



**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
Concerning Collier County's
Preliminary Assessment Notices**

Solid Waste Rate Notification

1. Could you please give me a brief explanation of this letter?

These first class notices are to inform our customers that on September 9th, 2014 the Board of County Commissioners will adopt a Resolution for the annual solid waste mandatory collection and disposal assessment on the non-ad valorem portion of the tax bill. The proposed collection fees are \$182.37 for District I, and \$170.36 for District II. The previous Board approved Resolutions; dated September 15th 2009, to place the assessment on the tax bill has ended. Per State Statute, Collier County must adopt a new Resolution and notify all affected properties by first class mail.

2. How much did my bill increase for District I?

This year's proposed amount is \$182.37, and last year's amount was \$173.49. The Solid Waste Collection and Disposal annual assessment has increased by \$8.88, a 5.12% increase.

3. How much did my bill increase for District II?

This year's proposed amount is \$170.36, and last year's amount was \$165.28. The Solid Waste Collection and Disposal annual assessment has increased by \$5.08, a 3.07% increase.

4. Why did the bill increase?

The cost for collection goes up in accordance with the CPI (consumer price index) for the collection portion of the assessment. Disposal fees increase if there is an increase in fees at the Collier County Landfill or the Immokalee Recycling Center. This year's CPI is 1.40% for the collection portion of the assessment. See below for disposal fees.

5. Do I understand correctly that all guest houses are charged? If so, will the County supply me with a garbage and/or recycling cart?

In accordance with Ordinance 2005-54 a dwelling unit constitutes a separate, independent establishment with cooking facilities/kitchen, a separate entrance, and bathroom facilities, and physically separated from any other rooms or dwelling units which may be in the same structure or in separate structures.

Yes, the County will follow through to ensure you receive a second garbage cart and recycling cart.

6. What is the process to speak before the Board of County Commissioners on September 9th, 2014?

All persons wishing to speak must arrive early to register with the County Manager prior to the start of the Board of County Commissioners meeting at 9:00 a.m. on September 9th, 2014. All registered public speakers will receive up to three (3) minutes unless the time is adjusted by the Chairman.

7. What should I do with this letter I received if I no longer own this property?

If you are no longer the owner of the property, please disregard this letter. The letters are sent out to the present owner of record. The files are continually updated by the Property Appraiser's office and could have possibly changed since the file was produced.

8. I received my proposed tax bill and this was not on it?

The proposed tax bill does not include any non-ad valorem assessments.

9. Will the rate ever be any higher than \$225?

The amount of the assessment for FY2015 is \$182.37 for District I and \$170.36 for District II. The \$225 amount is a "not to exceed amount" for a five year period (through 2019). If the rate is to exceed the \$225 a new resolution would need to be approved by the BCC.

10. How do the current collection costs in Collier County compare to the collection costs paid in other Florida counties?

The residents of Collier County receive the highest level of service for the price they pay in the state of Florida. We receive twice a week unlimited garbage collection, once a week yard waste collection, once a week recycling collection, and once a week bulky items. (Please see graph below for county comparisons.)

11. Is this letter a bill that I have to pay?

No. The letter is informing you of the new solid waste rate that will appear on your November property tax bill, in the Non-Ad Valorem section.

Southwest Florida Solid Waste Rate Comparison Chart

