Columbia County

Press Release

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Property Reappraisal Underway in Rural Vernonia, Mist and Birkenfeld

The Columbia County Assessor's Office is presently in the process of reappraising all residential, farm and forest properties in the rural Vernonia area, Mist and Birkenfeld for the 2010-11 tax roll. The last time the majority of these properties were physically inspected was in 1989-90. Appraisers will be verifying the physical condition of buildings and accessories and any additions or deletions to the property since it was last inspected. Most of these inspections will be conducted from the exterior of the property and the appraiser will only attempt to contact property owners to verify substantial changes to the property.

All properties must be appraised at 100% of Real Market Value each year as of January 1 based on Oregon State Statutes. This is usually done by market trending, a process of analyzing property sales through the year and trending properties based on the sales study, but must be supplemented with periodic physical reappraisals to recognize the changes that may have taken place over the years. For the majority of property owners, the reappraisal will not affect their tax assessed value, unless there have been major changes to the property since the last inspection.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the reappraisal, you may call the Columbia County Assessor's Office at 503-397-2240 or email sue.poling@co.columbia.or.us

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