

Tax Schedule July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010

- **Real Property is assessed at 100% of market value**
- **State Tax Rate:**
\$0.112 per \$100 assessment
- **County Rate:**
\$1.014 per \$100 assessment
- **Fire tax:**

NOTE: Howard County has 2 fire districts - a metropolitan district and a rural district. The rates for those districts are...

Metropolitan District - 13.55 cents per \$100 assessment

Rural District - 11.55 cents per \$100 assessment

Howard County law states that the revenues generated by the fire tax are to be used for all fires and emergencies occurring in the district where the tax is collected. However, there are no district restrictions, nor should there be, on where stations and personnel respond to calls.

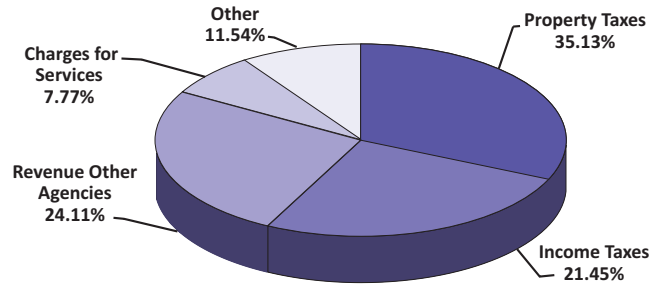
Constant Yield Tax Rate

In the last taxable year (FY 2009), Howard County's real property tax rate as of July 1, 2008 was \$1.014, and the certified assessment of the net assessable real property as of July 1, 2008 was \$35,782,828,312. The assessment multiplied by the rate produced real property tax revenues of \$362,837,879.

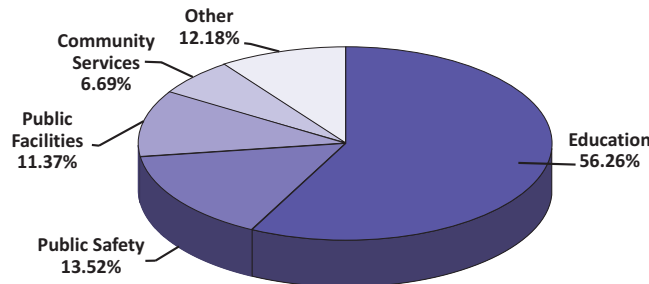
For this taxable year (FY 2010), the certified assessment of the net assessable real property is \$37,541,046,282. To produce the same real property tax revenues as last year the real property tax rate would be \$.967. This rate is called the constant yield tax rate.

For this taxable year (FY 2010), the actual real property tax rate is \$1.014, which is different from the constant yield tax rate. The rate is .047 cents more than the constant yield tax rate and will produce in real property tax revenues \$17,828,330 more than would be produced by the constant yield tax rate.

Revenues for Fiscal Year 2010



Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2010



What County Government Receives From the Average Taxpayer

Average Local Income Tax.....	\$2,593*
Average Property Tax.....	\$3,194**
Average Fire & Rescue Tax.....	\$ 427**

TOTAL\$6,214

* Based upon the median household income in Howard County (in 2007 inflation adjusted dollars) of \$97,837 for a family of 4 using the standard deduction. (\$3200 x 4 + \$4,000= 16,800) The taxable income would be \$81,037. Based on the current income tax rate of 3.20% (unchanged) the average income tax paid would be \$2,593.

** Based on a home value of \$300,000 with a 5.0% assessment increase. The property tax rate is \$1.014 and the Metropolitan District Fire Tax rate is 13.55 cents.

Trash Fee Changes

The annual fee for the collection and disposal of residential trash is \$225 for those households receiving **trash, recycling and yard service**, \$210 for those households receiving **trash and recycling services only** and \$39.00 for those households receiving **recycling service only**.

Trash Credit Program

Homeowners with limited income may qualify for a 60% credit against the Trash Fee. Income brackets for this credit have been expanded. A family of 4 can qualify with an income up to \$55,125. For more information and an application call 410-313-4076. The deadline for filing is September 1, 2009.

Water and Sewer Charges

An ad valorem charge of .08 cents per \$100 assessment is levied on real property located within the Metropolitan District. Ad valorem charges help pay for the operation of the water and sewer system and help cover debts for the system.

Front Foot Charge

All owners of properties located on a street, road, lane, alley or right-of-way in which a water main or sewer main has been built or purchased, pay an annual front foot benefit assessment charge for water and/or sewer.

State Bay Restoration Fee

The Maryland State Government enacted the State Bay Restoration Fund in 2004. For users of private septic systems the state's annual charge of \$30.00 is included in the Howard County Tax Bill. For additional information, visit the Maryland Department of the Environment website at www.mde.state.md.us. For billing questions, call 410-313-4076.

Energy Credit

The owner of real property may receive a property tax credit against the county property tax imposed on a residential structure that utilizes a solar energy device or geothermal energy device.

The tax credit allowed under this section is the lesser of: 50% of the eligible costs incurred to install the device; or \$5,000 for a heating system or \$1,500 for a hot water supply system.

For more information call 410-313-3196 or visit our website at taxcredits.howardcountymd.gov

Tax Relief for Seniors

Senior Tax Credit

A credit of 25% of County Property Tax is available for senior citizens age 70 and older with an annual income of \$72,850 or less and net assets under \$500,000, not including the value of their home, but including qualified retirement plans.

All other credits must be applied before this credit is granted, so if an applicant has income of under \$60,000 and net assets under \$200,000, not including the value of their home and qualified retirement plans, they must also apply for the State's Homeowners Tax Credit Program.

Tax Deferral Program

The County continues to offer its tax deferral program for seniors who do not qualify for the Senior Tax Credit. If you are 65 or over (or any age and disabled), have an income that does not exceed \$75,000, and have lived in your home for at least 5 years, you may qualify for this program. This program defers the increase in your County Property Tax.

The deadline for filing applications for these programs is September 1, 2009. For more information, please call 410-313-4076 or visit our website at taxcredits.howardcountymd.gov

CHANGE OF BILLING ADDRESS

PLEASE PRINT

If you have moved, or if your address is incorrect, submit your correct PERMANENT address change only, then detach and mail to:

Supervisor of Assessments and Taxation
Howard County Office
District Court Multi-Service Center
3451 Courthouse Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043

Property District/Account Number

Name of Property Owner

Street Name and House Number

Supplemental Address (care of, etc.)

City, State and Zip Code

Phone Number

Property Owner Signature

Do not use this form to change names shown on the tax bill. For information about changing names, call the State Department of Assessments and Taxation at 410-480-7940.

This publication is provided for your information by
THE HOWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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and the
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2010 Information for Howard County Taxpayers

July 1, 2009

Homestead Tax Credit Application

The Homestead Credit limits the annual increase in taxable assessment on the owner-occupied residential properties to a fixed percentage. In Howard County, the County assessment increase is limited to 5% and the State assessment increase is limited to 10%. Any applicable credit has been used in the calculation of this tax bill.

Beginning January 1, 2008 the State began requiring an application be submitted to qualify for this credit. This program will be rolled out over the next 3 years. For more information please refer to the State website at: www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/homestead_app.htm

Homeowners Tax Credit Program

A property tax credit is available to residential homeowners, regardless of age, who qualify on the basis of a comparison of their tax bill to household income. Applicants must have combined household income under \$60,000 and net assets that do not exceed \$200,000. Net assets do not include the value of your home or the value of your qualified retirement plans.

The deadline for filing an application is September 1, 2009. For more information call the State at 410-767-4433 or visit the State website at: www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/htc.html

For a complete list of Tax Credits, please call 410-313-2062 or visit our website at: taxcredits.howardcountymd.gov

2nd Installment Due Date Change

County Offices will close at 5 p.m. Thursday, December 24, 2009 and not re-open until Monday January 4, 2010 at 8 a.m. due to staff furloughs and scheduled holidays. The due date for 2nd installment tax payments has been extended to January 8, 2010. All payments received by January 8th will be back dated to December 31, 2009 to avoid interest and penalties.