

Deductions

If you are a qualified Veteran, Widow of a Veteran, Senior Citizen, Disabled Person, or Surviving Spouse of a qualified Senior Citizen or Disabled Person, you may be eligible for deductions, which reduce your property tax liability. Under certain conditions, combined deductions may be allowed, i.e.: Vets and Senior Citizens. Requirements are as follows:

Veterans & Widows of Veterans	
Veteran - Owner of property and citizen and resident of New Jersey as of October 1 of the pre-tax year. Honorable discharge or release. Active service in time of war during one of the following periods:	
MISSION OR OPERATION	TIME PERIOD SERVED
Operation Enduring Freedom	09/11/01 - Ongoing
Operation Iraqi Freedom	03/19/03 - Ongoing
Joint Guard	12/20/96 - Ongoing
Joint Endeavor	11/20/95 - 12/20/96
Restore Hope	12/05/92 - 03/31/94
Desert Shield/Storm Shield*	08/20/90 - Ongoing
Panama Peacekeeping Mission	12/20/89 - 01/31/90
Lebanon Peacekeeping Mission	09/26/82 - 12/01/87
Grenada Peacekeeping Mission	10/23/83 - 11/21/83
Vietnam Conflict	12/31/60 - 05/07/75
Korean Conflict	06/23/50 - 01/31/55
World War II**	09/16/40 - 12/31/46
World War I	04/01/17 - 11/11/18
*With respect to the recent peacekeeping missions, a claimant must have actually served within a respective combat zone for a period of 14 days, continuously, or in the aggregate, unless receiving a service-incurred injury within the combat zone.	
**Includes Merchant Seamen	
WIDOW - Husband met the above qualifications. She must not be remarried.	

Senior Citizen, Disabled Person, or Surviving Spouse

Senior Citizen - Age 65 or over as of December 31 of the pre-tax year.

Disabled Person - Permanently and totally disabled as of December 31 of the pre-tax year.

Surviving Spouse - Age 55 or over at the time of death of person receiving Senior Citizen or Disabled Person deduction.

General Requirements

- Owner and resident in property as of October 1 of the pre-tax year.
 - Citizen of New Jersey
- Income limitations apply subject to existing laws. One of the following sources of income may be Excluded: Social Security or Railroad Retirement, or Government Pension (up to maximum of Social Security Benefit)

Enjoy Your Property - Maintain It!

On a normally maintained property, the following improvements may not bring an increase in the individual assessment: Painting, Landscaping, Minor Repairs, Decoration, Siding, Above ground swimming pools, siding.

The following items may affect the assessed value: Conversion of attic, basement, garage, or porch into living area; Installation of bath or powder room, Central heating/AC, Fireplace, Porch or Patio, Additions, Garages and other structures, In ground Swimming Pools.

Be sure to check with the Construction Code Official for Code and Permit Requirements (609) 877-2217.

Some things for you to Remember.

- Your Collector can answer questions about tax collection - The Assessor about assessments
- The Assessor can not legally collect Tax Money
- Tax payments may be made to the Tax Collector by mail, following the instructions on your tax bill, or in person at the Municipal Building
- Interest is required to be charged on late payments of taxes
- When you are issued a Building Permit, you may expect visits from both the Assessor and the Construction Code Official as their duties require
- Improvements as noted under "Enjoying Your Property" may be subject to added Assessment, which begin the 1st of the month following substantial completion, occupancy, or use. The Added Assessment list is submitted to the County Board on October 1st and the tax thereon is due in full November 1st of the same year
If you wish to demolish an old building, consider its tax cost and usefulness before you tear it down. Remember that any building standing as of October 1st of the pre-tax year may be taxable for the entire following year. Also, a demolition permit is required from the Construction Code Official. This also applies to swimming pools.

Property Tax Abatement Program

Edgewater Park residential properties more than 20 years old may qualify for a special property-tax exemption when they are renovated. If you remodel a residential property,

the first \$25,000 of improvements may not be added to the property's taxable value for five years.

Applications for the tax abatement program must be filed within 30 days of the completion of construction and must be approved by Township Committee. You may download this application - see attached Tax Abatement application.