

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 3, 2020

Property Taxes Still Delinquent if Not Paid By April 10, 2020

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Tax Collector's Office reminds taxpayers who own property in Yolo County that the second installment of 2019-20 Secured Property Tax, due February 1, 2020, will be delinquent if not paid by April 10, 2020. Though other tax deadlines at the state and federal level have been extended, the County of Yolo cannot extend the deadline. The deadline can only be extended by state legislation or if the property tax collection office is closed and unable to accept payments on the deadline. The County does not expect either condition to occur at this time and thus encourage all taxpayers with the financial ability to pay, to do so. Current law does not relieve property owners of payment responsibility or the imposition of penalties because of failure to receive a tax bill.

Property taxes are a critical funding source for local governments including cities, school districts, and rural fire districts amongst others. Many of these agencies are currently providing essential services in response to the Covid-19 pandemic and some may not be able to financially weather a delay in cash flows.

The Tax Collector's Office recognizes that some taxpayers may face difficulty in paying their April 10th installment. There is a process allowed by the Revenue & Taxation Code for property owners to apply for consideration of a penalty waiver, which will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and approved where appropriate, however "economic hardship" or "inability to pay" are not generally accepted reasons. Furthermore, a property owner that is delinquent may enter into a payment plan with applicable penalties and interest which would provide more time to pay their tax liability.

Due to the evolving Covid-19 situation and to meet current social distancing protocols, tax payers are strongly encouraged to remit tax payments electronically via the web, by mail, automated phone system or secure dropbox, located at 625 Court Street in Woodland. The Department of Financial Services (DFS) will only be open from April 8 - April 10, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., to accept cash payments. DFS will continue to respond to emails and phone calls. Visit: www.yolocounty.org/DFS for information, office hours and changes.

To avoid a penalty, property taxes must be paid by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 10, 2020, after which a 10 percent penalty and \$10 cost must be added. Envelopes must be postmarked no later than April 10, 2020 if taxes are paid by mail. It is suggested that payments be mailed a few days before the April 10 deadline to ensure the envelope will have the proper postmark. The only acceptable postmark for deadline payments is a U.S. Postal Service postmark.

Taxpayers now have the option of paying property taxes by electronic check (no charge) or credit card (plus a 2.25 percent convenience fee). These payments can be made via www.yolocounty.org/paytax (select Property Tax button) or by phone at (866) 895-5027. Payments made using either of these two systems must be completed by 11:59 p.m. on April 10, 2020 to avoid penalties.

To make payments, ask questions, or for more information: visit: www.yolocounty.org/paytax, email: taxinfo@yolocounty.org, call: (530) 666-8625 during business hours, or visit the Yolo County Tax Collector's Office at 625 Court Street, Room 102 in Woodland, open April 8 - 10 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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