

Who must file a listing?

Any individual(s) or business(es) owning or possessing personal property used or connected with a business or other income producing purpose on January 1. All counties require this annual listing per North Carolina General Statute 105-274.

What are some examples of personal property?

Property that is taxable for ad valorem purposes includes, but is not limited to, machinery, equipment, computers, office furniture, tractors, untagged vehicles.

What is an ad valorem tax?

It is a tax based on value. In this case, it is a tax levied on the value of personal property. It is not the same as sales tax or income tax.

What if I don't own the personal property?

You are still required to list the property. There is a section on the back of the listing form to list "property in your possession but owned by others." This is where you would include leased equipment.

Do I list equipment that I personally own?

All assets used to produce income are taxable, whether you acquired them personally or they were purchased by the business.

My equipment is fully depreciated, do I need to list it?

Yes, your equipment may be fully depreciated for income tax purposes but it is still taxable for ad valorem purposes if it is used for business.

Do I list inventory?

You do not list anything that is for resale. This includes materials that are part of a finished product or service.

Can I simply provide my depreciation schedule for my tax listing?

No. A depreciation schedule is very useful, however there usually items owned that are not included on a depreciation schedule.

Can my accountant file for me?

You may have someone prepare your business listing. However, the listing must be signed by the taxpayer, a principal officer of the taxpayer or a full-time employee of the taxpayer who has been officially empowered to list the property. Unsigned listings will be rejected.

What about real estate?

Real estate is considered real property, not personal property, and is automatically listed every year. Therefore, you do not need to list real estate but you are required to list personal property annually.

When and where do I list?

Listings are due on or before February 15th. They must be filed with the Tax Administrator every year. As required by state law, late listings will receive a penalty. An extension of time to list may be obtained by sending a written request showing "good cause" to the Tax Administrator by February 15th.

How do I list?

- (1) Obtain a listing form from the Tax Administrator's Office or download a form from the County website www.currituckgovernment.com
- (2) Read the instructions
- (3) Complete the listing form and return to the Tax Administrator's Office

What if I didn't open my business until after January 1?

If you did not have any assets for the business until after January 1, you are not required to list until the following January.

What if my business has moved since last year?

You should indicate any changes in the appropriate sections on your listing form. The Tax Administrator must have all changes in writing in order to update our records.

What if I don't list?

North Carolina General Statute 105-308 reads that..." any person whose duty it is to list any property who willfully fails or refuses to list the same within the time prescribed by law shall be guilty of Class 2 Misdemeanor." If a taxpayer has not informed the Tax Administrator otherwise, it is assumed their business is active. If a business personal property listing form is not filed by January 31, a discovery letter and a duplicate listing form are mailed to the taxpayer notifying him/her that we have not received their listing. The discovery letter proposes an estimated value for the personal property. If the taxpayer fails to submit the listing within thirty (30) days of the notice date, a bill will be generated based on the proposed value plus late penalty.

How and when will I be billed?

The County uses depreciation schedules furnished by the North Carolina Department of Revenue to depreciate the costs reported on the listing forms in order to arrive at a total value. This value is then multiplied by the tax rate set by the County Commissioners in July of each year. Bills are usually mailed in August.

When are bills due?

Tax bills are due September 1 and delinquent after January 5 of the following year.

What if I close or sell my business?

If you close or sell your business you must contact the Tax Department and let them know. In most cases you will owe that tax for the year you close or sell the business. Notifying the tax Department as soon as you close or plan of closing is the best way to ensure that you are not taxed for a period of time for which you are not responsible.

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