



GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY TREASURER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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September Is “National Passport Awareness Month”

Traverse City – September has been designated as “National Passport Awareness Month” and The Grand Traverse County Treasurer and Clerk are extending office hours on September 21 as part of the “Apply Early” for U.S. passports campaign.

According to County Treasurer Heidi Scheppe, the Treasurer’s and Clerk’s offices will be open from 5 to 7 p.m. on Monday, September 21, in addition to regular hours, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

“September is the perfect time to apply for a new passport or to renew,” said Scheppe. “If you’ve never had a passport, or your children are considering going on a school trip or spring break out of the country, consider applying for one this month, to get ahead of the rush.”

Scheppe also encourages residents to take advantage of the National Passport Month – Apply Early campaign, because there is an increased demand for passports, and processing time can take four to six weeks at least. “If you plan to travel outside of the United States during the 2015-2016 holidays, be sure to apply now.”

To be considered for a U.S. passport, regardless of age, an applicant must provide primary evidence of U.S. citizenship, such as a certified birth certificate. Full names of an applicant's parent(s) must be listed on all certified birth certificates.

Customers can save \$60 by applying four to six weeks before traveling, rather than using the expedited application service.

For more information, contact the Grand Traverse County Treasurer’s office at 231-922-4737 and/or visit <http://www.travel.state.gov>.

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