

# Oconee mails out tax bills

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WALHALLA — Oconee County taxpayers will soon find out whether their property taxes have gone up or down in a reassessment

year. County Auditor Ken Nix announced Thursday that tax notices would begin arriving in the mail Saturday. The Oconee County Council approved earlier this month a millage recommen-

dation by Nix of 204.3, which trimmed 3.8 mills from last year's rate.

However, the new tax bills likely will be impacted more by the reassessed property values than by the drop in the millage rate.

Nix told council that most taxpayers would see a change in their tax bill because of reassessment.

"Some will go up and some will go down," Nix said.



Nix

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## TAX: County paid \$1.8 million

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In a statement released Thursday, Nix encouraged taxpayers to read important information both on the front and back of the tax notice forms they'll receive.

Nix said his office would be available to answer questions relating to millage and the amount of tax, but said taxpayers should contact the Assessor's Office if they have questions about ownership, appraised value of the land, house or building, as well as the number of acres or lots.

County Administrator Scott Moulder said last week that his office is receiving a growing number of reassessment complaints from property owners challenging appraisals made by Tyler Technologies Inc. Oconee paid the private company \$1.8 million to do the countywide reassessment.

Nix said that all reassessment appeals must be filed with the Assessor no later than Dec. 9.

He said the tax bills mailed out were calculated on Sept. 20 and do not reflect any adjustments based on appeals.

If the Assessor approves an appeal, a revised tax bill will be reissued, Nix said.

The Auditor said state law requires taxes to be paid by Jan. 17 without penalty, regardless of the status of an appeal.

However, a taxpayer may request of the Assessor an 80 percent bill by Dec. 31, if an appeal has not been resolved by then, Nix added.

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