



Big Sky Resort Area District  
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## SHORT-TERM RENTAL RESORT TAX OVERVIEW

On April 13, 1992, the general electorate of the Big Sky Resort Area adopted a 3% Resort Tax. The Resort Tax encompasses all goods and services deemed “luxury items” sold within the Big Sky Resort Area District, with the exception of specific items listed in the District's Legal Ordinance No. 98-01-ORD. Section 8 and Section 10 of this Ordinance deem all short-term rentals (less than 30 days) subject, by law, to the resort tax. Guidelines for the resort tax:

- Taxes are collected and remitted to the Big Sky Resort Area District on a monthly or quarterly basis. The BSRAD office must receive a remittance form and payment of taxes every month or quarter.
- Eligibility for quarterly tax remittance may be established by the resort tax office at the time of registration. If your business remits less than \$1,000 in resort taxes per year you are eligible to remit quarterly. Please contact the office at [info@resorttax.org](mailto:info@resorttax.org) if your rental is currently remitting monthly and would prefer to remit quarterly.
- Tax payments are due and must be received (NOT postmarked) by the last day of the month following the reporting month or quarter. For instance, taxes collected in February are reported as February but due by March 31<sup>st</sup>; and for quarterly remitters, taxes collected in January, February, and March are reported as 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter and due by April 30<sup>th</sup>. If the last day falls on a weekend or holiday, the taxes are due the following business day.
- If zero taxes were collected in a reporting month, a remittance form must still be remitted stating zero gross taxable sales and zero resort tax due.
- If a property will not be rented for a known amount of time, the collector may note this on the remittance form in the space provided for seasonal closures. This informs the office that the property is “closed” and the collector is not required to submit a remittance form during the specified time. The collector may also inform the office of a known closure by submitting a status notification to [info@resorttax.org](mailto:info@resorttax.org).
- As noted on the remittance form, the collector may retain 5% of the resort taxes collected as an administrative fee.
- Remittance forms and tax payments not received by the due date are considered delinquent and are subject to:
  - a late fee of \$30 for each reporting month that is delinquent
  - an interest charge on late payments at 12% per annum (1% per month) which is 1% for 1 month overdue, 2% for 2 months overdue, 3% for 3 months overdue, etc.
  - other enforcement remedies as specified in Section 14 of Ordinance No. 98-01, as amended 4.11.14
- Separate from resort tax, the State of Montana collects lodging taxes totaling 7%. If your business is not already registered with the state, please contact the Montana Department of Revenue for more information at Toll Free 1-866-859-2254 (in Helena, 406-444-6900) or register online at <https://tap.dor.mt.gov/>.

- As with the State Lodging Tax, cleaning fees are taxable. Taxes are to be charged on what each guest is charged by the property owner or manager. Generally, cleaning fees are passed on from the owner to the guest so they are considered taxable if the owner is charging a guest for a cleaning fee.
- Taxes do not apply to rental agreements for a duration longer than 30 consecutive days and do not apply to employee housing, regardless of duration.
- When listing your property on online vacation rental sites, it is recommended you include the 10% tax rate (7% MT State Lodging Tax and 3% Big Sky Resort Tax) in your listing.
- The remittance form is available on our website at [www.resorttax.org/pub/collections/Remittance%20Form.jpg](http://www.resorttax.org/pub/collections/Remittance%20Form.jpg). You may also request additional remittance forms by contacting the office at [resorttax.org](http://resorttax.org).