

Notes from the Treasury Department

How to avoid delay when paying property taxes –

Treasurer Al LeBlanc offers the following tips for paying taxes: If possible, pay with a check rather than cash, and write your parcel number on your check for maximum safety. Your parcel number is the long number that begins with 33-03, and it is unique to your property. It is printed on your tax bill and tax receipt. Bring or mail in the stub from the bottom of your bill when paying. Pay the exact amount that you owe because overpayments and underpayments cause delay. If you bring your payment into the office but don't want to wait for it to be processed, we will be happy to mail out your receipt.

The only way we can guarantee giving you a receipt with a specific date on it is for you to pay the bill in person at the township office on that date and wait for the receipt to be created.

What if a bank or mortgage company pays your taxes?

If a bank or mortgage company pays your taxes, you will receive a duplicate bill on yellow paper for your information. We will mail a receipt directly to you as soon as we receive payment. If you don't have a receipt from us by February 7, you should call the Treasurer's office so that we can check on your payment before the deadline.

If you still owe Summer 2006 property taxes –

Summer taxes were due on September 14, and the law requires that one percent interest be charged for every month or portion of a month that they are overdue. If you have a bill from an earlier month, that amount will no longer be accurate. You can call our office at 655-3193 to find out the amount due in the month that you are paying.

Personal property taxes are assessed on December 31 –

Personal property taxes are assessed on December 31 of the previous year. If you own a business on that day, they will be assessed to you. If you sell your business during the following year, you are still responsible for paying the bill. You can negotiate with the buyer to pay you the amount of taxes for the portion of the year that the buyer will own the business. This is the same thing that is done when a residence is bought.

Save money by paying taxes on time –

The law requires a three percent penalty for Winter property taxes that are paid after the due date of February 14, 2007. On March 1, 2007, any unpaid real (residential) property taxes must be turned over to the Ingham County Treasurer for collection, and additional fees are assessed. The county treasurer will eventually begin foreclosure proceedings on properties with unpaid taxes.

Special open hours on February 14, 2007 –

The township hall will be open on Wednesday, February 14 from 9:00 AM till 7:00 PM. No business other than tax collection will be conducted from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM on that day. To be considered on time, all payments must be received in the office by the end of that day. Payments received by mail after February 14 must be considered late even if they have an earlier postmark.