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Third Quarter FY21 Tax Bills

The Town of Dedham operates on a fiscal year that starts on July 1st and ends on June 30th each year. We use a quarterly tax billing system, meaning we mail tax bills four times per year:

- First quarter: July 1 (Preliminary Tax Bill)
- Second quarter: October 1 (Preliminary Tax Bill)
- Third quarter: January 1 (Actual Tax Bill)
- Fourth quarter: April 1 (Actual Tax Bill)

Therefore, be on the lookout for your **3rd QUARTER** tax bill for Fiscal Year 2021.

The 3rd Quarter actual tax bills will have the new valuation set by the Assessors and approved by the Department of Revenue as well as the new set tax rate approved by our local Select Board. Your actual tax is calculated by taking the new assessment valuation per thousand multiplied by the new tax rate. The actual tax due is the balance remaining after the first and second preliminary tax installments are credited against the total tax due and is payable in two equal installments split on the 3rd and 4th Quarter Tax Bill.

The Fiscal Year 2022 Tax Rates are as follows:

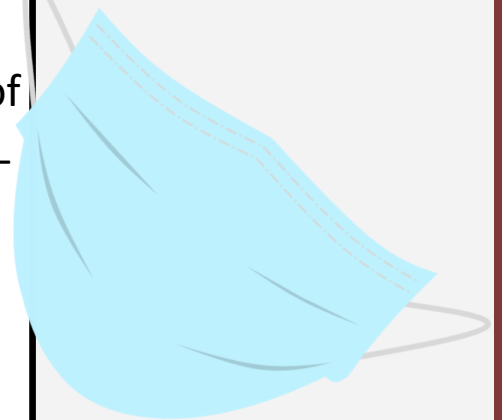
- Residential: **\$13.35** (per \$1,000 of assessed value)
- CIP: **\$27.93** (per \$1,000 of assessed value)

Continued on page 3

January 2022

Public meetings are being held in person and re-motely. The state's Open Meeting Law allows public bodies to continue providing live adequate, alternative means to enable local governments to carry out essential functions. This Act includes an extension, until April 1, 2022, per the governor's emergency order. Please refer to [the Town calendar](#) and [Dedham Public Schools calendar](#) to view public meetings and agendas.

Face masks/face coverings are required for all individuals aged 2 years or older*, regardless of vaccination status, when inside all Town of Dedham municipal buildings. (*Except where an individual is unable to wear a face mask / face covering due to a medical condition or disability.)



Town of Dedham
450 Washington Street
Dedham, MA 02026
www.dedham-ma.gov

Assessors Office

Third Quarter FY21 Tax Bills

(Continued from cover)

While there was a decrease in the tax rates, most residents still saw an increase in their overall tax bills due to the significant increase in residential property values. Due to the pandemic, the residential values increased at a much higher rate than overall commercial values which caused an increase of 1.2 percent in the residential share when looking at the overall share of property taxes (residential share increased from 67.5% to 68.7%).

The assessment value of the average single family home in Dedham increased from \$550,083 last year to \$597,742 this year, an increase in value of 8.66%. The average single family home tax bill increased \$460 from \$7,520 last year to \$7,980 this year, an increase of 6.12%.

Fiscal Year 2022 Assessment Values are how the properties exist as of January 1st 2021. Residential values are based on sales activity **during the calendar year 2020** while CIP (commercial, industrial and personal property) values are derived based on market data (income and expenses, data sheets, etc) from calendar 2020. Fiscal Year 2022 Assessment Values are printed on the 3rd Quarter tax bill, but can also be found online at:

<http://gis.vgsi.com/DedhamMA/Default.aspx>

If you have questions regarding your FY2022 Assessment Values, you can contact the Assessor's Office at [\(781\) 751-9130](tel:7817519130). Please keep in mind what's important when determining fair and equitable assessment values; recent sales prices, condition, neighborhood, building area, lot area as well as a variety of other factors.

After discussing your FY2022 Assessment Value with the staff in the Assessor's Office and reviewing comparable properties, if you still have a difference of opinion of value, you may appeal your assessment to the Board of Assessors by filing an abatement application. The application must be filed with the Board of Assessors no later than February 1st or have a United States Post Office postmark of no later than February 1st. The information regarding filing an abatement application is also located on the back of your tax bill. Please remember that you are appealing your assessment value and NOT your actual taxes.



Visit the Assessors Office at Town Hall (450 Washington Street, Dedham, MA 02026)

Health Department

Updated Covid-19 Isolation and Quarantine Periods

Effective immediately, Massachusetts has updated isolation and quarantine guidelines to align with recent CDC recommendations. CDC research indicates that, with the Omicron Variant, most COVID-19 transmission occurs early on when someone is sick – usually 1-2 days before the onset of symptoms and 2-3 days after symptom onset. As a result, the isolation period for people who test positive, and the quarantine period for people exposed to COVID-19, have been shortened. This information was issued in a [CDC press release](#) on December 27, 2021 and can be found on the [State's website](#).

The Dedham Health Department continues to review CDC recommendations and is in frequent communication with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). The Board of Health strongly urges anyone who is eligible to get vaccinated and boosted. Vaccine appointments can be scheduled through vaxfinder.mass.gov. Beginning January 6, 2022, the State will open additional mass vaccination sites including sites at Fenway Park and in Roxbury, that will provide vaccines to eligible residents ages 5 years and older, and boosters to residents ages 16 years and older. More information about these mass vaccination sites can be found in the [State's press release \(December 28, 2021\)](#).

Click on the graphic below to download a copy of the updated isolation and quarantine periods (PDF)

Updated COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine Periods for the General Public

(In accordance with MA Dept. Public Health and CDC Guidelines as of 12/29/21)

What do I do if I have tested positive for COVID-19?

ISOLATE

How to Isolate:

- Stay at home for 5 days from symptom onset date or test date, whichever came first
- If you have no symptoms, or your symptoms resolve after 5 days, you can leave your house
- Continue to wear a mask when around others for an additional 5 days
- If you have a fever, stay home until you are fever-free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication

Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, must isolate!



Dedham Health Department
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

What do I do if I have been exposed to someone infected with COVID-19?

QUARANTINE

How to quarantine if you have been boosted or recently vaccinated:

- If you have been boosted OR completed the primary series of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine within the last 6 months OR completed the primary series of the J&J vaccine within the last 2 months:
 - Wear a mask around others for 10 days
 - If possible, test on day 5
 - **If you develop symptoms, get tested and stay home**

How to quarantine if you are unvaccinated, not boosted, or were not vaccinated recently:

- If you completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine over 6 months ago and are not boosted OR completed the primary series of J&J over 2 months ago and are not boosted OR are unvaccinated:
 - Stay home for 5 days and continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days
 - If you can't quarantine you must wear a mask for 10 days
 - Test on day 5, if possible
 - **If you develop symptoms, get tested and stay home**

Council On Aging

Week of January 10th



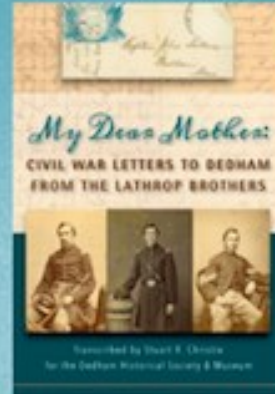
AT&T Cyber Awareness Online Safety Training

Monday, January 10th
11:00 a.m.

AT&T tech experts will host a fun, interactive and informative training session about how older adults can stay safe in a digital world while taking full advantage of the latest connected technology and devices. They will discuss several topics, including: phone/online scams, fraud and robocalls; ways to protect yourself and your data; how best to utilize apps, social media and more.

RSVP to 781-751-9495

Third Thursday Evening Event



Civil War Letters to Dedham Thursday, January 20th at 5:30 p.m.

Come hear local historian, Stuart Christie, discuss his book on civil war letters written by the Lathrop brothers to their family in Dedham.

RSVP to 781-751-9495

Drumming Workshop

Thursday,
January 13th
1:15 p.m.



Cost is \$5 per person
Space is limited
Call 781-751-9495
and reserve your spot!!

“A reminder that when the Dedham Schools are cancelled, all the Ames Senior Center programs and transportation are also cancelled.”

No fitness classes
with Nora
on 1/10 and 1/11



Ames Senior Center,
450 Washington Street,
Dedham, MA 02026
781-751-9495

Council On Aging

A Presentation on My Dear Mother: Civil War Letters to Dedham from the Lathrop Brothers

Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Please call 781-751-9495 to reserve your spot.

During the American Civil War, scores of Dedham men proudly answered the call to serve. In fact, there were several companies composed almost exclusively of Dedham men. In the four years during which these men served, they sent numerous letters back to Dedham describing their lives in camp and in battle. Fortunately, hundreds of these letters were provided to the Dedham Historical Society and Museum for preservation.

Stuart Christie, a 40-year Dedham resident and avid amateur historian, spent three years in the DHSM archives transcribing the letters of three Dedham brothers, each of whom served in separate units during the war. During a five-month period, the oldest brother John fought in the Battles at South Mountain, Antietam, and Fredericksburg. His younger brother, Julius, initially fought under General Burnside in North Carolina before being transferred to Louisiana where he fought and died under General Banks. Youngest brother Joe, who initially served in the infantry, was discharged, and then returned to serve in the cavalry.

The letters have been compiled into a book entitled, *My Dear Mother: Civil War Letters to Dedham from the Lathrop Brothers*. Stuart is going to talk about this amazing family, who were the descendants of the first Puritan minister in Situate and who continued to live in Dedham into the mid-20th century. He will also discuss the letters themselves, read some of the highlights of these letters and share some of the findings he made while going through these letters.

In almost two years of presenting his work on this book, this will be the first presentation made in person. Some of the brothers' artifacts will also be on display during the presentation.

Town Clerk

Running for Elected Office in Dedham

Candidates seeking elected office must "run" for office by obtaining Nomination Papers from the Office of the Town Clerk, obtain necessary signatures of voters, and file papers by appropriate deadline. Each candidate shall file with the Town Clerk, prior to obtaining blank nomination papers, a written statement containing his/her name and address, and the town office for which he/she intends to be a candidate. The Board of Registrars must certify each candidate's voter registration status prior to candidates qualifying to obtain nomination papers. Upon certification of sufficient signatures for all candidates seeking nomination to the offices for which papers had been obtained, the candidate qualifies to have his/her name on the ballot for the election.

Nomination papers will be available on **Wednesday, January 19, 2022**. Candidates for major office are required to have 50 signatures certified to appear on the ballot. Candidates are encouraged to obtain more than 50 signatures from registered voters town-wide.

Candidates for Town Meeting Representative are required to have 10 signatures certified to appear on the ballot. Candidates are encouraged to obtain more than 10 signatures from registered voters from your voting Precinct Only.

Last day for submitting nomination papers to Registrars for certification of signatures is **Friday, February 18, 2022 by 5:00PM**

Nomination papers must be returned **no later than Friday, February 18, 2022, 5:00 p.m.** to the Town Clerk's Office for certification by the Board of Registrars who will do so by March 7, 2022.

INCUMBENT TOWN REPRESENTATIVES – written notice to become candidates for re-election must be in by **Friday 5:00pm, February 11, 2022** (Chapter 53, Section 10). Candidates are required to file Campaign Finance Reports. For the April 9, 2022, election, the pre-election reporting period **runs from January 1, 2022, to March 22, 2022**. The report is due on **April 1, 2022**. The post-election reporting period reporting period starts on **March 23, 2022 and ends on May 9, 2022**. All candidates, and current office holders, are required to file a year-end report which is due on January 20, 2023.

Town Clerk

Running for Elected Office in Dedham

Offices to be Elected at Annual Town Election on April 9, 2022

The list below are the offices up for election:

- Two members of the Select Board for a term of three years
- One member of the Board of Assessors for a term of three years
- One member of the Board of Assessors for a term of one year
- Two members of the School Committee for terms of three years
- One member of the Board of Health for a term of three years
- One member of the Planning Board for a term of five years
- Two members of the Trustees of the Public Library for a term of three years
- Two members of the Commissioner of Trust Funds for terms of three years
- One member of the Park and Recreation Commission for terms of three years

Town Meeting Representatives as follows:

Precinct One	Vote for not more than thirty-nine for term of three years
Precinct Two	Vote for not more than thirty-nine for term of three years
Precinct Three	Vote for not more than thirty-nine for term of three years
Precinct Four	Vote for not more than thirteen for a term of three years
Precinct Four	Vote for not more than one for a term of two years
Precinct Five	Vote for not more than thirty-nine for term of three years
Precinct Six	Vote for not more than thirty-nine for term of three years
Precinct Seven	Vote for not more than thirty-nine for term of three years

Town Clerk

2022 Dog Licenses are now available!

Annual dog licenses are **REQUIRED** for all dogs, six months of age or older, in Dedham.



Licensing period:

The licensing period runs from January 1st of the calendar year to December 31 of that same year. All dogs **MUST** be licensed by April 30th.

After May 1st, a late fee of \$25.00 will be added.

NOTE: A license will only be issued if the owner has evidence of a rabies vaccination, which is valid as of the date of issuance.

Fees for licensing dogs:

Neutered/Spayed	\$10.00
Not Neutered/Spayed	\$15.00
Late fee if not licensed by May 1	\$25.00
Kennel License	Please call 781-751-9200

Town Clerk

Town Census (Annual)

We plan to mail out the annual Town Census to every household in late January or early February.

Why is the Census Important?

In accordance with Massachusetts General Law c51,s4, we are required to communicate with each household and compile an annual street list – also known as a town census. If the census form received is accurate, sign and return to the Town Clerk's Office by mail within 10 days of receipt. If updates need to be made, please make the necessary changes, sign and return it. If you've moved into Dedham after the 1st of January and would like to establish residency, please complete a Census Form to include you and members of your household or register to vote.

The census is critical for Dedham to maintain accurate population information for municipal services, calculate state and federal funding allocations, and project school enrollments and costs. It also assists individuals with proof of residence for housing and veterans' benefits, in-state college tuition, insurance benefits, and more.

What happens if I don't return my census?

While returning your census does not register you to vote, failure to respond by May 30th shall result in removal from the active voting list. The inactive voters will be placed on the inactive voters list and will be sent a confirmation post card, The confirmation notice must sign and return in order to convert back to an active voter. The confirmation notice is meant to confirm that the voter continues to reside at the address at which he or she is registered, or if the voter has moved, update the address on file. Voters who fail to return confirmation notices will remain on the inactive voters list.

Inactive Voters

On Election Day, If you are an inactive voter, you will be on the Inactive Voter List when you check-in at your polling place. Before you may vote, you will be required to show identification and complete an affirmation of current and continuous residence. The identification must reflect the voter's name and address as it appears on the Inactive Voter List. It is not required that you present photo identification. Acceptable forms of identification include: a driver's license, state-issued ID card, recent utility bill, rent receipt, lease, a copy of a voter registration affidavit, or any other printed identification which contains your name and address. Inactive voters may still cast a ballot, If you have moved within Dedham, or have moved from one Massachusetts municipality to another within six months of a state election.

Returning to Active Voter

Inactive voters remain registered to vote until they fail to vote in two consecutive biennial state elections. Inactive voters are restored to the active voters list any time they return a Census form, complete an affirmation of current and continuous residence, fill out a new voter registration form, sign a nomination form/petition or submit anything to their local election official which is signed under penalty of perjury and confirms the voter's address.

If the census form received is accurate, sign and return to the Town Clerk's Office by mail within 10 days of receipt. If updates need to be made, please make the necessary changes, sign and return it. If you've moved into Dedham after the 1st of January and would like to establish residency, please complete a Census Form to include you and members of your household or register to vote.

Federal Census (every 10 years)

The Federal Census count is mandated by the Constitution and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, a nonpartisan government agency. The 2020 Census counts the population in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and five U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands). Dedham's 2020 population is 25,364.

Dedham Police Department



Example of a parking violation. The car is parked obstructing access to the sidewalk.



Officers and Ruby visit residents on O'Neil Drive



Officers and Ruby visit residents on Parkway Court

Sidewalk Parking Violations: Parked vehicles obstructing sidewalks is a concerning issue in the Town of Dedham. Vehicles which obstruct sidewalk walking surface areas force pedestrians to walk around vehicles, generally onto roadway areas. This is not a safe practice. Parking on sidewalks is a violation of the Town's Traffic Regulations, section 5-1. Officers will be monitoring parking throughout Town and looking for vehicles which obstruct sidewalks. Parked vehicles must provide at least 4 feet, preferable 5 feet of walking surface for pedestrians to safely pass by. Avoid a ticket and be a good neighbor. Please park legally and appropriately.

Coffee, cookies and conversations: During the month of December, officers took some time to visit Dedham Housing Authority properties to enjoy coffee, cookies and conversation with residents. Thanks to Carrie Moore at the Dedham Housing Authority for coordinating these visits and to all of the residents who spent some time with our officers. It was great to see all and enjoy some holiday cheer.

Dedham Police Department

Welcome Officer Matthew McMillan: Congratulations and welcome to Dedham's newest police officer. Officer Matthew McMillan graduated from the 22 week MBTA Police Academy on December 21, 2021. Officer McMillan represented the Department well at the academy. He had one of the highest academic grade point averages in his class. Officer McMillan was sworn in by Town Clerk Paul Munchbach on December 22, 2021. He is currently in Field Training with Officers John Rinn, Joe Ellis and Dave Connolly. Best of luck for a long, fulfilling and successful career serving the citizens of Dedham.

Annual Donation to the Dedham Food Pantry: On December 19, 2021, several officers volunteered to assist at the Dedham Food Pantry. The Department donated 988 lbs. of ham to the Food Pantry for distribution to clients. The Department has been fortunate to provide this type of donation annually thanks to the generous supporters of our School and Community Resource Program. Our annual golf tournament generates the majority of the funds used to support our community events and programs.

School Resource Officer Meghan Jenkins: On Monday December 6, 2021, School Resource Officer Meghan Jenkins made her debut at the Dedham Middle School in her new role. SRO Jenkins completed 56 hours of School Resource Officer training to prepare herself to work with students, staff and families within the school system and community. Thanks to all who have welcomed SRO Jenkins to the school team!



Officer McMillan sworn in by Town Clerk Paul Munchbach in front of family, friends, fellow Officers, and the Select Board on Thursday, January 6, 2022.



Officer McMillan with Police Chief Michael d'Entremont



School Resource Officer Jenkins with Principal Karen Hillman and students at the Dedham Middle School

Dedham Police Department

Entry Level Police Officer Exam: The Dedham Police Department is currently a Civil Service Department. This means that candidates for police officer positions are provided to us from the Civil Service Commission. A test is given to place candidate on our eligible list. Registration for the 2022 Police Officer Exam is open until January 18, 2022. If you are looking for an opportunity to be a part of something special and make a positive difference in our community, please see the following link for more info: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/2022-municipal-police-officer-and-mbta-transit-police-officer-examination>.

 **GET INVOLVED - SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY**
MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**2022 Municipal Police and
MBTA Transit Police
Officer Examination**

Applications currently being accepted

APPLY NOW!

**Municipal Police Officer
&
MBTA Transit Police Officer**

Scan this code
Visit the website!



Mass.Gov/CivilService
Apply by January 18, 2022
Testing begins: March 16th

civilservice@mass.gov
(617) 878-9895

Image: Shutterstock

Department of Public Works

January to June 2022 Trash/Recycling Schedule and Christmas Tree Collection in January



January 2022 to June 2022
Trash/Recycling Calendar
Now Available

As previously announced, the Town will be going out to bid for trash and recycling haulers for a new contract to begin on July 1, 2022. We anticipate the trash and recycling collection schedule to remain unchanged under the new contract, but will share updates with you as information becomes available. Please continue to put your trash and recycling at the curb on your regularly scheduled collection days.

For future updates and announcements, please visit our website and subscribe for email notifications. Don't forget to follow us on social media @DedhamDPW and @DedhamThrives! If you have any questions about trash and recycling collection, please contact the DPW at [781-751-9350](tel:781-751-9350) and visit their website at www.dedham-ma.gov/dpw

Christmas Trees will be collected by the DPW starting the week of December 27th and continuing through the month of January (or until all trees are collected). Please place your tree curbside **free of tinsel, garland, lights, ornaments and plastic**. Trees may not be collected on your regular trash day, but the DPW team will collect your tree for disposal. Collection may be delayed due to weather or staffing issues, and updates will be posted on the Town website and social media accounts.



**Town of Dedham, MA
450 Washington Street
(Ames Building)
(781) 751-9100**

Town Hall Talk will be published monthly and will be available on the [Town website](#).

[Please subscribe](#) to receive notification of each new issue!