



Clallam County Treasurer's Office

SELINDA BARKHUIS, TREASURER

223 East 4th Street, Suite 3

Port Angeles, WA 98362-3000

Phone: 360-417-2344 Fax: 360-417-2252

Email: web_treasurer@co.clallam.wa.us

Website: www.clallam.net/Treasurer/index.html

Your 2014 Property Tax Statement

- **State school levy.** Due to "equalization" calculated by the Department of Revenue pursuant to RCW 84.52.065, Clallam County taxpayers will pay \$16,814,548 this year in state school levy, which is \$1,456,002 less than last year's \$18,270,550. Although this reduction is off-set to some extent (depending on tax area) by various increases as explained below, many taxpayers will see a slight decrease in their tax bill this year.
- **1 % levy increases.** Like most years, the Boards of most taxing districts (including the Board of Clallam County Commissioners and the City Councils of Sequim, Port Angeles, and Forks) voted to increase their general operating levies by the 1% allowed under state law.
- **Sequim School District levies.** On February 12, 2013, Sequim School District No. 323 (SSD) voters approved a replacement M&O levy for 2014 through 2017, as well as a new Transportation Vehicle Fund Levy in the amount of \$1,600,000 for 2014 only. But during December 2013, the SSD retired outstanding bonds with a final payment of \$2 million and it will retire additional outstanding bonds during 2014 with a final payment that is \$280,000 less than last year's payment. As a result, the total amount that the SSD Board is levying its taxpayers for 2014 is \$7,635,782, which is \$686,809 less than the \$8,322,591 it levied in 2013, and many SSD property taxpayers will see a decrease in their property tax bill this year.
- **Port Angeles School District M&O levy.** Taxpayers in Port Angeles School District No. 121 (PASD) will likely see a slight increase in their property tax bill this year. For 2014, the PASD Board is levying \$8,443,062 on its M&O levy, which is \$111,391 more than the \$8,331,671 it levied in 2013, as approved by PASD voters on February 8, 2011. The final collection year for this particular M&O levy is 2015.
- **City of Port Angeles stormwater assessments.** Taxpayers within the City of Port Angeles will likely see an increase in their property tax bill. For 2014, the Port Angeles City Council is assessing stormwater fees against residential properties that are \$36 higher than 2013 stormwater fees, which, in turn, were \$36 higher than 2012 stormwater fees. Non-residential properties are assessed stormwater fees based on impervious surfaces. With this latest increase, the Port Angeles City Council has increased stormwater fees by 100% since 2012.
- **Total collections.** For 2014, the Treasurer's Office will be collecting \$78,302,695 in property tax revenues on behalf of 22 taxing districts, which is 2% less than the \$79,906,337 collected for 2013. The total value of property in Clallam County for the 2014 tax roll is down by \$170 million over the 2013 tax roll (from 7.17 billion for the 2013 tax roll to 7 billion for the 2014 tax roll). In addition to property tax revenue, the Treasurer's Office will be collecting over \$2 million in assessments on behalf of 4 irrigation districts, DNR Fire Patrol, Lake Sutherland Lake Management, Clallam County Weed Control Program, and City of Port Angeles Stormwater.
- **Final note.** For a detailed breakdown of taxes and assessments due on a particular property, go to www.clallam.net/propertysearch (see next page for instructions on how to search for a particular property). Once located, click on "Statement Details" for a detailed breakdown of taxes and assessments due on that property. The main reasons why property taxes on a particular property may change more than other properties in the same tax area is that the values of the properties being compared changed at different rates or because one of the properties being compared is receiving a senior or disabled exemption.

Don't be late!

- First half property taxes are delinquent if not paid by April 30, and second half property taxes are delinquent if not paid by October 31. (RCW 84.56.020) *To keep costs down, we do not send 2nd half reminder statements.*
- For details about delinquent interest and penalties, please see the reverse side of your property tax statement.

If you mail your payment:

- The County does NOT accept postage-due mail and such mail is not considered timely.
- The Treasurer's Office does NOT hold post-dated checks for processing later.
- To avoid delinquent interest, your payment must be postmarked on or before the due date (RCW 1.12.070). Because of continuing budget woes plaguing the USPS, post-office service hours as well as the frequency and timing of mail-box pick-ups may change, with some USPS mail boxes picked up quite early in the day. Tax payments deposited in a mail box that has already been picked up for the day will be postmarked the next business day. To avoid being surprised by such changes (and incur delinquent interest), plan on mailing your payment at least a day or two before the due date

Continued on reverse side.....

If you drop your payment in a drop box:

- As a result of limited staff resources due to budget reductions, *there are no longer drop boxes in Sequim and Forks*. While the costs associated with ballot drop boxes can be passed on to the taxing districts with issues on the ballot, this option is not available for tax payment drop boxes.
- Please make sure to drop your payment before mid-night on the due date in the gray drop box specifically designated for property tax payments, and other courthouse business, located within the circular drive at the Clallam County Courthouse, 223 E. 4th Street, in Port Angeles, WA. Please do not drop payments in the blue USPS mail boxes (unless properly addressed and stamped) or in specifically designated ballot boxes.
- The drop box at the County Treasurer's office inside the courthouse is accessible during courthouse hours only.

If you pay in-person:

- Courthouse hours are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. The courthouse will be closed on all federal holidays as well as the day after Thanksgiving.
- For more information, please go to www.clallam.net/features/hours.html

If you pay on-line, i.e. via bill-payer:

- When paying electronically, the payment must be "payable to the treasurer" on or before the due date. (RCW 84.56.020(10))
- If you pay via bill-payer, please use 223 E. 4th Street, Suite 3, Port Angeles, WA 98362 as the address for the Treasurer's office (and NOT the P. O. Box address). Please include your Owner ID, which is located at the top-left of your property tax statement just below the County logo.

If you pay with a credit or debit card:

- The County cannot absorb the fees that credit card companies charge merchants for accepting payments via credit or debit card. As a result, those taxpayers who choose to use a credit or debit card to pay their property taxes must pay such fees. These fees (generally ranging from 2.5% to 3%) are set by the companies that provide credit/debit card payment services for taxpayers, and are similar to the fees charged by credit card companies when their customers take cash advances against their credit cards. The reason for this charge is also similar: There is no merchant in these transactions to absorb these fees.
- For more information about paying with a credit or debit card, please see the reverse side of your property tax statement or go to www.clallam.net/Taxes/payment.html. When making a credit/debit card payment, please include your Owner ID, which is located at the top-left of your property tax statement just below the County logo. We do NOT accept credit or debit card payments over the phone.

Changed your mailing address?

- Please take a minute to make sure we have your correct mailing address. If not, please indicate your correct mailing address on the reverse side of a payment coupon and send it in.

Search for property tax information on-line

- To find out such things as how much you paid last year, how much you currently owe, the mailing address we have on file for you, or whether your payment has been applied to your account (which can take a week or more if mailed right around the due date), go to www.clallam.net/propertysearch
- For best search results, select "Account Number" under "Search Type," and then use "Property ID" which is the first identifier ("PID") included for each property listed on your 2014 property tax statement.
- If you don't have internet access or if the on-line search fails to produce the correct property, please feel free to call us at 360-417-2344 for the desired information.

Property tax relief programs

- For property tax relief programs, see the reverse side of your property tax statement or contact the County Assessor's Office at 417-2400. Available are exemptions for senior citizens and disabled persons, current use reduction for farm and agriculture or forest land, current use reduction for open space or timber, remodeling/home improvement exemption, destroyed property reduction, and deferral of taxes.

Questions?

- For questions about your property tax bill, please call us at 360-417-2344, email us at web_treasurer@co.clallam.wa.us, or check out the website at www.clallam.net/Treasurer/index.html
- For questions about property values and property tax relief programs, please call the Clallam County Assessor's Office at 360-417-2400 or check out the website at www.clallam.net/Assessor/index.html