

**Q: HOW IS THE ORIGINAL COST DETERMINED?**

The cost of the asset should be the cost of the item as new. This cost should be an arms length value that has been neither discounted nor determined by an auction sale.

When purchasing used equipment the value that is paid for the item is the depreciated amount not the original cost.

**Q: MAY THE ASSESSOR CHANGE MY ASSESSMENT IF I FILED A DECLARATION?**

The Assessor may change any declaration, based on Section § 12-55(b) "...The assessor or board of assessors may increase or decrease the valuation of any property as reflected in the last-preceding grand list, or the valuation as stated in any personal property declaration or report received pursuant to this chapter"

**Q: DOES MY SIGNATURE NEED TO BE NOTARIZED?**

If you are a sole proprietor or a one of the partners of a simple partnership you do not need to have your signature notarized. If you are a member of LLC, LP, LLP, PC, Corp (Inc.), or a Type "S" you are required to have your signature notarized.

Declarations that are not signed nor properly notarized will be subject to a 25% penalty being applied to the assessment.

**Q: WHAT IF I CLOSED, MOVED OR SOLD MY BUSINESS?**

You must complete the affidavit located on the front page of the declaration.

Failure to complete the affidavit will result in the Assessor assuming that you still own taxable personal property and have failed to declare it. The Assessor will estimate a value for your personal property and add a 25% penalty.

**Q: HOW DO I APPEAL MY ASSESSMENT?**

Request an appeal form from the Assessor's Office between February 1<sup>st</sup> and February 20<sup>th</sup>. The appeal form must be in the office by closing time on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Postmarks are not accepted for appeal forms.

If you did not file a declaration with the Assessor you are required to file a declaration with the Board of Appeals (BAA) otherwise they have no authority to change your assessment.

The BAA will notify you with the date of your appeal will be in March.

**Schedule**

Declarations Mailed:  
September

Declarations must be filed:  
November 1<sup>st</sup>

Notice of New Assessment:  
January

Deadline to File Appeal:  
February 20<sup>th</sup>

Mill Rate Set:  
May

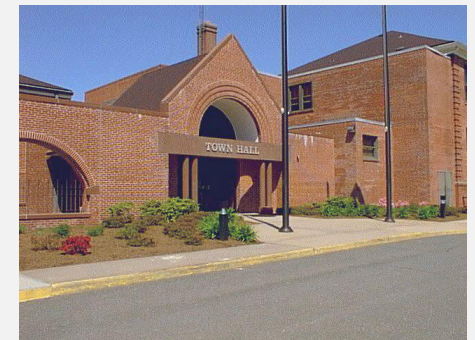
Tax Bills Due:  
July



**Town of Cromwell**

NATHANIEL WHITE BUILDING  
41 WEST STREET  
CROMWELL, CONNECTICUT 06416

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
ABOUT  
PERSONAL PROPERTY**



**Office Hours:**

M-F 8:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

860-632-3442 (Office)

860-613-4160 (Fax)

Shawna M. Baron  
CCMA II, RCR, Assessor  
Michael Mordarski Deputy Assessor  
Lisa Ruggiero Asst. Assessor

*Dear Taxpayer: The following information should answer most of your questions pertaining to Personal Property. If you have any other questions that I have not addressed please call my office and we will assist you.*

*Sincerely,*

*Shawna M. Baron, CCMAIL, RCR, Assessor*

### Q: WHAT IS PERSONAL PROPERTY?

Personal Property can be defined, in the most general terms, as anything and everything that is owned (excluding land and anything permanently affixed to the land or any interest in land). There are three Connecticut General Statutes that help define personal Property:

1. Section §12-71 – (a) defines personal property as “All goods, chattels and effects or any interest therein, including any interest in a leasehold improvement classified as other than real property,...”
2. Section §12-41 – (c) “... shall include, but is not limited to, the following property: Machinery used in mills and factories, cables, wires, poles, underground mains, conduits, pipes and other fixtures of water, gas, electric and heating companies, leasehold improvements classified as other than real property and furniture and fixtures of stores, offices, hotels, restaurants, taverns, halls, factories and manufacturers. ...”

3. Section §12-71 – (f)(1) “Property subject to taxation under this chapter shall include each registered and unregistered motor vehicle and snowmobile that, in the normal course of operation, most frequently leaves from and returns to or remains in a town in this state, and any other motor vehicle or snowmobile located in a town in this state, which motor vehicle or snowmobile is not used or is not capable of being used.” Notwithstanding (f) (3) “Any motor vehicle owned by a nonresident of this state shall be set in the list of the town where such vehicle in the normal course of operation most frequently leaves from and returns to or in which it remains. ...”

### Q: WHAT ARE GOODS, CHATTELS, AND EFFECTS?

Goods: Merchandise, Wares

Chattels: Any item of movable or immovable property except real estate. An article of personal property

Effects: Personal estate of property; though the term may include both real and personal property.

### Q: WHO IS REQUIRED TO FILE A DECLARATION?

Any owner of personal property used in conjunction with a business and/or any owner of unregistered motor vehicle and/or any owner of an out of state registered motor vehicle or owners of horses; is assessable.

### Q: WHEN ARE DECLARTIONS REQUIRED TO BE FILED?

All declarations are required to be filed by November 1<sup>st</sup>. The Assessor may grant extensions up to forty-five days upon determination that there is good cause.

### Q: HOW TO FILE AN EXTENSION?

A request in writing must be received by November 1<sup>st</sup> stating the reason for the extension and how many days requesting the extension to be. The Assessor shall then review the request and respond in writing with how many days have been approved or that the extension was denied.

### Q: WHAT HAPPENS IF I FILE LATE?

Section §12-41 – (d) “(1) Any person who fails to file a declaration of personal property on or before the first day of November, or on or before the extended filing date as granted by the assessor pursuant to section 12-42 shall be subject to a penalty equal to twenty-five per cent of the assessment of such property.”

### Q: WHAT IF I FAIL TO FILE A DECLARATION?

Section §12-42 – “...If no declaration is filed, the assessors shall fill out a declaration including all property which the assessors have reason to believe is owned by the person for whom such declaration is prepared, liable to taxation, ... from the best information they can obtain, and add thereto twenty-five per cent of such assessment. ...”