The elected county treasurer acts as the “government bank,” not only for the county itself, but for the schools, port, library, cemeteries, fire districts and some of the cities within Clark County.

Within the Treasurer’s Office, Tax Service staff work directly with the public receipting payments, disbursing payments to the appropriate districts’ accounts, and processing all funds collected for property and real estate excise tax, court fees, state collections and other revenues.

The Finance area of the Treasurer’s Office interfaces more directly with the taxing districts providing cash, debt, and investment management for the districts we serve.

How are Tax Levies Established?

Your property tax levy rate is an amount derived by dividing the amount of each taxing district’s budget within the area you live (we call this a code district) by the total assessed value of the property within the district. Each of the various taxing districts’ levy rates are calculated in this manner and then added together to derive your combined rate. The budget determines the amount that will be levied, divided up among the tax parcels in the tax district. Your individual share of that budget is determined by your property’s assessed value in relation to the entire assessed value in your district. As we experience assessed value in the market going down, our individual taxes may go up, as the factors (budget, voter approved taxes and assessed value) can all influence your tax bill.
**2012 Accomplishments and Achievements**

**Debt Policy**

The Treasurer’s Office Debt Service and Compliance Policy was expanded and updated in 2012. This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure regulatory compliance requirements are met. The policy follows the recommended guidelines set by the Government Finance Officer’s Association and the Municipal Treasurers’ Association of the United States and Canada.

**PhonePro**

Are you a Phone Pro? The Treasurer’s Office is learning how to be one. Being competent with respect to soft skills or interpersonal skills is just as important to the success of our organization as mastering the hard skills or the technical parts of our jobs. With full commitment to provide top-notch customer service, the office brought in PhonePro ([http://www.phonepro.com](http://www.phonepro.com)) during 2012 to provide training for telephone etiquette as well as email and face-to-face communications. The goal was to improve and to enhance our relationships with customers, business partners, and within the organization with a focus on positive and productive communication.

**Web Portal Phase III**

In 2012, the Treasurer’s Office completed Phase III of the Treasury Web Portal. Work performed in this phase included security enhancements, hardware and database upgrades as well as adding new functionality. The new functionality primarily focused upon allowing our district customers to schedule payments and transactions through the portal, which improves and centralizes communication and promotes transparency for all parties involved. The Treasurer’s Office scheduled visits to portal customers in early 2013 to promote the new enhancements and provide hands-on training.

**Final Phase of PACS**

During 2012, the Treasurer’s Office implemented three new versions of our Property Assessment and Collection System (PACS) Software application. These implementations provided us with additional functionality for processing plat certifications more efficiently, completing mobile home movement permits in a more streamlined fashion, and the ability to perform all statutorily required delinquent products for our PACS application, which is scheduled to be delivered mid-2013. With the implementation of our workflow product we anticipate being able to track and communicate to all our customers the status of the majority of all individual property type transactions within our office. This will allow for customer service efforts to continue to improve, as well as to provide for consistent methods of handling transactions.

Frenchman’s Bar County Park

**Treasurer’s Office Budget**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tax Service Dept.</td>
<td>$2,249,774</td>
<td>$2,366,439</td>
<td>$2,469,205</td>
<td>$2,559,543</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finance Dept.</td>
<td>$1,415,137</td>
<td>$938,125</td>
<td>$907,635</td>
<td>$948,106</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>$1,146,584</td>
<td>$1,263,620</td>
<td>$1,102,921</td>
<td>$1,105,919</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Total</td>
<td>$4,811,495</td>
<td>$4,568,184</td>
<td>$4,479,761</td>
<td>$4,613,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Change from previous period</td>
<td>-5.06%</td>
<td>-1.94%</td>
<td>2.99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Management of the Public’s Money

Debt Issues Outstanding by Issuer Group

- School Districts: 75%
- County: 18%
- Library: 5%
- Fire Districts: 1%
- Ports: 1%

Debt outstanding as of December 31, 2012: $733,703,929

Where did your money go?

- State Schools: 37.40%
- Cities: 11.81%
- County: 12.30%
- Fire District: 6.17%
- Library: 4.09%
- Roads: 6.12%
- Local Schools: 59.12%
- Misc Agencies: 0.50%

Investment Portfolio ($510 million) as of December 31, 2012

- County: 30%
- School Dist: 39%
- Cemetery Dist: 0.81%
- Cities: 11%
- Library: 8%
- Misc Agencies: 11%
- Ports: 0.1%

Dollar Value of Transactions - $5.7 Billion

Taxing District News (refunding and new bonds)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Issue Amount</th>
<th>Debt Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evergreen SD 114</td>
<td>$19,000,000</td>
<td>Unlimited Refunding GO Bond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clark County</td>
<td>$45,595,000</td>
<td>Limited Refunding GO Bond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridgefield SD 122</td>
<td>$43,675,000</td>
<td>Unlimited GO Bond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evergreen SD 114</td>
<td>$4,800,000</td>
<td>Limited GO Bond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East County Fire &amp; Rescue</td>
<td>$1,860,000</td>
<td>Limited Refunding GO Bond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camas SD 117</td>
<td>$21,970,000</td>
<td>Unlimited Refunding GO Bond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washougal SD 112</td>
<td>$15,645,000</td>
<td>Unlimited Refunding GO Bond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battle Ground SD 119</td>
<td>$44,295,000</td>
<td>Unlimited Refunding GO Bond</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This “Report to Our Citizens” provides basic financial and treasury services information. The report is modeled after the Association of Governmental Accountants (AGA) citizen-centric based reports in a specific four page format. This AGA-recommended reporting format makes governments more accountable to their citizens and informs the public about government activities.

Did you find this report informative? Would you like to see other information? Please let us know by contacting the Clark County Treasurer:
Attn: Doug Lasher
PO Box 5000 (1300 Franklin St.)
Vancouver, WA 98666
360-397-2255
360-397-6042 FAX
Email: treasoff@clark.wa.gov
Web Site:
www.clark.wa.gov/treasurer

**Goals for 2013**

* Complete the (final) Phase II of the Property Assessment and Collection System (PACs) contract.

* Complete the Auditor and Treasurer SIRE Implementation project which streamlines Real Estate Excise Tax processing between the two offices, the title companies, and taxpayers.

* Implement payee positive pay for the county and positive pay for junior taxing districts, which improves the security of public funds.

* Approval of a new County Debt Policy by the County Finance Committee.

Clark County Treasurer Doug Lasher meets with Port of Camas Washougal Director Dave Ripp. The Port is home to over 40 businesses with an annual payroll of $8.9 million. The Clark County Treasurer is the ex-officio treasurer for the Port District.