

VILLAGE OF TWIN LAKES PROPERTY TAX BILL INFORMATION

Please keep the following information in mind as you make plans to pay your property tax bill. In addition, this brochure provides important annual reminders to all residents and property owners in Twin Lakes.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- **Mail** your first or full payment payable to the Village of Twin Lakes, PO Box 1024, Twin Lakes, Wisconsin, 53181.**
- **Pay online or by phone** at Official Payments Corporation. Visit the Village website, www.villageoftwinlakes.net for details and links for online payments. To pay by phone, call 1-800-272-9829 and use Jurisdiction Code 6722. Major credit cards may be used for these transactions and a service fee applies.
- **Drop** your payment in the secure drop box outside the main entrance to the Village Hall 24 hours a day.**
- **Bring** your payment to the counter at the Village Hall Monday through Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm except December 23 and 26 and January 2 and 3.

**Taxpayers wishing a receipt must include a self addressed and stamped envelope.

PAYMENT DEADLINES & INFORMATION

- **First installments and full payments** are due by **January 31** and are payable to the Village of Twin Lakes.
- **Second installment** is due by **July 31** and is payable to the Kenosha County Treasurer, 1010 56th Street, Kenosha WI 53140. (or online at www.officialpayments.com)
- A December 31 postmark or deposit in the Village Hall drop box by that date will be the last date considered for a 2011 posting. A postmark of January 31 or deposit in the Village Hall drop box by that date will be considered a timely payment.

REFUNDS AND CHARGES

- **Payments by Escrow Checks** - Refunds will be made by Village check via the mail only. There will be no cash refunds.
- **Payments by Personal Checks** - No refunds. Personal Check must be written for the exact amount of the taxes. Check written in the incorrect amount may be returned.
- A **\$30.00 service fee** will be charged on all returned checks.
- Post dated checks will not be accepted and will be returned.

NOTICE TO ALL DOG/CAT OWNERS (FULL-TIME RESIDENTS ONLY)

Licensing Period January 1 through December 31

State Statute and Village Ordinance require all dogs/cats 5 months of age or older to be licensed.

A \$5.00 penalty is assessed for any license not obtained prior to April 1, or within 30 days of acquiring ownership of a licensable dog/cat.

All animals found untagged will be subject to penalty for ordinance violation.

Households are limited by ordinance to a total of three (3) domestic animals.

Written veterinarian proof is required for the following when obtaining your annual license:

- ▶ Annual license for an animal that has not been previously licensed
- ▶ A change in status (spayed or neutered)
- ▶ Upon the expiration of the rabies vaccine from the previous year.

Village Code requires removal of any dog waste created by the animal on property not belonging to the owner or person in control of the dog. Some means of removing dog waste shall be carried on your person when not on your own property.

Please be considerate of other's property.

IF YOU HAVE RENTAL PROPERTY, PLEASE
NOTIFY YOUR RENTERS THEY ALSO NEED TO
OBTAIN A DOG/CAT LICENSE

Please complete the form to the left.

SEE NOTICE TO ALL DOG/CAT OWNERS IN THIS FLYER FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION
(ADD \$1.00 FOR SHIPPING AND HANDLING FOR ALL MAILED LICENSES)

Owner Name: _____ Last _____ First _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Vet Name _____

Dog/cat Info: Name: _____ Color: _____ Breed: _____

STATUS:

DOGS: Male:(\$8.00) _____ Neutered Male:(\$3.00) _____ Female(\$8.00) _____ Spayed Female(\$3.00) _____

CATS: Male:(\$7.00) _____ Neutered Male: (\$3.00) _____ Female(\$7.00) _____ Spayed Female(\$3.00) _____

Date of Rabies Shot: _____ Expiration of Rabies shot: _____

TOTAL INCLUDED: _____ (Include \$1 S/H for mailed applications) **(Remember to enclose your veterinary proof as necessary)**

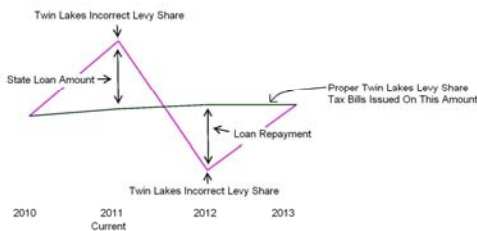
EQUALIZED VALUE ERROR AND YOUR TAX BILL

As many taxpayers will recall from recent media coverage, the Department of Revenue issued its annual certified Equalized Values for all municipalities on August 15, 2011. When this year's certifications were made, it was discovered that the Department had mistakenly increased Twin Lakes property values, which was contrary to the data submitted by our Assessor. In fact, like most Kenosha County municipalities, the data showed that Twin Lakes had seen a reduction in property values of eight or nine percent or as much as \$70 million.

The result of this mistake in overvaluing Twin Lakes would cause our taxpayers to pay more than their share of school and State taxes – perhaps as much as \$800,000. Due to the timing of certification and certain school finance activities throughout the State, no change could be made to the current certified Equalized Value to correct the mistake.

Normally, this type of mistake would take two tax years to correct. When a mistake of this sort is discovered, the over taxation of the first year is offset by an artificial under taxation in the second year. As a result, proper taxes are paid over the two-year period. However, because of the relatively large overpayment this error would cause (averaging over \$200 per parcel), steps were taken to deal with the situation **before** it went on the tax bill.

Working with the State and our local Legislators, State Law was amended to allow the Department of Revenue to loan the Village enough money to reduce each tax bill to the proper amount. While the tax levies from each taxing body will reflect the error, the loan funds will offset the mistake in Twin Lakes. As a result, the tax bill each tax payer received reflects the proper amount of taxes that should have been paid if no mistake had been made. The no-interest loan will be paid back to the State in 2013 by again making a proper charge on the tax bill. The chart below may help explain this visually.



REFUSE/RECYCLING - Charges for Sanitation services, including refuse and recycling collection, reflect the actual cost of providing these services to residents. A flat charge per residential unit based on the chart below has been placed on the tax bill (vacant parcels excluded).

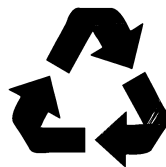
95-gallon service	\$145.36
65-gallon service	\$139.36
35-gallon service	\$133.36

There are no major changes to the refuse and recycling collection program. At all service levels, garbage and bulk refuse items are collected weekly and recycling is collected every other week. Information on the program details, including the collection calendar and map as well as collection rules, is available on at the Village Hall or on the Village website (www.villageoftwinlakes.net). A collection calendar and map will be mailed with Sewer bills in January.

As a reminder, residents are able to reduce the costs of garbage and recycling collection by reducing the amount of garbage put out for collection and thereby reducing the size of the garbage toter. Residents are allowed to make a change once annually.

Please review this information and if you would like to reduce your refuse toter size, please indicate your preference on the form at the right and return it to the Village Hall. The switch in toters will be made and a refund of the difference in price will be mailed to you via check (*in order to ensure that your tax bill is credited correctly, you must pay the full cost of the refuse and recycling assessment as shown on your tax bill*).

Persons with questions regarding this may contact the Village Hall at 262-877-2858 or via e-mail at info@twinlakeswi.net.



Please decrease my toter size to:

65 gallon refuse toter/95 gallon recycling toter \$139.36 _____

35 gallon refuse toter/95 gallon recycling toter \$133.36 _____

Property Owner Name _____ Phone: _____

Local Address: _____ Parcel Number: _____

Mailing Address (If Different): _____

Please return this slip to the Village Hall if you are requesting a reduced size refuse toter. A refund will be sent by check.

VILLAGE OF TWIN LAKES
P.O. BOX 1024
TWIN LAKES, WI 53181
262-877-2858