



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Date: August 9, 2010
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To:

Simple Strategies Hold the Line on Costs

Working for the citizen's of Polk County Mary Maloney Polk County Treasurer is always on the lookout for cost reduction strategies.

"Citizens inform us they are throwing away the return payment envelopes we mail out with the property tax statement", Maloney explains. It is estimated that citizens throw away 60% of the return payment envelopes and instead use the internet to make their property tax payment. Based on this public input in September 2009 Maloney took the first step to phase out return payment envelopes by eliminating one of the two return payment envelopes.

Taxes for the 2009/2010 installments will be calculated this month and 176,000 property tax statements, representing \$795 million dollars, will be mailed out mid August 2010. You don't need to wait for a statement to make a payment. Your property tax information is already on our www.loveTaxAndTags.gov web site. Due to the anticipated volume of walk-in traffic in our office, you are encouraged to use our online payment system at www.loveTaxAndTags.gov where you may make a full or partial payment. To further reduce mailing and inventory costs, return payment envelopes are being completely phased out. When citizens pay on the internet with the eCheck payment option the cost is only \$0.40 after the cash discount is applied. That is \$0.04 cents cheaper than using a postage stamp. If your mortgage company pays your property tax, you may retain your statement for record keeping purposes.

"We understand that not everyone has a computer and we realize that not everyone who owns a computer will choose to pay online. We will always accept payment through traditional means, e.g., in person payments or mailed payments with a check", said Maloney. A telephone number and an email address for the treasurer's office will be listed on the property tax statement for you to request envelopes. Payments may be mailed to the office but must have a September 30 postmark to be processed without late interest. To receive a September 30 postmark, please mail by 8:30 p.m. Thursday, September 30, 2010, at the main post office. The post office does not postmark on Sunday. If mailing from an outlying post office, please check postmark deadline requirements with the post office to obtain a timely postmark. Interest on delinquent taxes accrues at 1.5% per month. Company affixed metered mail dates do not supersede the post office postmark.

For further information call the Polk County Treasurer's Tax Department at 286-3060.
You can now renew current and delinquent vehicle tags online at www.loveTaxAndTags.gov.