

## SEVEN SUMMERTIME TAX-SAVERS

Summer is here and so are tax-saving opportunities. Here are seven suggestions for cutting your tax bill.

- 1. Rent out your vacation home.** If you own a second home, rent it out this summer when you're not using it. Generally, you can offset the rental income with rental-related expenses, leaving you with little or no tax liability.
- 2. Harvest capital gains or losses.** Use your semi-annual portfolio review to spot investments with built-in capital gains or losses that can offset transactions from earlier in the year. Any excess capital loss can be deducted against \$3,000 of ordinary income in 2015.
- 3. Hire your kids.** Does your child need a summer job? Hire her to work in the family business. The wages earned will be taxed using your child's lower tax bracket.
- 4. Send the kids to camp.** Are you the working parent of under-age-13 children? You may be able to claim a tax credit for the cost of day camp. Just remember, overnight camps don't qualify.
- 5. Combine pleasure with business.** When you travel out of town for business reasons, you can deduct the full cost of your airfare, even if you spend time sightseeing while you're away. Expenses for side trips aren't deductible.
- 6. Entertain business customers.** Generally, you can deduct 50% of the cost of entertaining customers before or after a substantial business discussion. This includes golf outings or an evening of dinner and drinks.
- 7. Host a staff get-together.** The usual 50% limit on entertainment deductions doesn't apply to summer barbecues and picnics if the entire staff is invited. In that case, you can write off 100% of the cost.

Contact us at (888) 388-1040 for details on these and other summertime tax-saving ideas.

NOTE: This article is written to provide you with information about minimizing your taxes. Do not apply this general information to your specific situation without additional details. Be aware that the tax laws contain varying effective dates and numerous limitations and exceptions that cannot be summarized easily. For details and guidance in applying the tax rules to your individual circumstances, please contact us.

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**Willmar Office**

331 Third Street SW, Ste. 2  
P.O. Box 570  
Willmar, MN 56201  
Phone: (320) 235-3311  
Toll-Free: (888) 388-1040

**Benson Office**

1209 Pacific Avenue  
Ste. 3  
Benson, MN 56215  
Phone: (320) 843-2302

**Morris Office**

401 Atlantic Avenue  
Morris, MN 56267  
Phone: (320) 589-2602

**Litchfield Office**

820 Sibley Avenue N  
Litchfield, MN 55355  
Phone: (320) 693-7975

**St. Cloud Office**

2351 Connecticut Avenue  
Ste. 110  
Sartell, MN 56377  
Phone: (320) 252-7565  
Toll Free: (800) 862-1337

[www.cdscpa.com](http://www.cdscpa.com)