

Jason Carini

Rogers County Treasurer



December 1, 2015

Treasurer's Memo: 2015 Property Tax Statements Delayed until Middle of December

To the Citizens of Rogers County,

Due to events beyond the control of my office, tax statements will be sent out late. This year, we hope to begin accepting tax payments on or about December 10th. Last year, tax statements were certified December 3rd, and the previous year was December 5th.

The collection of taxes is a very strict and meticulous procedure. We are fortunate to live in a democratic republic where elected officials are to follow the law rather than create their own law. The disadvantage is that some procedures take significantly longer than within the private sector. The benefit is that it ensures transparency and limits corruption.

Oklahoma State Statutes establish the process for counties to levy and collect ad valorem taxes. Before tax statements can be generated, the county must file the county's financial statements and budget with the State Auditor and Inspector's Office.

There are over 30 taxing entities (cities, schools, and fire districts) within the county that submit budgets to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) and the three-member Excise Board for their approval.

The County Clerk's office has been tasked with completing the county budget. Within this process they collect the budgets from the 30+ taxing entities, review the county levy sheets, review levy sheets and budgets for each taxing entity, then submit all information for approval by the BOCC and Excise Board. Once approved, all documentation is submitted to the State Auditor's office where it remains 15 days for the levy protest period.

At the end of the 15-day waiting period, the taxes are certified and "rolled over" from the Assessor to the Treasurer who then prepares and mails out the tax statements.

While the exact date that the statements will be mailed is unknown, taxpayers may want to pencil December 10th on their calendar for our office to start accepting tax payments. Updated information will be provided on our website: www.RogersCountyTreasurer.org. Citizens will have 30 days from the certification date to make their first half payment without penalties.

Sincerely yours,

Jason Carini
Rogers County Treasurer