

Contact: **Angela Gray**  
Property Appraiser  
Phone: (850) 997-3356  
Fax: (850) 997-0988

480 W. Walnut Street  
P.O. Box 63  
Monticello, FL 32345  
www.jeffersonpa.net

Jefferson County  
Office Of The Property Appraiser  
**ANGELA GRAY**  
**PROPERTY APPRAISER**

---

# PRESS RELEASE

## Apply for Homestead before March 1st.

**Jefferson County, January 3, 2011:** Property Appraiser, Angela Gray wants to remind everyone to apply for Homestead Exemption before March 1, 2011.

"If you've had any change in home ownership in the last year, make sure you apply for Homestead Exemption before March 1, 2011" states Property Appraiser Angela Gray. "If you had a deed recorded with any changes in ownership, it is important to submit a Homestead Exemption Application to our office so you can receive your exemption benefit for the 2011 Tax Year. One of the most common mishaps we see is when owners who build new or replace their existing homes and occupy before January 1<sup>st</sup> forget to come in apply for Homestead Exemption" states Gray.

The benefit from Homestead Exemption should not be taken lightly in tough economic times like we are experiencing now. For instance, based on current millage rates and a Market/Assessed value of \$100,000, the tax savings is as much as \$900 for City residents and \$600 for County residents. An in addition to this annual savings, the homeowners assessed value is protected under the 3% Save Our Homes cap from this year forward.

If an owner has had homestead in Florida on another property in the past two years, they can also make application to port the Save Our Homes benefit from their previous property. Portability was passed in 2008 by Florida Voters. 2011 is only the 3<sup>rd</sup> year Florida residents have had the opportunity to capture this benefit. These applications are typically filed in conjunction with the Homestead Application.

Current owners who have their Homestead Exemption in place can apply for additional exemptions by March 1<sup>st</sup> if their status has changed in the past year. These additional exemptions are: Widow's; Widower's; Disability, Blind Person's, Disabled Veteran, Total and Permanent Disability for Quadriplegics, Service Connected Total and Permanent Disability, Exemption for Disabled Veterans Confined to Wheelchairs; and Total and Permanent Disability Exemption. Documentation is required for each of these additional benefits, please contact the Property Appraiser's office or visit the website for specific details.

Applicants need two forms of Florida identification (driver's license, voter registration card, vehicle tag numbers) and the Social Security numbers of all applicants. If the applicant has not updated Florida driver's license, identification card, or voter registration with their current address, they should do so prior to making application for Exemption. Application's can be completed on-line, printed and mailed, or applicants can apply in person by visiting the Property Appraiser's Office at 480 W. Walnut Street between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. "We will be glad to schedule an after hour or weekend appointment with you if necessary to accommodate work or travel schedules. Just let us know how we can help you get your application submitted on time" states Gray. "We want to receive and process applications in time to have accurate information on the Truth In Millage (TRIM) notices that are mailed in the Fall.

For further information, call the Jefferson County Property Appraiser's Office 997-3356 or visit [jeffersonpa.net](http://jeffersonpa.net).