

# Palm Beach County Property Appraiser's Office

## February 2019 Newsletter



### Dear Taxpayers:

As the New Year takes shape, my office is busy preparing the 2019 tax roll, which as a reminder, is a report of the combined value of all the property (real and tangible) in Palm Beach County as of January 1st.

This includes my staff analyzing components of the tax roll such as new construction, demolition, land splits, land combinations, ownership changes, additions or removals of exemptions, etc.

Here are some of the latest statistics for new construction to be added to the 2019 Tax Roll.

**These are subject to change:**

- Single Family Homes – 1,200
- Townhomes – 400
- Condominium Units – 190
- Zero Lot Line Homes - 1010
- Commercial Buildings – 250

In addition to this information, my office conducts market studies countywide, based on recent valid sales and subsequently, adjustments based on this data are made. It is a top priority that we provide the most accurate information to produce a fair and equitable tax roll.

February is a good time of the year to review your homestead exemption status and examine additional exemptions that may yield tax savings. In this month's newsletter, you will find some helpful reminders. I hope you find the following information useful. Enjoy reading.

**Respectfully,**

**Dorothy Jacks, CFA, AAS**  
**Palm Beach County Property Appraiser**  
**We Value What You Value**

## **Homestead Exemption on Real Property**

\*If you already have a homestead exemption on your property, you do NOT need to reapply. In the state of Florida, 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 initial application is required. This exemption applies to all taxes, including school district taxes.

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. This exemption is not applied to school district taxes.

The deadline to file for Homestead Exemption is **March 1** of the qualifying year.

You have three options to submit your application for a Homestead Exemption:

- [E-File](#) – Use our simple online application process, the fastest way to file.
- Complete the application online. Print it out and mail to the Palm Beach County Property Appraiser's Office, Exemption Services, 1st Floor, 301 N. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach, FL 33401
- Visit one of our [five service centers](#) to file in person.

## **Additional Exemptions**

If you receive a homestead exemption, you may be eligible for additional exemptions or discounts in the categories listed below. The application deadline for all additional exemptions is **March 1**.

- Civilian Disability
- Institutional Exemptions
- Florida Law Enforcement & First Responders (Disabled in the line of duty)
- Living Quarters for Parents or Grandparents (also known as Granny Flat)
- Senior Citizen (Limited-Income)
- Veterans Disability
- Widow/Widower Exemption

## **Portability — You can take it with you!**

If I sell my home and buy a new one, will I lose all the tax savings I've accumulated over the years?

No. Florida's Save Our Homes (SOH) provision allows you to transfer all or a significant portion of your tax benefit, up to \$500,000, from a home with a homestead exemption to a new home within the state of Florida that qualifies for a homestead exemption. This is referred to as "portability." The application deadline for portability is **March 1**.

For more information on these exemptions and portability, visit the Property Appraiser Public Access (PAPA) website at [www.pbcgov.com/PAPA](http://www.pbcgov.com/PAPA) or call Exemption Services at 561.355.2866.

## **Office Closed Due to Holiday**

In honor of Presidents' Day, the Palm Beach County Property Appraiser's Office (including all of our Service Centers) will be closed on **Monday, February 18, 2019**.