

Part 2

Tax Bills

One of the responsibilities of owning property is paying property taxes to help cover the cost of services provided; such as roads, schools, health and human services, police and fire protection to name a few. Each town, village, school district, and county adopts an annual budget for the services provided to the public. They each look at anticipated revenues coming in and anticipated expenses going out for the services that are provided. The difference between revenue and expenses is the tax levy. The state's reforestation levy is determined by the state legislature. Each year, in the fall, school districts, towns, villages and the county hold a Public Hearing on their proposed budget. These meetings are open to everyone.

Tax bills are mailed out by each town or village treasurer in mid-December each year. Taxpayers have the option of paying their property taxes in full by January 31 or if the taxpayer chooses to pay their taxes in installments, the first installment must be made to the proper town or village treasurer by January 31 and the second installment must be made to the county treasurer by July 31. If these deadlines are not met, the unpaid tax balance becomes delinquent and accrues interest at a rate of an additional 1% per month.

By August 20, the state, towns, villages, schools and tech colleges will have received their full tax levy amounts through the tax settlement process. The county does not receive their full amount that was levied, due to taxpayers who have let their property taxes go delinquent. Taxpayers whose property taxes are delinquent are using the services provided by the county, schools, towns, villages or tech colleges, but they are not paying their share.

Failure to receive a tax bill does not relieve a taxpayer of any interest that has accrued. It is the responsibility of the taxpayer to make sure the county or town or village has a current mailing address. If the taxpayer does not receive their property tax bill, they need to contact the town or village treasurer or the county treasurer's office and a copy of your tax bill will be provided. Taxpayers can print a copy of their tax bill and tax receipt from the County's web site: www.burnettcounty.com Property Tax Search.

Tax bills list each taxing jurisdiction and the amount of tax on an individual bill that is associated with each taxing jurisdiction. The largest portion of taxes in Burnett County goes to the school districts within the County.