



**TIM THOMS,
SURVEYOR**

Budget:
\$16,266
or .01% of the
General Fund

The Adams County
Surveyor, when
authorized by the

board of county commissioners, conducts
surveys as necessary.



**BRIGITTE
GRIMM,
TREASURER**

Budget:
\$1,655,032
or 1.02% of the
General Fund

The primary
responsibilities of

the Treasurer's Office include:

- Providing annual tax notices
- Collecting property tax
- Distributing tax revenues to underlying authorities (cities, schools, fire, water and special districts) and
- Investing tax dollars on behalf of Adams County.

Method of Payments

We offer taxpayers several options to pay their property taxes: payments by mail, by phone or online. The cost effective online and phone services are used by thousands of taxpayers every year and continue to increase in popularity as they reduce time, effort and expense for both the taxpayer and the Treasurer's Office.

The treasurer is currently researching electronic tax notices. Electronic statements have saved counties tens of thousands of dollars annually in paper and postage. By taking advantage of this secure option, we can provide taxpayers additional flexibility by ensuring receipt of tax notices regardless of their location. Military families and businesses have expressed great interest in this option.

Interest Earned

Concerns related to the European crisis, downgrade in U.S. debt, sluggish economic recovery and an increased

U.S. debt ceiling are just a few of the many issues in 2011 that contributed to our country's difficult economic climate. These concerns have had a direct impact on interest earnings nationwide. Despite these issues, Adams County interest earnings for all county funds in 2011 is approximately \$2.6 million.

Internet Tax Lien Sales

Every November, an internet auction is used to take unpaid real estate and mobile home property taxes to a tax lien sale. Through this process, approximately \$4.5 million of unpaid 2010 taxes (payable in 2011) were collected. This amount represents nearly one percent of the total property tax revenue. Premiums paid by the investors totaled over \$168,000.

The next internet tax lien sale starts Oct. 10, 2012. Details of the sale can be found on our website at www.adcogov.org. If you are interested in becoming an investor, or want to take advantage of our next free investor web training seminar, please call 720.523.6160.

Foreclosure Excess Funds

In certain limited instances, there may be excess funds available to a homeowner when their home is sold through the foreclosure process. If the public trustee is unable to locate the owner of such funds, the money is transferred to the treasurer and held in escrow. In the fall of 2012, a list of unclaimed funds will be available on the Treasurer's Office website. Until that time, you may receive a list by contacting us at treasurer@adcogov.org.

Free Federal and State Income Tax Preparation Program

The Adams County Treasurer's Office proudly sponsors a free Federal and State Income Tax Preparation Program that continues to draw increased participation. Our tax program is offered to individuals and families with incomes of \$50,000 or less.

Working collectively with the IRS and the state of Colorado, our certified volunteers offered nearly 4,000 hours of tax services and prepared over 5,000 federal and state tax returns in 2012. Hundreds were assisted in areas other than

income tax filings and thousands of telephone inquiries were handled regarding tax returns.

The Treasurer's Office has added two additional sites and recently implemented electronic filing at the time of preparation. This speeds up processing and avoids delays in transmitting. For those unable to wait in line, we recently provided locations to allow drop off of tax paperwork and pick up of completed returns at a later date. Please visit our website for times and locations for the 2013 tax program or call 720.523.6163 if you are interested in becoming a certified tax preparer.

Making Progress, New Mission and Vision

In 2011, the Treasurer's Office extended operational hours to 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. As a result, we are now serving you an additional 7.5 hours every week. We are happy to report this added convenience came without increasing expenses.

Mandatory training for all employees, multiple levels of cross-training, increased operational hours, increased web visibility and upgraded hardware and software have resulted in a new level of service and professionalism.

In October 2012, the treasurer plans to further upgrade the website with self-serve options offering access to more services at the convenience of the taxpayer.

Treasurer Brigitte Grimm states that aligning with the needs of citizens is the number one focus. Today, people expect online access, accuracy and transparency.

