

State of New Jersey

Department of the Treasury

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Division of Taxation to Offer Extended Hours As April 15 Approaches; Victims of March Storms Have Until May 11 to File

TRENTON – State Treasurer Andrew P. Sidamon-Eristoff today reminded taxpayers that individual income tax returns and payments for 2009 must be postmarked or electronically submitted by the due date —April 15, 2010, for most filers — in order to avoid penalties and interest. As announced last week, the filing deadline has been extended to May 11, 2010, for taxpayers in the 12-county Presidential Disaster Area that was declared in New Jersey following the severe storms, flooding, mudslides, and landslides that began March 12, 2010.

The counties covered by the disaster declaration are: Atlantic, Bergen, Cape May, Essex, Gloucester, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, and Union. Affected taxpayers in these counties now have until May 11, 2010, to file their returns, submit payments, including estimated payments, or to file extension requests that would otherwise have been due April 15, 2010. A notice describing the New Jersey tax relief provided for victims of the March storms is available on the Division of Taxation's Web site at www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/njstormrelief.shtml

The Treasurer encouraged taxpayers who have not yet submitted their New Jersey returns to file electronically using New Jersey's "FastFile" options: NJ WebFile or NJ E-File. These easy-to-use systems enable taxpayers to submit paperless returns via the Internet or through the use of a computer software package.

"If you want your income tax refund quickly, the best thing to do is file electronically," Treasurer Eristoff said. Electronic filing offers taxpayers a fast, convenient and user-friendly alternative to completing and mailing a paper form. Electronic filers can also opt to have their refunds directly deposited, a choice that is not available to those filing paper returns.

Taxpayers who need help completing their returns may contact the Division of Taxation's Customer Service Center by calling 609-292-6400. They may also visit one of the Division's

Regional Offices located throughout the State. Taxation representatives will be available to provide assistance during the period leading up to the April 15 filing deadline as follows:

		Regional Offices	
	Customer Service	Trenton, Newark,	Asbury Park,
	(Phone) Center	Camden, Fair Lawn	Northfield, Somerville
April 14 (Wednesday)	8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
April 15 (Thursday)	8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Taxation Regional Offices are located at the following addresses:

Asbury Park	630 Bangs Avenue
Camden	2 Riverside Drive, One Port Center, Suite 200
Fair Lawn	22-08 Rt. 208 South
Newark	124 Halsey Street, 2nd Floor
Northfield	1915-A New Road (Rt. 9)
Somerville	75 Veterans Memorial Drive East, Suite 103
Trenton	50 Barrack Street, 1st Floor Lobby

Division of Taxation employees will be available at each regional office to answer questions, assist with return preparation, accept completed tax forms, or supply blank forms. Directions to the offices are available on the Division's Web site at: www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/ot1.shtml

The Treasurer also reminded taxpayers who owe tax not to overlook the advantages of making their payments electronically. "You can file now and pay at any time until midnight on April 15th," Eristoff said. Storm victims will have until midnight on May 11. New Jersey's electronic payment methods include electronic check (e-check) and credit card. There is a credit card convenience fee of 2.49 percent paid directly to Official Payments Corporation based on the amount of the tax payment.

Financially distressed taxpayers who are struggling to meet their tax obligations can find information about available assistance on the Division of Taxation's Web site (www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/helpwithdebt.shtml) or by calling 609-292-6400.

Taxpayers who need more time to file their 2009 returns can request an extension: six months for a resident (Form NJ-1040) or nonresident (Form NJ-1040NR) return, and five months for a fiduciary (Form NJ-1041) return. The extension request must be filed by the original due of the return: by April 15 for most taxpayers or by May 11 for storm victims. The extension period for all resident and nonresident returns will end on October 15, 2010 (September 15, 2010, for fiduciary returns), even if the original due date for the return was extended because of the March storms.

Extension requests can be submitted online through the Division of Taxation's Web site (www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/eservicesother.shtml#git) or by mail using the traditional paper form, Form NJ-630, Application for Extension of Time to File New Jersey Gross Income Tax Return, which can be printed from the Division of Taxation's Web site (www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/prntgit.shtml). However, at least 80 percent of a filer's actual

New Jersey income tax must be paid by the April 15 due date (May 11 for storm victims) in order to receive an extension. Mailed extension applications must be postmarked on or before Thursday, April 15, 2010 (Tuesday, May 11, 2010, for storm victims); online extension requests can be submitted until midnight on the due date. Anyone making a payment of tax due with an online extension must pay by e-check or credit card.

Taxpayers who apply for an automatic extension of time to file their Federal returns may receive an extension for their New Jersey returns by including a copy of the Federal application when they submit their New Jersey income tax returns, provided they meet all other requirements (including the requirement that at least 80 percent of the actual New Jersey income tax liability be paid on or before the return due date). Taxpayers who file for a Federal extension but also need to make a payment of New Jersey tax by April 15 (May 11 for storm victims) must submit Form NJ-630 with that payment or file and pay online.

"Taxpayers must remember that an extension of time to file an income tax return is *not* an extension of time to pay the tax due under the Gross Income Tax Act," Treasurer Eristoff explained. "Penalties and interest are imposed whenever tax is paid after the due date." Attached is a list of important contacts for New Jersey taxpayer information and assistance.

New Jersey Taxpayer Information & Assistance Customer Service Center
Speak directly to a representative for income tax information and assistance,
Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., except holidays
Division of Taxation Web Sitewww.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/
Electronic Filing
NJ WebFile <u>www.njfastfile.com</u>
File State returns for free from a secure Internet site
Electronic Payment
Make payments of 2009 income tax or 2010 estimated tax by e-check or credit card
(Visa, American Express, MasterCard, or Discover)
• Online <u>www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/eservicesother.shtml#git</u>
• Phone
E-check
Credit Card
Earned Income Tax Credit Information
Text Telephone Service (TTY/TDD)
for Hard-of-Hearing Users

These numbers are accessible only from TTY devices. Submit a text message on any tax

matter. Receive a reply through NJ Relay Services (711).