

Click on the topic...

[Estimated payment reminder](#)

June 17th is the quarterly deadline...

[Send us your QuickBooks](#)

Business clients, this is the mid-year point. Here's what we do...

[Verify your company status - soon!](#)

Nearly all states have moved to online filing and people are catching on...

[Did you get an ACA tax credit?](#)

Many companies that were entitled did not. See why...

[Boot camp dates announced](#)

We conduct the business startup boot camp in three locations in Fall 2013. Free for you...

[Contact list](#)

Our people and their email addresses...

[Circular 230 disclosure](#)

A legal requirement...

Our goal At Purtil & Company, we believe our best client is a well-informed client, one who welcomes ideas and challenges us with ideas. Our strengths are in planning, strategies and actions where we can put our knowhow to work as opposed to the book-and-forms work favored by many accounting firms.

This newsletter is part of that information effort, but it's not the only part. *In addition to this, we want you to feel free to ask us anything. If it's a quick email, and doesn't require extensive research or effort on part, our policy is to absorb the cost internally.* That will also let us identify bigger opportunities as they emerge.

[...back to top](#)

Send us your QuickBooks

June 30th is coming up, the time of year when we take a mid-year checkup for business clients. We do our best business and planning during - not after - the year. Some clients ask us to login remotely to their networks every month and perform a review. Others send a copy of their data files and we take it from there. What do we do? There's an extensive checklist, but here are the main things.

1. Verify the starting point for the year from last year's closing point.
2. Analyze income and expenses for the year-to-date. Identify variances, possible errors and trends, going back in some cases for multiple years.
3. Discuss results with you to understand the current business climate. We can't know your business better than you, especially since everyone's business is different, but we provide an experienced, objective viewpoint.
4. Project operations forward to the end of the year.
5. Discuss with you opportunities, challenges, strengths, weaknesses, recommendations.
6. Help you implement any changes.

Can we do this? Yes. All our professional staff members are experienced financial managers. We've managed businesses, been controllers, financial officers and similar roles in companies of all sizes.

[...back to top](#)

Business startup boot camps

For over 20 years we've conducted an eight-hour series in Adult Education centers in the Central Connecticut area. Thousands have taken it and give it a top rating. We wrote the book and created the course, and now other CPAs provide the same training in other parts of the state. Each session is two hours, runs from 6:30 to 8:30 and covers an important business topic.

<u>Session</u>	<u>Topic</u>
1.	Business planning
2.	Finance your business
3.	Business records and financials
4.	Business taxes

Here's the Fall 2013 schedule:

Cheshire	Monday, September 9, 16, 23, 30
Middletown	Thursday, October 3, 10, 17, 24
Wallingford	Wednesday, October 23, 30, November 13, 20 (note the skipped week)

Special offer! Free boot camp tuition to Purtil & Company clients. Email [John Purtil, CPA](#) for info.

[Click here for locations, driving directions, more information and to sign up.](#)

[Click here for other locations and schedules as they come up](#)

[...back to top](#)

Navigating the ACA tax credit

The Affordable Care Act, affectionately known as Obamacare, allows a tax credit to small employers who pay for their employees' health insurance. This turned out to be one of the most under-used tax credits in 2012, because of poor publicity, confusion and partly the tight requirements. We think this credit is worth going for, but for the 2012 tax year, we couldn't get many takers. *We'd like to see more companies take advantage of it in 2013 and 2014 because it gets more generous as time goes on.* Let's break the law down:

- **Is your company eligible?** To be eligible, you must cover at least 50 percent of the cost of single (not family) health care coverage for each of your employees. You must also have fewer than 25 full-time equivalent employees (FTEs). Those employees must have average wages of less than \$50,000 a year.
- **How much is the credit?** Follow this link: <http://www.nfib.com/advocacy/healthcare/credit-calculator>

Remember that a tax credit is an outright reduction of your tax bill and not just an additional writeoff, and you can carry it to other tax years if you need to. So, it's worth going for. And even planning for. So let's look at some planning tips:

- Owners and relatives are excluded from the average wage calculation so if they draw high wages, it doesn't hurt the average.
- You must pay half the single employee medical premium, so if you require the employee to pay for dependent coverage, that doesn't hurt either.
- Check out some IRS examples of generous credits for last year. [Click here.](#)

Want more info on this? [Contact us.](#)

[...back to top](#)

Verify your company status

Many of us are aware that there is an online registry of all business entities in just about every state. Not only that, nearly all states have moved their annual business renewals to online filing. This is all run by the secretary of state in your state and it's both good and bad.

The good part is that you can check the status of any business - customer or vendor - to see who you're dealing with. Say you get a new business customer and you want to know if they're who they say they are. Just check the state's Web site for details about ownership, registration status and more. Worried if your new customer struggles with a mountain of debt? Look at the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) filings on the business to check for lender liens or tax liens by the IRS, state or local authorities. Take it a step further and go to the state's judicial Website to see what lawsuits have been filed against the company.

Not so good is that this system is entirely paperless, that is, the state no longer sends you an annual renewal form to file, and you can easily miss the filing date - by years! A quick check shows that many of our clients are behind in their state filings. Is this a bad thing? Could be if someone checks your status and refuses to do business with you because your company status is lapsed. Last week, a company was denied a bank account because the company hadn't renewed its filing in five years and the bank considered the company to be inactive. Technically, it wasn't but the bank was taking no chances.

Also not good is that these records contain errors, because the states have fewer resources for keeping them updated and that it's easy for someone to place information on your record and forget to take it off.

[Click here for a set of links to check on your state registration.](#)

Here's where to go to check your state registration

State	Registration Web site
Connecticut	http://www.concord-sots.ct.gov/CONCORD/index.jsp
New York	http://www.dos.ny.gov/corps/
New Jersey	http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/revenue/dcr/geninfo/corpman.shtml
California	http://www.sos.ca.gov/business/be/
Delaware	https://delecorp.delaware.gov/eCorp/
Massachusetts	http://www.sec.state.ma.us/cor/coridx.htm
Rhode Island	http://ucc.state.ri.us/CorpSearch/CorpSearchInput.asp
Maine	http://www.state.me.us/sos/
Pennsylvania	http://www.dos.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/corporations/12457

Want more? Contact John: john@purtill.com.

[...back to top](#)

Estimated payment reminder

If your situation calls for quarterly estimated tax payments, the second is due on or before Monday June 17th 2013. However, there are a few considerations:

- If we prepared your tax return - or submitted an extension request for you before April 15th, we either sent you payment vouchers or applied some of your 2012 refund into 2013. Still, you might want to check the amount we calculated. If it sounds too high or too low give us a call.
- If your 2013 year-to-date income isn't good, you can safely skip the June 17th payment and make it up later this year.
- However, if you're having a cash flow shortage, postponing the payment will just push the problem down the road. Better to make a small payment than none at all.
- Consider making monthly payments instead of quarterly. This reduces the pain. There's no rule prohibiting a monthly payment and the IRS and your state will be happy to receive the money
- If you pay a few days late, it's not a problem. Unlike other debts, such as credit cards, there is no large late fee for missing a deadline, but only a small interest adjustment.

The penalty for failing to make quarterly estimates is a form of late payment fee: a percentage of your tax bill but not as steep as the one charged by your credit card company. However, because you don't get any credit for paying early, there's no point in paying earlier than you have to. All you're doing is giving the government an interest-free loan. That's where we come in. We use our judgement in calculating the best payment - sometimes no payment at all - for the best deal for you. However, your situation may change during the year and affect your payment requirements. If it does, give us a call.

[...back to top](#)

Contact list

You can contact any Purtil & Company employee by using the employee's first name and our company email location. So, for John, the email address would be john@purtil.com. Or, you can just click on the name below, which will open up your email editor.

[John Purtil, CPA](#)

Financial and tax planning, business software, business planning, IRS problems, family businesses, AccountMate issues.

[Edwin Monteiro, CPA](#)

Financial and tax planning, business software, tax returns, financial statements, client accounting, QuickBooks issues, AccountMate issues.

[Ardiana Adili](#)

Financial and tax planning, financial statements, business planning, IRS problems, restaurants, client accounting, family businesses, QuickBooks issues .

[Olga Bubnova, CPA](#)

Tax returns, financial statements, tax planning, QuickBooks issues .

[Gretchen Fredericks](#)

Work flow management, firm administration, client accounts, collections, AccountMate issues. Gretchen is the person to see if you've got a hot deadline or want to know where something is.

[...back to top](#)

Circular 230 disclosure

Under U.S. Treasury Department Regulations, we are required to inform you that, unless otherwise expressly indicated, any federal tax advice contained in this communication, including attachments, enclosures and links is not intended or written to be used, and may not be used, for the purpose of (i) avoiding tax-related penalties under the Internal Revenue Code or (ii) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any tax-related matters addressed herein.

[...back to top](#)