

2018 Tax Sale Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC TAX SALE OF REAL ESTATE IN FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

SEALED BID TAX SALE
MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018

A Tax Sale does not automatically convey title to a purchaser; there are legal procedures that must be satisfied before becoming the owner of an auctioned property. The current owner may redeem by paying the taxes owed. Until the time a deed is issued to the Tax Sale purchaser, the current owner maintains ownership of the property.

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Notice is hereby given that the following is a list of amounts due and in arrears to Frederick County, municipal corporations in Frederick County, and to the State of Maryland. The list of real estate upon which amounts are due and in arrears is arranged in election district order. The property owners listed are those that appear on the County tax rolls at the time of publication.

Notice is hereby given that, if these amounts and interest thereon are not paid in the form of CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, CERTIFIED CHECK OR MONEY ORDER not later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, May 11, 2018, by the current property owners, the undersigned will accept sealed bids via a sealed bid auction for the properties listed below. Bids will be received in accordance with the instructions listed below.

The list of amounts due and in arrears, and this notice of sale, is published in accordance with the provisions of the State of Maryland and the laws of Frederick County, Maryland. The Director of Treasury publishes the notice of tax sale to inform the property owners that the listed properties are to be sold in order to collect unpaid taxes. Owners can prevent the sale by paying the amounts due at the Treasury Department at 30 North Market Street, Frederick, MD 21701, not later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, May 11, 2018. After this date, additional charges must be paid to redeem the property.

During the advertising period, April 20 through May 11, properties will be removed from the list as payments are received from taxpayers. Therefore, the final property list will contain fewer properties than were originally advertised. The website will also be updated weekly. The final update on the website will occur after 4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 11. There will be a notation on the website indicating the final update has been completed.

The tax sale is open to the public. PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS SHOULD INVESTIGATE THE PROPERTIES. There is no warranty, expressed or implied, that a property has a marketable title, that it contains the area of land described therein, that the property does not contain faults that would be fatal to tax sale foreclosure, or that the true market value of the property bears any relationship to the assessment stated therein. The purchaser agrees to assume all risks in regard to these and all other matters pertaining to the property, its condition, title, location, or marketability and each and every property at the tax sale is sold "AS IS". Purchasers will be entitled to a certificate of sale as required by law.

In the event a tax sale of a particular property is subsequently invalidated by the Collector, the tax sale purchaser will receive a refund of the amount paid at tax sale, but will receive NO redemption interest, or reimbursement of attorney fees, title search or other costs.

The County shall offer tax lien certificates on individual properties via a sealed bid auction using the high bid premium method as provided for in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Tax Property Article, Section 14-817. No property will be sold for less than the advertised price (taxes). No later than 4:00 p.m. of the day of the tax sale, the bidder/purchaser is required to pay the full amount advertised (taxes) plus any high bid premium.

The terms of the sale are as follows---the purchaser shall complete the following steps prior to being permitted to bid in the auction:

1. Registration will begin on April 2, 2018 and will end April 30, 2018. Registration documents are available at www.frederickcountymd.gov/treasury. All steps in the bidder registration process, including the payment of the \$100 registration fee, must be completed by 4:00 p.m. Local Time on April 30.
2. The \$100 registration fee shall be charged to each bidder's bank account by ACH debit. The registration fee is nonrefundable. Payment in USD (United States Dollars) is required.
3. Accept all terms in the "Tax Sale Notice" and the "Information and Procedures".

All communication and all activities associated with the sale must be conducted through the email address taxsale@frederickcountymd.gov.

The County will have two spreadsheets of properties. The property data will be the same on each spreadsheet. One spreadsheet will require the bidder to submit by entering a separate bid amount for each parcel. The other spreadsheet allows the bid to be in the form of a bid factor (a percentage of the assessed value). For example, a multiple bid factor of .46 would indicate that the bidder is bidding .46 times the assessed value of the property. At registration, bidders must indicate which type of bidding they will use so the applicable spreadsheet is issued to them.

Bidders are to use only the County issued spreadsheets for their bids. Any non-County spreadsheet or any County spreadsheet that has been altered will be rejected by the County

and the bids considered non-compliant. Bid spreadsheets will be emailed to all registered bidders after 4 p.m. on Friday, May 11. All bids must be submitted to the taxsale@frederickcountymd.gov email address. Bids will be accepted beginning at 10 a.m. on Monday, May 14. All bids must be received by the County by 1 p.m. Local Time on May 14. Bids will be awarded to the highest bidder.

All bids must be made in good faith. Should a successful bidder not make full payment for any or all of the certificates that are awarded in the tax sale, including any associated High Bid Premiums, they will not be awarded any certificates and they may be prohibited from participating in future tax sales. The certificates will be awarded to the next highest bidder. All successful bidders/purchasers must pay for their properties, including the high-bid premium, via automatic ACH debit by 4:00 p.m. the day of the tax sale. The bank account used to successfully pay the registration deposit will be automatically debited for the total amount due for all certificates awarded. Bidders must ensure the funds are available by 4:00 pm on the day of the tax sale.

In the case where the bids are identical for the same property or properties, the winning bid will be awarded to the bidder with the first submission of the identical bid.

Pursuant to Tax Property Article, section 14-817(b), the County has established a high bid premium for all certificates sold by a sealed bid process. This high bid premium is 20% of the amount by which the bid exceeds 40% of the property's assessed value. For an example, go to www.frederickcountymd.gov/treasury. The high bid premium is payable at the same time the successful bidder pays the tax sale amount.

The County will refund the high bid premium, without interest, to the holder of the tax sale certificate upon redemption of the property or to the plaintiff in an action to foreclose the right of redemption upon delivery of a tax sale deed for the property for which the high bid premium was paid. The high bid premium is not refundable after the time required (under Section 14-833 of the Tax-Property Article) for the filing of action to foreclose the right of redemption, if there has been no redemption and if an action to foreclose the right of redemption has not been filed within that time. In addition, the high bid premium will not be refunded in the event a tax sale foreclosure suit is dismissed and there has been no redemption.

On redemption, the plaintiff or the holder of the certificate of sale may be reimbursed for attorney's fees and expenses incurred in any action or in preparation for any action to foreclose the right of redemption as specifically provided in Section 14-843 of the Tax Property Article.

Pursuant to Section 14-843(b)(1) of the Tax Property Article, the plaintiff or holder of the certificate "is not entitled to be reimbursed for expenses incurred within four months after the

date of sale" unless an expedited foreclosure suit has been authorized in accordance with Section 14-843(b)(2)(i) and Section 14-833(e) of the Tax Property Article.

Upon request by the County and/or the person redeeming, purchaser agrees to provide an itemized bill of charges levied in accordance with the above paragraph. Return of the bid premium to the purchaser may be withheld until the itemized bill is received.

The tax sale purchaser and his/her attorney agree to:

1. Provide to the Treasury Department the number of a telephone that will be answered during business hours by a staff member.
2. Provide to the party attempting to redeem the property from tax sale, an itemized list of the full amount due for legal fees and expenses within two business days of the request. The tax sale purchaser and his/her attorney also agree to provide to the redeeming party a written release immediately upon receipt of the fees and expenses. A copy of the release shall be faxed immediately to the Treasury Department. Failure of the purchaser or his/her attorney to comply with these requirements may result in the purchaser being barred from future sales.

Bidders/purchasers must pay for all certificates awarded, including the high-bid premium, by automatic ACH debit not later than 4:00 p.m. the day of the tax sale. Purchasers must ensure the funds are available by 4:00 p.m. the day of the tax sale.

If, in the very unlikely event, there should be complications arising during the sale, all bidders will be notified via email, text message or telephone (information provided by the bidder on the bidder registration form) when the auction will resume.

Questions regarding the tax sale policies may be directed to the Treasury Department of Frederick County at 301-600-1111 or emailed to taxsale@frederickcountymd.gov.

DIANE E. FOX, CPA
Director of Treasury
Frederick County, Maryland