

CITY OF OWEN SOUND 2005 INTERIM TAX BILLING INFORMATION

Your 2005 Interim Tax Bill is enclosed for your review and payment.

If you recently sold your property and if you are satisfied that you are no longer responsible for the realty taxes levied against it, please return the enclosed bill to our office in order that we can redirect it to the proper owner(s).

Your Interim Levy uses your property's annualized assessment values as at December 31, 2004 and calculates your interim levy using 50 % of our applicable 2004 tax rate.

Due dates for our 2005 interim tax levy will once again be during the months of February and March. Payment of the interim tax bill is divided into two equal instalments:

The First Instalment is due on February 28TH, 2005

The Second Instalment is due on March 31ST, 2005

A percentage charge as a penalty for non-payment of tax of 1 ¼ percent (one and one-quarter percent) shall be charged on the first day of default and on the first day of each calendar month thereafter in which default continues to December 31st. From the 31st day of December in the year in which the taxes are levied until the taxes are paid, interest at the rate of 1 ¼ percent (one and one-quarter percent) per month, or fraction thereof, shall be added to the amount of all taxes due. Payments are applied first to all interest and penalty charges owing and then to the oldest unpaid tax.

Some taxpayers may have appealed their property assessment values, but the appeal process does not relieve the taxpayer of the responsibility to pay the tax on the required due dates, otherwise late charges are assessed.

When making payment, please detach the appropriate perforated payment stub from the bottom of your tax bill and mail it with your payment to ensure credit to your tax account. For your payment convenience, there is a drop box located at the front door of City Hall. To use our drop box, simply place your instalment stub and cheque together in an envelope and deposit your envelope into the box. **Cash Should Never Be Deposited In The Drop Box.**

To reduce postage and handling costs, receipts for payments by cheque will be issued upon request only. We encourage you also to save postage by mailing to us (in one envelope) two cheques to pay your first and second instalment. Post-date your second cheque to March 31st, 2005 and we will deposit it on that date.

PLEASE NOTE:

- i) - The **deadline** for submitting an application to our office for a 2004 tax rebate for vacancies in Commercial and Industrial buildings is February 28, 2005. Applications received after the deadline date cannot be accepted.
- ii) - The **deadline** for submitting an application for a Municipal Act, 2001 Section 357 tax adjustment for the 2004 tax year is also February 28, 2005. A couple of examples of Section 357 tax adjustments are 'demolition of a building during 2004' or 'ceasing to use commercial assessment for a Home Occupation use'. Applications received after the deadline date cannot be accepted.

CITY HALL IS OPEN FROM 8:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M. MONDAY TO FRIDAY