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Arapahoe County Treasurer to provide tax notices electronically *Change will save the County approximately \$46,300 in paper, postage*

LITTLETON – The Arapahoe County Treasurer’s Office is notifying nearly 115,000 property owners in the county that they will receive their annual real estate property tax bills electronically beginning next year – a change that will save both paper and money.

“We’re making this change to save natural resources and save our taxpayers’ money,” said Arapahoe County Treasurer Doug Milliken. “We estimate the change to electronic tax bills will save the county approximately \$46,300 a year in paper and postage.”

The Colorado Legislature enacted a law this year authorizing counties to provide tax bills electronically. Historically, property tax bills have been mailed in January to all owners of real estate in the county. The bills cover the taxes for the previous year. Bills for 2010 taxes will be mailed in January 2011, for example.

The Treasurer’s Office mailed postcards this week notifying 114,759 property owners whose property taxes are paid by their mortgage companies that they will receive their annual tax notices electronically instead of by regular mail. There is a box on the postcard that property owners who prefer to continue receiving their tax bills by mail can mark and return to the Treasurer’s Office.

Property owners not included in this week’s mailing will receive inserts with their next tax bill notifying them that they have the opportunity to discontinue paper copies of their tax bills.

The electronic version of the tax notices will be available on the County Treasurer’s web site (www.co.arapahoe.co.us/departments/tr) in February but dollar amounts due will be available on the website by Jan. 10. The dollar amounts due also can be obtained by calling the Treasurer’s Office at 303-795-4550 after Jan. 10.

The Treasurer’s Office also sends tax bills electronically to mortgage lenders. So, most property owners do not have to forward their tax bills to their lenders. But, Milliken said property owners are responsible for the taxes and encouraged them to make sure their lender has paid the taxes on their property.

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