Your TRIM notice explained

TRIM (Truth-In-Millage) notices are mailed each year by the Property Appraiser to inform property owners of the proposed property taxes for the following year. Specifically outlined are the proposed County millage rates, or the amount per $1,000 that is used to calculate taxes on a property.

For the past seven years, the Marion County Commission has been able to maintain the total of County millage rates at a steady 3.90 or less.

This year, your TRIM notices show proposed County millage rates at a total of 4.31. The proposed MSTU for Law Enforcement is 3.84, compared to 3.47 currently.

These are not the final tax rates. By law, the maximum proposed rate is included on these TRIM notices. The Commission can lower (but not raise) the proposed rate at the public hearings in September.

The Commission remains committed to pursuing opportunities to adjust the budget to minimize any increase in property taxes.

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County

*General fund  Proposed millage rate: 3.58
Funds county government services received by all residents, including BCC departments and constitutional offices (e.g. libraries, the ambulance service, zoning, Clerk of the Courts, Supervisor of Elections, the county jail).

*Fine and forfeiture  Proposed millage rate: .55
Funds overseen by Marion County Sheriff’s Office, with some portions overseen by Marion County Clerk of the Court and the State Attorney’s office.

*Transportation trust fund  Proposed millage rate: 0
Created to fund transportation maintenance, but has been set at 0 since FY 1997-1998 when the Commission opted to use the gas tax instead.

*Health Unit  Proposed millage rate: .12
Helps fund the Florida Department of Health in Marion County. The health department is a state/county funding partnership.

Public school  Proposed millage rate: 8.172
The Commission does not determine or control this millage rate. This year’s TRIM reflects a 1.0 mill increase for schools which was voter-approved in a referendum.

Water management districts  Proposed millage rate: .3023
The Commission does not determine or control this millage rate. Your TRIM may feature SJRWMD or SWFMD, depending on in which area of the county you reside.

*Voter-approved debt  Proposed millage rate: .0600
Funds Marion County Parks and Recreation’s Pennies for Parks program. Voter-approved in 1998.

Your TRIM notice: countywide funds

These taxes are based on property values and pay for services that all residents (both those living in incorporated cities and towns as well as those living in unincorporated areas) receive.

The County Commission does not set the millage rates or oversee budgeting for all countywide funds; the ones controlled by the Commission are marked (*).

Total proposed millage rate for county funds set by commission: 4.31

Proposed increases in the County budget are largely due to public safety-related services. These include budget increase requests from the Sheriff’s Office that are required to be included in the tentative budget (Commission may address during September budget hearings), as well as increases in the ambulance service budget (per current union negotiations). In all other areas of property tax funded operations, the board has proposed property tax rates for the upcoming year to be held at the same level as the current year.

Provided as a public service of the Marion County Board of County Commissioners.
Your **TRIM notice**: **MSTUs based on property values**

**Municipal Services Taxing Units**

**MSTU law enforcement**  **Proposed millage rate**: 3.84
Funds are overseen by Marion County Sheriff’s Office for portions of the agency that are not countywide (e.g., deputy patrol for unincorporated areas of Marion).

**MSTU EMS**  **Proposed millage rate**: .77
Funds non-transferable EMS provided by crews on fire engines. MCFR fire engines are Advanced Life Support-licensed, meaning crews can provide life-saving services until an ambulance arrives (as well as fire suppression). This is paid for by all property owners in Marion County, except for those in Ocala and Dunnellon (which operate their own fire departments).

The ambulance service is paid for through the General Fund, and serves all residents.

**Other MSTUs**  **Proposed millage rate**: varies
These may include MSTUs for projects and services in certain geographic areas and communities. E.g., some areas have an MSTU to pay for and provide street lighting, road maintenance, community centers, etc.

Depending on where you live, you may see an MSTU for Silver Springs Shores, Rainbow Lakes Estates, Marion Oaks or Rolling Hills/Hills of Ocala.

**The MSTU law enforcement fund shows a proposed increase (from 3.47 to 3.84).**

This is due to budget increase requests from the Sheriff’s Office that are required to be included in the tentative budget (Commission may address during September budget hearings).

In all other areas of MSTU property tax funded operations the board has proposed property tax rates for the upcoming year to be held at the same level as the current year.

Provided as a public service of the Marion County Board of County Commissioners.
If you reside in the following areas, you may see taxes noted as such in the section below Municipal Services Taxing Unit on your TRIM notice.

- The city of Ocala.
- The city of Belleview.
- The city of Dunnellon.
- The town of McIntosh.
- Rainbow Lakes Estates special taxing district.
- The Villages #4 community development district.
- Indigo East/Candler Hills community development district.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL MILLAGE &amp; AD VALOREM</th>
<th>15,754.4</th>
<th>516.40</th>
<th>15,235.8</th>
<th>502.93</th>
<th>17,394.3</th>
<th>576.63</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

The Commission does not set the millage rates or oversee budgeting of funds for any city or town. The Commission does set the millage rate for Rainbow Lakes Estates.
Non-ad valorem assessments

**Fire**
Funds fire rescue services. This a fee on all Marion County properties that have a structure/dwelling on them or land over five acres (with a cap of 640 acres), except for those in Ocala, Dunnellon and Rainbow Lakes Estates (these entities provide their own fire suppression).

**Stormwater**
Funds the county's stormwater services, including federal- and state-mandated programs. Paid for by property owners in unincorporated Marion County.

**Road assessment**
Funds road and drainage improvements for unincorporated areas of the county.

**County waste**
Funds the county solid waste department, including the operation and maintenance of the landfill and 18 recycling centers, as well as monitoring of old landfills. Paid for by property owners in unincorporated Marion County.

**Other assessments and MSTUs**
These may include assessments or MSTUs for projects and services in certain geographic areas and communities. E.g., some areas have an MSTU to pay for and provide street lighting, road maintenance, community centers, etc.

These assessments are only levied on the people who benefit from the service, but are not based on property values. They fund services, departments or portions of departments that serve residents in certain geographic portions of the county (non-countywide services).

Some MSTUs are requested by residents to fund a project for their community or neighborhood (e.g., street lighting, road-paving or community centers).

### Non-ad Valorem Assessments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Levying Authority</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0520</td>
<td>Residential Fire</td>
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<td>0560</td>
<td>Stormwater</td>
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<tr>
<td>0550</td>
<td>County Waste</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>87,000</td>
<td>87.00</td>
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Questions?

Visit [www.MarionCountyFL.org/Budget](http://www.MarionCountyFL.org/Budget) for more budget-related information and infographics.