

# Palm Beach County Property Appraiser's Office

## June 2019 Newsletter



### Taxpayers:

Welcome to our South Florida Summer:

On June 1st, my office submits the estimated taxable property values for 2019 to all Palm Beach County taxing authorities. These values assist in the groundwork for the taxing authorities' budgets.

On July 1st, my office submits a preliminary tax roll to Florida's Department of Revenue, the agency that oversees the operations of all Property Appraisers in the state.

During the next few months, the tax roll process will continue and as always, I welcome your comments and questions regarding your property value and exemption amounts.

June also kicks off the 2019 hurricane season in South Florida, which runs from June 1 through Nov. 30. As a reminder to all property owners in Palm Beach County, take a moment to review our 'Report Storm Damaged Property' information on our website, [www.pbcgov.com/PAPA](http://www.pbcgov.com/PAPA). It offers important details you need to know if your property sustains severe storm damage. If you have any questions, call my office at 561.355.3230. For essential tips on hurricane preparedness, log onto the Palm Beach County Emergency Management website at: <http://discover.pbcgov.org/publicsafety/dem/Pages/default.aspx>

June is National Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Month and we are highlighting the Agricultural Appraisal Services Department. Palm Beach County has more than 450,000 acres of agriculture, ranging from sugar cane to fruits and veggies to cattle. Enjoy reading.

We Value What You Value.

Respectfully,

**Dorothy Jacks, CFA, AAS**  
**Palm Beach County Property Appraiser**



## Agricultural Appraisal Services Department

Agriculturally classified lands are assessed based on an agricultural use rate which overrides the market value on a per acre basis. There is a specific agricultural use rate for each use category (examples: sugar cane, sod, bees, equestrian, etc.) based on the net income attributable to the land from the commercial agricultural business operation. The agricultural classification normally results in significant tax savings. You may apply for an agricultural classification if your property is used for a bona fide commercial agricultural purpose.

To apply for this classification, you need to submit an application between January 1 and March 1. You will be notified of the status of your application around July 1. If we approve your application, it is not necessary to reapply each year. If there is a change in the use type or acreage used, you must notify our office.

If your agricultural classification application is denied and you disagree, please call our office. You are entitled to an informal conference which gives you the opportunity to discuss the basis of the denial with the appraiser and provide any new information. You also have 30 days from the mailing of the denial notice to file a petition with the Value Adjustment Board.

For more information, contact Agricultural Appraisal Services at 561.355.4577 or [myfarm@pbccgov.org](mailto:myfarm@pbccgov.org)



### By the Numbers (2018)

- Staff: 5
- Agricultural Classified Parcels: 5,237
- Highlights:
  - o Sugar Cane Acres: 390,767
  - o Tropical Fruit & Citrus Acres: 713
  - o Row Crops (i.e.: vegetables) Acres: 24,818
- Total Market Value: \$8.2 Billion

**(Agricultural Appraisal Services Department: Todd Wallace RES, CFE, Appraiser II; Mike Wheeler CFE, Appraiser II; Jon Butz CFE, Appraiser II; Keith Alexander RES, CFE, Manager and Keisha Maharajh, Administrative Assistant)**

## E filing for a Homestead Exemption and Portability

Recently, my office launched a new and improved Homestead Exemption E file module (on our website: [www.pbccgov.com/PAPA](http://www.pbccgov.com/PAPA)) - when closing on a new home now you can E file the same day without the deed. Simultaneously, we added a new online component for when you're moving within the state of Florida and filing for a homestead exemption, you can E file for portability.

Remember, a homestead exemption can reduce the assessed value of your property, thereby reducing the amount of property tax you pay.

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. 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.

Portability is transferring all or a significant portion of your cap savings, 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.

Homestead exemption and portability applications must be submitted by March 1 (of the qualifying year).

Our Exemption Services department which administers all exemptions and portability applications including the E file module on our website, is available to answer your questions. Contact them at [myexemption@pbcgov.org](mailto:myexemption@pbcgov.org) or 561.355.2866.