Tillison Fitness and many more. Our residents have faced a lot of water damage from basement to main levels losing their furnaces, washers, dryers, water heaters, and personal items.

As Mayor, I have been working with our Safety Service, Finance, Law, and Utilities directors advocating for assistance from Max Miller's office, the Governor's office, State Senators Al Landis and Scott Wiggam, Wayne County Commissioners and Emergency Management Agency. All agencies have been helpful. At this time we are not reaching the thresholds for assistance, but we will continue to advocate for resources. Our Safety Service Department will continue to coordinate trash removal and repair damaged infrastructure. Additionally, City Council will continue to convey our citizen's needs in the weeks ahead.

A community effort to help one another was provided by the Salvation Army, United Way, and our Orrville churches. We need to continue helping one another and checking on our neighbors.

The City will continue to work with nonprofits and churches to help those in need. I praise the resilience of our residents and entire community. While a flooding event is a challenge we are very thankful for all who put their lives on the line as we were on the verge of losing much more. Please share your stories and take care of one another. If you need anything from me call 330-684-5000 or email [mplybon@orrvilleoh.gov](mailto:mplybon@orrvilleoh.gov) or stop by City Hall. We are Orrville Strong!

## Our Vision

The City of Orrville's distinctive quality of life is exemplified by its sense of Community, Faith, Educational Opportunities, and Pride. Orrville will be the centerpiece for Wayne County and the State of Ohio. Our greatest resource is and will continue to be our people. We will come together in an active partnership to foster academic, cultural and economic opportunities to cultivate a safe, vibrant and healthy community for our citizens and organizations.