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HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS AGAIN AVAILABLE

May 1, 2013

Senior citizens turning 65 this year or those over 65 who have not yet applied for the homestead exemption – and the tax savings it means – have their annual opportunity to sign up.

The Washington County Auditor's Office is again accepting applications for the homestead exemption through June 3, 2013.

Seniors who are already signed up do not need to reapply.

But, for senior citizens and permanently and totally disabled Ohioans who were eligible last year and missed the deadline to sign up, the current enrollment period also presents an opportunity to claim the exemption for the 2012 tax year. Taxpayers may check the box titled "Late application for prior year" for a home that they have owned and lived in since January 1, 2012.

Homestead applications for the 2013 tax year (bills payable in 2014) are now available both from the Auditor's Office at 205 Putnam Street or the Auditor's website, washingtoncountyauditor.us. To print the form from the website, click on the Forms tab on the home page and then select DTE Form 105A, Homestead Exemption Application from the Tax section.

How taxpayers receive the credit in the case of late homestead exemption applications for 2012 will depend on when the applications are received and approved. Taxpayers may have the entire tax savings applied to the second half bill or receive a refund in the form of a check later this year.

The exact amount of savings from the exemption will vary from area to area based on the tax rates. On average across Washington County, homeowners enrolled for the homestead exemption are expected to save about \$300-400 this year.

Please contact the Washington County Auditor's Office at 373-6623 ext 264 if there are any questions concerning the homestead exemption program.