

New Medina County tax rates announced

School levies for Highland and Wadsworth, as well as an increased levy for Medina Township Police, will cause many county residents to see higher real estate tax bills in 2012. Those residents sharing school districts with Wayne or Ashland Counties will also see increases due to reappraisals in those neighboring counties. Most other county residents will see slight decreases in their 2012 rates. Residents living in Medina Township, Highland Schools saw the largest increase in tax rates - 9.07 mills. Property owners there were affected by both the Highland School levy as well as an increase for township police. Residents throughout the Highland district - Sharon, Hinckley, Montville Townships as well as Wadsworth City, will see increases in the 6.8 to 6.9-mill range. This equates to increased taxes of approximately \$210 per year per \$100,000 of valuation.

Most residents in the Brunswick City School District and Medina City School District will see their tax rates slightly decrease, due to reduced bond millage in Brunswick and the removal of a permanent improvement levy in Medina. Changes in tax rates left Montville Township, Medina Schools with the highest tax rate in the county at 62.21 mills. Brunswick Hills, Brunswick Schools was second, at 62 mills. Both districts were 1-2 last year also. With their successful levies, Medina Township, Medina Schools claimed the third highest spot at 61.90 mills after being sixth highest last year. Lafayette Township and Sharon Township, Medina Schools round out the top five highest tax districts in the county.

Medina City, Buckeye Schools district now has the lowest property tax rate in the county at 42.40 mills, taking over that spot from Spencer Township, Black River Schools. Although no new levies were passed in Spencer, residents there were affected by the reappraisal that occurred in Ashland County last year. Liverpool Township, Spencer Township, York Township and Westfield Center Village round out the five lowest tax rates in the county.

Property owners can see the new tax rates online at www.medinacountyauditor.org. Residents can expect to see tax bills mailed out sometime in mid-January by the treasurer's office, with a due date of approximately Feb. 10. Medina County did not receive final tax rates from the state until Dec. 30, due to reappraisals being conducted in surrounding counties.