



# News Release

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**Tax sale details online:** [http://charlestoncounty.org/departments/DelinquentTax/del\\_tax\\_sale.htm](http://charlestoncounty.org/departments/DelinquentTax/del_tax_sale.htm)

## Delinquent Tax Sale on Dec. 9 and 10 for Charleston County

*2012 taxes must be paid by Dec. 6 to avoid sale*

[Charleston County's Delinquent Tax Office](#) will hold the annual delinquent tax sale on Monday, Dec. 9, beginning at 10 a.m. in Charleston County Council Chambers in the Lonnie Hamilton, III Public Services Building located at 4045 Bridge View Drive in North Charleston. If the sale is not concluded on Dec. 9, it will continue at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 10, and subsequent days as needed in the same location and time until all properties are sold. Properties will be sold in the following order: 1) [Real Estate](#), 2) [Mobile Homes](#), and all in alphabetical order according to the owner's last name or business name.

No delinquent tax payments for tax year 2012 on real estate or mobile homes are taken on the day(s) of the tax sale. **To prevent property from being sold, all payments must be in the [Charleston County Treasurer's Office](#) by 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 6.** Payment must be made only by cash or certified funds (no personal or company checks will be accepted).

For full details including bidder information and registration, visit [http://charlestoncounty.org/Departments/DelinquentTax/del\\_tax\\_sale.htm](http://charlestoncounty.org/Departments/DelinquentTax/del_tax_sale.htm).

Charleston County's Delinquent Tax Office investigates and collects delinquent real and personal property taxes, penalties and levy costs; finds and notifies taxpayers of taxes owed; and maintains an accurate, up-to-date account of monies collected. Once a property tax bill is deemed delinquent (after March 15 of each year), the debt goes into execution and the County [Treasurer](#) sends the bill to the Delinquent Tax Office for collection. The Delinquent Tax Office also works closely with the County's [Register Mesne Conveyance](#), [Auditor](#) and [Department of Revenue Collections](#).

Last year, Charleston County added an [unclaimed funds Web page](#) that offers citizens the ability to:

- Find out if there is an unclaimed tax sale overage fund due to them as a result of a tax sale.
- See instructions and forms to assist them through the process of claiming funds in their name.
- Check to see if their name is on the list of unclaimed funds (by clicking on the tax sale year link that their property was involved in).

## Delinquent Tax Frequently Asked Questions

### Q: How can I purchase properties seized for non-payment of taxes?

A: Attend the tax sales held periodically throughout the year. The dates of delinquent tax sales are advertised in local newspapers before each sale.

### Q: Can I make payments on my delinquent taxes or redeem my property in installments?

A: No. The County cannot take partial payments on delinquent tax bills or for redemptions.

**Q: What methods of payment are accepted for delinquent taxes?**

A: Cash, personal checks, business checks, certified checks, money orders and credit cards are acceptable during most of the year. However, during specified periods, cash, certified checks or money orders are required. (Please call the Delinquent Tax Office at (843) 202-6692 for details.)

**Q: If I pay someone else's delinquent tax bill, does the property become mine?**

A: No. Anyone can pay a tax bill. However, payment of someone else's tax bill does not give one claim to the property.

**Q: If my property is sold at a delinquent tax sale, can I get it back?**

A: When real property or mobile homes are sold at a delinquent tax sale, the defaulting taxpayer has one year from the date of the sale to redeem the property. In order to redeem property before it is conveyed to a new owner, the defaulting taxpayer must pay the redemption amount. This consists of the taxes, interest on the bid amount (the amount for which the property was sold at the tax sale) plus penalties and levy costs.

**Q: If my property is sold at a delinquent tax sale, what happens to any leftover money after the taxes, penalties, levy costs and interest are paid?**

A: The Delinquent Tax Office creates an overage when the bid amount exceeds the delinquent taxes, penalties, levy costs and current year's taxes. If the property is conveyed to the bidder, the defaulting taxpayer is entitled to the overage. If the delinquent taxpayer redeems the property, the bid amount plus interest is returned to the bidder.

For more information, contact one of the [Delinquent Tax Service Centers](#) located throughout the County:

**East Cooper Service Center**

1189 Iron Bridge Road, Room 400  
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464  
(843) 856-1203  
(843) 856-1204 (Fax)

**North Area Service Center**

Lonnie Hamilton, III Public Services Building  
4045 Bridge View Drive  
North Charleston, SC 29405  
(843) 202-6692  
(843) 202-6698 (Fax)

**St. Paul's Service Center**

5962 Highway 165, Suite 300  
Ravenel, SC 29470  
(843) 889-3762  
(843) 889-8077 (Fax)

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For information on Charleston County Government news and services, the public can:

- Visit our website: [www.charlestoncounty.org](http://www.charlestoncounty.org)
- Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ChasCountyGov>
- Like us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Government/474878989220753>
  - *Board of Elections and Voter Registration:* <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Board-of-Elections-and-Voter-Registration/103895809694986>
  - *Consolidated 9-1-1 Center's Public Education Program:* <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Government/474878989220753#!/pages/Charleston-County-Consolidated-9-1-1-Center-Public-Education-Program/186965438015227>
  - *Emergency Management Department:* <http://www.facebook.com/EMDChasCo>
  - *Zoning and Planning Department:* <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Charleston-County-Government/474878989220753#!/pages/Charleston-County-Zoning-Planning-Department/549596221765813>

- See us on You Tube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/charlestoncountygov>
- Watch County Council meetings online <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/charleston-county-government>



- written by Jennie Flinn -