

## **IMPORTANT PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION -**

- If you elect to make semiannual payments, you must make your first payment before the tax obligation becomes delinquent on October 1. If you elect to make semiannual payments, you must pay the service charge regardless of the month in which the second semiannual payment is executed. Annual tax payments or first semiannual tax payments not paid by October 1 are considered in arrears and are subject to interest until paid. Second semiannual installments (if applicable) are considered in arrears on January 1 of each year, and are subject to interest until paid. Certain mortgage companies and financial institutions request delinquency information after January 1 of each year, and therefore, second semiannual payments should be made on or before December 31 of each year.
- Annual property tax bills are mailed June 30 each year, and it is the responsibility of the taxpayer to request a duplicate, if for any reason the original is not received. Failure to receive a tax bill is no excuse for not paying taxes, interest, or penalty. Properties are subject to tax sale if taxes remain unpaid at the time of the annual tax sale.
- In accordance with the provisions of Business Regulation, Section 17-302(c) of the Annotated Code of Maryland, a Washington County permit or license for any purpose may not be issued or renewed if the applicant for such permit or license has delinquent personal property taxes.
- If you have a mortgage on your property, it is your responsibility to send this tax bill to your lending institution if that organization pays your taxes.
- Scheduled payment dates may not be extended because of delays resulting from assessment appeals.
- Bills representing prior years must be paid first. Payment of current year taxes will not prevent legal action if taxes for prior years are unpaid.
- Receipt is void if payment is made by check that is not honored by the bank.
- If you have a question concerning your assessment, please contact the State Department of Assessments & Taxation at 301-791-3050.
- If you have a question concerning your County and State tax bill, please contact the County Treasurer's Office at 240-313-2110.
- If you have a question concerning your municipal tax bill, please contact the local tax collector in your town.

## **PAYMENT OPTIONS -**

- 1) Pay by mail or in person to the Washington County Treasurer. Make checks payable and deliver to Washington County Treasurer at:  
Washington County Treasurer's Office  
35 West Washington Street, Suite 102  
Hagerstown MD 21740-4868
- 2) Pay from tax escrow account with bank/mortgage company.
- 3) Pay in person, via telephone, or online at [www.washco-md.net](http://www.washco-md.net) using a VISA, Master Card, or Discover card.  
(A transaction fee of 2.5% will be incurred and paid directly to the transaction processing company.)
- 4) Pay in person, via telephone, or online at [www.washco-md.net](http://www.washco-md.net) using a VISA debit card.  
(A transaction fee of \$3.95 will be incurred and paid directly to the transaction processing company.)

**TAX CREDITS AVAILABLE** - You may be eligible for a property tax reduction! The State of Maryland and Washington County offers a variety of tax credit programs. For information on these and other programs, contact the Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation at 800-944-7403 or visit their website [www.dat.state.md.us](http://www.dat.state.md.us).

- The State of Maryland Homeowners Tax Credit Program
- Washington County Senior Citizen Supplement to State Homeowners' Tax Credit Program
- Renter's Tax Credit Program
- Homestead Property Tax Credit
- Veterans Tax Exemption – 100% combat-wounded service-connected disabled American veterans and surviving spouses tax exemption
- Veterans Tax Credit - Washington County credit - 50% - 100% service-connected disabled American veterans (and surviving spouses) tax credit. For information on this program please call State of Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs at 301-791-0356.

Washington County Senior Citizen Supplement to State Homeowners' Tax Credit Program - Effective July 1, 2010, the Washington County Board of County Commissioners voted to ease the tax burden on homeowners age 65 and over that also meet certain income qualifications. The credit applies to homeowner occupied residential properties, and supplements the State Homeowners' Property Tax Credit program. Residents may apply by using the State of Maryland Homeowners' Property Tax Credit Application Form HTC-60. This form is used to determine eligibility for both the Washington County credit as well as the State of Maryland credit. The application will be processed and eligibility will be determined by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation. For further information please contact the State Department of Assessments & Taxation at 800-944-7403 or visit their website at [www.dat.state.md.us](http://www.dat.state.md.us).

## **ANIMAL LICENSING REMINDER -**

Please be advised that in accordance with provisions of the Washington County Maryland Animal Control Ordinance, any person owning, keeping, harboring, or having custody of any dog, four months of age or older within the County, must obtain a license. Please contact the Humane Society of Washington County at 301-733-2060 Ext. 203 for further information.

**The Washington County Annual Operating Budget Document is available at [www.washco-md.net](http://www.washco-md.net)**