



**BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1,
2013**

**SURRY COUNTY RESIDENTS
OWNING A LICENSED MOTOR
VEHICLE WILL PAY THEIR TAG
& MV TAX AT THE DMV LI-
CENSE PLATE AGENCY.**

**One payment made online, by
mail, or in person at a license
plate agency near you.**

Beginning September 1, 2013, your annual vehicle inspection, registration renewal and vehicle property tax will be due the same month each year. Inspection fees are still paid to the inspection station.

**As of September 1, 2013:
Payments are no longer made at
the Tax Office. Motor Vehicle
Taxes must be paid through the
DMV.**

Learn more about North Carolina's new Tag & Tax System by reading the FAQs in this brochure or by calling the Surry County Tax Department at (336) 401-8100 or by visiting www.ncdot.gov



**Questions regarding vehicle taxes,
please contact**

**Surry County Tax Department
201 East Kapp Street
Dobson, NC 27017
(336) 401-8100
Elkin area (336) 366-8100
www.co.surry.nc.us**

**Office hours: 8:15 am-5:00 pm
Monday-Friday**



North Carolina's New Tag & Tax System

The North Carolina General Assembly passed new legislation (House Bill 1779) creating a combined motor vehicle registration renewal and property tax collection system (Tag & Tax System). In doing so, the new law transfers the responsibility for motor vehicle tax collection from the 100 counties across North Carolina to the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV). The DMV will distribute the taxes to the appropriate counties.

North Carolina's new Tag & Tax System has been designed as a convenient way to pay annual vehicle tag renewals and vehicle property taxes at the same time and place.

If your mailing address is current with the DMV, you will receive a Tag & Tax Notice listing both vehicle registration fees and property taxes due. Just as in the past, vehicle owners will receive the notice about 60 days prior to their vehicle's registration expiration.

The full amount of property taxes and DMV registration fees must be paid in full, to the DMV, before a registration renewal sticker can be issued.



One stop: Motor Vehicle Taxes & Vehicle Tag Paid at the same time.



FAQs

Q. Why is the state's collection of vehicle property taxes changing? The North Carolina General Assembly ratified House Bill 1779 to create a combined motor vehicle registration renewal and property tax collection system. The legislation places the responsibility for motor vehicle property tax collection for the state's 100 counties with the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV). The new payment program required the coordinated efforts of Surry County Tax Office, NC Department of Revenue, and the NCDMV. Beginning September 1, 2013, the total combined payment will be payable to NCDMV when the annual vehicle registration is due. Surry County Citizens should contact the Surry County Tax Office if they have questions about their vehicle taxes. Fees for renewing vehicle registrations will remain the same.

Q. When does the new Tag & Tax System take effect? The new system is scheduled to be phased into effect with the September 2013 vehicle registration renewals. By June 2014, all North Carolina vehicles will be enrolled in the system.

Q. Why has my registration renewal form changed? The new form combines information about your vehicle registration renewal fee and your vehicle property tax due. The new Tag & Tax System allows you to make one payment for both registration renewal and vehicle property tax.

Q. When is my vehicle tax due? Your vehicle tax will be due at the same time you renew your tag. North Carolina law requires that your vehicle property tax be paid in order to renew the vehicle registration. The due date will be printed on the new combined notice that you receive in the mail.

Q. Can I renew my vehicle registration if I do not pay my property tax first? **No.** You cannot renew your vehicle's registration, whether it is leased or owned, unless the total taxes and registration fees on the vehicle are paid.

Q. Am I paying vehicle property taxes for the coming year, or for the preceding year? Taxes due on this notice are for the coming year, covering the same period as the vehicle registration.

Q. What if I lease my vehicle? Do I need to pay my property taxes to the leasing company? **No.** Vehicle property taxes on leased motor vehicles must be paid in full at the time of renewal. A copy of the combined tag and tax notice is **not** sent to the leasing company.

Q. Is interest charged on late payments? **Yes.** State law requires that interest be charged on late vehicle property tax payments and on late registration renewals.

Q. How will I know what vehicle property tax I owe? Your property tax will be included on the new combined notice with Surry County and municipality tax rates and other applicable taxes due.

Q. Will my vehicle registration renewal fee remain the same? **Yes.** Vehicle registration renewal fees will remain the same annual cost. The only increase in your bill will reflect the vehicle property tax amount.

Q. Has your mailing address changed since your last registration renewal, if so, the tax amount may need to be recalculated. If this is the case, please contact the **Surry County Tax Office**.

Q. Will I receive a tax refund if I transfer my license plate to another vehicle during the year? **No.** If you have paid your vehicle property tax for the year and then transfer the license plate to another vehicle, you will not be eligible for a refund of the taxes paid. The registered motor vehicle to which the plate is transferred will not be taxed until its current registration is renewed.

Q. When can I apply for a refund of vehicle property taxes paid? An owner can apply for a refund of taxes paid when a motor vehicle is sold or registered out of state. The refund will be calculated on any full calendar months remaining in the registration period after the license plate is surrendered to the NCDMV. Within one year of surrendering the license plate, the owner must present the following to the county tax office: (1) proof of plate surrender to the NCDMV (NCDMV Form FS20); and (2) copies of the bill of sale or the new state's registration.

Q. Should I pay vehicle property tax if I am active duty military? Active duty non-resident military personnel may be exempt from North Carolina motor vehicle property tax. To qualify for an exemption, you must present a copy of your Leave & Earnings Statement to Surry County Tax office. The statement should be for the month and year in which you register the vehicle and must include your Estimated Time of Separation (ETS) date and home of record.

Q. Online-go to www.ncdot.gov and select tab labeled Vehicle Registration. Check or money order by mail to address on your renewal notice. In person, go to a license plate agency near you, or to one of the State Registration Offices located in Raleigh or Charlotte. Raleigh DMV Headquarters, 1100 New Bern Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27697 or to Charlotte State Office, 6016 Brookshire Blvd, Charlotte, NC 28216

Questions? Please Contact Us

Surry County Tax Department
Located in the lower level of the Surry County Judicial Center
201 E. Kapp Street
Dobson, NC 27017

