

SKIP THE TRIP!

PAY
ONLINE



- Pay **Current** Real Estate and Tangible Property Taxes
- Property Tax Inquiries
- Tax Certificate Sale
- Renew Motor Vehicle , Vessel or Mobile Home Registrations
- Renew Driver Licenses
- Purchase Hunting Licenses
- Purchase Fishing Licenses
- Business Tax Inquiries

www.hillstax.org

PAYMENT OPTIONS

ONLINE

Visit our web site to pay your taxes online* using our E-Check option. This is a **FREE** service offered from November 1st through March 31st.

OR

Use your Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover credit card. Credit card payments are subject to a 2.5% convenience fee and can be made through May 27, 2010.

***Online options are not available for payment of delinquent taxes.**

PHONE

Use our automated phone system at (813) 635-5200.

MAIL

Mail your payment to:

Doug Belden, Tax Collector

PO Box 172920

Tampa, Florida 33672-0920

IN PERSON

Visit one of our conveniently located branch offices. **Credit cards are not accepted at our branches.**

DROP BOXES

As an added convenience, our branches have payment drop boxes available to the public 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. **Please do not deposit cash.**

Delinquent property taxes must be paid in certified funds.

OUR LOCATIONS

Brandon

2211 N. Falkenburg Road
Tampa 33619

(Between Hwy. 60 and Dr. MLK Blvd.)
Limited driver license service provided from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Downtown Main Office

601 E. Kennedy Blvd., 14th Floor
Tampa 33602

(Corner of Kennedy Blvd. and Pierce St.)

North Tampa

9309 N. Florida Ave., Suite 111
Tampa 33612

(Corner of Busch Blvd. and Florida Ave.)

Plant City

1834 Jim Redman Parkway
Plant City 33563

(Strawberry Plaza)

South County

3002 College Ave.
Ruskin 33570

(Sunpoint Shopping Center)

Limited driver license service provided from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

West County

6283 W. Waters Ave.
Tampa 33634

(Waters Crossing Shopping Center)

Limited driver license service provided from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

CONTACT US

813.635.5200 | www.hillstax.org

Monday - Friday | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Visit us online for a list of holiday closures

2009 PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION



Doug Belden

Tax Collector



EXPECT EXCELLENCE



OUR VISION

To be an exemplary government organization.

OUR MISSION

To exceed customer expectations through continuous innovation in performing the required duties of our office with the highest level of ethics and integrity while empowering and challenging our workforce.

ABOUT YOUR TAXES

Taxes on all real estate and tangible personal property and other non-ad valorem assessments are billed, collected and distributed by the Tax Collector. Taxes are levied in Hillsborough County by the taxing authorities. The Property Appraiser establishes the taxable value of real estate and tangible personal property. The millage, or rate of taxation, is set by the Board of County Commissioners, School Board, City Council and governing bodies of other independent special taxing districts and authorities. The millage is set by calculating a rate per \$1,000 valuation that will produce their budget needs from ad valorem taxes. One mill represents \$1 of tax on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation.

The non-ad valorem assessments are assessed by a local governing body and are based on the service they provide. A local governing body is a local government inclusive of a county, municipality or special district.

Tangible personal property tax is an assessment against the furniture, fixtures and equipment located in businesses. It also applies to structural

additions to mobile homes not taxed as real property. Taxes are assessed as of January 1 of each year and are normally due and payable on **November 1st** of that year. According to Florida Statute 197.122, all property owners have the responsibility to know the amount of tax due and to pay the taxes before April 1 of the following year. Taxes and non-ad valorem assessments become delinquent **April 1st** at which time 3% interest and advertising costs are added. The amount due for delinquent taxes is determined by date received, not by postmark.

Unpaid tangible taxes become delinquent **April 1st** of the next year, at which time 1.5 % interest per month and a two-dollar delinquent fee is added. Interest continues to accrue at 1.5% per month until paid. Advertising charges are added **May 1st**. Should the taxes remain unpaid, a warrant is assigned **July 1st**, at which time warrant costs and a fee for certified notification to delinquent taxpayers are added. Yearly, a court hearing is held to ratify warrants which enable the Tax Collector to seize and sell tangible personal property for non-payment of taxes, if necessary. The Tax Collector is required by Florida Statutes to pursue collection of tangible taxes for the life of the lien, which is seven years.

DISCOUNTS & CHARGES

The discounts allowed on mail payments are strictly governed by the postmarked date on your envelope. The discount period for walk-in current year tax payments is extended to the next working day when the deadline falls on a weekend or holiday.

Payment Discounts Allowed	
4% in November	3% in December
2% in January	1% in February

Personal checks will be accepted for payment of current real estate taxes between November 1st and March 31st. Checks must be made payable in U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. bank. Payment must be in certified funds beginning April 1st. Your canceled

check will provide you with proof of payment. For a paid tax receipt, please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your payment or you may print one from our web site at www.hillstax.org.

INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS

If you are interested in paying your estimated 2010 real estate and/or tangible personal property taxes in four easy installments, you can apply prior to May 1, 2010. If you are already participating in the installment payment plan for the current tax year, you do not need to reapply; it is automatic.

An application can be obtained from our office or on our web site at www.hillstax.org.

Your taxes must be more than \$100 to qualify for this plan. Installment payments may be made online. The first payment must be made by June 30th to remain on the plan. Subsequent late payments will be added to the next installment bill. The payment schedule for the installment plan is as follows:

- 1st Payment** ¼ of your previous year's taxes discounted 6%. Payment due in June 2010. First payment must be made to remain on the plan.
- 2nd Payment** ¼ of your previous year's taxes discounted 4½%. Payment due in September 2010.
- 3rd Payment** ¼ of your previous year's taxes plus or minus ½ of the adjustment to equal the actual current year's taxes due discounted 3%. Payment due in December 2010.
- 4th Payment** Same as 3rd payment - no discount. Payment due in March 2011.

PARTIAL PAYMENTS

Hillsborough County Tax Collector can accept up to five (5) partial payments per folio for current year taxes. The minimum partial payment is \$100 and each partial payment remitted must include a \$10 processing fee (as mandated by Florida law) payable to the tax collector. **Partial payments are not eligible for any applicable discount set forth in s. 197.162, Florida Statutes and cannot be made online or by phone.** Any remaining balance not paid before April 1, becomes delinquent. Delinquent taxes are not eligible for partial payments. **If you elect to make partial payments, you must sign and return the acknowledgement on the back of your property tax notice.**

TOURIST DEVELOPMENT TAX

Tourist Development Tax is assessed on the rental amount charged to a guest for any short term rental of six months or less. A short term rental is any living quarter or sleeping or housekeeping accommodation in any hotel, motel, multiple unit structure, rooming house, trailer, RV, or camp ground, single family home, garage apartment, beach house or cottage, condominium, time share, mobile home, boat that is permanently moored at dock, or other structure held out to the public as living quarters for less than six months. The tax amount in Hillsborough County is 5%.

If a rental agent handles your rental property, the agent is required to register and remit the Tourist Development Taxes on your behalf. However, the owner is ultimately responsible for the taxes if the agent fails to remit the taxes.

For additional information or to request a Tourist Development Tax application, please contact our office at (813) 635-5227 or www.hillstax.org.