

Glossary of Codes

Assessment—Tax Class: Properties are categorized by different land use types. Some land types have sub classes. The code on your bill is made up of three characters.

The **first** character indicates the Land Use Tax Class:

C	Commercial	D	Office Building
F	Farmlands	G	Parking Lots
I	Industrial	L	Large Industrial
M	Multi-Residential	R	Residential
S	Shopping Centre	T	Managed Forest
P	Pipelines	E	Exempt

The **second** character indicates the Tax Rate at which your property is taxed:

F, H	Payment in Lieu (PIL) – Full Rate
G	PIL – General Rate
M	General Rate
T	Full Rate
U	Excess Land/Vacant Unit Rate
K, V	PIL – Excess Land/Vacant Unit Rate
X	Vacant Land Rate
J, Y	PIL – Vacant Land Rate
Z	PIL – Vacant Land General Rate
1	Farmland Awaiting Development 1
A	Vacant Land General Rate
B	Excess Land/Vacant Unit General Rate

The **third** character indicates your recorded School Support:

P	English Public	S	English Separate
A	French Public	C	French Separate
N	No Support		

Using the above codes, a sample code of RTP on a property tax bill represents a residential property taxed at the full rate with school board taxes directed to the English Public school board.

Assessment Information

Your 2008 property taxes are calculated using the value of your property as of January 2005. The next reassessment will occur in 2008 for 2009 taxation.

For further information about your assessment, you may contact the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation at 1-866-296-6722.

Payment Options

The City of Oshawa offers several methods for payment of property taxes including Internet and telephone banking as well as a pre-authorized payment plan. Most Ontario financial institutions will accept payment with your remittance stub. You may also pay in person at Service Oshawa located on the first floor, City Hall, using Interac®, cash, cheque, or money order or by mail using post-dated cheques made payable to the City of Oshawa. For further details regarding payment options, contact Service Oshawa at 905-436-3311.

Pre-Authorized Payment Plan

This is a payment method that allows the City to debit your bank account automatically according to the plan you select. There are three payment plan options to choose from: due dates (installment when due – 4 per year); monthly (debit on the 1st or 15th), or semi-monthly (1st and 15th). For those customers in arrears, we urge you to contact us to make payment arrangements on the monthly or semi-monthly plan.

If you have already enrolled and require a change, (e.g., new bank account, cancellation, or other modification), please advise us in writing 21 days prior to the required change to ensure your information reaches our office in time for processing.

Customers enrolled in our pre-authorized payment plan will continue to receive tax bills for information purposes only (changes to withdrawal amounts or dates, etc.). Please retain your bill for income tax purposes.

Fiscal Sustainability

The City of Oshawa is taking a proactive approach to managing its finances so that Oshawa continues to grow and prosper. A key priority of Council is keeping taxes affordable while maintaining fiscal sustainability. To achieve this goal, Council has mandated a maximum four per cent increase for 2008, 2009 and 2010.

The City will continue to take a proactive business approach to minimizing taxes, containing costs and increasing value for service.

To achieve fiscal sustainability the City will concentrate on the following goals: advance the program review process, attract new businesses, seek out partnerships and share municipal services, and identify opportunities to increase revenues through grants and alternate sources of funding.

Assistance Programs

Deferral Program for Low Income Seniors and the Disabled

This program allows eligible seniors and disabled persons to defer tax increases of more than \$100 or 5% resulting from assessment increases. The total amount of the related tax deferral must be repaid when the property is sold or a change in ownership occurs.

Residential Property Tax Grant Program for Low-Income Seniors and the Disabled

This program allows eligible seniors and disabled persons to make an application for a property tax grant in the amount of \$250 (one application per principal residence). This grant is available to the qualified assessed owner who also makes this their principle residence.

Seniors currently entitled to Federal Government Income Supplement (GIS) and disabled persons currently entitled to the Ontario Disability Support Program may apply annually to the City of Oshawa. Refer to the City's website www.oshawa.ca/tax or contact Service Oshawa at 905-436-3311.

Canadian Tire JumpStart

The City of Oshawa has partnered with the Canadian Tire Foundation for Families in the Canadian Tire JumpStart program. This program provides financially disadvantaged children in Canada, 4-18 years of age, with the opportunity to participate in sports and active recreational activities. To confirm eligibility, contact a Program Supervisor at any City of Oshawa recreation facility.

Durham Region Social Services Certificate

This program offers Oshawa residents who are participants of the Ontario Works or the Ontario Disability Support Program the opportunity to participate in leisure activities. To determine if you are eligible, contact Durham Region, Department of Social Services at 905-666-6239.

Oshawa Residents 65+

Oshawa residents 65 years of age and over qualify for significant savings to recreation facilities and programs. For example, a 35% discount is applied to all instructional adult programs. Visit a City of Oshawa recreation facility for more information.

Recreation Access Membership Program (RAMP)

This program offers reduced enrollment and admission fees to recreation activities for residents with disabilities.

As well, caregivers may accompany participants who use facilities and programs free of charge. The program is aimed at enhancing the accessibility of recreation facilities and programs.

Applications for RAMP are available at all City of Oshawa recreation facilities or on-line at www.oshawa.ca/recreation, look under Recreation Services and click on Assistance Programs.

