



Cowlitz County

County Administration Building
207 N 4th Ave, Rm 107
Kelso, WA 98626
www.co.cowlitz.wa.us

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 9, 2020

Treasurer offers relief options for 2020 property taxes.

Kelso, WA - Cowlitz County Treasurer, Debra Gardner understands and shares the public's anxiety and concern about the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. She is dedicated to providing flexibility to taxpayers as allowed within her statutory authority, however she must also evaluate the funding needs of our emergency responders like, public health, EMS, fire, police, sheriff, schools and other junior taxing districts..

Contact

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Cowlitz County Treasurer
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The property taxes are still due April 30, 2020. Treasurer Gardner is encouraging taxpayers not experiencing a financial hardship to please pay by the April 30, 2020 deadline. This will help offset the financial impact for those who cannot pay now.

Taxpayers with active escrows through their mortgage companies should see no changes. Mortgage Companies have been collecting tax payments in advance and will be making those tax payments by the April 30th deadline.

For taxpayers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and who are financially unable to pay their first-half taxes by April 30th, the Treasurer is offering two relief options for 2020 taxes.

Option 1: Taxpayers can apply for a one-time emergency extension.

Option 2: Taxpayers can apply for a payment plan.

The application for each option is available at: <https://www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/2677/COVID-19-Alternative-Payment-Options>

The Treasurer's office is closed to the public at this due to COVID-19. We are working in the office processing property tax payments, real estate excise tax, assisting taxpayers by phone and assisting the County and junior taxing districts.

Payments may be made:

By mail: to Cowlitz County Treasurer's Office, 207 4th Ave. N, Kelso, WA 98626. Postmarked before the April 30th deadline. Make checks payable to: Cowlitz County Treasurer.

Online: E-checks are \$1.50, visa debit cards are \$3.95 flat fee and credit cards are charged a transaction fee by the third party processor at: <https://www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/1874/E-Checks-Credit-or-Debit-Card-Payments>, or by calling the automated telephone system at 1-844-965-0200.

Secure drop box: outside the Cowlitz County Treasurer's Office please pay by check, cashier's check or money order. Please do not pay by cash in drop box.

Drive up drop box: located on Bridge Market Lane, the ballot box has been fashioned into a temporary drive-up drop box for property tax payments, check please pay by cashier's check or money order. Please do not pay by cash in drop box.

~End~