

THE TAX PICTURE

Guide To A Stress-Free Tax Season: How To Make Your 2006 Tax Returns Less Taxing

(NAPSA)—While the annual task of completing and filing tax returns is daunting for many Americans, there are some sure-fire ways and special offers to make the process less taxing.

File electronically. In 2005, more than half of the nation's 135 million taxpayers filed their returns electronically, up 11 percent from 2004. This increase is proof positive that Americans are seeing the benefits of e-filing. Not only is electronic filing faster and quicker than paper returns, it also provides confirmation that the return has been received and can help catch errors before they happen.

Get refunds faster. E-filing also helps individuals get refunds quickly and easily. Refunds can be automatically deposited into a checking or savings account via Direct Deposit in as few as seven business days.

Use payment cards for tax payments. For those who are more likely to be paying taxes than receiving a refund this year, there is a silver lining in the April clouds. Using a Visa payment card for tax payments can help individuals conveniently make secure and timely payments, and earn rewards based on your card. Paying taxes with payment cards can also help you manage cash flow by spreading out payments, and provides peace of mind that tax payments are made with proof of pay-



Give yourself credit for cleverness at tax time. E-file for fast returns.

ment on monthly card statements.

Don't miss out on savings. TurboTax® Online is offering a 15 percent discount off federal and state tax preparation fees at www.officialpayments.com/turbotaxVISA, for payments made with Visa cards on or prior to October 15, 2006.

Consumers can also reduce or eliminate their service fees by using a Visa credit or check card when paying taxes at H&R Block online or in retail offices. Offers apply to federal tax payments made on or before April 19, 2006. For more information, visit www.hrblock.com/goto/creditoroffer or www.hrblock.com/goto/nofee.

Note: Cardholders may be charged a convenience fee for use of payment cards, which will vary based on the tax amount due and the service provider selected.