



MOUNT LAUREL TOWNSHIP

GUIDE TO THE 2010 TAX BILL AND TOWNSHIP BUDGET

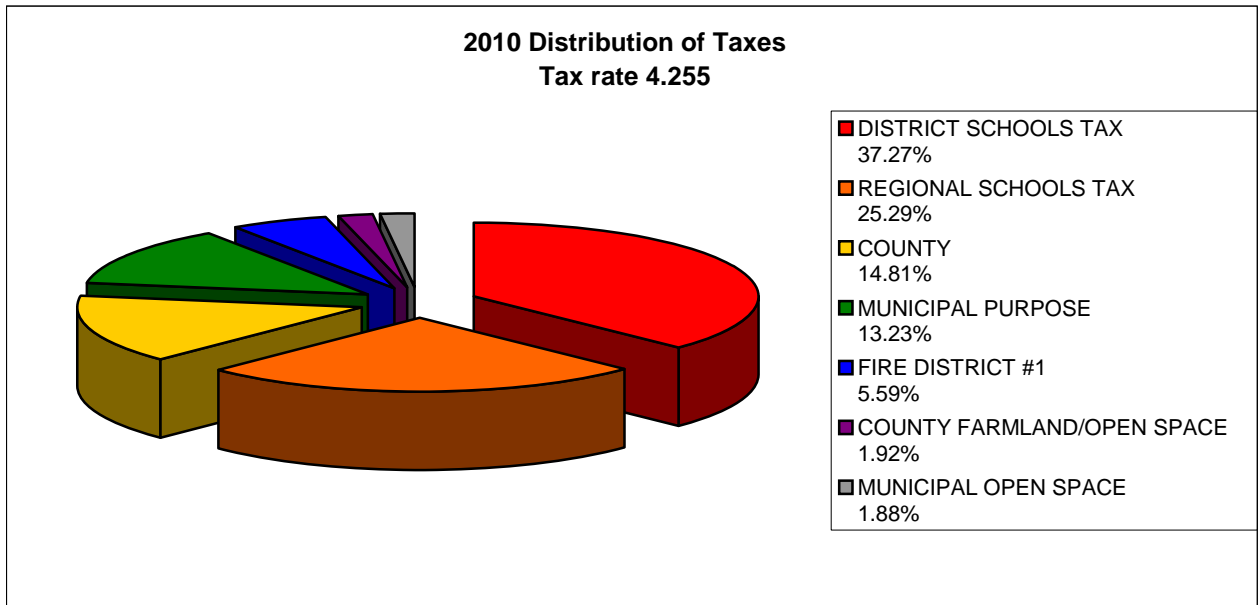
Mount Laurel is home to approximately 41,000 residents. The Faulkner Act form of government governs it. The Township collects taxes for:

- 1. District (local) school board*
- 2. Regional (Lenape) school board*
- 3. Burlington County*
- 4. Local purpose (Township)*
- 5. Fire district*
- 6. County open space*
- 7. Local open space*

COMPONENTS OF THE TAX BILL

The breakdown of your taxes is as follows:

Type of Taxation	Tax Levy	% Of Total	
		Tax	Tax Rate
District (local) School Tax	\$54,619,564.00	37.27%	1.586
Regional (Lenape) School Tax	\$37,053,526.61	25.29%	1.076
Burlington County	\$21,657,135.13	14.81%	0.630
Local (Township) Purpose	\$19,393,881.87	13.23%	0.563
Fire District #1	\$8,173,426.00	5.59%	0.238
County Farmland/Open Space	\$2,803,619.73	1.93%	0.082
Municipal Open Space	\$2,754,000.62	1.88%	0.080
TOTAL	\$146,455,153.96	100.00%	4.255



CHANGES IN TAXES FROM 2009 TO 2010

Tax increase from 2009 to 2010 is as follows:

Type of Taxation	Tax Levy	Tax Rate	Increase from 2009	Increase from 2009
			Rate	Dollar
District (local) School Tax	\$54,619,564.00	1.586	0.029	\$ 704,768.00
Regional (Lenape) School Tax	\$37,053,526.61	1.076	0.103	\$ 3,352,803.19
Burlington County	\$21,657,135.13	0.630	-0.002	\$ (205,437.07)
Local (Township) Purpose	\$19,393,881.87	0.563	0.041	\$ 1,323,961.68
Fire District #1	\$8,173,426.00	0.238	0.025	\$ 802,532.00
County Farmland/Open Space	\$2,803,619.73	0.082	0.000	\$ (16,669.12)
Municipal Open Space	\$2,754,000.62	0.080	0.000	\$ (15,616.01)
TOTAL	\$146,455,153.96	4.255	0.196	\$ 5,946,342.67

ALLOCATION OF TAXES

In 2010, the average assessed home of \$142,200 will pay approximately \$6,050 a year in taxes. This is up \$278.00 from \$5,772.00 in 2009. The \$6,050.00 is allocated as follows:

Type of Taxation	Tax Levy	% Of total Tax	Tax Rate	
District (local) School Tax	\$54,619,564.00	37.29%	1.586	\$ 2,255.29
Regional (Lenape) School Tax	\$37,053,526.61	25.30%	1.076	\$ 1,530.07
Burlington County	\$21,657,135.13	14.79%	0.630	\$ 895.86
Local (Township) Purpose	\$19,393,881.87	13.24%	0.563	\$ 800.59
Fire District #1	\$8,173,426.00	5.58%	0.238	\$ 338.44
County Farmland/Open Space	\$2,803,619.73	1.91%	0.082	\$ 116.60
Municipal Open Space	\$2,754,000.62	1.88%	0.080	\$ 113.76
TOTAL	\$146,455,153.96		4.255	\$ 6,050.61

The average annual Township tax is approximately \$801.00 of the average annual total taxes of \$6,050.

This equates to approximately \$15.00 a week and includes a multitude of services, including:

Law Enforcement

Trash Pick-up

Leaf Pick-up

Road Maintenance

Snow Removal

Recycling Programs

Senior Resident Programs

Park Maintenance

Public Library

Traffic Lights

Street Lighting

Emergency Management

Emergency Medical Services

.....and many other services

2010 CHALLENGES

The Township faced many challenges going into the 2010 year. This included, but is not limited to, decreases in State Aid, reductions in other revenues due to build out, increased un-funded mandates, and depletion of surplus. This included increases of 18% for employee health benefits and insurance. The Township responded by implementing long-term changes to stabilize the tax rate while maintaining services.

The Township reassessed the way it provided service and maintained the same level of service at a reduced cost to the taxpayers in 2010. Please contact the Township Manager's office at 856-234-0001 ext 210 if you have any questions or concerns with Township services.

Each department was assessed and the Township initiated the following:

- Negotiated with bargaining units to reduce salary and wages through compensation reduction, furloughs and layoffs, saving \$1,600,000 for the 2010 years that will equate to larger savings in subsequent years.
- Analyzed all departments for efficiency, decreasing costs by approximately \$300,000 through contract revaluation, shared services and other cuts with greater savings in future years.
- Collaborated with the MUA to add \$400,000 to the township budget, as statutorily allowed
- Successfully litigated the release of court mandated funds to be applied to the budget releasing \$1,300,000 for one time use in the budget

MOVING FORWARD

Although there has been some talk about the recession coming to an end the Township is just beginning to see its impact. Tax appeals and foreclosures that began in 2008 are just now affecting the Township Budget. In 2010, the township used the remainder of its surplus to offset tax increases and does not expect the surplus to be rejuvenated for 2011.

The reduction in revenue sources coupled with the ongoing increase in expenditures will cause 2011 to be as challenging, if not more than, 2010. The Township will continue its multi-year plan to continue to provide the best services in the most cost efficient manner.

