

Librarian's Shelf by Heather St. Clair

## 2011 Tax Forms at the Library

This year the Columbus Public Library will be providing a smaller variety of tax forms. As of last year, the Nebraska Department of Revenue is not making forms and booklets available to institutions, such as libraries. As for Federal forms we will make the variations of the 1040 forms and booklets freely available. The library will also offer a binder full of reproducible Federal forms from which to make copies.

While we provide some of the most needed forms and booklets and we cannot provide all; however, you can still have access to them. If we don't have a form you are looking for, the IRS, [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), and the Nebraska Department of Revenue, [www.revenue.state.ne.us](http://www.revenue.state.ne.us), webpages have forms available to print out.

Any forms or booklets you photocopy or print using library equipment will cost the library's standard copy/printing charge of 10 cents per page. If you want free forms and booklets for Nebraska, contact 1-800-742-7474. For the Federal Government, you may place an order through [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) or call 1-800-829-3676 for free items to be mailed to you.

If you would rather e-file, both websites have links to online tax software for e-filing, including free filing, which may need you to meet certain requirements.

If you don't have a computer at home, you can use one of our twenty-five computers. Just remember to bring your Columbus Public Library or Platte County Bookmobile card to get on the computer. You may have three, one hour sessions a day. Please keep in mind that you must complete or be able to save what you are working on within the hour. Each session is timed to automatically end after the hour. We also charge 10 cents a page for black and white printing, should you want to print your return or other tax items.

Please remember, while the library does provide forms and computer access, our staff are not tax preparers and can only help you locate forms and provide basic computer help. Should you need additional help, both Revenue websites have "Frequently Asked Questions" links. The IRS's is located toward the bottom, right side of the homepage, but is found in the menu on the left side for most other pages within the site. For the Nebraska Department of Revenue, it is in the menu on the left side of the page. The Nebraska Department of Revenue also provides a toll free number to call for assistance, 1-800-742-7474.

For specific help, the IRS has various phone numbers you can, which can be found through the IRS website by clicking on "Help" and then "How to Contact the IRS." The phone numbers are listed under "Call Us With Your Tax Questions." Should you need to speak with someone in person, you can find local IRS offices by clicking on "Contact Your Local IRS Office." The number for tax advice is 1-800-829-1040. For listings of local tax preparers look in the yellow pages (business section) of the phone book under either "Tax Return Preparation" or "Tax Preparation Services."

If you have questions about these or other materials, please feel free to stop in the library, call us at 564-7116, or email us at [library@columbusne.us](mailto:library@columbusne.us).