

Q. HOW DO I PAY MY BILL? WHAT FORMS OF PAYMENT CAN BE USED?

- **Come in to our office:** The Tax Collector's Office accepts cash or checks. Please make checks payable to Town of Thompson. You may combine all of your tax payments on one check.
- **Pay by Mail:** If you choose to pay by mail, please send a check, not cash. If you would like a receipt, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope.
- **For debit or credit card payments for taxes:** please call 1-800-487-4567 or go to www.officialpayments.com.

Real estate and personal property tax bills with two payments are only mailed in July.

The real estate and personal property tax bills have two payment stubs attached. **One is for the July payment and one is for the January payment. Notices are put in the papers and on the Town of Thompson website to remind you that the January payment is coming due. Make a note on the calendar also.** If you purchase Real Estate after July 1st and did not get a bill for the new property at the closing, please call 860-923-2119 for a copy of the bill for the January payment. **No Real Estate or Personal Property bills are mailed in January, only Supplemental MV bills.**

Real estate taxes held in escrow by your bank or finance organization: If your bank is holding escrow to pay your taxes, you may not receive a real estate tax bill. Many banks request the bills directly from our office. If you have escrow and receive a real estate bill, please forward it on to your bank for payment.

Q. WHEN IS MY PAYMENT CONSIDERED LATE?

Payments due July 1st must be received or postmarked by August 1st. Payments due January 1st must be received or postmarked by February 1st. If the first of August or February falls on a Saturday or Sunday, you have until the following Monday to pay on time. Please see your current bill for the current installment dates. **By State Statute 12-130, failure to receive a tax bill does not exempt you from paying tax or interest. We make every attempt to obtain your correct mailing address.**

Q. HOW IS INTEREST FIGURED?

If not paid by the August or February deadline, interest is charged at 1½% per month from July 1st and January 1st respectively, with a minimum of \$2.00 per bill.

• DO YOU HAVE A SMALL BUSINESS THAT YOU OPERATE OUT OF YOUR HOME?

For anyone engaged in a home occupation, any equipment, furniture, signs, etc. used for this home occupation may also be taxable as personal property and should be claimed on the personal property declaration available in the Assessor's office in September.

• ARE YOU PLANNING TO APPLY FOR A BUILDING PERMIT?

Thompson has an ordinance that requires Real Estate Taxes to be current before a Building Permit is issued.

• TWPCA (Sewer) BILLS

The Tax Office collects for TWPCA (Sewer) bills. The Sewer Tax Bills are mailed once each year for October 1. The first installment is due October 1st and must be paid by November 1st and the second installment is due April 1st and must be paid by May 1st. Please make your check payable to TWPCA or pay by cash; no credit/debit payments are accepted for TWPCA.

• TRANSFER STATION PERMITS

The Tax Office collects Transfer Station Permit fees. The Transfer Station Permit Year begins November 1, with Half Year Permits sold after May 1. These must be paid with cash or check; no credit/debit payments are accepted. We also issue One Day Permits.

Looking for more information about Thompson?

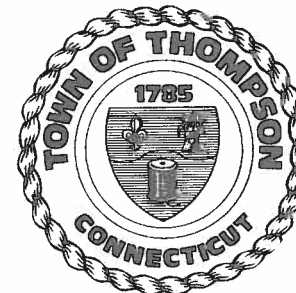
Visit www.thompsonct.org for a schedule of events and activities. Each department has a page with information, forms and more.

MISSION STATEMENT

At the Thompson Tax Collector's Office, our vision is to exceed your expectations by providing all of our customers with a knowledgeable, professional, and courteous staff. We pledge to assist you with the collection of your real estate, motor vehicle, and personal property taxes as well as the collection of sewer use taxes, transfer station permits, and building fees. We will provide you with answers to any questions you may have, or seek the information for you in a timely fashion. We will provide you with these services in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. All information will be handled with the utmost confidentiality. Our dedicated professional staff works in an environment that promotes growth and fulfillment.

TOWN OF THOMPSON

TAX & ASSESSMENT INFORMATION



THOMPSON TAX OFFICE
PO Box 845
THOMPSON ASSESSOR'S OFFICE
PO Box 899
815 Riverside Drive
North Grosvenordale, CT 06255

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday: 9 AM – 4 PM
Thursday: 9 AM – 6 PM
Friday: 9 AM – 2 PM

As a taxpayer, you may have questions about your taxes and how they are determined. This pamphlet is provided to answer some of these questions. More detailed information concerning specific assessment and tax questions can be obtained by contacting:

the **Tax Collector at 860-923-2119**
taxcollector@thompsonct.org
or the **Assessor at 860-923-2259**
assessor@thompsonct.org

Q. HOW IS THE TAX RATE ESTABLISHED?

The mill rate, or property tax rate, is expressed in mills or thousandths of a dollar. The mill rate is set by the Board of Finance once the annual budget is accepted by the taxpayers.

Example: If our mill rate is set at 22.42, that is equal to \$22.42 per every \$1,000.00 of the net assessed value. If the assessed value of your home is \$100,000.00, your annual tax would be \$2,242.00, with two equal installments (July and January) of \$1,121.00. If the assessed value of your motor vehicle is \$12,000.00, your tax would be \$269.04, due in July.

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

Real Estate: All real property (homes, buildings and land) listed on the grand list from the previous October 1st.

Personal Property: Equipment owned by industry, commercial furniture and fixtures, unregistered motor vehicles, campers and horses. If you are a non-resident, any personal property in town for three months or more of the year previous to October 1st, is also taxable. **Personal property unless it is a registered vehicle, cannot be prorated.**

Motor Vehicles: All motor vehicles registered in Thompson with the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Q. HOW IS THE VALUE OF MY PROPERTY ESTABLISHED?

Real Property: is assessed at 70% of its value, as of October 1st as of the last revaluation year.

Personal Property: other than registered motor vehicles, is assessed at 70% of its value, as determined by use of straight line depreciation, as of October 1st.

Registered Motor Vehicles: are required to be assessed at 70% of the average retail value, using NADA cost guides.

Q. AM I ELIGIBLE FOR ANY EXEMPTIONS?

You may be eligible for one or more of the following exemptions:

- Veterans having served during a time of conflict.
- Elderly: please contact the Assessor's Office to review all exemptions.
- Persons permanently & totally disabled, blind.
- Motor Vehicle of a serviceperson in active duty as of October 1 of the grand list year.
- Forest/Farm/Open Space.

Please contact the Assessor's Office at 860-923-2259 for instructions on how to apply for these exemptions.

Q. DO YOU THINK YOUR BILL NEEDS AN ADJUSTMENT OR THAT YOUR ASSESSMENT IS NOT ACCURATE?

If you think your tax bill needs to be adjusted due to something you have read in this brochure, or some other reason, please contact the Assessor's Office as soon as possible to ask the Assessor to review your bill. You have the right to appeal your assessment to the Board of Assessment Appeals (BAA). The BAA meets semi-annually and the Appeal Forms are available at the Assessor's Office and also on the website: www.thompsonct.org. In March, the BAA hears appeals for Real Estate, Personal Property and Supplemental Motor Vehicle Accounts. In September, the BAA hears appeals for Motor Vehicle Accounts.

Q. WHAT IF I NO LONGER LIVE IN THOMPSON, BUT STILL LIVE IN CONNECTICUT AND I RECEIVE A MOTOR VEHICLE TAX BILL FROM THOMPSON?

The DMV sends the motor vehicle listing to the town that is on your registration as of the previous October 1st and you pay the July motor vehicle tax to that town. By State Statute, there is no pro-ration between towns. Per DMV Regulation Section 14-17A, a person holding a CT Registration shall notify the DMV within 48 hours of any change in address. This notification should include the old address and the new address. Failure to give notice required by this section shall be an infraction. Contact the DMV at www.ct.gov/dmv.

Q. WHAT IF I RECEIVE A TAX BILL FOR A VEHICLE I NO LONGER OWN OR HAVE REGISTERED IN ANOTHER STATE?

The Motor Vehicle tax bill you receive in July is based upon the registration of that vehicle as of the previous October 1st. With the proper proof, your motor vehicle bill may be deleted if disposed of prior to October 1st, or pro-rated if disposed of between October 1st and August 31st. "Disposed of" includes sold, destroyed, stolen or registered out of state and not replaced with another vehicle using the same license plate. You will need to contact the Assessor at 860-923-2259 for any adjustments. Two proofs are required: Plate Cancellation from DMV; copy of Bill of Sale; copy of Transfer of Title; copy of out of state registration; insurance company statement that the vehicle was stolen and not recovered or if it was totaled; statement from a junkyard; or a copy of the purchase agreement if it was used as a trade-in.

Q. WHAT IF I HAVE A NEW VEHICLE AND USED THE SAME PLATE?

If you took the plate from one vehicle and put it on another vehicle, you do not have to do anything. The billing will follow that plate. If you did this after October 1st, the bill that you receive in July will be on the old motor vehicle. On the following January 1st, you will receive a Supplemental Motor Vehicle Tax Bill on the new motor vehicle, with the pro-rated credit for the tax you paid in July.

Q. WHAT IF I HAVE LICENSE PLATES THAT I AM NO LONGER USING OR HAVE LOST?

Any plates that are not being used should be returned to the Motor Vehicle Department as soon as possible. If the plates are not returned, DMV keeps them active for two or more years and sends the listing to us, creating another tax bill. You will need to communicate to DMV if the plates are lost, stolen or vanity plates you wish to keep. DMV will produce a receipt that you will need to bring to the Assessor's office for possible changes to your bill. Assessor 860-923-2259.