

GENERAL FAQ'S

Q. WHAT IS THE CURRENT MILL RATE?

A. The current mill rate is 27.95 on the Grand List of 2013. One mill produces one dollar for each \$1,000 of property assessment.

Q. HOW ARE TAXES CALCULATED?

A. The Grand List of all property and the assessed values (70% x market value) is compiled and certified by the Town Assessor. The approved budget is then divided by the assessed value to come up with a mill rate. This mill rate is multiplied with the assessment on each property to come up with the annual tax.

Example: Assessed value \$150,000
 Mill Rate: 27.95
 Tax: $\$150,000 \times 0.02795 = \$4,192.50$

Q. WHEN WILL THE TAX BILLS BE MAILED?

A. All real estate, personal property and motor vehicle tax bills are mailed at the end of June. Supplemental motor vehicle bills are mailed at the end of December.

Q. IF I DON'T OWN MY CAR ANYMORE, WHY AM I GETTING A TAX BILL?

A. The Grand List is created for property owned on October 1st of a given year. The billing date is July of the following year. It is very possible that you would have sold or junked your vehicle in that time. The assessor's office is responsible for reviewing documents and prorating assessments in these situations. Please contact them and discuss what information they need to correct your account.

Q. WHAT FORMS OF PAYMENT WILL YOU TAKE?

A. If you are paying directly in the Tax Office or by mail, the tax office accepts cash, personal check, money order or certified checks. Please make checks payable to "Town of Mansfield, CT". There is a credit card payment kiosk in our office for your convenience. All credit or debit cards payments and online e-check payments incur a fee.

NOTE: To pay online, please click on the following link for taxes, refuse and/or sewer → [Find my tax bill](#) You may search for your account on the taxes inquiry by using last name and first

initial. Do not use any commas. You must input a first initial to find results. For refuse and sewer you must have the account number.

If you are partial paying, you will need to use a different link to pay. You will need your account number. The link is <http://www.mansfieldct.gov/payments>. For tax bills you will want Grand List Bills, trash/recycle bills you will choose Refuse and sewer use you will choose Sewer.

Q. CAN I SEND ONE CHECK FOR ALL MY BILLS?

A. Yes, you can send one check for the bills that you receive. Mail your check payable to Town of Mansfield to 4 South Eagleville Rd, Mansfield, CT 06268.

Q. WHAT IF I'M MISSING A BILL?

A. If you are missing a tax bill please call the tax office at 860-429-3308, 860-429-3307 or 860-429-3306. **Failure to receive a tax bill does not void the tax and/or interest charges.**

Q. WHEN WOULD MY PAYMENT BE CONSIDERED LATE?

A. All property tax bills are due and payable on July 1, 2014. They must be paid or postmarked on or before August 1, 2014 to avoid interest charges. Interest begins accruing from the due date, July 1, 2014. An interest rate of 1 ½ % per month or a total of 18 % per year is applied to unpaid balances. Example: if payment is made or postmarked August 2nd and is made in the month of August the interest is 3%, September use 4.5%, October use 6%. Minimum interest charges are \$2.00 for each individual motor vehicle tax unpaid. Example: your bill includes 3 motor vehicles. Each vehicle tax will accrue an interest penalty separately not on the total of the 3 bills. The January payment must be paid or postmarked on or before February 2, 2015.

Q. WHAT TYPES OF PROPERTY ARE SUBJECT TO LOCAL PROPERTY TAXES?

A.1. Motor Vehicle:

All motor vehicles registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Motor Vehicles purchased between October 1, 2013, and July 31, 2014, will receive a bill in January pro-rated to the time it was purchased.

If you no longer possess the motor vehicle being taxed please contact the Assessor's office at 860-429-3311. **Do not ignore the bill.** Even if your vehicle has been sold, salvaged, wrecked, or stolen and the plates have been turned into the DMV, if the paperwork does not go through to the Assessor's office it is still your responsibility to notify them. You may receive a credit, and you have limited time to act. **Please do this during the month of July.** The last day to pay without penalty will remain August 1st on adjusted bills.

If you have moved to a different town in Connecticut, please make sure your motor vehicle registrations are changed at DMV to your current address in order to make sure that the correct town receives the information.

2. Real Estate:

All real property listed on the current grand list.

If the bill you receive is for real estate which you no longer own, please return the tax bill to the Tax Collector as soon as possible with the name and address of the new owner.

If your mortgage lender requests and pays your real estate tax bill it will be sent to them. If you receive your real estate bill please forward the bill to them for payment.

If you qualify for a veteran's exemption, please be sure the proper information is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

3. Personal Property:

This includes primary business equipment, commercial furniture and fixtures, and unregistered motor vehicles. Please contact the Assessor's office at 860-429-3311 with questions regarding your personal property bill.

Q. WHEN ARE TAXES DUE?

A. Taxes are due July 1st and January 1st of each year. If your real estate or personal property bill is under \$50.00 for the year, the entire amount is due in July. Motor Vehicle bills are due in one installment on July 1st. Supplemental Motor Vehicle taxes are due January 1st.

Q. WHAT PERIOD OF TIME DOES MY BILL COVER?

A. The real estate bill you pay on July 1st covers the time period of July 1st through December 31st. When you pay the January installment taxes are paid through June 30th.

Motor vehicle bills issued in July are for the time period of the previous October 1st through September 30th of this year.

Supplemental motor vehicle taxes are due January 1st and represents ownership from the time you registered with the DMV through September 30th.

Q. WHAT COLLECTION PRACTICES ARE USED IN MANSFIELD?

A. All Taxes and Sewer bills:

- Late Notices are sent after the end of the grace period.
- Delinquent motor vehicle taxes are reported to the DMV after the end of the grace period.
- Demand Notices are sent following the expiration of the first delinquency notice.
- Delinquent motor vehicle taxes are turned over to American National Recovery Group (ANRG) upon the expiration of the demand notice.
- Delinquent personal property taxes are turned over to the State Marshal upon the expiration of the demand notice.
- Delinquent mobile home or vacant land taxes may be sent to the state marshal upon the expiration of the demand notice. All other delinquent real estate accounts may be contacted about potential tax sale after a period of delinquency. Mortgage Institutions may be notified of real estate tax delinquency.
- Real estate accounts will have a lien placed in the land records for any balances due as of June 30th of that year.

Refuse accounts

- Late Notices are sent the month following the end of the grace period.
- A notice is sent with the next regular billing that service will be terminated if the account remains unpaid.
- Following the end of the grace period for the 2nd quarterly billing, the service is terminated.
- After 2 weeks from the termination, the barrels used for service will be retrieved or a charge of \$100 per barrel will be added to the account.
- A final demand is issued warning of marshal collection.
- The account is turned over to the State Marshal for collection.
- Liens are placed on the addresses with unpaid services around 1-2 years of service interruption.

Q. IS THERE A WAY TO AVOID CERTAIN COLLECTION ACTIONS?

A. Yes. If you are unable to pay your taxes in full, you may send in periodic payments (no less than monthly) for a reasonable period of time (preferably paid off before 12 months) until paid to avoid going to the collection agency or the State Marshal. Liens will still be placed and the DMV will still be notified.