

**Glenda Wiles**

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**From:** Terry Marasco <tmarascomontana@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 17, 2015 7:52 AM  
**To:** Terry Marasco  
**Subject:** big-box-stores-terrible-deal-for-cities/

<http://www.ilsr.org/dark-store-tax-tactic-makes-big-box-stores-terrible-deal-for-cities/>

Marquette has been hit hard by a tactic that the country's biggest retailers are using to slash their property tax assessments. Under what has become known as the "dark store" method, big-box retailers are **declaring their busy stores to be functionally obsolescent and therefore nearly worthless for tax purposes**—and they're winning big judgments for back taxes. It's the latest example of the way that, even as local governments continue to bend over backwards to attract big-box development, these stores are consistently a terrible deal.

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