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Dedicated to helping you better understand your government

Current topic: "What are all those lines on my tax bill?"

Do you ever feel like you need an accounting degree to figure out what all those different lines and numbers mean on your Town/County tax bill? It's really not that bad!

Using a section of a tax bill shown below, the first two lines are the general taxes for Niagara County and the Town of Cambria. In truth, the "Town" tax is actually the Highway tax for the Town of Cambria. All other lines are to fund **Special Districts.**

Examples of "Special Districts" are Water District, Fire Protection, Refuse, Drainage, County Water. Since these areas do not have any means of earning income, such as state aid or sales tax, the monies needed to maintain these services or equipment are raised almost entirely through taxation.

The rates are determined by taking the predicted cost of each district and dividing it evenly amongt the taxable dollars in that district. Special District fees are most often not reduced by exemptions.

Rate in Dollars per 1000 Taxable Value used to calculate total fee for district.

LEVY DESCRIPTION	TAX LEVY	% Change From Prior YR Lavy	RATE	TAXABLE VALUE	AMOUNT DUE
2021 COUNTY TAX	85831654	2.7000	7.38230200	154400.00	1139.83
2021 TOWN TAX	826050	2.6000	1.83073700	154400.00	282.67
CAMBRIA DRAINAGE	41650	2.6000	0.08443300	154400.00	13.04
CAM FIRE PROTECT	556874	1.1000	1.12762200	154400.00	174.10
CAMBRIA REFUSE	0	0.0000	206.00000000	1.00 Units	206.00
CAMBRIA WATER 2	553418	2.6000	0.92302200	154400.00	142.51
CAM COUNTY WATER	5287109	1.5000	0.59388900	154400.00	91.70

Total dollars needed to be raised from taxes for each district.