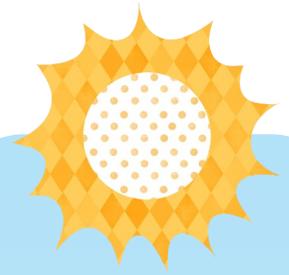


## Gwizdala & Associates Inc

4519 Allendale Drive  
White Bear Twp, MN 55127

p: 651-772-2202  
f: 651-774-5965  
www.tenforty.com



# Summer 2019 Newsletter

As we reflect back on another busy successful tax season, we want to thank you for your trust in us and for the opportunity to serve you. It feels a bit like a family reunion to us, when our clients come back for their annual tax appointments. We enjoy seeing and catching up with each of you. We hope you have a beautiful summer filled with picnics, bike rides, fishing, art festivals, farmers markets, or just sitting on your deck soaking up the sun!



### A reminder from MN Revenue regarding your Homestead Credit Refund or Renters Property Tax Refund:

If you have either moved or changed your bank account since your Minnesota State Return was filed, please call MN Revenue at 651-296-3781 or 800-652-9094 before your property tax refund is issued. This ensures that your refund check is mailed to the correct address.

### \$\$\$ Where's My Refund? \$\$\$

**For MN State Refund status:** call 651-296-3781 and follow the prompts. Or go to the website [www.revenue.state.mn.us](http://www.revenue.state.mn.us), then to the section called "For Individuals", and then click on "Where's My Refund"? You will need your SSN, date of birth, return type, tax year, and refund amount.

**For Federal Refund status:** call the refund hotline at 1-800-829-1954. Or go to the website [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) and click on "Refund Status", then "Check My Refund Status". You will need your SSN, filing status, and refund amount.

**For Amended Return status:** a new feature this year on the IRS site, go to [www.irs.gov/filing/wheres-my-amended-return](http://www.irs.gov/filing/wheres-my-amended-return), then click on "Amended Return Status". You will need your SSN, date of birth, and zip code.

### Summer Hours:

Mon-Thursday:

8:30am-5:00pm

(There is a drop box to the right of the door should you wish to leave us something when we are not here.)

### 2019 Standard Mileage Rates

- 1) 58 cents per mile for business use
- 2) 20 cents per mile for medical or moving
- 3) 14 cents per mile for charitable purposes



## SCAMS

While identity theft often makes headlines as a threat to be aware of and vigilant against, there are actually nine other even more common scams that target the elderly. They include:

- Threat of impending lawsuit and warrant out for their arrest. To avoid arrest, they must pay fine immediately.
- Social security impersonation, asking them to confirm their SSN, date of birth, bank account information, etc.
- Romance scams as a result of meeting on online dating sites, fraudster asks for money to come visit or to pay for "needed" medical procedures.
- Grandparent scam where grandchild is in trouble and needs immediate money for emergency or ransom.
- Elder financial abuse which can include family or caregivers who have access to elder's financial info and use scams to access their finances.
- Computer tech support where fraudster claims to be from well-known company and tells them their computer has been infected with a virus and they need remote access to fix it.
- Sweepstakes scams where they're told they've won the lottery or a contest and need to pay a fee upfront to collect their prize winnings.
- Robo calls and unsolicited phone calls selling any and everything (extended warranties, insurance, etc).
- IRS impersonation where they're told they owe back taxes & penalties. Threatened with arrest or foreclosure unless they pay immediately.



## Should Your Dependent Child File a Tax Return?

When a dependent child gets a job or heads off to college, it is important for parents to have a discussion with them about filing taxes, explaining that they will continue to claim them as a dependent on their tax returns.

An all-too common occurrence is that a high school or college age child will use an online tax program and dutifully file their taxes, claiming themselves on their tax return. Later in the tax season, the parents file their taxes and to their surprise/dismay, their tax return is rejected by the IRS. This is because the dependent child has already filed claiming themselves and not declaring that they are a dependent of another.

This can create frustration for parents and cause delays and additional expense, as all the tax returns will need to be redone, paper-filed, and the dependent child may even have to pay back some of their refund.

### What is the dependent income amount necessary to require filing a tax return?

If your dependent child lives in Minnesota and has an income of greater than \$6350, they must file both federal and state tax returns.

If your dependent child is a resident of Wisconsin, the income amount to file both tax returns is \$11,280 (as Wisconsin adopted the federal tax changes passed by Congress in fall of 2017).

If your dependent child is a non-resident of Wisconsin but goes to school there and earns greater than \$2000 there, they must file both federal and state returns.

