

Palm Beach County Property Appraiser's Office

October 2019 Newsletter



Dear Taxpayers:

Welcome fall!

The end of the 2019 tax year is fast approaching and October is a busy month in my office as we certify the ad valorem tax roll to the Tax Collector's Office.

Also during this time, petition hearings will begin led by the Value Adjustment Board for property owners who filed a petition because they disagree with their property assessment or denied exemption, etc. On average, the number of petitions filed in Palm Beach County is low, typically less than 1% of the total parcels in the County.

As we move into the final months of 2019, I'd like to remind all property owners to review their homestead exemption status to determine whether they might qualify for additional property tax saving benefits. If you do not have a homestead exemption on your property, we encourage you to apply online or visit one of our five service centers in the county.

Applying for a homestead exemption could save you money. A \$25,000 exemption is applied to the first \$50,000 of your property's assessed value if your property is your permanent residence and you owned the property on January 1 of the tax year. An additional exemption of up to \$25,000 will be applied if your property's assessed value is between at least \$50,000 and \$75,000. (The deadline to apply for a homestead exemption is March 1 of each tax year.)

In this month's newsletter, we will review some of the additional exemptions available: the Limited Income Senior Citizen, Widow/Widower, Granny Flat, and Civilian Disability exemptions.

I hope you will find this information beneficial.

We Value What You Value

Respectfully,

Dorothy Jacks, CFA, AAS
Palm Beach County Property Appraiser



Additional Exemptions:

A property owner may be eligible for additional exemptions. In order to qualify for the following additional exemptions, **you must have a homestead exemption on your property.**

LIMITED INCOME SENIOR CITIZEN EXEMPTION

To qualify, you must be 65 or older and your adjusted gross income must meet a maximum level that is adjusted annually by Florida's Department of Revenue. The income limitation amount is available from my office in mid-January of each year. The current income limit is **\$30,174**. This does not include tax-exempt bond interest or non-taxable social security income. You will be asked to provide a copy of your Federal 1040 Tax Form or your Social Security 1099 Form.

The additional benefit for qualified seniors applies only to taxes levied by the following authorities. The county's senior exemption does not apply to other taxing authorities, such as the school district and other municipalities.

\$50,000

Town of Haverhill
Town of Loxahatchee Groves
Village of Wellington

\$25,000

Palm Beach County
City of Boynton Beach
City of Lake Worth Beach
Town of Lantana
City of Palm Beach Gardens
Village of Palm Springs
Town of Jupiter

\$5,000

Village of Royal Palm Beach

WIDOW/WIDOWER EXEMPTION

Florida grants an additional \$500 exemption to widows and widowers. You may submit a copy of the deceased spouse's death certificate. If the surviving spouse remarries, he/she is no longer eligible to receive the additional exemption.

LIVING QUARTERS OF PARENTS OR GRANDPARENTS EXEMPTION

(also known as the Granny Flat Exemption)

An assessment reduction may be granted to qualified residential property owners who build an addition to their house to accommodate their parents or grandparents, age 62 or older.

CIVILIAN DISABILITY EXEMPTION

Full or partial exemptions are available for individuals with the following disabilities:

- **Quadriplegic**
- **Paraplegic**
- **Hemiplegic**
- **Legally Blind**
- **Total and Permanent Disability, Confined to Wheelchair**
- **Total and Permanent Disability, Not Confined to Wheelchair**

Some of these exemptions have income limitations.

For more information on these exemptions or to download and print forms, [click here](#). You can always call us at **561.355.2866** or email us at myexemption@pbcgov.org

Community Outreach Events

Visit us at one of our public Community Outreach events this fall. We will be taking homestead exemption applications, answering questions about property valuations and more.

For a listing of public events, go to our website, www.pbcgov.org/PAPA and under 'Tools' select 'Calendar of Events'. For details, contact **Mike Pratt**, Director of Education Services and Community Outreach at 561.355.4021 or email mpratt@pbcgov.org.