

## City of St. Marys Property Taxes Payment Information

- Taxes may be paid in person at City Hall or mailed to:

*City of St. Marys, 418 Osborne Street, St. Marys, Georgia 31558*

- We encourage you to pay your bill by mail which will avoid waiting in lines and should be more convenient for you. Allow ample time for your check to be received before the due date to avoid interest.
- We do not accept postmarks.
- We do not have online payments for property taxes. Taxes may be paid by phone with your credit card. A \$3.00 service fee will be due at the time of payment. Call (912) 510-4000 X1 for Customer Service.
- Taxes are due 60 days from the date of billing before 5:00 PM.
- Taxes are billed based on the value of your property as provided by the Camden County Tax Assessor's Office.
- Please write the bill number(s) on your check.
- If a receipt is desired, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your payment.
- If taxes are to be paid by a mortgage company, please forward your bill to them. You are responsible for the payment of your taxes. We do not send bills to mortgage companies.
- If you pay your bill after the due date, please call for the full amount due.
- Failure to receive a bill does not exempt penalties or interest.
- We are not responsible for late remittance made through the mail service.
- A \$15.00 lien fee (FiFa) will be imposed on unpaid balances 30 days after the due date and a lien will be placed on the property.
- Bills are sent to the owner of a property as of January 1<sup>st</sup>. If a sales contract or closing documents provides for the buyer to pay the taxes, the seller should send a copy of the bill to the new owner.
- If paying through a Bank Bill Pay System **WE WILL NOT RECEIVE YOUR PAYMENT ELECTRONICALLY!** These payments are paid **by a check from your bank**, and then **MAILED** to us. Please allow enough time for receipt of the check before the due date to avoid interest and penalties. At least 15 days.
- Pursuant to O.C.G.A 48-2-40 past due taxes will bear interest at an annual rate equal to the Bank Prime Loan Rate as posted by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in statistical release H 15, plus 3% to accrue monthly. Annual interest rate will be determined for each calendar year based on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekly posting of Statistical Release H.15 on or after January 1<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year. *EXAMPLE: Bank Prime Loan Rate at January 1st 3.75%+ 3% = 6.75% divided by 12 = .5625% for that calendar year.*
- Pursuant to O.C.G.A 48-2-44 Past due taxes not paid within 120 days of the due date will be subject to a penalty of 5% of the amount of the tax due and not paid at the time the penalty is assessed, plus interest.

Taxes that remain due after 240 days of the due date will be subject to a penalty of 5% of the amount of the tax due and not paid at the time the penalty is assessed, plus interest.

Taxes that remain due after 360 days of the due date will be subject to a penalty of 5% of the amount of the tax due and not paid at the time the penalty is assessed, plus interest.

Taxes that remain due after 480 days of the due date will be subject to a penalty of 5% of the amount of the tax due and not paid at the time the penalty is assessed, plus interest.

The total amount of penalties imposed shall not exceed 20% of the base tax amount.

*EXAMPLE: Total tax due on 12/19/2016 is \$2,000. \$1,500 is paid 1/31/2017 and leaves a balance due of \$500 on 3/20/2017. The penalty assessed on 3/20/2017 would be \$25 (\$500x5%)*

- Again, we do not accept postmarks.

For further questions please contact our office at:

[www.stmarystaxes@stmarysga.gov](mailto:www.stmarystaxes@stmarysga.gov)

(912) 510-4024

(912) 510-4048

Office Hours are 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM