



Marion County Tax Collector Newsletter

Honorable George J. Albright III

Volume 2020-1



COVID-19 ALERT

WE'RE STILL OPEN TO SERVE YOU

BY PHONE TO OUR CALL CENTER
352-368-8200

OR ONLINE @
MarionTax.com



LOBBIES ARE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

The Marion County Tax Collector’s Office has adapted our normal business practices to federally recommended guidelines in order to efficiently continue to serve the needs of our community.

We have expanded our Call Center to accommodate the higher influx of calls. Please call our office weekdays from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Title and registration transfers are still able to be handled by mail. We have various protocols set in place that assist us in driver license related matters and clearances. In addition, our normal online services are still available 24 hours a day at www.mariontax.com.

We urge you to call our Call Center at 352-368-8200 to speak to a representative. Our staff will go over all of your options to find the best way to process your desired transaction. Our staff is working hard to assist all of our residents!

CHANGES TO REAL ID IMPLEMENTATION

Due to the effect that COVID-19 is having on all aspects of our lives, The Department of Homeland Security has announced that they are extending the REAL ID enforcement deadline to October 1, 2021. This will give residents, that have not yet had the opportunity to become REAL ID compliant, an extra year to gather the necessary documents to comply with Federal Law.

At this time, approximately 1,421,636 Floridians are not REAL ID compliant. If you need a list of the required documents to become REAL ID compliant, please visit our website at www.mariontax.com or contact our Call Center at 352-368-8200. Our staff is happy to answer your questions.

COMMERCIAL DRIVER LICENSE CHANGES

Recently the State of Florida has made several changes to the Commercial Driver License issuance process. Here is what you need to know and how the changes will affect you.

- If you are in the process of testing for your Commercial Driver License, you must first pass the General Knowledge exam prior to taking any other test.
- Any written or skills testing that has not been applied to the record within one year of the CDL General Knowledge Exam pass date are not valid for issuance and will require retesting.
- During the issuance of the Commercial Driver License learner's permit, you will be required to self-certify how you expect to be operating the commercial vehicle. Some categories require a valid DOT medical card, which you will be required to present at that time.
- To ensure Commercial Driver License customers are knowledgeable of commercial vehicle driving laws and capable of demonstrating commercial driving skills, customers with CDL licenses that have expired for one year or more, will be required to complete and pass all applicable CDL knowledge and skills exams to obtain a CDL.

If you should have any questions regarding your Commercial Driver License and how these changes may affect you, please contact our Call Center at 352-368-8200.

BIRTH CERTIFICATE ISSUANCE



We are pleased to announce that Florida birth certificates can now be issued at all Marion County Tax Collector locations except for the Ocala Annex Branch, located at 110 SE 25th Ave.

If you have any questions about what documents you may need to provide, please contact our Call Center at 352-368-8200.

PROPERTY TAX DEADLINE EXTENSION

On March 26, 2020, Department of Revenue issued an emergency order extending the final due date for property tax payments for the 2019 tax year from March 31st to April 15th, 2020. This only applies to real estate and personal property taxes whether on the annual or installment plan.

If you have any questions, please contact our Tax Department at 352-368-8200.

ONLINE BILL PAY REMINDER

A few reminders for online bill pay:

- When renewing your car tags, include your tag number on the comments line.
- When paying your property taxes, enter your parcel account number on the comments line.
- Include your phone number with any other notation on the comments line.

Our office processes hundreds of transactions daily. At times, it can be very hard to discern what you are attempting to pay. Most of our duties are very time sensitive, if we are unable to determine what type of transaction you are attempting to process, we are forced to send your check back. Please help us help you!



Thank you to all who made our 10th annual car show such a success! Because of YOU we are able to help great organizations such as Interfaith Emergency Services, Samaritan's Purse, Kimberly's Cottage and Stop Childhood Cancer year round!