



TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

Monica Rottach
Tax Receiver

TAX RECEIVER'S OFFICE
300 Pantigo Place, Suite 106
East Hampton, New York 11937

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2011/2012

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE TAX RECEIVER'S OFFICE
*** ALL STUBS MUST HAVE A PHONE NUMBER ON THEM!**

RESPONSIBILITY OF PROPERTY OWNER: The tax laws in Suffolk County state that payment of taxes on a timely basis is the responsibility of the property owner **EVEN IF A TAX BILL HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED.** The property owner will be liable for all penalties and interest on late payments. As tax bills are sent out in December, any person who purchases property in Suffolk County during the following year should determine if the second-half tax is paid. Taxes may be paid by cash, money order, credit card or check, subject to collection. Checks returned by the bank for any reason will automatically cancel your tax payment. Returned checks will not be redeposited. There will be a \$20.00 charge for any check returned unpaid by your bank. (You may make tax payments by **check only** at the East Hampton Village and Montauk branch of Bridgehampton National Bank – you must have your bill with you.)

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS You can now pay your 2011/2012 Real Estate Taxes by using all major credit cards(**except AMEX**) You will need your 2011/2012 TAX BILL NUMBER and credit card information. Call 1-800-487-4567 OR (1-800-272-9829) and enter jurisdiction Code 4216 or visit www.officialpayments.com Official Payments Corp., the credit card service provider, charges a convenience fee based on the amount of transaction. The taxpayer will be advised of the convenience fee before finalizing their tax payments. The system will issue a confirmation number. Write down your confirmation number as record of your payment.

PARTIAL PAYMENT PLAN Effective December 1st minimum payments of \$200.00 may be made during the collection period. After January 10, 2012 interest will be applied.

RECEIPTS: If a receipt is desired, taxpayers are requested to submit the **ENTIRE BILL** each time a payment is made. Effective December 1, 2011 we will mail out receipts only upon request. ***CURRENT TAX BILL SHOWS PRIOR YEAR PAYMENT INFORMATION.**

MORTGAGES: Most mortgages include an escrow account for payment of taxes. If a property owner satisfies your mortgage in mid-year, **the property owner should check with the Tax Receiver to determine if the TOTAL TAX was paid by the BANK.** The bank will not necessarily forward a tax bill to the property owner after a mortgage has been satisfied. The owner will be liable for penalty and interest on a late payment even if the bank did not forward a bill.

TAX EXEMPTION: Anyone who purchases improved property in Suffolk County should question if there was any tax exemption granted to the previous owner, such as veterans or senior citizens exemption. This exemption would not pass on to the new owner and the tax could change considerably when the exemption is removed from the property.

VETERANS EXEMPTIONS: The New York State Tax Exemption for Veterans, or certain members of their family, must be filed by March 1, 2012

This exemption is limited to the primary residence and available to honorably discharged veterans who served during a period of war. For further information call or write:

Suffolk County Veterans Service Agency
H. Lee Dennison Bldg
100 Veteran's Memorial Hwy.
Hauppauge, N.Y. 11788
(631) 853-8387

Suffolk County Veterans Service Agency
Riverhead County Center
300 Center Drive
Riverhead, NY 11901
(631) 852-3000

Town of East Hampton
Assessors Office
300 Pantigo Place, Suite 108
East Hampton, N.Y. 11937
(631) 324-4187

THIRD PARTY NOTIFICATION FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED HOMEOWNERS: If you are either 65 years of age or older, or disabled, and you own and occupy a one, two, or three family residence, you may designate a consenting adult third party to receive duplicate copies of your tax bills and notices of unpaid taxes until further notice. Applications may be obtained in person from your tax collecting office, or by mail if you include a self-addressed stamped envelope. Applications for third party notifications must be filed with the tax collecting officer no later than November 1, 2012.

TAX ARREARS: If the word "ARREARS" appears anywhere on your tax bill it means that back taxes may be owed OR you may not have been properly credited for payments made. Suffolk County will take title to real property that remains in arrears. Effective November 30, 1985, all improved property **other than one (1), two (2), or three (3)** family residential dwelling units will have a one (1) year redemption. All others will have a three (3) year redemption. If the word ARREARS is on your bill, please get in touch with the Suffolk County Treasurer, 330 Center Drive, Riverhead, New York 11901 (631-852-3000) immediately to determine the amount in arrears. Continued failure to pay all of the taxes levied against the property will result in your loss of the property.

SENIOR CITIZEN EXEMPTION ON SCHOOL PROPERTY TAX

STAR "ENHANCED" SENIOR EXEMPTION
(Star Tax Relief Program)

STAR is the New York State School Tax Relief Program that provides a partial exemption from school taxes **ONLY** for **OWNER-OCCUPIED PRIMARY** residences of seniors whose combined income is \$79,050 or less.

Please note that Seniors **WHO ALREADY RECEIVE** the pre-existing Senior Citizen Exemption (income under 37,400) automatically qualify for the Enhanced Senior Star Exemption. As a result, they need only to file and qualify for the pre-existing exemption, and they will receive both that exemption and the STAR exemption.

Requirements:

AGE: All owners must be 65 years or older (except with husband and wife, or siblings only one owner needs to be 65)

FILING PERIOD: Applications must be filed by March 1, 2012. Application must be renewed YEARLY.

SUBMIT:

- Application
- Proof of Age
- Proof of income
- Proof of Ownership
- Primary/Permanent residency

FILING LOCATION:

- East Hampton Assessors Office
- 300 Pantigo Place – Suite 108
- East Hampton, New York 11937
- Telephone: (631-324-4187)

Those PERMANENT RESIDENT HOME OWNERS who do not qualify for the "ENHANCED" STAR Program may apply for the "BASIC" STAR Program. Applications must be submitted to the Assessors Office by March 1, 2012 for the 2012/2013 tax roll.

DISABLED PERSONS WITH LIMITED INCOMES: Those who meet certain criteria may apply for a partial tax exemption. Applications are available in the Assessors Office and must be submitted by March 1, 2012 for the 2012/2013 tax roll.

All exemption forms may be obtained on-line at: www.orps.state.ny.us