

ELDERLY AND DISABLED REAL ESTATE TAX RELIEF

Surry County offers Real Estate Tax Relief to County Citizens 65 years of age and older and those permanently and totally disabled.

REQUIREMENTS:

- **Real Estate** must be **owned** by, and **occupied** as, the sole dwelling of the taxpayer applying for relief.
- **Total combined income** received from all sources during the preceding calendar year by the owner(s) of the dwelling, and owners relatives who may live in the dwelling, **shall not exceed \$30,000**. Note: The first \$6,500 income of such relative is exempt.
- The **Net Combined Financial Worth** as of December 31 of the preceding calendar year **shall not exceed \$100,000** (excluding the value of the dwelling and the land, not exceeding one acre, upon which the dwelling is situated.)
- Applicants Seeking Permanent and Total disability consideration **must provide proof of disability** with certification by the Social Security Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs or the Railroad Retirement Board. If such applicants are not eligible for certification by any of these agencies, an Affidavit of Disability, sworn by two medical doctors, must be provided.

The Filing Period for this tax relief is **January 1, through May 1** of each Calendar year.

DISABLED VETERAN REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION

Per the Code of Virginia, effective January 1, 2011, a Veteran (or surviving spouse) may be granted a real estate exemption on the principal residence and up to 1 acre. Proof must be provided certifying that the veteran has a **100 percent service-connected, permanent and total disability**.

HIGH MILEAGE CONSIDERATION

Any motor vehicle having over **100,000 MILES AS OF JANUARY 1, 2012** will be given a high mileage deduction, **PROVIDED** proof (copy of inspection slip, oil change record, etc.) is submitted to the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office **ON OR BEFORE MAY 1, 2012**. If, however, the NADA assessed value of a vehicle reflects an existing allowance for High Mileage (100,001-115,000) **NO additional Deduction will be granted by the Commissioner's Office.**

Once the High Mileage **Deduction** for a vehicle **has been established** by the Commissioner's Office, **future documentation will not be required** for that vehicle **to sustain this deduction.**

High Mileage Deduction **will not be granted** for a vehicle if the required documentation is not provided as outlined above.

CHANGE IN VA STATE INCOME TAX ONLINE RETURN FILING PROGRAM

Pursuant to legislation enacted during the 2010 session of the General Assembly, the VA Department of Taxation will no longer offer "ifile", the online return filing system, to taxpayers beginning January 2011. However, many taxpayers will be eligible to electronically prepare and file both their federal and state tax returns online for free under the new Virginia Free File program. See www.tax.virginia.gov for more information.

SURRY COUNTY COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE CONTACT INFORMATION

Deborah J. Nee
Commissioner of the Revenue
Post Office Box 35
Surry, Virginia 23883
Phone: 757-294-5225
Fax: 757-294-5228
Please visit the Surry County Website:
www.surrycountyva.gov



Surry
County
2012

**DEBORAH J. NEE
COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

THIS PAMPHLET CONTAINS MESSAGES FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE'S OFFICE CONCERNING CALENDAR YEAR 2012:

- PERSONAL PROPERTY FILING
- CHANGE FROM DECAL FEE TO VEHICLE LICENSE FEE
- CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF
- PPTRA CHANGES
- **VEHICLE OWNED BY DISABLED VETERAN AND VEHICLES EQUIPPED FOR HANDICAPPED INDIVIDUALS**
- BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY FILING
- REAL ESTATE TAX RELIEF
- **DISABLED VETERAN REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION**
- HIGH MILEAGE CERTIFICATION
- CHANGE IN VA STATE INCOME TAX ONLINE RETURN FILING PROGRAM

PERSONAL PROPERTY FILING

DUE MAY 1, 2012

IMPORTANT: The enclosed Tangible Personal Property Return lists property recently reported to the Commissioner of the Revenue by one or more of the following means:

- Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles
- Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles Weekly/Monthly reports
- Your 2011 Tax Year Personal Property Form

To enable this office to determine your Personal Property tax liability (if any) for tax year 2012 please verify the accuracy of all information contained on the return. If any vehicle (or other Personal Property) listed on the form has been sold, disposed of, or is not now located in Surry County, please indicate the date sold, disposed of, or where it was located on January 1, 2012. Any vehicle (or other Personal Property) owned January 1, 2012 and not listed should be added to the return with such detailed information provided as necessary.

PLEASE SIGN, DATE, AND SUBMIT THE ENCLOSED RETURN OF TANGIBLE PERSONAL/BUSINESS PROPERTY FORM TO THIS OFFICE BY MAY 1, 2012.

CHANGE FROM DECAL TO VEHICLE LICENSE FEE

Per change in County ordinance, effective January 1, 2010, decals will no longer be sold for motor vehicles. Instead a VEHICLE LICENSE FEE of \$20 for each motor vehicle owned January 1st of each year and \$10 for each motorcycle owned January 1st of each year will be added to the tax bill due on or before December 5th of each year. Note: This ordinance change is not for vehicles garaged in the towns of Claremont, Dendron, or Surry.

CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR 2012 PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF (PPTRA)

DOES YOUR VEHICLE QUALIFY FOR THE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF (PPTRA)?
THE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT:

The Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998 provides tax relief for passenger cars, motorcycles, and pickup or panel trucks having a registered gross weight of less than 7,501 pounds. **Motor homes, trailers and farm use vehicles DO NOT QUALIFY** for tax relief.

Beginning January 1, 2003 to qualify for PPTRA vehicle owners will be **required to certify annually** the **use** of the vehicle to be either **personal or business**.

To qualify, a vehicle must:

- be owned by an individual or leased by an individual under a contract requiring the individual to pay the personal property tax; AND
- be used 50% or less for business purposes

DOES YOUR VEHICLE QUALIFY FOR CAR TAX RELIEF?

If you can answer **YES** to any of the following questions, your motor vehicle is considered by State Law to have a business use and **DOES NOT** qualify for Car Tax Relief:

- Is more than 50% of the mileage for the year used as business expense for Federal Income Tax purposes OR reimbursed by an employer?
- Is more than 50% of the depreciation associated with the vehicle deducted as a business expense for Federal Income Tax purposes?
- Is the Cost of the vehicle expensed pursuant to Section 179 of the Internal Revenue Service Code?
- Is the vehicle leased by you and the leasing company pays the tax without reimbursement from you?

If you are uncertain whether your vehicle would be eligible for car tax relief because it is used part of the time for business purposes, contact the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office at (757) 294-5225.

PPTRA CHANGES

Effective tax year 2006 the General Assembly modified the Personal Property Tax Relief (PPTR). Per this change a fixed sum shall be reimbursed to the localities to be used exclusively for providing tax relief to owners of qualifying vehicles.

During each annual budget hearing the Surry County Board of Supervisors will set the percentage of personal Property Tax Relief that will be granted for qualified vehicles.

ONE VEHICLE OWNED BY DISABLED VETERANS AND VEHICLE EQUIPPED FOR HANDICAPPED INDIVIDUALS

Effective January 1, 2012, one vehicle owned and used by a disabled veteran and vehicles specially equipped for handicapped individuals will be recognized as separate categories of personal property. Such vehicles shall be subject to a tax rate of \$0.00 per \$100.00 of assessed value.

BUSINESS PERSONAL PROPERTY AND/OR MACHINERY AND TOOLS

WHO MUST FILE: Every person, firm, or corporation owning tangible business property and/or machinery and tools that were located within Surry County on **January 1, 2012** must report the same on the Tangible Personal Property Return prescribed for that purpose to the Commissioner of the Revenue, Surry County, VA 23883 **ON OR BEFORE MAY 1, 2012.** (Use the reverse side of the Personal Property Return to list this information.)

Under the provisions of State Law, the Commissioner of the Revenue will not accept the Tangible Personal Property Return unless it is **FULL AND COMPLETE**. In the case of an improperly prepared return, the Commissioner of the Revenue will initiate such investigation as may be necessary to determine a proper assessment of the property of the taxpayer. If no return is filed by a taxpayer, the Commissioner of the Revenue will make an assessment, as required by law, from the best information available. Taxpayers are advised **not** to file a return marked "Same as Last Year".

Conditional Sales Contracts: Property being paid for in installments is assessable in the name of the person possessing said property.

Cost Values to Report: A Depreciation Schedule or itemized listing, to include description of property, date of purchase and original cost, must be submitted with the return. In preparing this form, taxpayers should obtain costs from capital depreciable assets as contained in their books of account. Values to be reported are actual cost of furniture, fixtures, and machinery and tools before allowance for depreciation. Cost values of items fully depreciated, but still in use, must be included.

Leased Vehicles: if a vehicle is leased the name and address of the **Lessor** must be designated.