

Salem Dispatch

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Town of Salem Property Tax Remains the Same 2013 Adopted Budget Results in No Tax Increase Levy Remains the Same for Four Straight Years

Property Tax Levy.

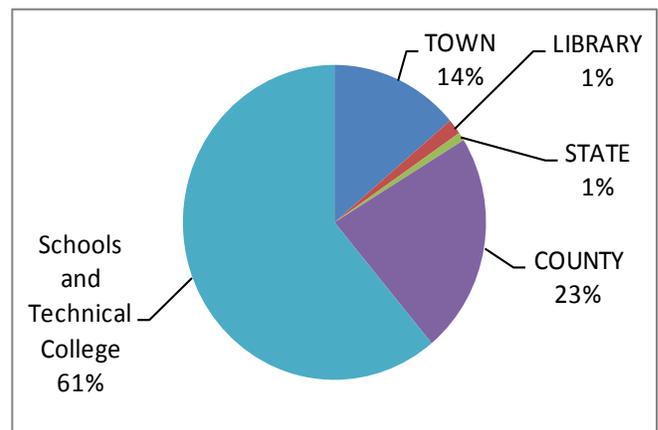
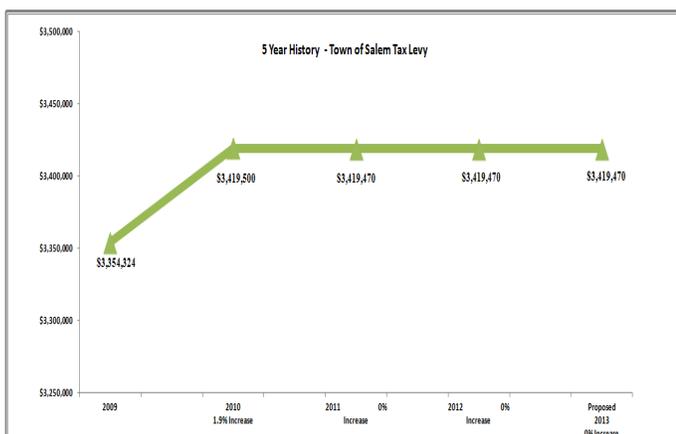
The Town Electors meeting, held on November 19, 2012, established the tax levy rate for 2012. The tax levy amount for the Town of Salem for 2013 remains the same as 2012. The 2013 levy is \$3,419,470 which represents a 0% increase over the adopted 2012 tax levy. This is the third year in a row that the Town of Salem's portion of the levy has not increased. This results in the Town of Salem's share of the total mil-rate being set at \$3.013 per \$1,000 of value. **An individual tax bill may increase or decrease depending on levy amounts assessed by county government, local school districts, or changing property values.**

Cost of Town Services:

The Town of Salem accounts for 12 to 14% of the annual homeowners tax bill. The owner of a property valued at \$200,000 would pay approximately \$600 annually to support Town supplied services. This is \$1.63 per day for Fire Service, Paramedic Service, Street and Roadway Maintenance, Snow Plowing, Water Patrol, Parks, Ordinance Enforcement, Planning and Zoning, and Administrative Support.

Understanding Where Your Tax Dollars Go

Your tax bill includes many units of government. The example below gives an indication of where a resident of Salem tax dollars go. The Town of Salem in this instance is only 14% of the tax bill whereas the two school districts and the technical college make up 61% of the tax bill.



Winter Public Safety Information



The Town of Salem is again gearing up for the Winter season and is asking its' residents to inspect their properties and remove all obstructions or debris from the road right ways that could affect plowing operations. A reminder..... that it is against the law to push snow into the roadways from driveways or yards. Every year in areas that have deep ditch lines the Town deals with the same issue. Ditch lines that traditionally carry large amounts of drainage water are plugged tight with ice and snow from local snow plow operators. This costs the Town significant time and money to clear these ditch lines and creates flooding issues for area residents. Please refrain from pushing snow into the ditches as it is against the law and local ordinance.

Please think of your neighbors who may be elderly or simply unable to shovel snow when the winter weather arrives. Help a neighbor and perhaps earn a friend. Christmas and the winter months bring out the criminal element. Report all suspicious vehicles or persons to the Kenosha Sheriff's Department as it may save a family from being victims of theft or burglary.

Expired Medication

The local "take back" program for unwanted or expired medications sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration and local law enforcement completed its first six month collection cycle and it was a huge success. The Town of Salem alone collected approximately 26 pounds of the 266 pounds total for Kenosha County. Here are some additional facts for this program:



- ◆ Wisconsin collected 9.9 Tons or 19,820 pounds of medications second only to New York State
- ◆ Nationally.....188.5 Tons was collected at 5,327 collection sites in all (50) fifty states

The amount of prescription drugs collected by area residents speaks volumes of just how important this program is to the local public. These are drugs that are not ending up in the hands of persons prone to drug abuse or in our local water systems. Remember the Town of Salem accepts medications (Mon-Fri) during regular business hours. Guidelines for medication drop off include:

Acceptable

- Prescription medications
- Over the counter medications
- Ointments
- Sprays
- Inhalers
- Creams
- Pet Medications

Unacceptable

- liquids
- intra-venous solutions
- illegal drugs
- biohazard materials
- needles/sharps or syringes
- injectibles

Please remove all medications from bottles and place into a zip lock bag for drop off. This saves shipping costs for transport to the incinerator. The plastic bottles may be recycled when appropriate. In the near future liquids will be accepted and placed into paint cans for proper disposal.

Put a Freeze on Winter Fires

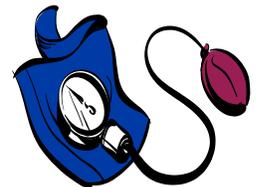
The United States Fire Administration and the National Fire Protection Association have recently begun a new fire safety campaign called "Put a Freeze on Winter Fires". The purpose of this new campaign is to stress fire safety during the winter months. Statistics show that each winter there are approximately 108,500 residential structure fires in the U.S. costing over 1.7 billion in property loss damages. Of these fires approximately 36% are caused by cooking and 23% are caused by heating appliances. With the cold winter months and holiday seasons fast approaching the Town of Salem Fire/Rescue has put together the following list of safety recommendations to abide by this winter season.

- ◆ Never leave the kitchen when frying, grilling, or broiling food.
- ◆ Never use grills or turkey fryers inside a structure or on a wooden deck.
- ◆ Check all extension cords and holiday lights for damage. Never try to repair them yourself.
- ◆ Space heaters require space; keep all flammable material at least 3 feet away from them.
- ◆ Keep live Christmas trees well watered.
- ◆ Never leave candles unattended.
- ◆ Never use your oven to heat your home. Ovens are not designed for this purpose and can emit poisonous carbon monoxide into your home.



Town of Salem Fire/Rescue Services

- ◆ Child Passenger Safety Inspections. Contact a Technician at 262-843-2439 to schedule a child passenger seat inspection.
- ◆ Provide Blood Pressure Checks at the station or for your business or organization.
- ◆ Home Fire Safety Inspections. Have the department perform a courtesy home safety inspection.
- ◆ Fire extinguisher class available for your business. Call 262-843-2439 for information.



NOTICE – DOG OWNERS, TOWN OF SALEM -

Dog Licenses are due as of January 1, 2013. Every person who owns, harbors or keeps a dog more than five (5) months of age on January 1, 2013 or five (5) months of age within the license year shall annually, or within 30 days from date such dog becomes 5 months of age, pay his dog license tax and obtain a license therefore, as provided by the provisions of Chapter 174 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

The license year commences on January 1st and ends on the following December 31st. An additional **\$5.00 LATE FEE** will be charged **on or after April 1st** or after the 30-day period has elapsed in the case of new dogs and young dogs. Proof of valid certification of rabies vaccination must be provided. All dogs over the age of 4 months are required to be vaccinated for rabies by a veterinarian and re-vaccinated one year later and every 3 years thereafter.

A Dog Kennel License must be applied for when more than 4 adult dogs are kept for any purpose.

FOLLOWING ARE DOG LICENSE FEES AND REQUIREMENTS

\$5.00 for each neutered male or spayed female dog upon presentation that the dog is neutered or spayed.

\$10.00 for each unneutered male or unsprayed female dog.

\$5.00 late fee after April 1.



