



The Village of Glenview Report



www.glenview.il.us

February, 2010

Understanding Your Property Tax Bill

Property taxes: supporting your community

Through property taxes, citizens pay for many of the services and amenities they enjoy in their communities, from police and fire protection to teacher salaries, park district programs and library services.

In general, the property tax you pay relates to the value of any property you own (whether it's residential, commercial or industrial). If you take a look at your property tax bill, you'll see that you pay different amounts to different taxing districts (including your school districts, the Village, your local community college and more.)

However, it's not as simple as that. The way that property taxes are calculated — and the reasons they go up (or down) each year are complicated. This article should help straighten things out.

Who calculates my property tax?

For Glenview, property taxes are calculated by the Cook County Clerk, Assessor's and Treasurer's Offices. Each year, the County reassesses a third of the approximate 1.8 million parcels within its borders.

How is my tax bill calculated?

Take a look at the flow chart below — as you can see there are many steps and calculations involved.

How does the County determine what each taxing district receives?

Each district supported by property tax dollars must submit an approved property tax levy. This is a specific dollar amount — NOT a "per property" number. For example, the Village's levy for 2009 is \$10,853,901.

The County then determines how much it must tax property owners in any given district to reach that district's levy amount. This calculation generates the "property tax rate." The total of the rates applied to all districts applicable to a particular property is the "composite tax rate" (see flow chart).

What an individual property owner pays may go up or down depending on:

- How many other taxable properties are in the taxing jurisdiction

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The County determines your property's **market value (MV)**, based on its probable sale price.

The **assessed value (AV)** is a percentage calculated by multiplying the MV by the appropriate assessment level. Currently, the assessment level is 10% of a residential property's market value and 25% of a commercial property's market value.

Your AV is then **multiplied by a State "equalizer" or "multiplier"** to ensure a uniform assessment among all 102 Illinois counties. By law, the aggregate value of assessments within each county must be equalized at 33.33% of the estimated fair market value of the county's property.

The result is the **"Equalized Assessed Value" (EAV)** of your property. Any exemptions are then applied to reach an **"adjusted EAV."**

Your adjusted EAV is then **multiplied by a composite tax rate**, which is the total of all individual taxing district rates. For most taxpayers in Glenview, the 2008 composite rate was approximately 5.2%

The final amount you pay on your tax bill represents the **total payments to all the taxing districts** that serve the area in which your property is located.

Communicating with Your Elected Officials

Kerry D. Cummings

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cummingsvillage@ameritech.net

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Trustee James R. Patterson, Jr.

(847) 724-6599
jimpattersonjr@pattersonco.com

Trustee Philip O'C. White

(847) 832-0068
pwhitevillage@comcast.net

You can also write to the Village Manager's Office,
1225 Waukegan Road, Glenview, IL 60025 or fax
to (847) 724-1518.

Tax Dollar Watch

Village Partners with Wilmette to "Trim" Dollars

Last month, the *Village Report* noted that in these challenging financial times, the Village is continuously seeking creative partnerships that can either generate revenue or save public dollars. Now, a new partnership with the Village of Wilmette will help achieve this goal.

In January, the two Villages approved a joint three-year contract with Winkler's Tree and Landscaping, Inc. to provide tree-trimming services for both municipalities. The total bill for the three-year contract is \$135,000 -- and in 2010, Glenview's cost will be \$45,000.

This joint contract will not only result in an **annual savings of \$15,000 to the Village - it will actually improve our tree trimming services!**

- Due to cost constraints, the Village had shifted to a 12-year cycle for trimming trees. Now, it can shift back to a seven-year cycle.
- We'll be able to trim 800 more trees than was possible under the previous system.

From the Village President . . .

Willow Road Study: Public Open House Set for March 4



As most residents are aware, for many years the Village -- and the many Trustees who have served on its Board over time -- have supported the expansion of the 1.3 mile stretch of Willow Road through Northfield from a two-lane to a four-lane road. And over time it seems as though the issue rises and falls on the public agenda. Sometimes it appears that the Illinois Department of Transportation (which has jurisdiction over the road) is ready to move ahead with the expanded lanes, sometimes it appears that the process is dormant, and sometimes it seems that this stretch of roadway will remain as it is for the foreseeable future.

There have been recent developments, however, regarding the potential widening of Willow Road along this stretch, and I wanted to keep you in the loop.

In September, 2009, IDOT initiated a 24-month engineering and environmental study for Willow Road as it runs between Waukegan Road and the Edens Expressway. Why the new study? In this case, IDOT is working to meet new Federal and State requirements regarding project funding and expanding the communities involved in the planning process. All four communities most impacted by Willow -- Glenview, Northbrook, Northfield and Winnetka -- are participating in the study, with the goal of improving the overall safety and mobility of Willow Road.

As the study proceeds, there will be several avenues for public input. Next up is a **Public Open House and Workshop scheduled for Thursday, March 4**. We urge you to stop by the Renaissance Hotel, 933 Skokie Boulevard in Northbrook, between 4:30-7:30 p.m. to learn more about the process and provide feedback to the IDOT team.

In addition to public meetings and hearings, IDOT has established a formal Community Advisory Group (CAG), and several representatives from Glenview are involved, including:

- **Rick Filler**, President, Harlem Irving Companies
- **Kathy Miles**, President, Glenview Chamber of Commerce
- **Don Owen**, Director of Capital Projects, Village of Glenview
- **Jim Smirles**, Past Village President/Owner, Glen Oak Plaza

Alternate CAG members include:

- **Jeff Brady**, Director of Planning, Village of Glenview
- **Steve Bucklin**, Village Plan Commission/President & CEO, Glenbrook Security Services, Inc.
- **Nancy Firfer**, Past Village President/Senior Advisor, Chicago Metropolis 2020

This group will be closely involved in the study process -- and I hope you will also keep up with its progress. You can do this in a number of ways:

- Give us your input! We've set up a special email address: willowroadstudy@glenview.il.us -- just to collect feedback on this issue.
- Attend any public meetings if you can.
- Check www.glenview.il.us. You'll find a link on the home page to information about the Willow Road study.
- Visit IDOT's www.willowroadfuture.org website (you can also link to this site from our Willow Road webpage.)

Understanding Your Property Tax Bill . . .

continued from page one

- At what level they are assessed, and
- The annual levy amount.

But my property taxes have gotten higher in the past year — when housing values are decreasing. How can that be?

Because there are so many variables that come into play when property taxes are calculated, there are a number of reasons your own taxes might go up. For example:

- As noted above, each year taxing districts determine an overall levy amount. While housing values may be decreasing, the levy amounts requested by taxing districts are not necessarily going down. Thus, the County must sometimes raise the property tax rate to meet the various levy amounts.
- In many cases, levy requests from other districts have risen substantially more than the Village levy in the past few years.
- Since 1999, the state multiplier for Cook County (see flow chart on page one) has risen from 2.2505 to 2.9786. Each time it rises, your tax bill may go up.

But didn't the Village increase its property tax levy recently? Isn't that why my property taxes are so high?

No. While the Village Board did vote in December, 2009 on a 6.64 percent increase to the property tax levy for 2009:

- This increase will not appear on property tax bills until late in 2010.
- The average annual increase on a \$10,000 property tax bill **due to the change in the Village levy** is anticipated to be approximately \$29.

How much of my property tax payment actually goes to the Village?

In 2008, it was about seven percent. This compares with approximately 37 percent for Glenview School District 34, 26.6 percent for School District 225, and 8.1 percent for Cook County.

Looking for More Information on Property Taxes?

Contact the Cook County Assessor's Office at <http://cook-countyassessor.com/> or (312) 443-7550, or get in touch with your Township:

- **Maine** • (847) 297-2510 • <http://mainetownship.com/>
- **New Trier** • (847) 446-8202 • <http://newtriertownship.com/>
- **Niles** • (847) 673-9300 • <http://nilestownshipgov.org/>
- **Northfield** • (847) 724-8300 • <http://www.twp.northfield.il.us/>

*It's Time to Honor Our Own
Nominations are due Thursday, March 18
by 4 p.m. for the*

43rd Annual Glenview Civic Awards



Categories for 2009:

Citizen of the Year (must live or work in Glenview) • **Youth of the Year** (must be a Glenview resident in high school) • **Public Safety Award** (must be a Village police officer, firefighter or paramedic) • **Public Service Award** (must have given direct support to public authorities)

For more information about nominee requirements, call (847) 901-6100. Send your nominations and a detailed letter outlining their qualifications to **Sandie Elliott, Glenview Police Department, 2500 East Lake Avenue, Glenview, IL 60026.**

And Save the Date!

**The Civic Awards dinner will take place on
Friday, April 16**

Look for more information in your March Village Report

Sponsored by the American Legion, Glenview Women of Today, Kiwanis, Lions, Navy League, Optimist Club, the Luncheon Rotary Club, and the Glenview Chamber of Commerce and supported by the Glenview Police Department.

Whether you're new to Glenview or have lived here for years, don't miss the annual

Resident Open House

Saturday, February 20 • 9-11:30 a.m.
Park Center Lobby • 2400 Chestnut

Find out more about the Village, Park District, Library, Schools, Chamber of Commerce, Townships, Glenbrook Hospital, Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) and other community organizations at this free event.

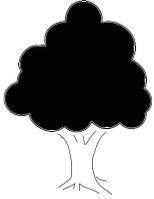
Refreshments • Community Policing • **Firefighters** • Free blood pressure checks by NorthShore University Health-System • **Voter Registration** (bring two pieces of ID with a current address) • Crafts for the kids • **Blood Drive sponsored by LifeSource and Chicago's North Shore Convention & Visitors Bureau** (bring a picture ID and eat before you come).

Glenview nonprofits, community groups and religious institutions are welcome to send up to 100 brochures to the Village Hall, 1225 Waukegan Road (deadline: Wednesday, February 17) for our community table.

Sponsored by the Village of Glenview; Coordinated by the Glenview Communicators Organization. Special thanks to Catered by Design for donating the refreshments! Questions? Call (847) 904.4371.

Go Green! Glenview

It's Time to Request Your Parkway Tree Type



The Village manages an ongoing parkway tree planting program in order to help keep Glenview green! Each year, new trees are planted along public parkways and unhealthy or dead trees are removed. Through this program, residents may request a specific type of tree to be planted on the parkway in front of their property.

The spring planting deadline for ordering trees is Friday, February 26. You can email your preference to treeplanting@glenview.il.us or call (847) 657-3030. We'll do our best to fulfill your request. Not sure what type of tree to ask for? On our tree planting page at www.glenview.il.us/departments/public_works/treeprogram.shtml you'll find a link to a list of trees commonly planted on Glenview parkways (and lots of other information as well!)

If we don't hear from you, we'll assume that you wish to have a tree planted in the parkway near your property – and that you have no preferred tree type. If you would prefer *not* to have a parkway tree planted/re-planted in the parkway near you home please contact the Village.

Unload 250 Pounds This Year!



Want to drop some ugly pounds -- and get paid to do it? Then shed that second working refrigerator or freezer that's sitting in your garage or basement. **Fridges and freezers that are 15 years or older can consume as much as \$150 per year in electricity.** Getting rid of old appliances can save you energy and lower your electric bill; and thanks to **ComEd's Smart Ideas Appliance Recycling**, it's easy.

Book your appointment online at www.ComEd.com/ApplianceRecycling. ComEd will pick up your appliance for FREE and recycle it, capturing the oils, refrigerants and metal and glass so they don't end up polluting our environment. ComEd will even send you a check for \$25 for each fridge or freezer you turn in! (Limit two).

Start the New Year off a little lighter. Book your pick up today at www.ComEd.com/ApplianceRecycling or call (888) 806-2273.

Looking for an easy way to stay in the loop?

Sign up now for

E-Glenview

Your free e-news source for all the latest Village news. Just visit www.glenview.il.us and click the E-Glenview link on the Home Page!

Coyote Caution



It's winter -- and that means that here in Glenview our native coyotes are likely to be out and about foraging for food. But there are ways to live peacefully with our wilder neighbors -- all it takes is a little preparation and caution.

- **Never attempt to feed a coyote.** That's how most bites occur.
- Coyotes have been known to attack unattended family pets, so **keep your dogs or cats indoors or in a pen** when you can't keep an eye on them.
- **Don't leave food bowls, toys or bones outside** and clean up scraps before dusk.
- **Close garbage cans tightly** and place them in a shed or your garage.
- **Cover window wells** and **repair cracked porch stoops.**
- **Repair weak, rotten areas** of roof, soffit, fascia board or wooden porch enclosures.

And if you see a sick or wounded coyote on your property - or if you have questions about anything having to do with local wildlife -- call Village Animal Control (see page 5).

Calling All Young Writers Grades 5-8!



Sharpener your pencils, fire up your keyboards and get ready for the **13th annual CHARACTER COUNTS! in Glenview Essay Contest.** Students in Grades 5-8 are invited to submit pieces (limit 350

words) on the topic of "Trustworthiness," one of the six pillars of character.

Essays will be accepted through February 26 and will be judged by a panel of professional writers. All entrants will receive a ribbon, and prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each category. Winners will also be recognized at the Village Board meeting on Tuesday, April 20 and 1st place essays will be published in the *Glenview Announcements*.

Submit your entry (be sure to include your name, address, grade, school and home telephone number on *each page*) to Barbara Littlefield at the Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road. Questions? Call Peggy O'Brien at (847) 729-3689.

Actions Taken By the Village Board of Trustees: January, 2010

Some agenda items are omitted due to space considerations. For more details visit www.glenview.il.us

Village President's Report

- Recognition of **State Representative Elaine Nekritz** for her assistance in securing more than \$450,000 in state funding for two projects: resurfacing of Glenview Road between Milwaukee Avenue and Elmdale and construction of a new salt storage facility.
- Recognition of the **Waukegan Road Corridor Committee**.
- Approval of two **liquor license requests**:
 - Class B (sale of beer and wine for consumption on the premises where food is served) for **Via Gelato, 1853 Tower Drive**.
 - Class A (sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises where food is served) for **Gulliver's, 4520 West Lake Avenue**.

Approved

- Environmental plan and conditional use ordinance for the **Glenview Park District's construction of a carriage house and pavilion at the Grove - 1421 Milwaukee Avenue**.
- Illinois Department of Transportation resolution **authorizing expenditure of \$1,250,000 in Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Funds** for the Village's 2010 Road Resurfacing and Minor Area Repair Strategy (MARS) Program.
- Agreement for a 20-year \$820,132 loan from the Water Pollution Control Program through the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for the **Reach 1 Habitat Improvement Project (along the river from Willow south to the Techny Basin Spillway)**. Due to American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding, repayment of 25 percent of this loan will be waived; the remaining 75 percent of the loan carries no interest.
- Participation in the Northern Illinois Electricity Cooperative one-year bid for **supplying electricity to the Village's water pumping stations**.
- Conditional use for the **construction of a salt dome in Community Park West**. *Vote 5-1.*
- Contract and bid awards for:
 - **Tree trimming services for the Village of Glenview and Wilmette** to Winkler's Tree and Landscaping, Inc. Three-year contract. Budget: \$135,000. Cost to Glenview in 2010 will be \$45,000. See page two.
 - **MUNIS consulting services** to Baecore Group. Budget: \$134,000.
 - **Supplemental engineering services for Chestnut/Waukegan intersection improvements** to James J. Benes and Associates, Inc. Budget: \$57,241.

Denied

- Extension of expiration of the rezoning application period for **Meier's Tavern, 235 East Lake Avenue**. *Vote 4-2. As a result of this denial, the application itself is, in effect, denied.*

Key Village Contact Numbers • All numbers are area code (847)

24-hour Police/Fire/Ambulance	911
Police non-emergency (includes animal control)	729-5000
Fire non-emergency	724-2141
Village Switchboard	724-1700
Administrative Services	904-4350
<i>commuter parking, permit payment, recycling bins, mapping, voter registration, water billing.</i>	<i>Water Billing: 724-3112</i>
Capital Projects	998-9500
<i>capital projects, Glen redevelopment, engineering</i>	
Development	904-4330
<i>building, fire & health inspections, liquor licenses, planning, private tree inspections</i>	
	<i>Inspection Requests: 904-4320</i>
	<i>Property Maintenance Complaints: 904-4340</i>
Manager's Office	904-4370
<i>Freedom of Information Act requests, senior services, block party/special event permits, communications, Glenview Television, human resources, economic development.</i>	
Public Works	657-3030
<i>snow plowing, street maintenance, water/sewer problems, public tree maintenance/concerns, natural resources.</i>	

Service requests may also be submitted at www.glenview.il.us -- choose "Ask A Question/Request a Service" from the Home Page.



It's Our Town, Please Slow Down!

Here are the February notifications of *major* speed RADAR "hot spots" and stop sign/traffic light enforcement. Our goal is to promote safe driving in Glenview!

RADAR "Hot Spots": 1600 block Constitution Drive
 • 1200 block Lehigh Avenue • 2400-2600 block Greenwood Road • 1900 block Glenview Road • 800-900 block Laramie

Stop sign and stop light enforcement: Elmwood & Brandon • Polo & Wagner • Highland & Knollwood • Maple Leaf & Strawberry

Farewell to Howard Silver

Longtime Plan Commission Chair Steps Down

In January, Plan Commission Chairman **Howard Silver** stepped down from his position and retired from the Commission. Mr. Silver joined the Plan Commission in 1985, and served as its Chair for eight years. During his tenure he also served as the Chair of the Naval Air Station Base Reuse Taskforce, which guided the redevelopment of The Glen, and on numerous Village commissions and committees that helped shape our community.

President Kerry Cummings noted, "We will miss Howard's talents and contributions. Much has changed in Glenview over the past 25 years and his watchful eye has kept our community beautiful with thoughtful development."

Seniors: Do You Know What Financial Assistance Programs Are Available to You?

Join the Senior Services Division on **Thursday, February 18** for this free seminar featuring Mary Ennis, North Shore Senior Center Benefits Specialist. Program time: 1 p.m. at the Glenview Senior Center, 2400 Chestnut.



What's On Tap This Month

Unless otherwise noted, coverage of these events will be aired after the event date.

- **Glenview Chamber of Commerce Heart of Glenview.** February 1.
- **A Daily Money Manager - Should You and Your Family Have One?** North Shore Senior Center. February 16.
- **Simple Gifts Concert Series: Atmospheric.** Glenview Senior Center. February 19.

Programming subject to change without notice. Before you watch, check the GVTV schedule at www.glenview.il.us. GVTV airs on channel 17 or 6, depending on your neighborhood, and carries Board and Plan Commission meetings live.

Village of Glenview Upcoming Public Meetings: February



Meetings are held at the Village Hall, 1225 Waukegan Road (unless otherwise noted). From time to time there are changes, so call (847) 904-4370 to check meeting status.

Meeting	Date & Time
Board of Trustees <i>Kerry Cummings, President</i>	February 4 & 16, 7:30 p.m.
Appearance Commission <i>John Hedrick, Chair</i>	February 3 & 17, 7:30 p.m.
Historic Preservation Commission <i>David Silver, Chair</i>	February 8, 7:30 p.m.
Natural Resources Commission <i>Kent Fuller, Chair</i>	February 15, 7 p.m.
Plan Commission	February 9 & 23, 7 p.m.
Zoning Board of Appeals <i>Ron Greco, Chair</i>	February 15, 7 p.m.
<i>Trustee and Plan Commission Meetings air live on GVTV, stream live at www.glenview.il.us, and may also be accessed online after the meetings.</i>	

Senior Housing Assistance Program Update

Applications for the **2010 Village Senior Housing Assistance Program**, designed to assist Glenview residents with property taxes or rent, will be accepted between **February 8-19**. You can find applications at:

- Village Hall, 1225 Waukegan (or www.glenview.il.us)
- Glenview Public Library, 1930 Glenview Road
- North Shore Senior Center, 161 Northfield Road Northfield
- Glenview Senior Center, 2400 Chestnut.

Recipients are selected by need; to qualify, you must meet certain age and income limits. For information visit our website or call Kim Hand, Senior Services Coordinator at (847) 904-4366.

ECR WSS

TO: Postal Patron

Glenview, IL

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