



Non-Homestead Operating Millage Replacement Information

Waterford School District

Millage Facts

- Under state law, the State of Michigan assumes Waterford School District collects its expected 18 mills on non-homestead properties.
- The State will NOT provide funding to replace revenue not collected below that amount.



Millage Facts

- Without the 18 mill non-homestead contribution, WSD would receive less than its expected \$10,300 per pupil funding. The district estimates an annual revenue reduction of approximately \$500,000.
- Currently, over 85% of our budget is dedicated directly to classroom teaching, student support and facility operations.





Frequently Asked Questions

What does "non-homestead" mean?

"Non-homestead" refers strictly to industrial and commercial real property, businesses, rental units, and second/vacation homes. It does NOT apply to a family's primary residential home (homestead).

Will my residential home property taxes change or increase if this passes?

No. Primary residential homeowners pay zero (0.0) non-homestead operating mills by law. This proposal applies exclusively to commercial properties, businesses, and rental properties to restore the state-mandated 18-mill baseline.

How do community members know these funds are being used responsibly?

The district operates under a strict annual budget and transparency cycle. Each year, an independent certified public accounting (CPA) firm conducts a rigorous on-site financial audit of all district accounts. Audit findings and annual budgets are formally presented to the Board of Education in open public meetings and are published online for full community transparency.

What happens if the millage restoration does not pass?

Waterford School District will continue to face an annual loss of over \$501,400 in state-calculated operating revenue. Because the state will not replace these lost funds, the district would be forced to make reductions to general operations, which could impact staffing levels, instructional programs, support services, and classroom resources.

Is this a new tax?

No. This millage has been an essential part of Waterford School District's local revenue structure since Michigan voters passed Proposal A in 1994. Local voters have periodically renewed this statutory baseline to ensure the district receives its full operating revenue.



How Are Michigan Public School Districts Funded?

Waterford School District receives \$10,300 Per Pupil each year in combined local and state funds. That is comprised of:

Local Share

- 18 mill non-homestead contribution

**The state assumes the district receives the full 18 mills from the local share. The state will not cover local 18-mill shortfalls*



State Share – Michigan School Aid Fund

- 23% of gross individual state income tax
- 2% of the 6% Michigan State Sales Tax
- 100% of net profits of the MI Lottery
- State Education Tax - 6 mills on all property

Without the local 18-mill share, our per-pupil funding stack falls short of the \$10,300 state baseline.



Michigan Voter Information

Michigan Voter Information Center

<https://mVIC.sos.state.mi.us/>

Register to Vote – Online

<https://mVIC.sos.state.mi.us/RegisterVoter/Index>

Register to Vote – Printable

<https://www.michigan.gov/sos/-/media/Project/Websites/sos/Elections/Election-Forms/Voter-Registration-Form-English.pdf?rev=30b2fd05eb6f4427a1a13ed4a6127d10&hash=55C2D3482F6DC1310278DB583285E4A6>

Waterford Township Clerk's Office

5200 Civic Center Drive, Waterford, MI 48329 • (248) 674-6266



Important Dates

September 24, 2026

Absentee ballots available at Clerk's office.

October 19, 2026

Last day to register to vote by mail or online.

November 3, 2026

Last day to obtain and vote an absentee ballot in person at Clerk's office or vote in person at the proper precinct.

November 3, 2026 - Election Day

Polls open 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.



More Information

For more information, please scan the QR Code or visit our informational Election webpage to learn important facts about this proposal. We encourage all voters to be informed when they vote.



wsdmi.org/millage

