



The Park at Deery Inn, dedicated to Dennis Houser. Muddy Creek in the foreground, rear of historic Sullivan County Courthouse in the distance to the right. Playground and picnic shelter await warmer days and the visitors it will bring.

Deadline Coming for Payment of Sullivan County Property Taxes

The deadline for payment of 2025 Sullivan County property taxes is the last day of February.

Sullivan County Trustee Angela Taylor continues this year to provide taxpayers with multiple options for where and how make payment.

Taylor recently launched a new program to help taxpayers who would like to make monthly payments in advance of next year's tax bills. The program is an extension of one that's existed but allows for making payments beginning in March of this year, rather than waiting until tax bills are mailed next fall.

"I have had several people ask if that program's timeline could be stretched out over a longer period," Taylor said. "They like being able to plan for splitting their anticipated tax bill over a longer period, rather than be hit with it all at once."

Taylor said the program basis the payment plan for a taxpayer on this year's tax bill and divides it into equal payments over a 10-month period beginning in March. If the actual tax bill increases, the taxpayer would be notified that the last few payments would be increased to cover the difference.

For more information about the program, call the Trustee's Office at 423-323-6464.

Taylor's office continues to partner with the State of Tennessee's Property Tax Relief Program for the Elderly, Disabled and Veterans who meet certain guidelines.

To qualify, homeowners must meet one of the following qualifications prior to December 31, 2025.

1. Homeowner over age 65 with total combined 2024 income of 37,530 or less. Spouse and/or co-owner(s) must report income even if they reside off premises. Income information not required for remainderman of life estate living off premises.

2. Disabled homeowner as recognized by the Social Security Administration with above income limit; or

3. Permanently 100% disabled Veteran homeowner as determined by Veterans Administration or the widow(er) of a qualifying tax relief veteran.

Trustee Angela Taylor, County Commissioners Team Up To Boost Relief to Elderly, Disabled

The Sullivan County Commission overwhelmingly supported Taylor's proposal to provide participants in the tax relief program for the elderly and disabled this year by providing local funds to further offset their tax burden.

Participants in the program are receiving an additional \$85 rebate from Sullivan County, in addition to the amount rebated by the state.

Homeowners Are Largest Segment of Taxpayers, Most of Those Live Outside Cities – And Account For More Than Half Countywide Residential Assessment.

• For Tax Year 2025, there were 88,715 Real Property parcels in Sullivan County. Another 7,052 parcels were Tangible Personal Property, which is primarily commercial and industrial equipment.

• Of the 88,715 parcels of Real Property (which includes residential, commercial, industrial, farm, agricultural and other categories), 77,564 parcels were Residential. That's 87.43% of Real Property.

• Nearly 53% of those 77,564 Real Property (Residential) parcels are in non-

The Short List: Meeting & Event Highlights

- February 12 – Sullivan County Commission Rezoning Hearing, 6 p.m., followed immediately by Work Session.
- February 16 – County Offices Closed for Presidents' Day.
- February 17 – Sullivan County Regional Planning Commission Meeting, 6 p.m.
- February 19 – Sullivan County Commission Monthly Meeting, 6 p.m.
- February 19 – Noon, deadline for would-be candidates to file petitions to run in party primaries for 2026 election including vast majority of county elected officials.

city portions of Sullivan County, coming in at just over 41,000 parcels.

- Switching to Assessment Value, parcels outside the cities account for nearly 52% of total assessed value on Residential properties -- \$2,160,185,615 out of \$4,229,147,190.

Sullivan Commission Held County Property Tax Down in Consideration for Reassessment, Tax Hikes by Cities

The Sullivan County Commission voted unanimously to hold the county property tax rate steady for the fiscal year that began July 1. Many stated they chose to use \$8 million of the county's general fund balance rather than raise the county property tax rate a proposed five cents because the county needed to show "compassion" to city homeowners who already face double-digit tax hikes adopted by city officials.

The 2025 county tax rate adopted by the Commission on July 17 is \$1.6129 per \$100 of assessed value. That rate was certified by the state as a "revenue neutral" amount to replace last year's rate of \$2.4962 per \$100 of assessed value.

The County Commission's vote to use fund balance rather than increase the property tax rate demonstrably helps homeowners inside the cities of Kingsport and Bristol to have a lower overall increase than if the county had "piled on" with its own increase.

Cities Adopted Tax Hikes on Top of Reassessment

Citing, in part, compassion for city taxpayers already facing steep increases on their city property taxes, the Sullivan County Commission opted NOT to go above the state-certified tax rate:

	2024 Tax Rate*	State Certified 2025 Tax Rate*	Adopted 2025 Tax Rate *	Percentage Change
Sullivan County	\$2.4962	\$1.6129	\$1.6129	0.000%
Kingsport City	\$1.9983	\$1.3473	\$1.67	23.95%
Bristol TN City	\$2.25	\$1.5397	\$1.87	21.45%
County/Kingsport	\$4.4945	\$2.9602	\$3.2829	10.90%
County/Bristol	\$4.7462	\$3.1526	\$3.4829	10.47%

NOTES: * indicates all figures are per \$100 of assessed value. Adopted 2025 Rates shown were approved by each locality's governing body – the Sullivan County Commission (0% increase over state certified rate); the Kingsport Board of Mayor and Aldermen (23.95% increase over state certified rate); and the Bristol Tennessee City Council (21.45% increase over state certified rate).

OPTIONS FOR PAYING YOUR SULLIVAN COUNTY PROPERTY TAXES

IN PERSON AT TRUSTEE'S OFFICE

BLOUNTVILLE (423) 323-6464

Sullivan County Courthouse 3411 Hwy 126, Ste 104

Monday - Friday: 8 am to 5 pm

BRISTOL & KINGSPORT OFFICE LOCATIONS

Open Designated Days October 1 through March 13

Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Closed for lunch 1:30-2:30 p.m.

KINGSPORT OFFICE (423) 354-7036

Open: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

225 West Center Street

BRISTOL OFFICE (423) 354-7037

Open: Thursday & Friday

Ralph Harr Justice Center, 801 Anderson Street, Room 139

ELECTRONIC

www.SullivanTnTrustee.gov

Payable by credit card, debit card or electronic check/ACH

PHONE: 1-888-382-2315

Payable by credit card

or debit card

Fee of 2.5% for credit & debit cards, \$1.25 for e-checks charged by processing vendor.

Phone payment \$0.30 additional charge.

DROP BOX

Sullivan County Courthouse 3411 Hwy 126,

Bloountville

On left side of courthouse near alley way.

BANK OF TENNESSEE

IN PERSON OR DRIVE-THRU

CASH OR CHECK ONLY

MUST bring TAX NOTICE with Payment

Payments accepted through Friday,

February 27, 2026

Bloountville: 1917 Highway 394

Bristol: 1223 Volunteer Parkway

Kingsport: 4214 Ft. Henry Drive 301 East

Center St. (No Drive-Thru)

Bank Staff does not have access to Trustee records

NO Tax Relief, NO Delinquent or NO

Partial Payments Accepted