

## 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<sup>st</sup> for the upcoming tax year. If you filed the application after the April 1<sup>st</sup> 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 it's taxable value is \$150,000 and the mil rate is \$12.99, your tax bill will be \$1,948.50. The calculation is:  $(150,000 \div 1000) \times 12.99$ . 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).

### **Q. Where does my tax money go?**

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

CURRENT BILLING DISTRIBUTION		
SCHOOL	\$1,814.13	69.000%
MUNICIPAL	\$631.00	24.000%
<u>KNOX COUNTY</u>	<u>\$184.04</u>	<u>7.000%</u>
TOTAL	\$2,629.18	100.000%

TOWN OF ROCKPORT, P.O. BOX 45

### **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 below address:

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

Option 2: You can call the Town Office at 207-236-6758 and ask to speak with Megan Griffin to change your address.

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

A. On the right side of your tax bill, where it lists your assessed value, there is a line item there that says HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION. If there is an amount listed there (usually \$10,000) 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 a homestead and veteran's exemption.

2014 REAL ESTATE TAX BILL	
CURRENT BILLING INFORMATION	
LAND VALUE	\$111,200.00
BUILDING VALUE	\$47,400.00
TOTAL: LAND & BLDG	\$158,600.00
Taxable Items	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00
MISCELLANEOUS	\$0.00
TOTAL PER. PROP.	\$0.00
HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION	\$10,000.00
OTHER EXEMPTION	\$6,000.00
NET ASSESSMENT	\$142,600.00
TOTAL TAX	\$1,852.37
LESS PAID TO DATE	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL DUE -&gt;</b>	<b>\$1,852.37</b>

**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.