**Taxes**

We are now taking payments for Real, Personal and Mobile Home Taxes. After February 1st a 1% penalty will be added per month to all remaining unpaid balances. Mobile Home Taxes will be accepted starting January 1st. You may make payments online: co.hinds.ms.us

The Tax Collector’s Office is responsible for the collection of taxes in Hinds County and is not responsible for the increase or decrease in real/personal property taxes. If you have any questions and/or concerns about the decrease or increase in your property taxes, you should call the Tax Assessor’s Office at (601) 968-6616. (Charles Stokes) (The Tax Assessors office assess all property tax.)

**Forms of Payment**

We accept cash, money orders, checks, debit and credit cards. When paying by check, tags/decals will be mailed out after 10 business days, however; you will be given a copy of your updated registration and tag receipt and the time of purchase. There will be a convenience fee of 3% of your total for credit card transactions and a $3.95 convenience fee on debit cards transactions. The convenience fees are charged by the vendor, not the Hinds County Tax Collector’s Office. We will accept payments from Visa, Master Card, Discover and American Express cards.

**Penalty Fee for Late Tag Renewal**

The penalty for late renewal of your license plate is 5% after the first 15 days the tag is over due. There is an additional penalty of 5% for each additional 30 days that the tag is overdue. The maximum penalty is 25%. Once you reach the 25% penalty, you will not be allowed any Legislative Tag Credit.

If your decal and/or license plate was lost or stolen you will need to get a lost or stolen form (76-903) from the Tax Collector’s office and have local law enforcement complete the form. The cost of the replacement decal is $2.50 and the plate is $10.00.

If you have recently moved into the state of Mississippi, you have 30 days to register your vehicle. If not registered within 30 days a $250.00 fee is added to your registration. When changing counties, your tag is not due until the anniversary year. *(Tag Expiration date)*

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**Abandonment Vehicle (other business, licensed tow truck, or mechanic shop owner can apply)**

**ITEMS NEEDED**

If a wrecker company pulls in a vehicle, and has repairs done to the vehicle you will need the following items:

1. Affidavit of Abandonment (notarized) form 65-023.
2. Need to run advertisement in the local paper for 3 weeks and keep a copy to submit to Tax Collector’s Office.
3. Need to send one registered letter to owner and/or lien holder.
4. Need a copy of the letter sent to owner and/or lien holder.

If the vehicle is just pulled into the shop for towing fee or storage fee, you will need the following items:

1. Affidavit of Abandonment (notarized) form 65-023.
2. Need to run advertisement in the local paper for 3 weeks and keep a copy to submit to Tax Collector’s Office.
3. Need to send two registered letters to owner and/or lien holder.
4. Need a copy of the letter sent to owner and/or lien holder.

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**Health and Wellness Tips:**

4 Tips to Jump-Start Your January Slim Down

In a hurry to banish holiday bloat? You’ll be back in your favorite jeans in no time if you follow these four diet shape-up tips.

After the long holiday haul of festive cocktails, heavy meals, and super-rich desserts, I’m guessing your first priority of ’09 is whittling away all that winter weight. If you practiced some restraint between Thanksgiving and New Year’s Day, that shouldn’t be too hard. But if you’re like a lot of women, you gave in to each and every impulse. Hey, Christmas only comes once a year! But don’t panic now that the New Year is here. Try my four favorite slim-down tips.

1. **Step away from the scale.**
   You know you were bad—you don’t need a number to confirm it. If you gauge your diet success by the number on the scale, you’ll only give yourself anxiety when you see it on the rise. If I want to assess what kind of damage I’ve done, I slip on my favorite pair of jeans. If they’re snug, I know I need to lay off the sweets and do a little diet cleanup.

2. **Be patient.**
   If it took you six weeks to pack on those extra pounds, chances are it will take you just as long to lose them. Remember that the weight won’t come off tomorrow. Even extreme measures like juice fasts or cleanses will only keep it off for so long, and you’ll only wind up disappointed and discouraged. In the meantime, there’s a lot you can do to banish bloat and feel a little more like your slim, preholiday self. I start by doubling my water intake. Choose foods full of water—cucumbers, clear broths, asparagus, and melon are all great skinny-girl picks. And while foods full of fiber—think cauliflower, broccoli, and beans—will certainly fill you up, I try to avoid them in the first few days of my slim-down plan. Once I’m de-bloated, I can really focus on my shape-up plan.

3. **Eat clean.**
   Once I’ve gotten rid of any remaining holiday bloat, I’m ready to get my diet back on track. I swear off anything processed in favor of more natural fare. But over the course of my holiday splurge, my body has gotten used to heavier foods, so a simple salad isn’t going to stave off my hunger pains come January. I’ve learned to trick my body into feeling that same satisfaction by opting for healthy, filling low-cal favorites. A typical day starts with a steaming bowl of oatmeal. Lunch is a whole-wheat burrito filled with brown rice, spinach, and black beans—but make sure to keep portion sizes in check. For dinner I grill a flavorful piece of fish to have alongside a baked sweet potato. I avoid steak, cheese, and anything salty or creamy for the first two weeks while I get my body back in gear.

4. **Stop hiding in your sweats.**
   It’s easy to forget about a little extra tummy flab if you’ve buried yourself deep in your college hoodie. After a long day at work, it’s tempting to reach for anything oversized and cotton. Instead, I slip on a pair of yoga pants and a slim top to remind myself that I want to whip my body into shape. I’m less likely to gorge on ice cream around midnight if I can see my tummy start to protrude.
Scripture of the Month

"We love because He first loved us."
-1 John 4:19

Information about Tag renewal online:
The vendor charges a non-refundable convenience fee to process payments. The fee for this service is $3.95 to use a Debit Card and 3% of your tax bill to use a Credit Card or E-Check. There is a $10,000 limit when using the online services (www.co.hinds.ms.us). Click on the online services tab located on the toolbar and make your selection.

VOTER REGISTRATION
Every U.S. citizen who possesses the following qualifications is entitled to register to vote in Mississippi:

• 18 years of age (or will be by the date of the next general election) & living in Mississippi;
• A resident of the state, county, and supervisor’s district for 30 days;
• Has never been CONVICTED of any crime listed in Section 241 of the Mississippi Constitution (murder, rape, theft and etc.).
• Once you are registered, you generally remain registered indefinitely, unless you move or no longer meet one of the qualifications to vote.

You may register to vote either by mail or by visiting your county Circuit Clerk (usually in the county courthouse) or Municipal Clerk (usually in City Hall).

You also may register to vote when applying for or renewing your driver’s license, or when applying for services at numerous state and federal government agencies.

Tag Renewal Facts
If you live outside the city of Jackson you will need 2 proofs of residence in order to receive an initial tag or renew an existing tag. This information is also needed if you are renewing your tag by mail or online to process timely.

Quote of the Month

“A successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him.”
-David Brinkley

Millionaire Pie Recipe

Ingredients
1 baked pie shell
2 1/2 cups powdered sugar
1 stick butter or margarine
1/4 tsp salt
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
2 eggs
1 cup whipping cream
1 cup crushed pineapple, drained
1/2 cup nuts

How to make it
• Cream together 2 cups of the powdered sugar and butter.
• Add salt, vanilla & eggs and mix until light and fluffy.
• Spoon into pie crust and chill.
• Whip cream until stiff.
• Blend in 1/2 cup powdered sugar, then add pineapple and nuts.
• Spread on top of filling and chill

Health Observances
Cervical Cancer Awareness
National Glaucoma Awareness
National Birth Defects Prevention
Thyroid Awareness

Salvage Title
ITEMS NEEDED
1. Form 65-104 (Application for Inspection of a salvage vehicle).
2. Bill of sale of parts that has been replaced.
3. Invoice from repair shop.
4. If an individual repaired the vehicle, a notarized statement from that person stating he or she repaired the vehicle.
5. An inspection from the Mississippi Highway Patrol Department (Form 65-103)
6. 4 Color photos of the rebuilt vehicle.

Helpful County Numbers
Board of Supervisors
Robert Graham
(District 1)
601-968-6689
Douglas Anderson
(District 2)
601-968-6690
Peggy Calhoun
(District 3)
601-968-6768
Phil Fisher
(District 4)
601-948-1501
Kenneth Stokes
(District 5)
601-968-6699
Chancery Clerk
Eddie Jean Carr
601-968-6507
Circuit Clerk
Barbara Dunn
601-968-6628
Sheriff Department
Tyrone Lewis
601-974-2901
Tax Assessor
Charles Stokes
601-968-6626
Board Attorney
Crystal Martin
601-968-6797
County Administrator
Carmen Y. Davis
601-968-6501

The Tax Collector has an open door policy, If you have any concerns please feel free to stop by.