

Northampton County

Tax Exemptions and Exclusions (2015)

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ON PERMANENT RESIDENCE:

- [Elderly or Disabled Homestead Exclusion](#): This program excludes the greater of the first \$25,000 or 50% of the appraised value of the permanent residence of a qualifying owner. A qualifying owner is an owner who meets all of the following requirements as of January 1 preceding the taxable year for which the benefit is claimed, must either be at least 65 years of age or be totally and permanently disabled. The homeowner and spouse income amount for the previous year cannot exceed the income eligibility limit for the current year; the eligibility limit for 2015 is \$29,000 and must be a North Carolina resident.

- [Disabled Veterans Homestead Exclusion](#): This program excludes up to the first \$45,000 of the appraised value of the permanent residence of a disabled veteran. A disabled veteran is defined as a veteran whose character of service at separation was honorable or under honorable conditions and who has a total and permanent service-connected disability or who received benefits for specially adapted housing under [38 U.S.C. Sec. 2101](#). There is no age or income test for this exclusion. This benefit is also available to a surviving spouse (who has not remarried) of either (1) a disabled veteran as defined above, (2) a veteran who died as a result of a service-connected condition whose character of service at separation was honorable or under honorable conditions, or (3) a servicemember who died from a service-connected condition in the line of duty and not as a result of willful misconduct.

- [Circuit Breaker Homestead Tax Deferment Program](#): Under this program a qualifying owner must meet all the following requirements as of January 1, the owner has owned the property as a permanent residence for at least five consecutive years and has occupied the property as a permanent residence for at least five years, the owner is at least 65 years of age or totally and permanently disabled, and a North Carolina resident. Taxes for each year are limited to a percentage of the qualifying owner's income. For an owner whose income amount for the previous year does not exceed the income eligibility limit for the current year, which for the 2015 tax year is \$29,000, the owner's taxes will be limited to four percent (4%) of the owner's income. For an owner whose income exceeds the income eligibility limit (29,000) but does not exceed 150% of the income eligibility limit, which for the 2015 tax year is \$43,500, the owner's taxes will be limited to five percent (5%) of the owner's income.

However, the taxes over the limitation amount are deferred and remain a lien on the property. The last three years of deferred taxes prior to a disqualifying event will become due and payable, with interest, on the date of the disqualifying event. Interest accrues on the deferred taxes as if they had been payable on the dates on which they would have originally become due. Disqualifying events are death of the owner, transfer of the property, and failure to use the property as the owner's permanent residence. Exceptions and special provisions apply.

YOU MUST FILE A NEW APPLICATION FOR THIS PROGRAM EVERY YEAR!!

***All applications must be submitted by June 1 to be timely filed.**

If you have any questions please contact the Northampton County Tax Department at (252) 534-4461