## **Texas Property Tax Calendar**

### **January**

- 1 Effective date for all property tax appraisals
- Last day to pay previous year's taxes without penalty
  Last day to file late protest of prior year's tax appraisal (Sec. 25.25)

### April

- 15 Last day to file business personal property rendition
- Last day to file for exemptions and special valuation applications such as Open Space 1-d-1 (ag use)

### May

- 1 Notice of Appraised Value mailed by appraisal district
- Last day to file written protest to contest proposed tax appraisal or exemption denial, unless notices mailed after May 1

### July

Delinquent taxes from previous year reach total of 27% penalty and interest

### September

30 Taxing units adopt current year tax rates

### **October**

15-30 Taxing units mail annual property tax statements, payable by January 31 of the following year

Property Tax Code Section 1.06 moves deadlines to the next business day if deadline falls on a weekend or legal holiday

### 8 Things to Know About Your Property Taxes

- 1) Your property tax appraisal is required by law to be at 100% of market value <u>and</u> be equitable in comparison to the tax appraisals of similar properties.
- 2) The "Homestead Exemption" will reduce the property taxes on a homesteaded property, sometimes dramatically. You can apply for a "Homestead Exemption" up to one year in arrears, so it is possible to go back and get a refund for a missed 2013 "Homestead Exemption" until January 31, 2015!
- 3) Homeowners 65 years of age qualify for special exemption amounts and a "school tax freeze" that makes certain their school taxes, and some county or city taxes, can never go up. Disabled homeowners now qualify for the same "school tax freeze" as over-65 homeowners.
- 4) Homesteads owned by Veterans classified as 100% disabled due to service related causes are now 100% exempt from property taxes.
- 5) Look for the "Appraised Value\* (Possible Homestead Limitation)" on the Notice of Appraised value. Compare the Last Year total appraised value to the Proposed 2013 total appraised value, it should not increase more than 10% unless you have added square footage to you home. If it does increase more than 10%, call the Appraisal District at (512) 834-9138 and find out why.
- 6) Property tax appraisals are made as of January 1 of each year. If a home burns to the ground on January 2, property taxes are still levied on the structure the entire year. To delay taxes, build your pool or add on or do that major remodel <u>after January 1.....</u> this way it isn't taxable until the following January 1 and you won't have to pay the tax increase until the following January after that!
- 7) The statutory deadline for filing <u>written protest</u> is May 31 of each year. It is no longer necessary to file a protest with multiple Appraisal Districts. If your property is in Travis county the appeal is filed with Travis CAD, if in Williamson county the appeal is filed with Williamson CAD.
- 8) If you miss the May 31 filing deadline, all is not necessarily lost. If you can prove the proposed tax appraisal is at least 25% too high you can file a "Substantial Error" motion until January 31 of the following year and still get the value reduced. Also, if you can prove that the Appraisal District failed to send you a required notice you can file a "Failure to Receive" motion by January 31 of the following year and be entitled to an appeal hearing. Lastly, under section 25.25(h) of the Property tax code, you can beg the Chief Appraiser to fix just about anything and he has the authority to do it with a signature.

Questions regarding property tax appraisals, exemptions or other property tax matters:

Jeff W. Bullard President Tax Remedy, Inc.

(512) 476-2277

info@taxremedy.com

# Year End Property Tax Checklist

#### 1) Make sure all your current property taxes are paid.

The tax code is very clear in placing the burden of making sure taxes are paid squarely on the taxpayer, not the tax assessor / collector. Failure to receive a tax statement does not relieve you from responsibility that prior year taxes are paid on or before January 31 of each year.

### 2) Take pictures of your property on January 1 each year.

The effective date of all tax appraisals is January 1 each year. You are taxed on your property as it existed on the first day of the year. If it burns to the ground on January 3, you still get to pay taxes on it for the entire year. On the other hand, if something is seriously wrong with your property (flooded, torn up for remodel, etc.) and the market value is significantly diminished at the beginning of the year, you will need evidence of this later in the spring when you file your protest. Pictures are the best evidence of property condition on January 1.

### 3) Always make home improvements or additions in the winter.

If you add that pool or new bathroom in November, it becomes taxable in just two months and you will pay the extra taxes that year. Make the same improvements in February and they don't become taxable until the next year and you won't pay the higher taxes until the year after that!

### 4) It is not "too late" to fix big problems with your tax appraisal.

Even if you did not file a protest by May 31, all is not necessarily lost. If you can prove the tax appraisal is at least 25% too high you can still file a "Substantial Error" motion until January 31 of the following year and get the value reduced. Also, if you can prove that the Appraisal District failed to send you a required notice you can file a "Failure to Receive" motion by January 31 and be entitled to an appeal hearing. Lastly, under section 25.25(h) of the Property Tax Code, you can beg the Chief Appraiser to fix just about anything and he has the authority to do it with a signature.

### 5) Make sure you have your Homestead Exemption.

Carefully check your property tax statement to verify that part of the value of your homestead is exempted from taxation. The amount varies by taxing entity, but you should see some discounts off of the total appraised value for the school district and county. You can still go back and get a homestead exemption for tax year 2013, if you owned and occupied the property on January 1, 2013. Homeowners who turned age 65 during 2013 can go back and get the very favorable Over-65 Homestead exemption by filing prior to January 31, 2015.

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Jeff W. Bullard

President

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PID

OWNER NAME

Sales Comparison Grid 2014

ADDRESS LONESOME VALLEY TRL

ITEM	SUBJECT	Comp#1 417	4178921	Comp#2 94	9490489   Comp#3		2128531	Comp#4	2252353	Comp#5 2	2846346
Prop ID Geo ID											
Situs Structure Code	LONESOME VALLEY TRL	PALISADE CT		MESA DR	00	COLORADO XING		DOWN VALLEY CT		PALISADE CT	
:	X4000; 118.00%	X4000; 118.00%		X4000; 118.00%	<u> </u>	X4000; 118.00%		X4000; 118.00%		X4000; 118.00%	
Nornd Mass Improv Adj	%00.0	%00.n		0.00%		%00%		0.00%		0.00%	
Market Value Market Price/SQFT Living Area	<b>\$626,064</b> 187.73 3,335	\$618,064 \$188.72 3,275		\$644,832 \$190.50 3,385	<del>37 97 (1)</del>	\$748,198 \$236.85 3,159		\$667,503 \$207.56 3,216		\$623,034 \$201.96 3,085	
Sale Date Sale Price Sale Price/SQFT		02/15/13	\$550,000 167.94	07/19/13	\$680,000	05/15/13	\$698,000	05/07/13	\$650,000	06/14/13	\$615,000
Impr Count - Num Stories 1 High Value Improv MA RCN 317,692 High Value Imprv MA RCN/S \$95.26 % Complete	1 317,692 \$95.26 100%	1 336,113 \$102.63 100%		1 350,111 \$103.43 100%		1 309,392 \$97.94 100%		1 312,531 \$97.18 100%	2	1 327,936 \$106.30 100%	
Land Value Adj	302,500	275,000	27,500	27,500 274,313	28,187	136,425	(133,925) 316,250	316,250	(13,750)	275,000	27,500
Class Adj	15,825 WV5+	19,873 WV5+	(24,137) WV6-	13,863 WV6-	(27,655) WW5+	MW5+	(8,466) WV5+	22,324 WV5+	(6,175) WV5+	14,604 WV5+	(34,058)
Actual Year Built % Good Adjustment	1992 76% 0.000	1993 79%	(7,870) 75%	1965 75%	4,618 76%	1992 76%	257	1992 85%	(29,576)	1990 81%	(16,529)
L/A Size Adj Hi Val Impr MA SOFT Diff	3,335	3,275	3,715	3,385	(3,096)	3,159 176	10,898	3,216 119	898'/	3,085 250	15,480
Mkt Leveler Detail Adj Segments & Adj Neighborhood Adj	42,437 0 X4000 0	31,901 0 X4000	10,536 68,538 0 0 0 X4000	68,538 0 X4000	(26,101) 38,064 0 0 0 X4000	38,064 0 X4000	4,373 37,680 0 0 0 X4000	37,680 0 X4000	4,757 36,192 0 0 0 X4000	36,192 0 X4000	6,245
Net Adjustment	0		9,744		(24,047)		(126,863)		(37,375)		(1,363)
Indicated Value Indicated Value/ SQFT			559,744 167.84		655,953 196.69		571,137 171.26		612,625 183.70		613,637 184.00
Median Value Median Value/SQFT	<b>612,625</b> 183.70										
Score		88.2		72.5		84.72		86.43		82.5	

101.31%

102.69%

107.19%

94.83%

112.38%