

PARTNERSHIP URGES MONTANA TAXPAYERS TO USE FREE TAX SERVICES

Helena, MT — A partnership of government and non-profit entities—including Montana’s Credit Unions, Montana Department of Revenue, Montana Legal Services Association, and Rural Dynamics, Inc.—today urged taxpayers to keep hard-earned money where it belongs—in their pockets—by using free electronic filing and tax preparation services this tax season.

The partnership urged all taxpayers to take advantage of MontanaFreeFile.org, a “one-stop” website that provides information on free electronic filing and tax preparation services for eligible taxpayers.

MontanaFreeFile.org was developed to offer taxpayers a one-stop location for information on free tax preparation and electronic filing options. Taxpayers are encouraged to visit the website to see if they’re eligible to take advantage of the free services offered to taxpayers who qualify. Qualification criteria are typically based on age, financial status and geographic location.

“Our message is simple. It’s the taxpayers’ money, they earned it, and they deserve to keep it,” said Jeanne Saarinen, executive director of Montana Credit Unions for Community Development, a branch of the Montana Credit Union Network. “We want taxpayers to be aware that there are options for getting their taxes prepared and filed that are easy to do, will get their refund to them quickly and, best of all, cost nothing.”

MontanaFreeFile.org makes it possible for thousands of hard-working Montana taxpayers to find options to prepare and file both their state and federal taxes for free. The website includes information on Tax Counseling for the Elderly sites, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance sites, do-it-yourself tax preparation and e-filing services, and various IRS and state-approved free file sites.

“With this economic climate, it’s more important than ever to know how to get your tax return filed and get your refund quickly, at no cost to you,” said Kelly Hart, Economic Advocacy Coordinator for the Montana Legal Services Association. “MontanaFreeFile.org is a great place to learn about these resources.”

Organizations providing support for MontanaFreeFile.org are Montana’s Credit Unions, Montana Department of Revenue, Montana Legal Services Association, and Rural Dynamics, Inc. AARP Tax-Aide Montana is lending support to the project.

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