

Fri 12/17/2004 2:32 PM

## Main Avenue Bridge, Volunteer Tax Deductions

All of the lights on the new Main Avenue Bridge should now be on. **The most interesting lights are those that can only be seen from the south. They are LED lights and change color. The easiest place to see them is from 3rd street which now goes under the bridge. (see attached picture)** There also will be additional interpretive material installed on the bridge in the spring. We will let you know when it's completed.

**It is getting to be tax time again and some volunteers can claim some deductions if they volunteered at non-profit organizations such as River Keepers.** The IRS does treat some expenses as charitable contributions, as long as the volunteer itemizes deductions on his or her tax return. Here's a brief rundown of the tax aspects of costs incurred in rendering volunteer services:

- Unreimbursed expenses that are incidental to their volunteer work (phone calls, postage stamps, stationary, etc.)
- 14 cents per mile for operating their vehicle while doing volunteer work. All can be reimbursed for parking and toll costs.
- If someone travels as a volunteer and must be away overnight, reasonable payment for meals and lodging are deductible.

These are just a few of the popular itemized deductions that are available to volunteers. More information is available online at <http://www.tgci.com/magazine/02spring/tax.asp> or <http://www.irs.gov>

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