



# MAINE TAX ALERT

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## Maine Revenue Services ("MRS") Rulemaking Activity

**Proposed Repeal and Replace Rule 202.** Maine Revenue Services (MRS) is proposing to repeal and replace Rule 202, "Tree Growth Tax Law Valuations - 2017". This is routine annual rule-making. 36 M.R.S. § 576 requires the State Tax Assessor to annually determine 100% valuations per acre for each forest type by economic region for parcels under the Tree Growth Tax Law. The updated rule will be applicable to the 2017 property tax year. The proposed rule is posted to the Maine Revenue Services website at: [www.maine.gov/revenue/rules](http://www.maine.gov/revenue/rules). Comments on the proposal are due May 5, 2017. Send comments to David Ledew, Maine Revenue Services, 24 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333, 207-624-5600, [david.p.ledew@maine.gov](mailto:david.p.ledew@maine.gov).

## Protect Your Data from W-2 Phishing Scams

Maine Revenue Services (MRS) cautions employers to be watchful and protect their employees' data from an ongoing and effective W-2 phishing scam. Scammers target human resource and payroll professionals to obtain personal information of employees, including social security numbers and wage information. In emails, a scammer pretends to be a corporate executive, a superintendent of a school system, or other trusted professional within your organization urgently requesting that your payroll or human resources professional immediately send them an electronic file of employee W-2 information. Because many have been taken in by their deception, businesses and organizations of all types need to be diligent and extremely cautious when releasing personal information. Phishing scams like these are becoming commonplace and have serious consequences.

Before releasing confidential information, MRS suggests that you **Stop. Connect. Confirm.**

1. **Stop** – Stop to confirm if the request is legitimate before responding.
2. **Connect** – Connect with the person who you believe sent you the request by phone or by walking over to see them. Do not respond to the email to get confirmation of the sender's identity. The sender could be a criminal who has disguised their identity with a fake email address.
3. **Confirm** – Confirm the request is legitimate.

Click the following link [Protect Your Data from the W-2 Phishing Scam](#) to print a poster that may be displayed in your office to remind employees when they receive emails to **Stop. Connect. Confirm.**

If a breach of personal information does occur, please notify MRS at (207) 626-8475 or by email at [FraudAlert.MRS@maine.gov](mailto:FraudAlert.MRS@maine.gov) as soon as possible. Timely notification assists MRS in preventing tax fraud.

## Fraud Alert

If you believe you are a victim of identity theft or that a breach of personally identifiable information has occurred, contact MRS at (207) 626-8475 or email [fraudalert.mrs@maine.gov](mailto:fraudalert.mrs@maine.gov) as soon as possible. Timely notification assists MRS in preventing fraudulent tax refunds.

<u>Department</u>	<u>Telephone Numbers</u>	<u>FAX Numbers</u>	<u>E-mail Addresses</u>
Taxpayer Service Center	(207) 626-8475	(207) 287-5855	
Central Registration	(207) 624-5644	(207) 287-6975	<a href="mailto:taxregistration@maine.gov">taxregistration@maine.gov</a>
Collections & Compliance	(207) 624-9595	(207) 287-6627	<a href="mailto:compliance.tax@maine.gov">compliance.tax@maine.gov</a>
Corporate Tax	(207) 624-9670	(207) 624-9694	<a href="mailto:corporate.tax@maine.gov">corporate.tax@maine.gov</a>
E-file Help Desk (1040 ONLY)	(207) 624-9730	(207) 287-6628	<a href="mailto:efile.helpdesk@maine.gov">efile.helpdesk@maine.gov</a>
Electronic Funds Transfer	(207) 624-5625	(207) 287-3618	<a href="mailto:efunds.transfer@maine.gov">efunds.transfer@maine.gov</a>
Estate & Fiduciary Tax	(207) 626-8480	(207) 624-9694	<a href="mailto:estatetax@maine.gov">estatetax@maine.gov</a>
Fuel & Special Taxes	(207) 624-9609	(207) 287-6628	<a href="mailto:fuel.tax@maine.gov">fuel.tax@maine.gov</a>
Forms Request Line	(207) 624-7894		
Individual Income Tax Assistance	(207) 626-8475	(207) 624-9694	<a href="mailto:income.tax@maine.gov">income.tax@maine.gov</a>
Insurance Premium Tax	(207) 624-9753	(207) 624-9694	
NexTalk (TTY Service)	(888) 577-6690		
Payment Plan/Income Tax	(207) 621-4300	(207) 621-4328	<a href="mailto:compliance.tax@maine.gov">compliance.tax@maine.gov</a>
Payment Plan/Other	(207) 624-9595	(207) 287-6627	<a href="mailto:compliance.tax@maine.gov">compliance.tax@maine.gov</a>
Practitioners' Hotline	(207) 626-8458	(207) 624-9694	
Property Tax	(207) 624-5600	(207) 287-6396	<a href="mailto:prop.tax@maine.gov">prop.tax@maine.gov</a>
Public Communications	(207) 626-8478	(207) 624-9694	
Sales Tax	(207) 624-9693	(207) 287-6628	<a href="mailto:sales.tax@maine.gov">sales.tax@maine.gov</a>
Tax Clearance Letters	(207) 624-9595	(207) 287-6627	
Office of Tax Policy	(207) 624-9677	(207) 287-3618	
Taxpayer Advocate	(207) 624-9649	(207) 287-3618	<a href="mailto:taxpayer.advocate@maine.gov">taxpayer.advocate@maine.gov</a>
Withholding Tax	(207) 626-8475	(207) 624-9694	<a href="mailto:withholding.tax@maine.gov">withholding.tax@maine.gov</a>
Tax Violations Hot Line	(207) 624-9600		

This publication is designed to keep taxpayers, tax practitioners and the general public informed of developments, problems, questions and matters of general interest concerning Maine tax law, policy and procedure. The articles in this newsletter are not designed to address complex issues in detail, and they are not a substitute for Maine tax laws and/or regulations.

Suggestions for the Tax Alert?

**Please contact:**  
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**Augusta, Maine 04332-1060**