

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS Town of West Tisbury

Important information Regarding Your Tax Bill

Under “An Act to Address Challenges Faced by Municipalities and State Authorities Resulting From COVID-19,” Chapter 53 of the Acts of 2020, the Town of West Tisbury has adopted local options to extend due dates for real and personal property tax payments and applications for exemptions and a waiver of interest on certain municipal tax and other bills paid before June 30, 2020. See below.

1. **The due date of your real and personal property tax bill has been extended to June 1, 2020.** June 1, 2020 is the new due date even if the due date for payment on your enclosed or previously mailed tax bill was May 1, 2020.

2. **The due date for applications for property tax exemptions has also been extended to June 1, 2020.** June 1, 2020 is the new due date even if the due date for applications on your enclosed or previously mailed tax bill was April 1, 2020.

This extension applies to applications for the exemptions listed in the third paragraph of G.L. c. 59, § 59, including exemptions under clauses 17, 17C, 17C1/2 and 17D (seniors, surviving spouses, minor children of deceased parent); 18 (financial hardship – activated military, age and infirmity); 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 22F and 22H (veterans, surviving spouses and surviving parents); 37 and 37A (blind persons); 41, 41B, 41C and 41C1/2 (seniors); 42 and 43 (surviving spouse and minor children of firefighter/police officer killed in line of duty); 52 (certain eligible seniors); 53 (certain eligible properties with septic systems); 56 (National Guard and reservists on active duty in foreign countries); and 57 (local option tax rebates). This extension also automatically applies to applications for residential exemptions under G.L. c. 59, § 5C, for small commercial exemptions under G.L. c. 59, § 5I and for deferrals under G.L. c. 59, § 5, clauses 41A (seniors) and 18A (poverty or financial hardship due to change to active military).

3. The Town has also voted to waive interest and other penalty for late payment of any excise, real estate or personal property tax for any payments **with a due date on or after March 10, 2020 where payment is made late but before June 30, 2020.** This applies to late payments of bills that have a due date of March 10, 2020 or after, when such bills are paid late but paid on or before June 29. NOTE: This waiver of interest does not apply to bills with due dates before March 10, 2020 or if the bill is not paid by June 29.

NOTE - If the municipal offices are closed on the June 1, 2020 extended due date for tax payments or filing of exemption applications as a result of the outbreak of the 2019 novel coronavirus or the declaration of a state of emergency issued by the governor on March 10, 2020, **the due dates for tax payments and applications for exemptions are not extended – they will be due on June 1, 2020 even if the municipal offices are closed. (See section 10(b) of the Act.)**

We encourage you to make your payment as follows:

- With the exception of MV Excise tax, where it is not permitted, **partial payments are strongly encouraged** if you cannot pay the entire balance!
- By mailing it to the Woburn MA address shown on your tax bill; our Lockbox service continues to operate.
- By paying it online at <https://epay.cityhallsystems.com> where you can pay by electronic check for a fee of 50 cents or with a credit card with a fee of 3% of the payment amount.
- Dropping off your payment in the drop box located in the lobby of Town Hall – this option is the least desirable as it exposes both you and our staff to more risk.

For questions about your tax bill, you may call 508-696-0108 and leave a message or email the Treasurer/Collector at treasurer@westtisbury-ma.gov; for questions about an exemption or abatement application, please call 508-696-0101 and leave a message or email the Assessors at assessors@westtisbury-ma.gov. This notice and other COVID-19 related information can all be found on the Town website at www.westtisbury-ma.gov.