



August 2019

Dear Friends,

Palm Beach County schools will be back in session Aug. 12. If you're shopping for back to school supplies, mark your calendar to take advantage of Florida's tax-free holiday Aug. 2-6. Back to school also brings the return of busier morning and afternoon commutes. Keep reading to learn the laws related to motorists and school buses.

Also this month, the property appraiser mails a "Truth in Millage" (TRIM) Notice of Proposed Property Taxes to all property owners. As a reminder, this notice is not a bill. If you have questions about the notice, please contact the Property Appraiser's Office.

Best regards,

Unclaimed Money Could Be Waiting for You

Every year, many of our clients fail to cash checks issued by our agency. We make several attempts by U.S. mail to inform clients of their unclaimed funds. Good news! We now post a list of clients with unclaimed funds on our website, making it possible for you to find out if you have money due. We update this list each month. Visit the "Help & Resources" section of www.pbctax.com to view the list. Follow the instructions on our website to file a claim with our agency.

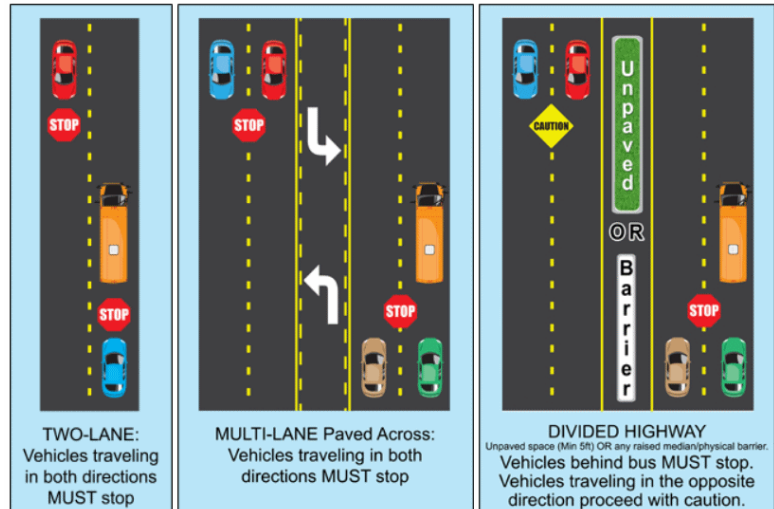
Back to School Tax-Free Holiday

From Aug. 2 to Aug. 6, catch a tax break on back to school essentials such as clothing, backpacks, shoes, tablets and other supplies. The tax exemption applies to specific clothing and footwear that cost \$75 or less, certain school supplies that cost \$15 or less, and personal computers and related accessories that cost \$1,000 or less. These items will be exempt from sales tax when purchased during this time. Mark your calendar and get ready to save!

Back to School Means Sharing the Road

With students heading back to school, it's imperative drivers slow down and pay attention. Don't forget you're sharing the road with young pedestrians, children on bikes and school buses. Nevertheless, many drivers are unaware of the laws relating to school buses. Here are some tips for drivers to help make school bus transportation safer for everyone.


- All drivers moving in either direction on a two-way street must stop for a school bus displaying a stop signal, and must remain stopped until the road is clear of children AND the school bus stop arm is withdrawn.
- On a highway divided by a paved median, all drivers moving in either direction must stop for a school bus displaying a stop signal, and must remain stopped until the road is clear of children AND the school bus stop arm is withdrawn.
- On a highway divided by a raised barrier or an unpaved median at least 5 feet wide, drivers moving in the opposite direction do not have to stop for the bus (painted lines or pavement markings are not considered barriers). However, these motorists should slow down and watch for students loading or unloading from the bus.
- Be alert and watch for children especially near schools, bus stops, school buses and in school parking lots.
- Pay extra attention to lower speed limits in school zones.
- Watch for and obey signals from school crossing guards.
- Only drive or park in authorized areas to drop off or pick up children at school.



Are You One of the Remaining 135,824?

Beginning Oct. 1, 2020, any person traveling on a commercial aircraft will need a REAL ID compliant driver license or state identification card. You will also need a REAL ID compliant credential to enter any federal building.



Is the **REAL ID** star  missing from the right corner of your Florida driver license?

Did you know that over 135,000 Palm Beach County residents do not have a REAL ID compliant driver license or ID card? Are you one of them? The easiest way to find out is by looking at your driver license or ID card. Does it have a star in the upper right corner? If your credential is missing the star, you are not REAL ID compliant.

Don't get caught in the rush! Palm Beach County residents can make an appointment at www.pbctax.com to renew your driver license or ID card. You can renew up to 18 months in advance of the expiration date.