# Baldwin County Georgia



# ANNUAL TAX ASSESSMENT 101



### **Baldwin County Government**

1601 N. Columbia St. Suite 230 Milledgeville, GA 31061

#### **Phone**

478-445-4791

#### **Hours**

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. M-F except holidays



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#### **Annual Tax Assessment 101**



The "Annual Notice of Tax Assessment" property owners received recently is NOT your 2024 Tax Notice! The State of Georgia requires every taxable property parcel in Georgia to be assessed annually. The process is dictated by the state. The form property owners received is a state form filled in with data the state requires. That state process requires local tax assessors to measure values based on the actual sale of properties similar to other properties in the community.

The process the tax assessor uses to determine value of property is a STATE process that is annually evaluated by the state. If county tax assessors fail to assess property within equity standards established by the STATE, eventually the county will be required to pay a penalty fee for every parcel of property in the county.

Tax assessors have a very disliked, difficult, and complex duty to perform for the citizens of the county. Tax assessors must assess properties based on standards the STATE requires and measures. In summary, the results of your tax assessment are mostly based on

the requirements and processes established by the STATE. The annual property tax assessment does not establish actual property taxes. Your elected county commission and the elected county school board establish the amount of property taxes annually as part of their annual budget processes. Of your property taxes approximately 40 percent is established by the Baldwin County Commission and 60 percent is established by the Baldwin School Board.

The Baldwin County Commission evaluates the budgetary needs of the county to determine the dollar resources required. Those requirements are based on the resources required to meet constitutional requirements (majority of county resources needed), debt requirements, and community service goals for the citizens of the county. Based on the resources required to provide for the county for the next year, the ad valorem property tax rate for every taxable parcel is expressed as the MIL rate. The application of the established MIL rate to all the taxable parcels creates the dollar resources required by the county government that is not provided from other resources. Many Baldwin County property owners have noted an increased value of their property. Increased value is desired, until the property owner notices a property tax increase. The 2024 Annual Notice of Property Assessment advises property owners as to the un-appealed assessed value of property that will be used by the MIL rate to establish property taxes for this year. In the last 12 years the commissioners have never significantly changed the MIL rate. Baldwin Commissioners are proud that over 75% of the state has higher county property tax rates than Baldwin. The current commissioners desire to continue to advocate for low property taxes. The commissioners will carefully assess the resources required for the county, focusing on continuing to keep taxes low.

## Baldwin County Awarded \$500,000 Community Home Investment Program Grant



Baldwin County has received a \$500,000 Community Home Investment Program (CHIP) grant from the State of Georgia's Department of Community Affairs. Baldwin County is the only county in Georgia to receive an owner-occupied \$500,000 CHIP grant. Grant funds will be used to rehabilitate six homes in the south side of the county. Construction should start on the first house in winter 2025.

"The county was eligible to apply for this 2024 grant thanks to the incredible work that ServPro did to complete the first three houses from our 2022 CHIP grant," stated Carlos Tobar, Baldwin County Manager. "Additionally, the county wants to recognize and thank those who serve on the Baldwin County Georgia Initiative for Community Housing Team. These community members have faithfully attended monthly meetings since the county was accepted into this program in 2022 and we are grateful for their dedication. Finally, we want to thank Senator Rick Williams and Representatives Mack Jackson and Ken Vance for their letters of support."

CHIP grant awards have helped to revitalize the south side of Baldwin County. In addition to the county's investment in owner-occupied homes, private investors have spent millions of dollars to revitalize homes and neighborhoods in this area as well. More public investment is coming, which should lead to further investment and revitalization for Baldwin County.

# Habitat for Humanity Milledgeville-Baldwin County and the GA Department of Community Affairs Offer Homeownership Opportunities

Habitat for Humanity (HFH) of Milledgeville-Baldwin County is the recipient of a \$600,000 Community HOME Investment Program (CHIP) Grant to construct four (4) single-family housing units within Baldwin County. These homes will be built by HFH and then sold to qualifying low- and moderate-income persons through the Habitat Model. Interested persons can find qualifying criteria at www.milledgevillehabitat.org, by calling 478-453-9617, or emailing habitatforhumanitymbc@gmail.com.

#### PICK UP AN APPLICATION

Pick up an application at the Baldwin Co Senior Center, the Milledgeville Housing Authority Building, Mary Vinson Memorial Library, Lake Sinclair Library, the Baldwin County Health Department, or download and print one on our website, milledgevillehabitat.org.

### HOW TO SET AN APPOINTMENT

Call 478-453-9617 to set an appointment, or visit milledgevillehabitat.org and fill out the sign-up sheet.

### DATES AND LOCATIONS

Completed applications will be accepted on June 4th 9:00-4:00 at the Baldwin County Government office and June 11th 10:00-3:00 at the Mary Vinson Memorial Library.

Appointments are required.

#### GENERAL APPLICATION INFORMATION

Bring your completed application to your appointment along with the \$25 application fee.
Accepted forms of payment are money order, cashiers check, or a personal check. Cash will not be accepted.
There are 30 minute time blocks for application interviews, please bring the original application as well as a copy.





## FAA Inspects Baldwin County Regional Airport's New Precision Approach Path Indicator System



On Friday, May 3, 2024, the Federal Aviation Administration flew into Baldwin County Regional Airport to inspect the new Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) system.

The PAPI is a system of lights on the side of an airport runway threshold that provides visual descent guidance information during final approach. FAA funded the \$64,300 project at 95%. The county contributed 5%, or a little over \$3,000.

#### **County Staff Attends Animal Control Training**



Baldwin County Animal
Services staff members
Elizabeth Barber, Ashton
Branch and Katie Collis
recently traveled to
Cleveland, Georgia to attend
the Animal Control and Care
Academy training course in
Chemical Immobilization.
This further education
certification will allow our
staff to bring new knowledge
and capabilities to Animal
Services in Baldwin County.

#### Baldwin County Conducts Multi-Agency Search and Rescue Exercise









On April 26th, Baldwin County EMA, the Baldwin County Sheriff's Office, Atrium EMS, Baldwin County Fire Rescue, and Baldwin 911 conducted a multi-agency search and rescue exercise at Bartram Forest. The exercise included multiple local and state agencies, including Milledgeville Police Department, Georgia Forestry - Baldwin Unit, the Georgia State Patrol, the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Corrections K-9, and Sheriff's Posse. The search and rescue exercise was designed to evaluate the effectiveness of communication protocols and technology utilized during search and rescue operations. Another key objective of the exercise was to measure the efficacy of medical response and first aid interventions provided to rescued individuals.

## Register for Baldwin County 4-H July Summer Fun Days



Registration is now open for Baldwin County 4-H July Summer Fun Days!

Please register in-person at the Baldwin County UGA Extension Office at 311 Linda Drive, Milledgeville, Ga 31061.

Payment is due at time of registration. Cash/check /debit/all major credit cards except American Express are accepted.

For more information or if you need a reasonable accommodation or language access services, please contact the Baldwin County Extension office at (478) 986-3958 or email uge3009@uga.edu.

## Rocky Creek Park Now Open

Georgia Power opened Rocky Creek Park on Friday, May 24th. The park will be open 24 hours a day until Labor Day.

