

# Local Government Education in Indiana

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Purdue Extension Regional Community Development Educator

May 2015



Real-Time Legislative Info

# **Capital Comments**

Monthly web column (& podcast) of changes in state tax law

# **On Local Government**

1.5 hour webinar hosted 3x per year: how recent state legislation affects cities, counties

# **Individualized County Information**

Analysis and presentation of current property tax and local income tax conditions

# **Video-Based Course**

Released in 2014, 7 videos with educational material explain Indiana property taxes. (Viewed as a set or in segments.)

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# Coming soon to and Extension Office near you...

# The Trailer:

A Series of 7 Videos and Educational Materials about the Indiana Property Tax

# Series of Educational Videos and Materials

- Property Tax Basics
- Property Tax Caps
- Farm Land Assessment
- Assessed Value
- The Levy
- Property Tax Rates
- How to Read Your Tax Bill

Our goal is to add a new module every year.

# **Each Module Contains\*:**

- Video
- Publication
- Facilitator's Guide
- Activity or Example
- Discussion Questions

\*All the videos are complete. Some material is still being written.





# Property Tax Caps Facilitator Guide

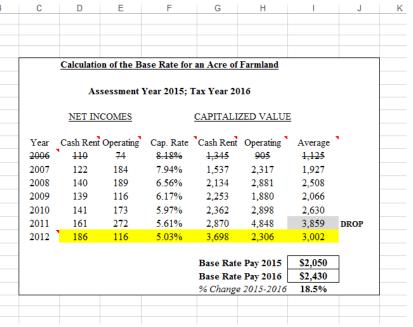
Resources: Property Tax Caps Video Property Tax Cap Exercise Spreadsheet Objective: The objective of this module is to educate participants about how the property tax C Property Tax Cap Exercise PowerPoint Unjective: The objective or this module is to educate participants about now the property tax of their effects on property owners and local governments. In addition, through the additional activities of their effects on property owners and local governments. Property Tax Cap Discussion Guide

their effects on property owners and local governments. In addition, through the addition in addition, through the addition in addition, through the addition in addition, through the addition, the addition in addition, through the addition in addition in addition.

Audience: This module is ? module builds on the proper have a general understand

Property Tax Caps Vide participants.

Property Tax Cap Ex



### **Educators Name**

Presenter title

Month day, year

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# Where are the Resources?

- Videos are currently on the Purdue Extension YouTube Channel
- Other material are available to our Extension
  - Educators through Blackboard
- Some resources like publications will be available to the public



# How We Are Using the Materials

- Increase Educators' understanding of property taxes and the county budget.
- Share individually with clientele.
- Use part of a module at the end of a county council/commissioners meeting or with civic groups.
- Mix and match resources to create a complete program for elected officials and communities.

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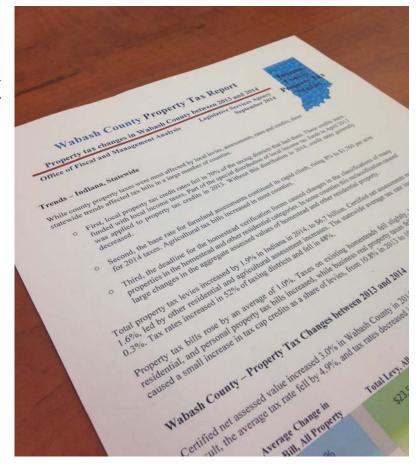
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# **Individualized County Programs**

- Legislative Service Agency Annual County Property Tax Reports
- Video Tutorial "How to Read the County Property Tax Report
- Individualized analysis and presentation to counties or organizations by request.





"I looked at the property tax report a while back for Steuben County, but it made little sense to me with my very limited knowledge of tax lingo. Watching the video made it a bit less scary. One thing I did not notice before is in 2014 the Other Residential assessed values are larger than the homesteads in the county! That really puts the importance of tourism in perspective. This was a major talking point of my advisory committee this week since two tourist driven companies were represented at the meeting." ~ Steuben Co.

# **Extension Educator**



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# **On Local Government**



- Webinar three times a year
- Focuses on issues trending in the state:
  - State budget
  - New legislation affecting local taxes
  - School referenda
- County offices sign up to host or participants can watch on their own.

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**APRIL** 2015

Βy Larry DeBoer

Professor of Agricultural Economics Purdue University

Visit Larry DeBoer's Indiana Local Government Information Web site

Download the audio files or subscribe to our podcast.

04-23-15

Download the audio of Capital Comments: MP3 Follow us online at Purdue Agriculture News Columns Follow Larry DeBoer on Twitter @INTaxRock-Stars

# Tax Policy on the Business and **Distributional Scales**

Indiana is pretty familiar with the Tax Foundation's Business Tax Climate Index. The index measures which state tax systems are the friendliest to businesses. We like their ranking because they like us. Indiana ranks 8th on their 2015 list. We hope that being so business-friendly will encourage business expansion in our state, leading to more jobs and higher pay.

We're less familiar with a different ranking of state taxes by the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP). They rank state tax systems based on their effects on the distribution of income. They don't like Indiana very much. We're 42nd on their 2015 list. According to ITEP, in every state lower income people pay a bigger share of their incomes to taxes than do higher income people. Indiana's tax system does that more than most.

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### IN Tax Rockstars

@INTaxRockstars

# #HappyBirthdayIndiana at the @IndianaMuseum! #StatehoodDay

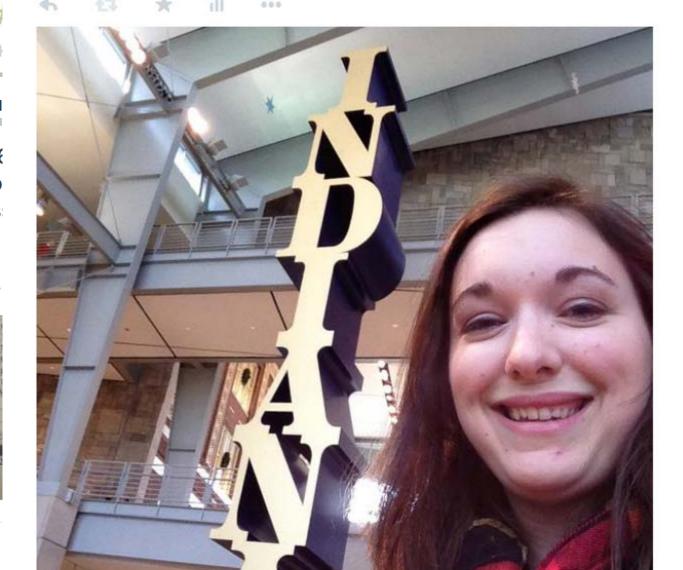
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Which County?

# You can follow us on Twitter too! @INTaxRockstars