

Contact information for county auditors may be found in the blue government pages of the local phone book. A complete list of Ohio's county auditors is also available at tax.ohio.gov.

★ **For more information...**

Call the Ohio Department of Taxation at **(800) 282-1780**, or visit the department's Web site at tax.ohio.gov and click on "Homestead Exemption."



Property tax relief for Ohio homeowners:

Now ALL senior citizens qualify



Governor Ted Strickland
Tax Commissioner Richard A. Levin

Ohio's senior citizens have spent their entire lives taking care of their families and lending a helping hand to their neighbors.

Now Ohio is offering seniors and the disabled a helping hand with the burden of property and manufactured home taxes.



A new and expanded Homestead Exemption – proposed by Governor Ted Strickland in early 2007 and enacted by the Ohio General Assembly – will lower residential property tax bills for all seniors and qualifying disabled individuals by an average of \$400 each year, regardless of income.

The catch? Those who weren't previously eligible must apply now with their county auditor in order to receive tax relief through the new Homestead Exemption.

★ Real tax relief

Here's how the new Homestead Exemption works. Eligible homeowners are able to shield \$25,000 worth of the market value of their home from local property taxes. For example, the owner of a \$100,000 home who is eligible for the Homestead Exemption would be billed as if the home were worth \$75,000.

★ Broad eligibility

The new Homestead Exemption is open to any Ohio homeowner who currently lives in their home, and that home is their primary residence, and who:

-  Is at least 65 years old or will reach age 65 during the current tax year; **or**
-  Is certified totally and permanently disabled as of Jan. 1 of the current tax year, regardless of age; **or**
-  Is the surviving spouse of a qualified homeowner, and who was at least 59 years old on the date of their spouse's death.

Note: Homeowners who currently receive the Homestead Exemption will automatically qualify for the expanded exemption and do not have to reapply.

★ Easy to apply

Eligible homeowners may apply for the new Homestead Exemption with their county auditor starting on July 2, 2007. **Applications must be received by Oct. 1, 2007** in order to receive savings on tax bills payable in 2008.

The application form is available from all county auditors, online at **tax.ohio.gov** (click on "Homestead Exemption") or by contacting the Ohio Department of Taxation at **(800) 282-1780**.