



Walter R. Wilson
Sheriff

Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office

2295 REISER AVE, S.E.
NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO 44663
PHONE (330) 339-2000

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Date: 9/1/2011

Time: 1100

Marijuana Eradication News Release

On Wednesday August 31, 2011 the Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office participated in the annual Federal Drug Enforcement Agency (D.E.A.) Marijuana Eradication Program with agents from the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation. (B.C.I.&I.)

Deputies and Agents eradicated a total of 123 marijuana plants in various areas throughout Tuscarawas County. Most plants appeared to have been well maintained with fencing around the base of the plants. The largest marijuana plant seized was approximately 8 ½ feet tall with a total combined approximate weight of 160 lbs. The D.E.A. values a single fully mature plant at approximately \$1,000 each.

Sheriff's Detectives had received numerous tips over the past month regarding areas of possible rural outdoor Marijuana Cultivation from concerned citizens as well as property owners who believed persons were sneaking onto their properties to grow marijuana. These places and locations were targeted during the operation. The confiscated plants were destroyed at an undisclosed location by deputies.

Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Deputies were assisted by multi county L.E.A.D. Detectives, A Carroll County Sheriff's Deputy, Ohio B.C.I.&I. Agents as well as a pilot and helicopter provided by the Ohio Department of Transportation.

Detective Scott Ballentine