

Palm Beach County Property Appraiser's Office

January 2020 Newsletter



Dear Taxpayers:

Happy New Year!

I am excited about 2020, the analogies to “perfect vision” are many and the office is working hard to make sure that 2020 is our best year yet. We are always exploring new ways to improve our public service to you, such as increasing the number of community outreach dates and locations across the county. These monthly events allow you the opportunity to interact with our staff and even file for Homestead Exemption. To see a current list of locations visit our website at www.pbcgov.org/PAPA for details.

We are also working within the office on valuation efficiencies, using technology that enables us to verify property values are fair and equitable. For the past several years, the county’s property inventory has been steadily increasing and we are keeping pace, accounting for every parcel while working smarter and faster. Many of the ideas come from our appraisers themselves – they drive new processes that improve operations of the office. We have one of the finest professional staffs in the industry, highly educated and experienced – this is what we value as we look forward to a successful 2020.

In this month’s newsletter, I am happy to announce my office once again, will be taking homestead exemption applications at the upcoming South Florida Fair. Also included in this month’s newsletter, reminders about filing for an Agricultural Land Classification and Business Tangible Personal Property Tax return for 2020. Wishing you a prosperous and wonderful year.

Respectfully,

Dorothy Jacks, CFA, AAS
Palm Beach County Property Appraiser

We Value What You Value



2020 South Florida Fair – The Property Appraiser’s Office to accept Homestead Exemption Applications

**If you already have a homestead exemption on your property, you do NOT need to reapply.*

The Palm Beach County Property Appraiser will be taking new homestead exemption applications for the 2020 tax year at this year’s South Florida Fair from January 17 – February 2. Our office will have a booth set up inside the Expo West Building on the South Florida Fairgrounds.

In order to qualify for the homestead exemption, you must hold title to the property as of January 1, 2020 and be a permanent resident of the State of Florida as of January 1, 2020.

In addition, please bring the following items that apply to you:

- Social Security Number of all property owners who are applying and their spouse.
- A valid Florida driver's license or ID.
- A valid Florida vehicle registration or Florida voters' registration. (Voting address must match homestead address.)

We’ll also have experts on hand to answer questions about mapping, additional exemptions and property valuations, and to show you how to navigate the Property Appraiser's Public Access (PAPA) website, www.pbcgov.org/papa.

Agricultural Land Classification

If you had the Agricultural Land Classification on your property in 2019, the application will automatically renew for 2020, so there is no need to file an application. All 5,213 properties with the agricultural classification in 2019 will be reviewed in 2020. Agricultural land classification is given to properties that qualify as a bona fide commercial agricultural use of the land. The taxable value of the land is based on the annual net income per acre attributable to the land from the agricultural operation.

To qualify for a new Agricultural Land Classification, you must submit the application by March 1, 2020. The application is available at www.pbcgov.org/papa. A late application may be filed if the applicant demonstrates extenuating circumstances that precluded a timely filed application. You will be notified of the status of your application for the Agricultural Classification by mail, on or before July 1.

For more information, call our office at **561.355.4577** or email us at myfarm@pbcgov.org

Business Tangible Personal Property

Florida allows an exemption up to \$25,000 in value for tangible personal property assets used by a business. You must file an initial Tangible Personal Property Tax Return (DR-405) to receive the exemption. Thereafter you need not file an annual return unless the value of your tangible personal property exceeds \$25,000 on January 1. Tangible Personal Property used in a business

includes furniture, fixtures, machinery, tools, equipment, appliances, signs, leasehold improvements, supplies, leased equipment and any other assets used by the business.

The filing deadline is April 1. Failure to file will result in the loss of the exemption and assessment of penalties per Florida Statutes, Sections 193.072 and 193.073.

Save time, paper, and postage by filing online using the [E-File link](#) on our website www.pbcgov.org/papa. If you do need a paper form (DR-405) you can download it from our website using the [Forms link](#). If you have any questions about reporting personal property, tangible E-Filing or the \$25,000 tangible exemption, please call our office at **561.355.2896** or email us at patangible@pbcgov.org

Office Closed

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Palm Beach County Property Appraiser's Office (including all of our Service Centers) will be closed on **Monday, January 20, 2020**.