

FAQs

Q. I applied for an exemption on my property, but it did not show up on my tax bill.

A. Any application for exemption (veteran, veteran widow, blind, or homestead) needs to be received at the Assessor's office no later than April 1 for the upcoming tax year. If you filed the application after the April 1st deadline it will be applied for the following tax year.

Q. What is the mil rate and how is it determined?

A. The mil rate is the dollars and cents per \$1,000 of value that you will pay in property tax. The mil rate is calculated by dividing the cost of government services by the total taxable value of the Town.

Q. How are my taxes determined?

A. If you own a home and its taxable value is \$150,000 and the mil rate is \$14.75, your tax bill will be \$2,212.50. The calculation is: $(150,000 \div 1000) \times 14.75$. The same mil rate is used for real estate tax and personal property tax. Taxable value is your property's value minus any exemptions (i.e. veteran and homestead exemptions). The mil rate is also the same for commercial & residential properties.

Q. Where does my tax money go?

A. On every tax bill there is a section that tells you exactly where the money goes. The majority of your taxes go to fund the local schools. Below is an example of the breakdown on a tax bill.

CURRENT BILLING DISTRIBUTION		
SCHOOL	\$3,886.27	66.35%
MUNICIPAL	\$1,560.95	26.65%
<u>KNOX COUNTY</u>	<u>\$410.01</u>	<u>7.00%</u>
TOTAL	\$5,857.23	100.00%

Q. How can I submit address changes or corrections?

A. You have two options:

Option 1: Send the address change to the Town Office at the address below:


Town of Rockport
C/O Assessing Office – Address Change
101 Main Street
Rockport, ME 04856

Option 2: Call the Town Office at 207-236-6758 X5.

Q. Was my homestead and/or veteran's exemption applied to my bill?

A. On the right side of your tax bill, where your assessed value is listed, there is a line item that says HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION. If there is an amount listed there (usually \$25,000) your exemption was applied. Just under that is a line labeled OTHER EXEMPTION. Your veteran, or other type of exemption

amount, is listed there. The taxpayer on the example below received both a homestead and veteran's exemption.

2017 REAL ESTATE TAX BILL	
CURRENT BILLING INFORMATION	
LAND VALUE	\$116,600.00
BUILDING VALUE	\$214,700.00
TOTAL: LAND & BLDG	\$331,300.00
Taxable Items	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00
MISCELLANEOUS	\$0.00
TOTAL PER. PROP.	\$0.00
HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION	\$20,000.00
OTHER EXEMPTION	\$6,000.00
NET ASSESSMENT	\$305,300.00
TOTAL TAX	\$4,503.18
LESS PAID TO DATE	\$0.00
TOTAL DUE 	\$4,503.18

Q. Who do I contact to make sure my taxes have been paid?

A. You would want to contact the Town Clerk's Office at 207-236-9648.