



Things you can do if you are behind on paying your property taxes:



- ◆ **Call the Cuyahoga County Treasurer's Office at 216-443-7400.** You can ask to be put on a payment plan to bring the taxes current. You can also take advantage of Easy Pay to make monthly payments on your current taxes to make it easier to pay. You may also be entitled to certain programs like Homestead Exemption that could reduce the amount of taxes you have to pay going forward. County staff can help you determine if you are getting all the assistance you are entitled to.
- ◆ **What happens if I don't pay?** If you don't pay, penalties and interest are added to what you owe. A lien for the amount you own can be sold to a third party, who will attempt to collect the debt. If a tax lien is sold, an additional 18% interest will be added to what you owe in addition to legal fees. If you can't pay the debt in a fairly short amount of time, the third party will foreclose on your home. In addition to a tax lien buyer, the County can also foreclose on you, if you don't pay your taxes. Sometimes people lose their homes over a fairly small delinquent tax balance. Do not assume that action will not be taken until your delinquent balance is very high— that is not the case. Residents have lost their homes for delinquent balances under \$5,000.
- ◆ **What ever you do, don't ignore the situation** even if your finances are limited. The County will work with you to help resolve the situation. **No one wants to see you lose your home.**
- ◆ The City of Maple Heights is owed over **\$10 million** in delinquent property taxes.

With your help the City of Maple Heights will be out of fiscal emergency!

