



About Customer

Located in northwest Ohio, Ottawa County is a small, stable community that is home to more than 40,000 residents. It is known for its Marblehead Lighthouse, boating, fishing, and recreational activities that attract visitors to the area.

www.co.ottawa.oh.us

Geo

North America

Industry

State and Local Government

Solution Area

Accelerate Core Applications
Modernize Data Protection

Pure Storage®

Products in Use

FlashArray//X™
Evergreen//Forever™

Ottawa County Modernizes for Digital Growth

Ottawa County provides a wide range of services to its citizenry, including public safety, family services, and recreation. A small IT team supports the computing needs of hundreds of courthouse-based and county-wide employees, who deliver these services to residents.

As storage needs accelerated with digitization, the County sought a more efficient, secure, and cost-effective way to manage its data. When a neighboring county with an outdated backup strategy lost all its data, the IT team reshaped its infrastructure, with Pure Storage as the foundation. Today, Ottawa County benefits from faster, more efficient, and secure data storage.

Managing Resources for Digital Data Growth

At Ottawa County, the shift from paper to digital has directly impacted computing resources. Data volumes have spiked as audio files replace court stenography, court records go digital, and entire cell phones are imaged for forensics.

“With Pure, we’re doing 10 times more with 10 times less. We’re able to protect data and ensure that citizen services are running smoothly while serving as responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars.”

JOHN PRATT,
NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR,
OTTAWA COUNTY, OHIO

Impact on Ottawa County



Protects against ransomware, data loss, and service disruption



Ensures availability of citizen services and critical support systems



Maximizes long-term value of storage investment funded by taxpayers

Challenges



Exponential data growth pushed capacity, budget, and resource limits



Performance degraded as data volume on applications grew



Rising threat of ransomware and data loss put County at risk

Results



100:1 data reduction decreases footprint, saving 40% in costs



10X faster performance for internal and citizen-facing applications



Delivers peace of mind with immutable SafeMode snapshots

This put pressure on the County's decentralized IT systems, including storage. Each department had its own dedicated storage and backup, making it difficult for the IT team to manage and fund constant capacity upgrades. They proposed a modernization initiative to increase efficiency and performance, ensuring that money and resources were not wasted on constant capacity upgrades that did not provide the overall performance, data protection, or service stakeholders needed.

Swift Action to Heighten Efficiency and Security

These efforts were fast-tracked when news broke that a nearby county lost all data and had no backup. With a clear mandate from the County Commissioner, the team consolidated on Pure Storage.

Pure Storage FlashArray//X now underpins critical workloads including VMware, computer-aided dispatch for the sheriff's department, and customized systems for the Auditor's office and courthouse. In case of ransomware, immutable SafeMode™ snapshots protect backup data.

"SafeMode gives us a level of protection we never had before," says Network Administrator John Pratt. "In a worst-case scenario, we know we can continue to deliver citizen services."

With a data reduction rate of 100:1, the County has reduced its data center footprint, so far saving around 40% in heating and cooling costs. A Pure Evergreen//Forever subscription maximizes the value of, and protects, the small county's investment—with no disruption for upgrades, and no storage rebuys.

"The Evergreen architecture has simplified storage management by an order of magnitude," says Pratt. "It's truly a game changer."

Free to Do More With Less

The County continues to reap the benefits of faster performance and instant file recovery—a previously time-consuming process.

As a result, the IT team can tackle new projects involving the courthouse security system, phone system, and election security. They are also evaluating how to modernize for real-time backups.

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