

User Guide to the **Taxpayers Receipt Box** in Feb/May Great Barrington Real Estate Tax Bill

TAXPAYER'S RECEIPT

Bill Date	Bill No.
ACTUAL REAL ESTATE TAX	
TOTAL TAX + SP. ASSESS. DUE:	
PRELIMINARY TAX:	
ABATEMENT/EXEMPTION:	
GB FIRE DISTRICT TAX	\$0.00
CPA TAX	\$0.00
PAYMENTS MADE:	
INTEREST DUE:	
TOTAL BALANCE OVERDUE:	
AMOUNT DUE 2/1/2024:	
AMOUNT DUE 5/1/2024:	
TOTAL DUE 2/1/2024:	

Prepared by the Finance Committee

Please note that this User Guide is intended to help taxpayers understand their tax bill. The formal authority for these matters resides with the Town and the Great Barrington Fire District.

NOTE: Any questions regarding Assessed Value should be directed to the Assessor's Office.

We are currently in Fiscal 2024 (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024)

Quarter 1 – (payment due Aug 1, 2023). Quarter 2 – (payment due Nov 1, 2023)
Quarter 3 – (payment due Feb 1, 2024). Quarter 4 – (payment due May 1, 2024)

Lines Under "TAXPAYER'S RECEIPT" on the middle right hand side of the Bill		
1	Actual Real Estate Tax	This amount is the sum of up to 3 separate taxes (amounts as of as of 1/1/24): 1. Great Barrington FY 2024 property tax is \$13.89 per \$1,000 or 1.389% of assessed value 2. ONLY For water customers of the Great Barrington Fire District, a tax of \$1.59 per \$1,000 or 0.159% of assessed value. Customers of Housatonic Water Works do not pay this tax. 3. The Community Preservation act surtax which is 3% of the property tax after discounting the first \$100,000 of assessed value.
2	Total Tax + Sp. assess	This line would include any special tax assessments due – there are none at this time.
3	Preliminary Tax	This amount billed for the first 2 quarters is an estimate equal to the actual real estate tax from the prior year increased by 2.0% and then divided by 2.
4	Abatement/Exemption	Please contact the Assessor's Office with any questions regarding assessment. https://www.townofgb.org/assessor
5	GB Fire District Tax	The Great Barrington Fire District (GBFD) is a government entity that sets its own tax rate and operates independently from the Town. It provides water distribution services to a majority of the Town (water for the remaining customers is provided by Housatonic Water Works and billed separately). * GBFD customers pay two separate bills – Part A is a usage fee billed separately by GBFD and Part B is a tax calculated as a percentage of assessed property value (see row 1 above). This Part B tax is included in the town's property tax bill for administrative efficiency. * The GBFD tax rates for the last few years are listed below. Note that the FY 24 rate increase was approved at the GBFD Tax Classification meeting December 23, 2023 and is intended for specific capital improvement projects (the minutes for this meeting along with other information are available at https://www.greatbarringtonwater.org). Note that the full amount of the FY 24 GBFD increase was allocated to the 3 rd and 4 th quarter bills – making the percentage increase look larger than it actually is on a full year basis → GBFD Tax rate. (per \$1,000 of assessed value) FY 2024: \$1.59 FY 2023: \$1.01 FY 2022: \$1.03 FY 2021: \$0.73
6	CPA Tax	The Community Preservation Act (CPA) is a statewide program that was adopted by GB in 2012. As described further in the Town website, proceeds of this surtax are supplemented by funds from the state and used for a variety of community projects. https://www.townofgb.org/community-preservation-committee . The surtax amount is fixed at 3% of the property tax amount after discounting the first \$100,000 of assessed value. As a result, the surtax amount changes with assessed valuations. → Calculation of the CPA tax is (\$13.89/\$1000) x (Assessed value - \$100,000) x .03 (3% rate).
7	Payments Made	Row 3 less any unpaid amounts
8	Interest Due	
9	Total Balance Overdue	
10	Amount Due 2/1/2024	The sum of Row 1 less Row 3 divided by 2
11	Amount Due 5/1/2024	The sum of Row 1 less Row 3 divided by 2
12	Total Due 2/1/2024	Row 10 repeated