
NEWS RELEASE

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Property tax bills on-time in 90 counties

INDIANAPOLIS (May 3, 2012) – The Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) today announced that for the second year in a row, property tax bills in 90 counties have been issued on-time, resulting in the normal May 10 due date. This is the third consecutive year the majority of counties have achieved on-time billing.

No county billed on time in 2008 and two counties achieved on-time billing in 2009. The number of counties reached 85 in 2010.

“With local officials, we’ve taken great strides to return the tax billing cycle to normal after several years of adjusting to a new assessment landscape,” said Brian Bailey, Department of Local Government Finance commissioner. “Reducing the number of township assessors and transferring their duties to county assessors helped realize efficiencies and promoted a single line of accountability.”

According to DLGF, the increased efficiency in assessments, along with work done by county auditors and county treasurers, has saved more than the county’s cost of performing property assessments and issuing property tax bills. That means many of Indiana’s 2,500 local governments no longer borrow money to keep operations afloat, waiting on irregular and unpredictable tax billing and collections.

“On-time tax bills mean lower costs for the State’s cities, towns, townships, schools, libraries, and other special districts,” said Bailey. “On-time billing means on-time tax payments for these units of government. It allows them to operate without costly borrowing and increases the likelihood that taxpayer money pays for services to taxpayers, not the cost of financing government cash flow.”

Property tax bills had to be mailed by April 25, 2012. Property tax payments can be made to each county treasurer and must be paid by May 10, 2012 in 90 counties to avoid late fees and penalties.

Taxpayers in Lake and LaPorte counties will receive their property tax bills later. Lake County officials expect to issue bills with a May 25, 2012 due date. LaPorte County is issuing provisional tax bills.

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