

Live Oak County Appraisal District **Local Annual Report 2014**

The Live Oak County Appraisal District is a political subdivision of the State of Texas. The provisions of the Texas Property Tax Code govern the legal, statutory, and administrative requirement of the appraisal district. Members of Board of Directors are elected by the taxing units within the boundaries of Live Oak County and must live within the district two years prior to serving on the board. The Chief Appraiser is appointed by the Board of Directors and is the chief administrator of the Appraisal District. The Appraisal District is responsible for local property tax appraisal and exemption administration. Through a local agreement with the taxing entities the Appraisal District calculates the effective and rollback tax rates for the entities and also serves as the collector of all property taxes. The local taxing units such as the County, Schools, Cities, Emergency Service District, and Underground Water Conservation District set a tax rate based on the property tax appraisal issued by the Appraisal District.

The Live Oak County Appraisal District serves the following taxing entities.

<u>Entity</u>	<u>2014 Market Value</u>	<u>2014 Taxable Value</u>
Live Oak County	\$ 5,266,161,193	\$ 3,500,696,747
Live Oak County Road	5,266,161,193	3,495,163,711
George West ISD	1,754,424,701	705,280,431
Three Rivers ISD	3,450,048,008	2,728,001,139
Mathis ISD	82,891,870	37,804,518
City of George West	123,335,207	105,112,767
City of Three Rivers	347,799,233	309,483,909
Live Oak County UWCD	5,261,400,948	3,495,936,502
Live Oak County ESD# 1	5,261,400,480	3,495,936,034

The District maintains approximately 31,785 parcels. These consist of various property types including agricultural, residential, commercial, mineral, industrial, business, and utilities. The situs of each parcel or account is determined and its value assigned to the appropriate taxing entities. A portion of the Three Rivers ISD goes into Bee County and is appraised by the Bee CAD and a portion of the Mathis ISD comes into Live Oak County which is appraised by the Live Oak CAD but collection of taxes are the responsibility of Mathis ISD.

Exemption Data: Various exemptions are available to qualifying taxpayers. Homestead and Over 65 or disabled exemptions are available on an individual's primary residence. You may apply for a residential homestead exemption on one property in a tax year. A homestead may include up to 20 acres of land and a home that you actually use and occupy as your primary residence. To qualify for a homestead exemption, you must own and reside in your home on January 1 of the tax year. The over 65 or disability exemption for school taxes includes a school tax ceiling limit. January 1 through April 30 is the application period for the exemption. You may file a late application if you file no later than one year after the date taxes become delinquent. If you move out of the county there is a Transfer of Tax Limitation or Ceiling Certificate that can be transferred to your residence in the new county to which you relocate.

<u>Entity</u>	<u>Homestead</u>	<u>Optional %</u>	<u>Over 65/Disabled</u>
Live Oak County	\$ 0	20	\$10,000
Live Oak County Rd	\$ 0	20	\$10,000
George West ISD	\$ 15,000	20	\$10,000
Three Rivers ISD	\$ 15,000	20	\$10,000
City of George West	\$ 0	0	\$10,000
City of Three Rivers	\$ 0	20	\$10,000
Live Oak County UWCD	\$ 0	20	\$10,000
Live Oak County ESD#1	\$ 0	20	\$10,000

<u>Disabled Veterans</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Amount</u>
DV1	10-29%	\$ 5,000
DV2	30-49%	\$ 7,500
DV3	50-69%	\$10,000
DV4	70-100%	\$12,000
DVHS (General HS Only)	100%	Totally Exempt

2014 Tax Rates

Live Oak County	0.22513
Live Oak County Rd	0.14447
George West ISD	1.20310
Three Rivers ISD	1.12992
Mathis ISD	1.40400
City of George West	0.51686
City of Three Rivers	0.38337
Live Oak County UWCD	0.00326
Live Oak County ESD#1	0.03410

Live Oak County Appraisal District collects taxes for all entities in the County except Mathis ISD. Collection rates range from 94-99% depending on the entity. We work with the taxpayers to maximize the collections for the entities. Quarterly payment plans are available on over 65 and disability homesteaded properties. We also offer a partial payment plan with a payout agreement on delinquent taxes. Payments can be made by credit or debit card by phone or over the internet through Official Payments Inc. The District works closely with the tax attorneys to aid in collection of long overdue taxes.

Special appraisals are available for land used for agricultural or wildlife management purposes. Senate Bill 771 has temporarily suspended use requirements on agricultural land during the time of a Governor declared drought. This extends the time period of nonagricultural use beyond the normal time period.

A Property Value Study is conducted by the State Comptroller's Office to estimate the taxable property value in each school district to measure the performance of the Appraisal District. If the Appraisal District is within a 5% margin the Comptroller will certify the local value to the Commissioner of Education for each school district in the county. The findings of the study are used in the school funding formula for state funding. A property value study was performed by the Comptroller's office in August 2014. No results have been released at this time.

In 2014 over 255 mineral and industrial type accounts were protested. Of these only 8 accounts went before the ARB; 8 were in affidavit form and two were represented by an individual. Over 2,200 real and personal property accounts filed formal protests and 97% were resolved informally, 5 accounts were considered "No Shows," 14 were withdrawn, while 3 were presented in affidavit form before the ARB. Many more real and personal property accounts were resolved informally over the phone and at the District's office that did not file a formal protest.

For 2015 LOCAD will utilize the services of a professional appraisal company, Eagle Appraisal & Consulting, to assist in the reappraisal of all real property within the District beginning with the GWISD, Mathis ISD and the TRISD in 2015. LOCAD will utilize Perdue, Brandon, Collins, Fielder & Mott in the calculation of agricultural values with the input advice from the locally appointed Agricultural Appraisal Advisory Board. This board is composed of four knowledgeable local farmers and ranchers that reside in Live Oak County.