



# Torrance County Treasurer

**205 S. 9th Street PO Box 318**

**Estancia, NM 87016**

**505 - 544 - 4800**

**[www.torrancecountynm.org](http://www.torrancecountynm.org)**

**Janice Y. Barela**

**County Treasurer**

**Tracy L. Sedillo**

**Chief Deputy Treasurer**

## Frequently Asked Questions

**When are tax bills mailed out?** Tax bills are mailed out by November 1st of each calendar year.

**When are my taxes due?** The first half of taxes are due November 10th of each year; however, you have until December 10th to pay without penalty and interest. The second half taxes are due April 10th each year; however, you have until May 10th to pay without penalty and interest.

**Will I get a notice for my second half taxes?** No, only one tax notice is mailed out each year by November 1st that includes payment coupons for both first and second half taxes.

**Can I pay my taxes with a credit card?** Yes, we accept MasterCard, Visa and Discover cards in our office. You will be charged a convenience fee of 2.10% by the credit card company to pay with a credit card.

**Can I pay my taxes over the phone?** Yes, we have an automated service that will take your payment over the phone. The number for that service is 1-866-360-1148. You will be charged a convenience fee of 2.10% by the credit card company to pay with a credit card. MasterCard, Visa and Discover cards are accepted.

**Can I pay my taxes online?** Yes, on our county website, on the County Treasurer's page is a link that states, "Click Here to Pay Your Taxes". That link will take you to our credit card vendor's website to pay your taxes. You will need your owner number or tax bill number to find your tax amount. You will be charged a convenience fee of 2.10% by the credit card company to pay with a credit card. MasterCard, Visa and Discover cards are accepted. You can also pay by electronic check. There is a \$1.79 flat fee for electronic check payments.

**What happens if my payment is late?** If your payment is received after the due date, interest of 1% and a penalty up to 5% will be assessed. Penalty will be assessed one time for each half that becomes delinquent. Interest will continue to accrue on the 11th of each month on any remaining balance due.

**What if I can't pay the whole amount due?** You can send in payments on your account. You will still accrue penalty and interest each month but that will go down as you make frequent payments.

**What happens if my taxes are delinquent for three years?** Once taxes are delinquent for three years as of July 1st, we are required to turn them over to New Mexico Taxation & Revenue Delinquent Property Tax Division. You will be assessed a state cost fee of \$125 and the State of New Mexico can auction your property if it is not paid in full by the time of the auction.

**When does the State of New Mexico hold its auction each year?** The date of the auction varies from year to year. The Delinquent Property Tax Division doesn't notify our office ahead of time.

**How do I get my property off the State's auction list?** You need to pay all of the taxes up to date to have your property removed from the auction list. The state cost of \$125 has to be paid in full also.

**Where can I find my owner ID number?** Your owner ID number is listed on your tax bill and your notice of value.

**Can you waive penalty and interest?** New Mexico State Statutes do not allow the County Treasurer to waive penalty and interest.

**How can you charge me penalty and interest when I didn't receive my tax bill?** New Mexico is a self-rendering state. That means that each tax payer is responsible to pay their property taxes whether they receive a notice or not. If you do not receive your tax bill by November 10th, please call our office so we can determine the cause and get you a copy of your tax bill.

**Why didn't I receive my tax bill?** We receive thousands of returned tax bills each year for bad addresses. If you have moved since you purchased your property, you will need to update your address with the County Assessor's office. If you do not receive your tax bill by November 10th, please call our office so we can determine the cause and get you a copy of your tax bill.

**I sold this property, so why am I still receiving a tax bill on it?** The tax bill is sent to the owner of record as of January 1st. If you sold the property after this date, then you will still receive the tax bill for that year.

**If my mortgage company pays my taxes, why do I still receive a tax bill?** We are required to send the tax bill to the owner of record. If your mortgage company pays your taxes, then you can just keep the tax bill for reference.

**If someone else pays my taxes, do they have a claim to my property?** No, anyone can make a payment on any taxes but that doesn't give them any legal claim to your property.

**If you have any questions that have not been answered through this flyer, please contact our office at 505-544-4800 and any of our highly qualified staff can assist you.**

**If you have any comments, concerns, or suggestions regarding your property taxes or the County Treasurer's Office, please contact Janice Y. Barela, County Treasurer at 505-544-4801 or Tracy L. Sedillo, Chief Deputy Treasurer at 505-544-4802.**