



2020 TAX RATE

The Selectmen/Assessors set the 2020 tax rate at \$6.74 per \$1,000 of assessed value. This is an increase of 0.6% in the tax rate compared to the prior year amounting to \$4.00 more in property tax for every \$100,000 of assessed value. For example, if your property is assessed at \$300,000 in value, then your property tax bill has increased \$12 from \$2,010 in 2019 to \$2,022 in 2020.

HOW TO PAY YOUR PROPERTY TAX BILL

There are multiple methods for paying your property tax bill. This year we recommend that you choose one of the following: U.S. mail, drop box (attached to the Town Office) or online. We can accept payment by: 1) Check—mail, drop box or in-person; 2) Credit or Debit cards—with a 2.5% fee assessed for each transaction; 3) a web-based payment service called AndroGov available through the Town's home page by clicking the online services tab—typically a \$1 fee has been assessed for each transaction; however, to help promote online payments during the coronavirus situation, there's been a temporary reduction of the fee to \$.50 per transaction; and 4) Cash—must be in-person. The first installment of the 2020 tax bill is due Tuesday, September 15 with the second installment due Tuesday, December 15. An interest rate of 3% is charged on the unpaid portion of any installment after its due date.

HARPSWELL'S PROPERTY TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Harpswell provides property tax assistance to qualifying persons who reside in Harpswell and who have applied for and received the State of Maine Residents Property Tax Fairness Credit (PTFC). Residents must file a Maine Income tax form for 2019 including form PTFC with Maine Revenue Services. In addition, residents must also submit an application to the Town's program by October 15 of each year. Please contact Deputy Town Administrator & Treasurer Terri Sawyer at 833-5771 or tsawyer@town.harpswell.me.us if you have questions about this program.

NOV. 3, 2020 ELECTION & REFERENDUM—IT'S EASY TO VOTE ABSENTEE

Polls have been consolidated so that there will be one voting location on November 3 at the Harpswell Community School on Route 24, with polls being open from 8am-8pm. However, we highly recommend absentee voting for this election given the circumstance of the coronavirus. A benefit of voting absentee includes minimizing exposure to the virus. You will be able to vote absentee at the Town Office in the weeks preceding the November 3 election. To request an absentee ballot: visit or call the Town Clerk's Office, 833-5822, or request an absentee ballot through the State of Maine's Secretary of State Office at: <https://www1.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/AbsenteeBallot/online-form.pl>

HARPSWELL AGING AT HOME WANTS YOUR THOUGHTS!

HAH is surveying the community about its needs, and would like feedback from Harpswell's residents. Please visit the Harpswell Aging at Home website at <https://www.hah.community/> to complete a short survey about the needs of you and your family. In addition, you can let HAH know your opinion about its services, as well as find opportunities to offer your own time and talent to support your friends and neighbors. The Harpswell community has a long tradition of sharing and caring for one another, and this year has shown both the great need and generosity that exists in town. Thank you for completing HAH's quick survey to help Harpswell Aging at Home's future initiatives.



There is still time to complete the 2020 US Census. The count dictates how much federal funding Maine will receive for critical programs. Find info and census here: www.2020census.gov or 1-844-330-2020.

COVID-19 AWARENESS & EDUCATIONAL GRANT

Be informed, be kind, be well—these words guide the Town's COVID-19 Awareness and Educational campaign, which is funded by a \$20,725 federal grant administered by the State of Maine. Visit the Town's website www.harpswell.maine.gov and click on the COVID-19 link for more information. Face coverings and physical distancing are required when conducting business at the Town Office. Help keep Maine and Harpswell healthy!