

Making Dollars and Cents of Your Tax Bill

Posted On Wednesday, July 3, 2024

Vice Mayor Maria G. Marino

OWNER NAME

PARCEL CONTROL NUMBER

TOTAL 2023 CERTIFIED MILLAGE RATE 18.1315

AD VALOREM TAXES

DISTRICT NAME	TAXABLE VALUE	MILLAGE	TAX
* LIBRARY DEBT	\$351,123	.0108	\$3.79
* LIBRARY OPERATING	\$351,123	.5491	\$192.80
CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL	\$351,123	.4908	\$172.33
COUNTY DEBT	\$351,123	.0188	\$6.60
COUNTY OPERATING	\$351,123	4.5000	\$1,580.05
EVERGLADES CONSTRUCTION	\$351,123	.0327	\$11.48
FL INLAND NAVIGATION DISTRICT	\$351,123	.0288	\$10.11
HEALTH CARE DISTRICT	\$351,123	.6761	\$237.39
PALM BEACH GARDENS OPERATING	\$351,123	5.1700	\$1,815.31
PBC SCHOOL DISTRICT BY LOCAL BOARD	\$376,123	3.2480	\$1,221.65
PBC SCHOOL DISTRICT BY STATE LAW	\$376,123	3.2090	\$1,206.98
SO. FLA. WATER MGMT. BASIN	\$351,123	.1026	\$36.03
SO. FLA. WATER MGMT. DIST.	\$351,123	.0948	\$33.29

Total 2023 Certified Ad Valorem Taxes: \$6,527.8

NON AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS

DISTRICT NAME	TAX
NPB CO. IMPROV DIST 11	\$556.73
SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY OF PBC	\$188.00

Total 2023 Certified Non Ad Valorem Assements: \$744.7

TOTAL TAXES

Total 2023 Certified Taxes: \$7,272.5

Click to enlarge image.

It's that time of year when the Board of County Commissioners begins the budgeting process for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 and sets the millage rate for Palm Beach County. The current county millage rate is 4.5, which represents the amount of tax payable per dollar of the assessed value of a property. A mill is derived from the Latin word "millesimum," meaning thousandth. In property tax terms, 1 mill equals \$1 in property tax levied per \$1,000 of a property's assessed value.

To further understand your tax bill, you can visit the Property Appraiser's website at <https://pbcpa.gov/index.htm>. By clicking on the tax link (property tax detail), you will see a detailed breakdown of the taxes collected from various districts that provide services

to residents. For instance, using the example below of a homesteaded house with the taxable value of \$351,123 (\$376,123 for school district items) and the millage rate of 4.5, you will be paying \$4.5 per \$1,000, totaling \$1,580.05.

With our example, there are 13 taxing districts under Ad Valorem Taxes for this HOMESTEADED property in Palm Beach Gardens. Each district sets its own millage rate, and properties in different areas of the county will have a varying number of districts depending on whether they are in a municipality or unincorporated areas. Some areas, such as Jupiter or Juno, may have an additional line item for Fire/Rescue services because those services are provided by the County instead of the municipality.

Non-Ad Valorem assessments are not based on property values but are fixed fees per household or business.

Understanding your tax bill is important because it helps you know which authority sets the millage and who has jurisdiction over various services. For example, school-related questions should be directed to the school board, while library-related questions should go to the library authority.

I often get asked why residents in a municipality still pay taxes to the county. The answer varies slightly by municipality, but generally, the county provides many essential services that benefit all residents. These services include managing four airports, a water utilities department, road and bridge maintenance, stormwater management, environmental resources, and a parks and recreation department overseeing over 110 parks in both municipal and unincorporated areas.

So, the next time you receive your tax bill, remember that I am here to be a steward of your tax dollars and a watchdog to ensure that the funds collected are used efficiently and effectively.