

COUNTY OF RICHLAND
OFFICE OF COUNTY TREASURER



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COUNTY TREASURER

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TO: Community Leaders

RE: Real Estate Tax Payment Options to Help your Members

This letter is to inform you and your members of a service that is offered by the Richland County Treasurer's Office. The Tax Assistance Plan (TAP) gives taxpayers the ability to pay their real estate taxes in installments - giving those in need a chance to pay over a period of several months.

Because we believe there will be a huge demand for TAP, and we currently have only one staff member assigned to this program, it is imperative you help us find only those in your membership who are most in need.

Real estate property tax bills are mailed from the Auditor's Office at the beginning of November each year. The payment of property taxes causes anxiety in our senior citizens who have paid off their homes and no longer escrow their taxes through a mortgage company. The timing of these taxes is set by state law, but always falls hard on people as they plan for the holidays.

TAP allows a taxpayer to begin payments on November 8, 2004 and their bill must be satisfied by September 30, 2005. South Carolina law continues to accrue penalties and fees beginning on January 18th against the taxes until a final payment is made.

Citizens must come to the Treasurer's Office to enroll in TAP and must set up an appointment to do so. Call 576-2270 (leave a message) to schedule an appointment. Appointments can be made between November 8, 2004 and January 18, 2005 during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.).

It is my top priority to offer new ways to make it easier for our citizens to meet their rising tax payment obligations. I do plan to expand the partial payment system to everyone in upcoming years. Now, I want to thank you for your help in extending this offer to those in your membership who need it most.

If you have further questions, or if you would like someone from our office to explain TAP at your next meeting please contact me at 576-2275.

All the Best,
David A. Adams
Richland County Treasurer