



SUMMER
2019

SOUTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
NEWSLETTER



Message From Secretary Jim Terwilliger

Greetings from the South Dakota Department of Revenue! I hope you are having a great summer.

The summer months are always an exciting time at the Department of Revenue, thanks in part to events such as the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. Each year, our staff partners with local governments and vendors to ensure all tax matters are handled smoothly.

Thanks to these partnerships, we had another successful year in Sturgis. For specific revenue and vendor statistics, please see Page 3.

We are also pleased to announce that we have new leadership within our motor vehicle division. Alana Thomas has joined the division, serving as our new deputy director of operations management.

Alana previously did great work in our business tax division as a management analyst, and we are looking forward to her contributions in her new capacity. You can learn more about what Alana's duties will be on

Page 5 of this newsletter in our new Position Profiles section. This section will not only provide more transparency about our department's job duties but will also shed some light on the many talented public servants we have on our team.

That team will also grow in the coming months, as we are grateful for the allocation of two additional auditor positions. With an evolving tax base and our remote seller and marketplace provider laws, these auditors will play an important part in our mission to ensure tax fairness. You can learn more about this topic on Page 4.

The summer months also mean upcoming deadlines. Whether it's the state's buffer strip program, vehicle registration, or tax filing deadlines, please see this newsletter for important dates that may affect you.

As always, please contact our dedicated staff if we can provide any assistance to you. We hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter!

Need Trucking Assistance? Visit our Sioux Falls Office!

Did you know that the Motor Vehicle Division offers trucking industry assistance at our Sioux Falls office, in addition to our Pierre office?

Walk-in visits are welcome for assistance on any tax-related or licensing question. The Sioux Falls office is located at 300 S. Sycamore Ave., Ste. 102.

Trucking assistance is available at the Sioux Falls office Monday - Thursday from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



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CONTACT US

SD Department of Revenue
445 E Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501
Website: <https://dor.sd.gov>
Phone: 605-773-3311
Taxpayer Assistance Center: 1-800-829-9188
Motor Vehicles: 605-773-3541
SD Lottery: 605-773-5770
Gaming Commission: 605-773-6050

Buffer Strip Deadline Approaching

South Dakotans who own land with eligible riparian buffer strips have until October 15 to apply for a property tax incentive.

Applications are submitted to the Director of Equalization in the county where the property is located. Eligible applicants will receive tax relief for their 2020 assessment--taxes payable 2021.

To be eligible, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Land must meet the criteria for agricultural classification for purposes of taxation.
- Only land that is adjoining qualified lakes and streams is eligible to be enrolled in the program. Maps of all qualified lakes and streams for every county can be accessed at: <http://denr.sd.gov/datagis.aspx>.
- Effective July 1, 2018, a Board of County Commissioners, by resolution, may add qualifying lands not included in the link above.
- The land must consist of existing or planted perennial vegetation.
- The buffer strip has to be a minimum of 50 feet wide and can be a maximum of 120 feet wide. The measurement starts at the top of the bank or where the vegetation starts, whichever is closer to the water.
- The vegetation cannot be harvested or mowed before July 10. A minimum of 4 inches of vegetation must be maintained at all times.
- The land cannot be grazed during the months of May through September.

Please note that landowners must apply annually to receive this incentive.

[To complete an application, click here.](#)

Follow us on Social Media!



2019

Sturgis Motorcycle Rally

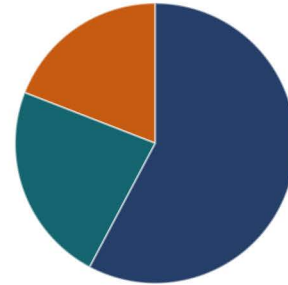
COLLECTIONS

\$1.27 MILLION

1%

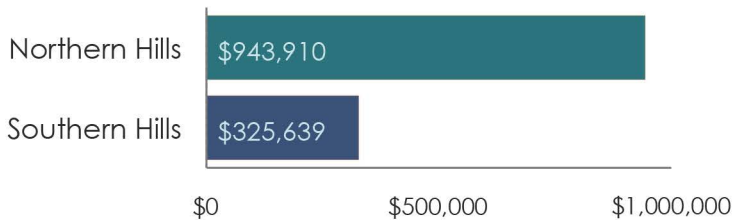
Below 2018

BY TAX TYPE

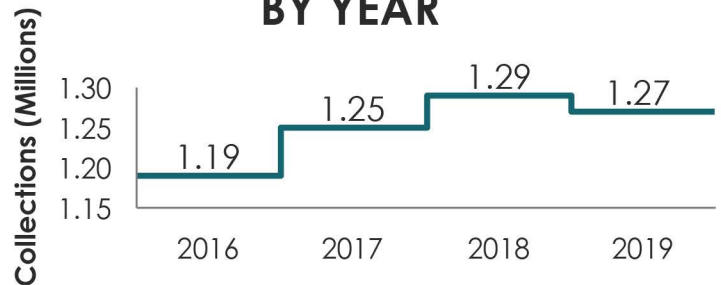


- State Sales Tax (4.5%) \$733,312
- Municipal Tax (2%) \$293,626
- Tourism Tax (1.5%) \$242,612

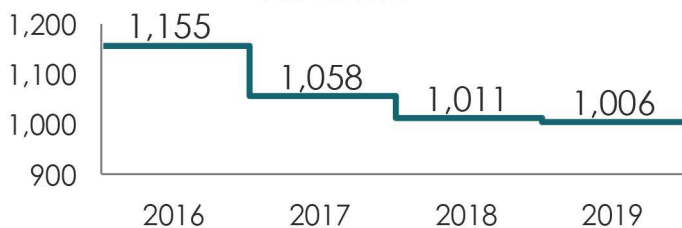
BY REGION



BY YEAR



BY YEAR



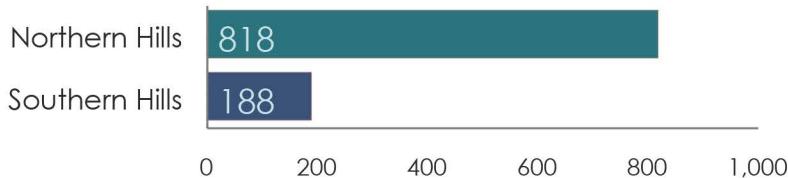
VENDORS

1,006

0.5%

BELOW 2018

BY REGION



Audit Division Adds New Staff

This year’s legislative session brought some exciting news for our Audit Division as two additional auditor positions were allocated by the Joint Committee on Appropriations in early March.

This brings the total auditor count to 48, which are spread across our seven offices throughout South Dakota.

Due to the number of licenses issued as a result of South Dakota’s remote seller and marketplace laws, these additional positions will aid in the effort to ensure out-of-state retailers are in compliance with these laws. In addition, they will assist in identifying unlicensed remote sellers.

Audit Director Rachel Williams was pleased with the additional staff allocated to her division. “South Dakota is excited to be the state that overturned Quill. These additional staff will help us ensure we are holding all taxpayers to the same standards and help us carry out our mission of educating taxpayers both in and out of our state.”

DOR Publishes New Property Tax Resource

In an effort to help South Dakotans throughout the state understand their property taxes, the Department of Revenue recently published a pair of new Tax Facts.

Agricultural Land Productivity Formula

The purpose of this Tax Fact is to provide a general overview of how agricultural land is assessed in South Dakota based on the productivity valuation system.

The goal of the productivity valuation system is to ensure all agricultural land in South Dakota is valued fairly and equitably in each county based on what the agricultural land is able to produce.

[To access the Tax Fact, please click here.](#)

Property Tax Discretionary Formula

The property tax discretionary formula is a tax incentive tool to help promote economic development in South Dakota. The new publication provides an overview of formula options, as well as how structure types affect them.

The new Tax Fact also provides information on changes in law that took effect this summer.

[To access the Tax Fact, please click here.](#)

Due Dates

Tax Return	Due Date
August	09/20/2019
September	10/21/2019
October	11/20/2019

Motor Vehicle Registration Dates

Vehicle registration renewal due dates are based on the first letter of your last name which then correlates to a particular month.

September– S

November– T/U/V/W/X/Y/Z

**April and December are non-renewal months*

Upcoming Tax Seminars

Date	Topic	Location
Oct. 8	Basic Sales Tax	Watertown
Oct. 8	Basic Contractor’s Excise Tax	Watertown
Oct. 24	Basic Contractor’s Excise Tax	Rapid City
Oct. 24	Basic Sales Tax	Rapid City
Oct. 29	Basic Sales Tax	Sioux Falls
Oct. 29	Basic Contractor’s Excise Tax	Mitchell

[All seminars are free to attend. To register, request a presentation, or view a complete schedule, click here.](#)

Position Profiles



Monica Weischedel



Alana Thomas

To help our customers get to know our employees and department a bit better, we are introducing a new section of the DOR newsletter called Position Profiles.

In this section, we will introduce you to some of our personnel around the office, along with giving you some insight to what they do in their position. This edition highlights a pair of leaders in our Motor Vehicle Division (MVD).

Welcome, Alana!

Alana Thomas began her role as the deputy director of operations management on Aug. 8. Prior to Aug. 8, she served as a management analyst in our Business Tax division.

As deputy director of operations management, Alana provides leadership and support to the title processing, dealer licensing, and invoicing and accounting teams within the MVD. She also manages processes and procedures of our personnel. Alana will be especially busy during legislative session, as she works with legislation affecting the division and testifies in committee meetings with legislators. Alana is also responsible for collaborating with other divisions around the department and makes sure everything is running smoothly.

Alana is originally from Pierre, and she has a degree in Business Management & Marketing. She's in the process of completing a second degree in computer programming. She's excited to combine her prior

knowledge and her education with the new challenges and learning opportunities of her new role.

Congratulations, Alana!

Thank you, Monica!

Contrary to Alana in her new position, Monica Weischedel has worked with the Motor Vehicle Division for over 37 years. Monica currently serves as our deputy director of policy and procedures.

As the deputy director of policy and procedures, Monica supervises and supports the motor carrier services and information section teams within the MVD. She also oversees the investigative fraud unit.

Along with Alana, Monica works with the legislation that affects the MVD and testifies on bills. She analyzes the technical issues and facts of these bills to make sure that everything affecting us is logical. Monica is also responsible for all of the policies and procedures across the division.

Monica has been a part of many transitions within the DOR throughout her time here. She remembers when the MVD was transferred from the Department of Public Safety to the Department of Revenue.

After this happened, there were many changes in the division, from new laws, to new process, and even new equipment. There have been many transitions, but she notes that everything has always worked out.