



**June 2024 Tax Talk
Volume 18/Issue 6**

DEAR FRIENDS:

Last month, I had the pleasure of attending several community events as I do throughout the year. Frequently, other elected officials are also in attendance as we are all committed to the residents of Palm Beach County. At many of these events, we discuss the importance of the upcoming election in November and how crucial it is that everyone eligible to vote does so. The change in Florida Law now requires voters to re-request mail ballots after every general election cycle. So, if you have requested mail ballots in the past and have not yet re-requested mail ballots for the 2024 elections, I urge you to do so to ensure you receive your ballot and vote. You can visit the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections website at www.votepalmbeach.gov/voters/vote-by-mail to check the status of your mail ballot request or to request a ballot be mailed to you for the upcoming elections and let your voice be heard!

And this month, I want to wish all our fathers a very Happy Father’s Day!

Anne
Anne M. Gannon
Constitutional Tax Collector, Serving Palm Beach County

CELEBRATING BELLE GLADE’S AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE



When you think of Palm Beach County, the first thing that may come to mind is beaches; with our 47 miles of coastline, it’s easy to see why. But did you know that Palm Beach County leads the state in total agriculture sales and Belle Glade is a top supplier of vegetables, fruits, and sugar cane.

With the motto “Her soil is her fortune,” the city celebrates its agricultural heritage every year with its Annual Black Gold Jubilee. Earning its name from the city’s rich soil or “Black Gold,” the jubilee is a celebration of the soil’s ability to produce bountiful harvests.

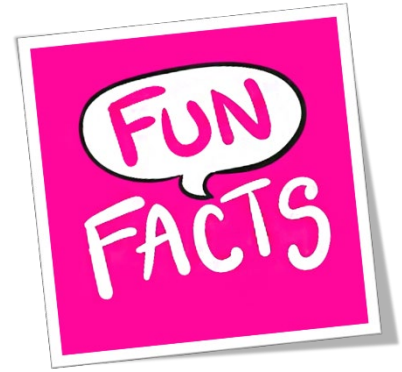


We look forward every year to interacting with our western community clients and answering questions about the services we provide. Thank you to everyone who came by to visit our booth and ask our team questions.

FUN FACTS ABOUT THE TCO!

You already know that when you need to pay your property taxes, renew your driver license, or renew your vehicle registration, you turn to the Tax Collector's Office. But did you know these fun facts about our agency?

- On average, we service more than **3,000 clients each day** in our six service centers. Wait times have gone down by more than 36 minutes since before the COVID pandemic.
- Last year, our Client Care & Research Center answered **237,868 phone calls** and received **45,246 email inquiries**.
- Each month, we electronically distribute more than **40,000 satisfaction surveys** to clients who visit our service centers in person or contact our office by phone. **83.5%** of survey respondents rated our service as "Exceptional" or "Very Good."
- Typically, **65% of property owners pay their property taxes during the month of November**.
- The top five states from where newly licensed Florida drivers previously resided are **New York, New Jersey, California, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts**.
- For the 2023 tax year, the **top Palm Beach County taxpayer** was FPL, paying \$133,632,115.20 in property tax.



GET YOUR HURRICANE GUIDE!

June 1 marks the start of another Hurricane Season. Hurricanes are part of the reality of living near the coast and major hurricanes are becoming more and more prevalent. However, the key to navigating hurricane season is to be prepared and have a plan. This year, to help you prepare, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has declared May 5-11, as National Hurricane Preparedness week, visit noaa.gov/hurricane-prep for more information.

Preparing Before Hurricane Season

Take advantage of the Home Hardening Sales Tax Exemption. The exemption is for the purchase of impact-resistant doors, windows, and garage doors, going on now until June 30, 2024. For more information, visit floridarevenue.com/homehardening.

Hurricane Guide

Do you know where the closest grocery store to you that is powered by a generator is located? Or the closest gas station with emergency power transfer switches? These are important things you should know when preparing for hurricane season. Even relatively minor hurricanes can leave you without power and water for a few days. Make sure you are prepared by having enough food, water, and medical supplies for your family members and your pets. For a comprehensive list of supplies, visit pbctax.com/hurricane-guide-request/ to view and request a copy of our pocket-size hurricane guide.

The banner features the Palm Beach County Seal on the left and the text 'ANNE M. GANNON CONSTITUTIONAL TAX COLLECTOR Serving Palm Beach County Serving you.' on the right. Below this is a red section with a circular icon and the text 'HURRICANE GUIDE Plan. Prepare. Protect.' At the bottom, a blue section contains contact information: 'clientadvocate@pbctax.com • 561-355-2264' and 'www.pbctax.com • [social media icons] @TAXPBC'.

A calendar graphic for the month of June. The title 'JUNE' is in large white letters on a blue background. Below it, the text 'IMPORTANT DATES & HOLIDAYS' is in blue. A list of dates is shown in light blue boxes with red number indicators: '1 Hurricane Season Begins', '3 Tourist Development Tax Due', '16 Father's Day', and '19 Juneteenth - Tax Collector Offices Closed'.

A banner featuring a woman in sunglasses holding a ballot. The text reads 'REQUEST YOUR VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT TODAY'. Below the image, it says 'Vote in all 2023/2024 elections! Requests are valid through 12/31/2024'. A red button on the right says 'REQUEST YOURS TODAY!'. The website 'www.votepalmbeach.gov/Voters/Vote-By-Mail' is at the bottom.