# TAXPAYER NEWS October 2024

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Tax Assessor Collector
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**www.caldwellcad.org**

Caldwell County Appraisal District
P. O. Box 900
**211 Bufkin Ln**
Lockhart, Texas 78644

## Our Mission

The mission of the Caldwell County Appraisal District is to discover, list and appraise all property located within the boundaries of the district in an accurate, ethical and impartial manner in an effort to estimate the market value of each property and achieve uniformity and equity between classes of properties.

This will be accomplished by maintaining the highest standards in appraisal practices and law, guided by the goals of providing quality service to the taxpayers and taxing entities and by developing personnel who are professional and knowledgeable.

## Planning to Visit in Person?

**Choose A Location Near You!** ⇦

- **MAIN OFFICE: 211 Bufkin Lane in Lockhart**
  phone: 512-398-5550 office hours 8:00am – 5:00pm
  Drive Thru hours 8:30am – 4:00pm

- **LULING: 505 E Fannin Street in Luling**
  phone: 830-875-9207 office hours 8:00am – 4:00pm

## What We Do

The Appraisal Office has the responsibility for appraising property for ad valorem tax purposes and we are contracted to collect property taxes for the majority of entities. The Caldwell County Appraisal District has no legal authority to impose a tax or set the tax rate, which will determine the amount of taxes you pay. Your locally elected officials decide your property tax burden. Your payment for taxes will be made at the Caldwell County Appraisal District or the Luling satellite office per a contract between the taxing entities and the appraisal district to collect their taxes.

## Property Tax

Here's how the property tax system works:

1. The Appraisal District determines the value of all properties, grants exemptions and certifies values to the taxing units.

2. The governing bodies of taxing units, such as City Councils and School Boards, prepare budgets and then set the tax rates, which determine how much tax is due on each property.

3. The Appraisal District calculates how much you owe for each taxing unit, prepares and sends bills, collects monies due and disburses the funds to the appropriate taxing unit.

To receive an exemption or to protest values, you must apply to the Appraisal District. **Protests of value** must be filed by **April 30th or within 30 days** after you receive a notice of value. When you receive a tax bill, it is too late to protest value. Exemptions must be requested and filed between **January 1 and April 30**.

## Did you receive this bill in error?

If you received a bill in error (for example, you no longer own the property) please contact the appraisal district immediately at (512) 398-5550.

## Want to Save for Next Year's Taxes?

A plan is available that allows you to pre-pay next year's property taxes. Contracts for ESCROW PAYMENTS may be set up at our office.

## Disabled Veterans--Residence Homestead

A disabled veteran who receives from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its successor 100 percent disability compensation due to a service connected disability and a rating of 100 percent disabled or of individual employability is entitled to an exemption from taxation of the total appraised value of the veteran's residence homestead.

## Disabled and Senior Taxpayers

Disabled and over-65 exemptions reduce the taxable value of (**homestead only**) property, which in turn lowers the amount of tax you pay. Senior applicants qualify for the exemption on their 65th birthday. Disabled applicants qualify based on federal guidelines. Taxpayers must choose either the disabled or over-65 exemption. Both senior and disabled taxpayers may file a deferral to delay payment and minimize penalty. To apply for exemptions and deferrals, call the Appraisal District at (512) 398-5550.

## Installment Payments

**Those who qualify for the over-65 exemption or the Disabled Person or Disabled Veteran exemption may make property tax payments (on homestead only) in four installments. Contact us before January 31 for a Letter of Intent to sign and return for this plan.**

## Timely Payment of 2024 Taxes

Property tax payments are due between October 1, 2024 and January 31, 2025. Mailed payments with a January 31, 2025 postmark are considered timely. On February 1, 2025, all unpaid 2024 taxes become delinquent. Penalty and interest are added to the original base amount and continue to increase until taxes are paid. Attorney fees are attached to Personal Property accounts on April 1, 2025 and on all other accounts July 1, 2025. If there is an active suit on an account, Attorney Fees will attach February 1, 2025.

## Do you owe delinquent taxes from a prior year?

2024 tax bills will not include notice of delinquent taxes from prior years. If you have not contacted the office to make payment arrangements, you risk costly legal fees. When you contact this office to discuss delinquent taxes, a collection specialist may be able to set up a payment plan.

**BY LAW, the Tax Assessor-Collector cannot waive penalty and interest on delinquent taxes.**

## You may pay your taxes by credit card.

For more information visit our website at www.caldwellcad.org. Go to the bottom of the homepage, click on "How to Pay Taxes Online," & follow instructions. Contact our office at (512) 398-5550 if you have questions. There will be a convenience fee for this service.
Point & Pay Representative = 877-495-2729 weekdays
Point & Pay automated = 844-399-6191 anytime

## Our Website

Please visit our website at **www.caldwellcad.org** to view appraisal information, state forms, miscellaneous information, tax sale listings, contact information and employment opportunities. Tax amount information is also available on our website. Our website data is updated daily based on the previous daily changes. New online maps are now available.

## Estimated Tax Information

The estimated amount of taxes being imposed and information on actions taken or proposed actions by each local taxing unit concerning property taxes are online: **caldwell.truthintaxation.com**

## Homestead Exemption can save you money.

If you live in the home you own you may qualify for a homestead exemption. Contact the appraisal district for more information or you can apply online now.

## Do we have your current mailing address?

If you change your mailing address complete an address change form (available on our website) to ensure you do not miss any correspondence. You may also email address.info@caldwellcad.org or call 512-398-5550 extension 223.

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT QUICK REFERENCE

**Caldwell County**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Administration | County Judge | 512-398-1809 | Courthouse 2nd floor |
| Deed Records | County Clerk | 512-398-1804 | 1703 S Colorado St |
| Automobile Registration | Tax Office | 512-398-1830 | 110 S. Main St, Room 101 |
| Texas Dept. of Public Safety | Courthouse | 512-398-1952 | 110 S. Main St, Room 110 |
| Elections Administrator | Scott Annex | 512-668-4347 | 1403 Blackjack St - Suite C |
| Law Enforcement | Sheriff | 512-398-6777 | 1204 Reed Dr. |
| Roads-County Maintenance | Unit Road System | 512-398-7269 | 1700 FM 2720 |
| Rural Addressing System | 9-1-1 Coordinator | 512-359-4661 | 110 S Main St, 3rd Floor |
| Rural Septic/Building Permits | Sanitation | 512-398-1803 | 1700 FM 2720 |
| Rural Subdivision Information | Sanitation | 512-398-1803 | 1700 FM 2720 |
| District Clerk | Judicial Center | 512-398-1806 | 1703 S Colorado St |
| County Extension Agent | AG & 4H | 512-398-3122 | 1403 Blackjack St, Suite B |

***Caldwell County Commissioners Court meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 9:00 A.M. each month at the Courthouse on the second floor***

| MUNICIPAL | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Name** | **Phone** | **Location** | **Meeting Date and Time** |
| Caldwell-Hays ESD #1 | 512-243-3477 | 8811 FM 1854 | 2nd Tuesday at 6:00pm monthly |
| Caldwell ESD #2 | 512-357-0222 | 9655 Hwy 142 | 2nd Thursday at 6:30pm monthly |
| Caldwell ESD #3 | 512-694-8044 | 111 Lockhart St | 2nd Thursday at 6:30pm monthly |
| Caldwell ESD #4 | 512-398-1822 | 952 FM 671 | Tuesday or Wednesday at 7:00pm monthly |
| Caldwell ESD #5 | | | |
| City of Lockhart | 512-398-3461 | 217 S Main St<br>3RD Floor Library | 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 7:30pm<br>Workshop at 6:30pm monthly |
| City of Luling | 830-875-2481 | 509 E Crockett | 2nd Thursday at 6:00pm monthly |
| City of Martindale | 512-357-2639 | 409 Main St | 1st Tuesday at 6:30pm monthly |
| City of Mustang Ridge | 512-243-1775 | 12800 S Hwy 183 | 2nd Monday at 7:00pm monthly |
| City of Niederwald | 512-398-6338 | 8807 Niederwald Strasse | 1st Monday at 7:30pm monthly |
| City of San Marcos | 512-393-8000 | 630 E Hopkins<br>Council Chambers | 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 6:00pm monthly |
| City of Uhland | 512-398-7399 | 15 N Old Spanish Tr | 1st Wednesday at 6:00pm monthly |
| Plum Creek Conservation & Underground Water | 512-398-2383 | 1101 W San Antonio St | 3rd Tuesday at 1:00pm monthly |
| Gonzales Underground Water Conservation | 830-672-1047 | 522 St Matthew St<br>Gonzales | 2nd Tuesday at 5:00pm monthly |
| Caldwell County MUD #1 | | | No Scheduled Meetings at this time |
| Caldwell Valley MUD #1 | | | No Scheduled Meetings at this time |
| Cotton Center MUD #2 | | | No Scheduled Meetings at this time |
| Bollinger MUD | 737-309-0704 | | |
| Caldwell County MUD #7 | | | |
| **SCHOOL** | | | |
| **Name** | **Phone** | **Location** | **Meeting Date and Time** |
| Gonzales ISD | 830-672-9551 | 1615 St. Lawrence St.<br>Admin. Office | 2nd Monday at 5:30 monthly |
| Hays Consolidated ISD | 512-268-2141 | 300 San Marcos St<br>Buda, Tx 78610 | 4th Monday at 5:30pm monthly |
| Lockhart ISD | 512-398-0000 | 419 Bois D'Arc St<br>Lockhart, TX | 4th Monday at 6:30pm monthly |
| Luling ISD | 830-875-3191 | 115 W. Bowie<br>Conference Learning Center | 3rd Monday at 5:00pm monthly |
| Prairie Lea ISD | 512-488-2328 | 6910 San Marcos Hwy<br>Administration Building | 2nd Thursday at 6:30pm monthly |
| San Marcos ISD | 512-393-6700 | 2601 Rattler Rd<br>San Marcos High School | 3rd Monday at 6:00pm monthly Room11 |
| Waelder ISD | 830-239-5600 | 201 US Hwy 90W | 3rd Monday at 6:00pm monthly |
| Austin Community College Highland Business Center | 512-223-7000 | 6101 Highland Campus Dr.<br>Austin, TX<br>Building 3000 RM 2110 | 1st Monday at 3:00pm monthly<br>Highland Business Center Room 201 |

**Local Appraisal / Tax Administration**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Caldwell County Appraisal District | 512-398-5550 | 211 Bufkin Ln. |
| Remote office in Luling | 830-875-9207 | 505 E. Fannin St. |

***Board of Directors meet on the 4th Tuesday at 5:00 P.M. every other month***

**Sales and other State Taxes** Comptroller of Public Accounts 800-252-5555

**Appraisal Districts and Tax Offices**

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|---|---|---|---|
| Bastrop County Appraisal District | 512-303-1930 | Gonzales County Appraisal District | 830-672-2879 |
| Caldwell County Appraisal District | 512-398-5550 | Guadalupe County Appraisal District | 830-303-3313 |
| Hays County Appraisal District | 512-268-2522 | Travis Central Appraisal District | 512-834-9317 |
| Hays Tax Office | 512-393-5545 | Travis Tax Office | 512-854-9473 |
| Bastrop Tax Office | 512-332-7261 | Gonzales Tax Office | 830-672-2841 |
| Guadalupe Tax Office - Shertz | 210-945-9708 | Guadalupe Tax Office – Seguin | 830-303-4188 |

*Updated September 17, 2024 by Caldwell CAD*