



2026 BUDGET AND LEVY INFORMATION

There's something truly special about calling Crosslake home. From the clear, sparkling waters of our lakes to the peaceful landscapes framed by tall pines, our community is surrounded by the natural beauty that makes this city such an extraordinary place to live, work, and play.

As your City Staff, Mayor, and Council, we remain deeply committed to preserving the exceptional quality of life our residents enjoy. We continue to focus on maintaining high levels of service and investing in improvements to our roads, trails, sidewalks, and essential services. Together, we're working to ensure Crosslake remains a vibrant, welcoming, and well-cared-for community for generations to come.

Lori Conway, City Administrator

CITY SERVICES

Your taxes go to a number of essential City services, some are:

- General Government and Administrative Services
- Cemetery Maintenance
- Community Development
- Parks and Public Spaces
- Police, Fire Services & Emergency Services
- Maintenance of Streets, Bridges, Trails & Sidewalks
- Sewer, plus more

UNDERSTANDING THE CITY BUDGET PROCESS

Preliminary to Final Levy

Each year, the City of Crosslake begins a thoughtful and thorough process to plan the budget for the year ahead. Led by the City Administrator—together with department heads and the City Council—this work involves reviewing our community's needs, identifying opportunities to save, and prioritizing the equipment, staffing, operational changes, capital improvements, and infrastructure investments that keep our city running smoothly.

The process begins each April, when the first draft of the next year's budget is prepared. By July, this draft is ready for presentation to the City Council, who review the details and help shape the preliminary budget and levy. The Preliminary Tax Levy is set in September, followed by continued refinement and discussion throughout the fall. The process concludes in December, when the Final Tax Levy is adopted.

Developing the city budget takes time, careful planning, and a strong commitment to our community's goals. This collaborative effort ensures we remain responsible stewards of public resources while continuing to provide the high level of service our residents expect and deserve.

YOUR TAX STATEMENT

By now you have received your Preliminary Tax Statement from the Crow Wing County. After Final Levy is set you will be mailed your Tax Statement. Your statement shows County Levy, School District Levy, City Levy and Special Levies. But did you ever wonder how much of your Crosslake resident tax bill goes to the City on a \$600,000 value if you live in ISD186?



Crow Wing County—\$1352
School District NTC & RMW—\$1031
City of Crosslake— \$1080
Other— \$17

Understanding Your 2026 City Taxes

The City of Crosslake sets a **levy** each year—this is the total amount of money the City needs to collect through property taxes to fund services such as streets, parks, public safety, and administration.

To collect this levy, the City applies a **local tax rate**, which is the percentage of your taxable property value needed to raise that amount.

What's happening in 2026?

- The City's tax rate for 2026 will be **17.282%**.
- This results in a **0.22% increase** in the levy compared to last year.

What this means for homeowners

Because of state formulas, year-round homes and seasonal homes (cabins) are taxed differently. Below are examples of what the **City portion** of the 2026 tax bill would look like:

Year-round home in ISD 186

- **Average home value:** \$600,000
- **City tax in 2026:** \$1,080

Seasonal/recreational home

- **Average home value:** \$750,000
- **City tax in 2026:** \$1,404
- Seasonal homes pay more value because of the set tax classification formula.