

Exemption from Rates

All land is rateable unless it is exempt under Section 555, 556 and 557 of the Local Government Act 1993. Examples are Crown Land, Churches, Schools, Libraries, Public Benevolent Institutions or Public Charities, etc. For further information, contact Council's Revenue Team.

Pensioner Rate Rebate

Ratepayers entitled to a rebate include:

- Ratepayers who receive a Pension and hold a Pension Concession Card from Centrelink;
- Ratepayers who receive a War Veterans Pension (TPI subject to a means test);
- War Widow Pensions (subject to a means test). Details of the requirements may be obtained from Council's Revenue Team.

For ordinary rates, rebates range from a minimum of half of the rates levied to a maximum of \$250 plus \$87.50 each for Water and Sewerage Charges resulting in a maximum of \$425.

In most cases where a rebate of rates was granted in 2013/14 the rebate specified by the Government for 2014/15 has already been applied to the current rates notice and installments have been calculated accordingly.

If you believe you are entitled to a pensioner rebate and it has not been granted, please contact Council's Revenue Team.

Exceptions will be Pensioners whose property is subject to postponed rates under Section 585 of the Local Government Act, or where a rebate has not previously been claimed, subject to verification of eligibility by Centrelink.

Postponed Rates– Section 585 to 595

Rate payers may apply for relief under Section 585 of the Local Government Act 1993. Applications can be made in respect to rates levied on properties whereby:

- There is a single dwelling or house on land which is zoned or otherwise designated so that it may be used for industrial, business or commercial purpose.
- There is a single dwelling or house on land which is zoned or otherwise designated to permit its subdivision for residential purposes.
- A parcel of rural land which is zoned or otherwise designated so as to permit its use for other than rural land.

Postponed rates are accumulated and attract interest, to a maximum of five years. Should the land use change, they may become due and payable.

Moree Plains Shire Council

Level 2

Max Centre

30 Heber Street

PO Box 420

MOREE NSW 2400

Phone: Rating Enquiries (02) 6757 3222

Fax (02) 6752 3934

Enquiries

Toll Call 1300 369 511

(cost of a local call)

RATE NOTICE INFORMATION

2014/2015

PARTICULARS ON RATE NOTICE
Please check to ensure that all details are correct. If a discrepancy is found advise Council IMMEDIATELY so that the error can be rectified.



Rates are levied by Councils, so they can supply services to the local community such as Libraries, Roads, Drainage, Recreation, Parks and Gardens, Street Lighting, Community Health Centres, Waste Removal, Building and Planning Development.

How do I pay my Rates?

- At Council's Offices in Moree, Boggabilla and Mungindi. If you are paying at the Mungindi Office, please do so in enough time so that the payment reaches the Moree Office by the due date (approx. 2days).
- By Bpay following the instructions on your rates notice.
- By Direct Debit from your bank account to Council's. Authorisation from the ratepayer is required to do this, so please contact the Revenue Team for further information.
- By Telephone to the Revenue Team and be sure to have your Mastercard, Visa or Bankcard and assessment notice in front of you before phoning. Council cannot accept American Express cards.
- At any Post Office within Australia using the barcoded deposit slip. Once again please note that Council is not responsible for delays in transmission and payment must be made so it allows enough time to reach the Moree Plains Shire Council by the due date.
- By Cheque payable to Moree Plains Shire Council and posted to: PO Box 420, MOREE NSW 2400. Be sure to attach your deposit slip. Please note post-dated cheques are not legal and will be returned.

What charges are included in my Rates?

Charges included are an ordinary rate, water charge, sewer charge, waste management charge and a waste collection charge. Not all charges apply to every property and may vary according to the location of the property.

When do I pay my Rates?

Rates can be paid in either one lump sum, on or before the 2nd September or by four (4) interest free instalments, provided each is received no later than the four (4) instalment dates. These are the 31st August 2014, 30th November 2014 and 2nd March 2015, 31st May 2015.

Do I receive a Discount?

No Discount for full payment of rates on the first instalment will be offered for the 2014/2015 rating year.

If I buy land during the year, when do I start paying my Rates?

Your solicitor will apportion your rates on settlement. The following years rates are not issued until July of that year.

I have changed my address, so what should I do?

Change of address notifications must be received in writing. Please fax the Revenue Team your new address on (02) 6752 3934 or email council@mpsc.nsw.gov.au. A Change of Address form is available for download from Council's website.

Do I receive a reminder when my next instalment is due?

Council will issue instalment notices if you elect to pay by instalments. These notices will be posted at least 30 days before the instalment is payable. Those ratepayers with direct debit arrangements will receive rate instalment notices "for information".

Will I be charged interest if my payment is late?

Your payment must be received at Council's Moree Office by the due date, otherwise interest will be charged.

What is the rate of interest charged?

The current rate is 8.5% pa and interest is accrued on a daily basis.

I am having difficulties in paying my rates, what should I do?

Please contact Council's Revenue Team and an appropriate payment schedule can be arranged, phone (02) 6757 3222.

Why is there a water charge on my rate notice if

water accounts are issued three monthly?

The water charge on your rate notice is an availability charge which is payable whether you use water or not. It is for the service to your property. This charge will apply even if you do not have a water meter installed.

My water usage is very high, can I do anything about it?

If you think your meter may be faulty, then for a fee you can have it tested. Should your meter be faulty, then the fee will be refunded. You should also check for any leaking taps, showers, toilets, and hot water systems and when watering the garden, do so during the cooler times of the day and ensure that there is no excess run off being wasted.

NOTE: It is the owner's responsibility to ensure the meter is not damaged and ensure that water is not leaking. Water consumption charges will still apply if your water has been used or if it has been wasted through leaking.

You must ensure that there are no leaks on your property, it is your responsibility.

What will my water usage cost?

Charges for rating year 1st July 2014 to 30th June 2015

Treated Water Consumption 0-750kl	1.44c/kl
>750kl	1.86c/kl
Untreated Water Consumption 0-750kl	96c/kl
> 750kl	1.57c/kl

Can I arrange for additional waste services such as a larger domestic waste bin or recycle bin?

You can arrange for additional waste services by contacting our Customer Service team by phone on (02) 6757 3222, however general rates must be up to date before delivery can occur.

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Council is now operating its Water, Sewerage and Garbage functions as Business Units. Charges set for 2014/15 are based on full cost recovery with no subsidisation from the General Rate Fund.

General Enquiries:

Administration: (02) 6757 3222

Mungindi Office: (02) 6753 2389

Boggabilla Office: (07) 4676 2915