Tax Deeds

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q	CAN MY PROPERTY BE SOLD FOR UNPAID TAXES?
A	YES. The Tax Deed properties are sold at a public auction to the highest bidder by the Clerk's office.

Q	WHO SELLS TAX CERTIFICATES?
Α	The Tax Collector's Office sells tax certificates (usually at the end of May and beginning of June) for properties with unpaid taxes from the previous year.

Q	DO I NEED TO PRE-REGISTER FOR THE TAX DEED SALE?
Α	Yes. Immediately before the sale, bidders sign in the same way they want to take title and get a bidding card.

Q	WHAT HAPPENS TO PROPERTIES THAT DO NOT SELL AT THE TAX DEED SALE?
Α	If there are no bids on a property at the sale, the property is deeded to the certificate holder. If the certificate holder is the County, the property goes onto the Lands Available List.
	Once the property is placed on the Lands Available List, the County has 90 days to purchase the property. After 90 days, anyone may purchase these properties.

Q	CAN I PREVENT MY PROPERTY FROM BEING SOLD AFTER TAX CERTIFICATES HAVE BEEN ISSUED?
Α	YES. Any person may REDEEM the property by paying all delinquent taxes and accrued fees prior to the issuance of the tax deed. Full payment must be made to the Tax Collector. This is normally done by the owner of the property because redeeming the property by paying the taxes only cancels the sale. It does not make you the owner of the property.

Q	HOW DO I KNOW WHAT PROPERTIES ARE FOR SALE?
Α	You may view the list of properties for sale (Upcoming Sales List and Lands Available List) along with sale dates on our website or in the Recording Department.
	Notice of Tax Deed Sale for each property is published in the Naples Daily News once a week for four consecutive weeks. Notices are placed in the front section of the classified ads.

Q	WILL THE CLERK'S OFFICE TELL ME WHAT LIENS ARE ON A PROPERTY BEFORE I BUY IT?
Α	The only information the Tax Deed Clerk has on properties is in the paper files, as provided by the Tax Collector's Office. These files are available to the public before or after the sale.

Q	IF I WIN THE BID, HOW LONG WILL IT BE BEFORE I OWN THE PROPERTY?
Α	The purchaser of the property is issued a Tax Deed as soon as the full payment has been made. Once the tax deed is issued, it can no longer be redeemed.
	Note: We strongly recommend that anyone interested in tax deed sales read Florida Statutes, Chapter 197.