Assessing Department
2014 Report

The Assessing Office is responsible for ensuring equitable assessments, which distribute the Town's tax burden in accordance with New Hampshire statues. Assessments are based on the fair market value of property, and are applied in a fair, equitable, and consistent manner. The Town of Farmington contracts Cross Country Appraisal Group of Concord, NH to provide assessing services, and administrative duties are performed by the assessing clerk who is a town employee.

The Tax Rate for 2014 is $24.36 per thousand of assessed valuation. The tax rate is set by the Department of Revenue Administration in the late fall of each year.

Property record cards can be viewed and printed from the public computer provided in the assessing department. I would also be happy to email a card to you or drop one in the mail if that is your preference. I would encourage every taxpayer to request a copy of their property record card to help us ensure that our information is accurate as it pertains to your property.

Online Assessing Data. One of the benefits of our new assessing software is the ability to view assessing data online. Although only limited information is available to the general public, for those companies that have an Avitar subscription, they will be able to access the information they need without having to call or make a trip to the municipal offices. The website can be accessed at http://data.avitarassociates.com. Login as an Anonymous User, click on the Town of Farmington, and you will be able to search property values in town.

Tax maps are available here in the office, or can be viewed and printed from the town's web site.

Property Tax Credits and Exemptions are processed in the Assessing Department. The deadlines and basic criteria are as follows:

Veteran's Credit: Must meet applicable dates of service and have been honorably discharged. Requires DD214.
Application deadline: April 15th

Elderly Exemption: Must be 65 years of age prior to April 1st & a NH resident for at least three years.
Must meet income and asset limits.
Application deadline: April 15th

Abatements: If you disagree with your property's assessed value, you may file an abatement application. Deadline to file is March 1st.

Current Use Program. The NH Current Use Program went into effect in 1973. The Town of Farmington has over 250 properties enrolled in this program. Under Current Use, the land is assessed at its present use rather than its highest potential use, enabling

landowners to keep their open space lands undeveloped. When land comes out of Current Use, a penalty is imposed. At this time, 100% of the Current Use penalties collected go to the Conservation Commission. If you have any questions about the Current Use program, please contact this office.

The following is a breakdown of the 2014 assessments and exemptions used to calculate the net taxable valuation used to compute the municipal, county, and local tax rates.

SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION

Residential (land & buildings)	$351,456,200
Commercial/Industrial (land & buildings)	61,614,200
Current Use Land	846,548
Conservation Restriction Assessments	7,386
Discretionary Easement	73,321
Utilities	9,551,600
Valuation before exemptions	$445,656,455

EXEMPTIONS	AMT	TOTAL #	ASSESSED VALUE
Blind	$15,000	2	$30,000
Elderly	Varies	92	6,172,100
Solar	5,000	2	10,000
Wood Heating System	5,000	1	5,000
Total Exemptions			$6,217,100
Net Taxable Valuation (used to compute municipal, county, and local tax rates)			$439,439,355

VETERAN'S TAX CREDITS	AMT	TOTAL #	TOTAL TAX CREDIT
Standard Veteran's Credit	$500	331	$165,000
Service Connected Disability	2,000	26	52,000
Total Veteran's Credits			$217,000

The past year has been a very challenging one in the Assessing Department. The experienced assessing clerk, Bonnie Lauze, retired in February, and I began my duties here in March. Over the summer we completed a town-wide Revaluation and a software

conversion. I want to thank everyone for their patience as I have tried to learn all the different functions of this position over the past year.

Contact Info for the Assessing Department. I am in the office Monday – Thursday from 8 am to 4 pm. Phone: (603) 755-2789. Fax: (603) 755-4584.
Email: farmassessing@metrocast.net

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Heon
Assessing Clerk