

The Town of Harwich has gone to Quarterly Tax Billing!!

The “Special Town Meeting” held February 5, 2009 approved Quarterly Tax Billing beginning July 1, 2009 and bills are planned to be issued every three (3) months, **July 1, October 1, January 1 and April 1.**

Please find enclosed:

Preliminary Tax Bill – Make check payable to **Town of Harwich**

- The **bottom third** is your payment coupon for **taxes due** by **August 1**. Please mail this coupon with your check in the enclosed envelope to the Town of Harwich for receipt by **August 1**. **The new late payment demand fee is \$30.00.**
- The top and middle third is your receipt for your records. If you bring your payment to Town Hall please bring this along so that it may be stamped with a receipt of payment.

Will the new system affect my total taxes for the year? NO.

Will the new system affect my right to seek an abatement or exemption? NO.

How is this Preliminary tax payment calculated? The preliminary bills based on your previous years taxes plus 2 ½%, debt and exclusion exceptions. Exceptions may occur with new parcel allocations, new condominiums or new construction.

What happens if my mortgage company escrows my taxes? You won’t even notice the change—we will continue to provide tax information and accept payments directly through the escrow companies and tax services.

When will applications for Abatements, Personal Exemptions and Deferrals be accepted?

Applications for Abatements will not be accepted until the 3rd quarter (actual) tax bills are mailed January 1. Personal Exemptions and deferral renewal forms will be mailed out in the Summer, so that pre-existing exemptions can be pre-processed and appear on the 3rd quarter (actual) tax bill mailed by January 1.

Application forms will be available when the 3rd quarter (actual) tax bill is sent January 1. The **deadline for applications for abatement** will now require a post mark on or before **February 1.**

The deadline for applications for personal exemption and deferrals will still be 3 months after the mailing of the 3rd quarter (actual) tax bill.

Questions???

Please call the Tax Collectors Office (508-430-7501) for questions on **amounts and due dates** or the Assessors Office (508-430-7503) for any questions on **abatement, exemption or deferral** applications and deadlines.

Taxpayers can also access/pay Real Estate and Personal Property bills online any time a bill is due and payable via the town’s website (www.harwich-ma.gov).