



CHANGES TO UPCOMING TAX BILLS IN 2020 DUE TO COVID-19

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, there will be changes to the tax bills on the 2019 Grand List, which are scheduled to be mailed in June 2020.

Normally, tax bills mailed in June each year are due by July 1st, with an interest-free grace period to the first business day in August.

It is still Manchester's plan to send tax bills in June 2020 as usual. Real estate tax bills will still have two equal half installments, with the first installment "due" for July 1, 2020, and the second installment due for January 1, 2021. Motor vehicle tax bills sent in June 2020 will still be payable one, single installment "due" for July 1, 2020. Personal property tax bills sent in June 2020 will still be payable in one, single installment "due" for July 1, 2020 if the tax bill is under \$400.00. Personal property tax bills sent in June 2020, that are \$400.00 or more will still have two equal half installments with the first installment "due" for July 1, 2020, and the second installment due for January 1, 2021.

For all tax bills sent in June 2020, the interest-free grace period is being automatically extended from August until October 1, 2020. This means that you can pay your tax bill on the 2019 Grand List at any time between June 2020 and October 1, 2020, without any interest penalty or late fee. Tax bills must either be received or have a valid United States Postal Service Postmark dated October 1, 2020, or earlier to be considered on-time. A Postage mark from any other service provider other than the United States Postal Service is not considered valid evidence of timely mailing. **Taxpayers do not have to request an extension to pay by October 1, 2020; the deferment resolution extending the grace period to October 1, 2020, is automatic.**

If tax bills are not paid by October 1, 2020, interest will be applied at the statutorily required interest rate of 1.5% per month, retroactive to July 1, 2020. The Town of Manchester Office of Assessment & Collection cannot waive or reduce interest once it is applied to tax bills.

All Manchester taxpayers are urged to mark their calendars for July 2020, and prior to October 1, 2020, and prior to February 1, 2021 (if applicable) with tax payment due date reminders. If you do not receive your tax bill in the mail, please contact the Town of Manchester Office of Assessment. Not receiving the tax bill does not invalidate the tax bill or the interest.

If you are a participant in the Senior Homeowners Program, the Senior Volunteer Tax Credit Program, or the H.E.L.P. Senior Tax Deferral Program, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, you do not have to refile by May 15th this year. Participants in those programs will automatically be extended without a renewal application. If you are not currently a participant in these programs and wish to apply for the first time, you will have to file an application by May 15th because we have no way of knowing you qualify for these programs unless you file an application.

If you have any questions or need any further assistance, please contact the Town of Manchester Office of Assessment and Collection by calling **860-647-3018**, or emailing **collector@manchesterct.gov**.