STATE INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FROM DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

If you have an income tax question or need tax forms, the Montana Department of Revenue is ready to assist you.

"Montana taxpayers are great people and, as the April 17 income tax deadline nears, we want to help them in every way we can," said Dan Bucks, Director of the Department of Revenue. "We'll provide assistance on a variety of individual income tax matters through our citizen services, statewide local offices and Internet website."

Citizen Services

The department assists both callers and walk-ins Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Customer service consultants and income tax specialists are available to assist taxpayers on individual income tax matters. The walk-in assistance is located in the Sam W. Mitchell Building, 125 North Roberts, in Helena (just east of the State Capitol Building). The telephone number is (406) 444-6900.

The department will offer extended hours during the last few days before the tax deadline. Extended hours will be:

Monday, April 9 through Friday, April 13: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. (for callers only; regular hours for walkins)

Saturday, April 14: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (both callers and walk-ins)

Monday, April 16 and Tuesday, April 17: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. (for callers only; regular hours for walkins)

Local Offices

Taxpayers also are invited to visit the department's local offices, located throughout the state, during normal business hours to obtain the most commonly used state tax forms, schedules and instructions. In addition, trained tax specialists are available in Billings, Great Falls, Missoula, Hamilton and Lewistown to assist with a variety of income tax issues.

Website

Taxpayers preferring to get information through the Internet may visit the Department of Revenue's website at www.mt.gov/revenue. The site contains basic income tax information, downloadable forms/instructions, important updates and filing tips. Online payment of current and back-year taxes is available through Income Tax Express.

This year the department is offering free electronic filing of the short Form 2EZ on its website.

The department reminds taxpayers that electronic filing is a great option, and can be accomplished through a tax practitioner who is authorized for IRS e-file or on a personal computer using off-the-shelf income tax software or web-based tax services.

"Taxpayers who file their tax return electronically and also request direct deposit are in the best possible situation," said Bucks. "That combination can get your refund to you in five to ten days."

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Local Office Locations

Billings: 175 North 27th, Suite 1400

Great Falls: 300 Central Avenue, Suite 520 Missoula: 2681 Palmer Street, Suite 1 Hamilton: 1707 North 1st Street, Suite B

Lewistown: 712 West Main

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Dan Bucks, Director, Montana Department of Revenue, (406) 444-1900 or Cynthia Piearson, Public Information Officer, Montana Department of Revenue, (406) 444-6700