Missoula County Media Release

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Missoula County Tax Bills Mailing This Week

Missoula County tax bills will be mailed this week to all property owners in the county and are already available online at www.missoulataxes.us. Tax payments for the first half of the year are due by 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30.

Tax payments are currently being accepted and online payments may be made via credit card, debit card or electronic check. Service fees apply when paying online.

Taxes can be paid:

- By mail: Clerk and Treasurer's Office, 200 W. Broadway St., Missoula MT, 59802
- Online: <u>www.missoulataxes.us</u>
- In person: Missoula County Courthouse Annex, 200 W. Broadway St., Missoula
- Courthouse drop box: located in the west parking lot

To access tax bills online:

- Visit www.missoulataxes.us
- Search by last name, property address, geo code or taxpayer ID
- After the query has run, click "Detail" to view a pie chart that breaks down taxes among the different jurisdictions

Because Missoula County collects taxes for all taxing jurisdictions within the county, property owners will likely see a portion of their taxes supporting several jurisdictions and districts. For example, Missoula County and the City of Missoula each set their own budgets and tax rates, and property taxes also support local schools. Additionally, property taxes fund special districts that provide services like fire protection, irrigation, water and sewer. A portion of property taxes also supports schools statewide, including the Montana University System. If property owners have specific questions regarding their tax bills, it's important that they contact the appropriate jurisdiction.

Many residents are likely to see an increase from last year's tax bill that's attributed to the voter-approved bonds issued for construction of the new Missoula Public Library. Also, this is the last year taxpayers will see the county jail debt service line on their tax bills, as those voter-approved bonds will be paid off this year. A full breakdown of current voter-approved levies and bonds is online at https://www.missoulacounty.us/government/administration/financial-services/bonds-and-levies.

In any given year, property owners see changes to their property tax bills for one of four reasons: Local taxing jurisdictions, such as schools and local governments, increase or decrease the number of mills levied; newly taxable property from construction is added to the tax base; voter-approved bonds are

included, which require mill levies to pay debt service on those bonds; and the taxable value of real property increases as captured in the reappraisal cycle.

More information on tax bills and payments is available online at https://www.missoulacounty.us/government/administration/clerk-treasurer/property-taxes.

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