

ASSESSOR'S NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

DECLARING PERSONAL PROPERTY: All persons liable to pay taxes are hereby notified to declare all tangible personal property owned by them on October 1, 2020. Non-residents are required to declare property located in Ashford for three or more months between October 1, 2019 and September 30, 2020. Failure to file the declaration by mail postmarked no later than Monday, November 2, 2020 will result in a 25% PENALTY assessment.

The Assessor will mail declaration forms to all property owners previously on record. Failure to receive a form does not negate the requirement to declare.

NOTE: Real property and Connecticut registered motor vehicles do not need to be declared. Taxable personal property includes: unregistered motor vehicles (including trailers and campers), motor vehicles located in Connecticut but registered in another state, mobile manufactured homes not assessed as real estate, manufacturing machinery and equipment, business furniture and fixtures, farm machinery, farming tools, mechanics tools, electronic data processing equipment, telecommunication equipment, cables, conduits, pipes, poles, business expensed supplies and other items such as billboards, video games, vending machines and leasehold improvements.

VETERANS: Veterans who served for more than ninety days during a time of war or for fewer than 90 days due to disability must have recorded their honorable discharge with the Town Clerk no later than Wednesday, September 30, 2020 in order to receive a minimum \$1,500 assessment exemption. Disabled Veterans need to file proof of their VA rating with the Assessor no later than Wednesday, September 30, 2020 to receive an increased exemption. Active Duty Members may be eligible for a veteran's exemption with proof of prior service.

ADDITIONAL VETERANS EXEMPTION: Increased exemptions are available for those who meet necessary income requirements and the above Veterans criteria. An application along with proof of income must be filed with the Assessor biennially. Filings for this year must be made by Wednesday, September 30, 2020.

ARMED SERVICE MEMBERS: May obtain an exemption on one (1) passenger motor vehicle if proof of service is submitted. Forms are available in the Assessor's Office and at <http://www.ashfordtownhall.org/government/admin-and-finance/assessor/>.

TOTALLY DISABLED: Any person under the age of 65 who has been awarded total disability must apply by Friday, January 31, 2020 to receive a \$1,000 assessment exemption. Applicants must furnish proof of permanent disability. An exemption is also available for certain motor vehicles specially adapted for persons with disabilities. The application must be filed on or before Friday, January 29, 2021.

FARMER MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT: Eligible farmers MUST file the notarized exemption application with their personal property declarations by mail postmarked no later than Monday, November 2, 2020. Declarations filed late are not eligible for the exemption.

MANUFACTURING MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT (MME): Installed in a manufacturing facility and used in the manufacturing process may be exempted. The MME Exemption Application MUST be postmarked no later than Monday, November 2, 2020.

NEW COMMERCIAL TRUCKS: With a gross vehicle rating in excess of 26,000 lbs. should check with the Assessor's office for exemption eligibility. The application must be postmarked no later than Monday, November 2, 2020.

LAND CLASSIFICATION: Persons seeking to classify land under Farm, Forest or Open Space for the first time must file an application by Friday, October 30, 2020 with the Assessor. Persons seeking to classify as Forest must also have a complete certified forester's report dated on or before October 1, 2020. Changes to the original filing (e.g., ownership, use or acreage) must be reported annually. New owners of formerly classified land must file a new application.

FARM BUILDINGS: Buildings used exclusively for farming, excluding residences, may be exempted up to a total of \$100,000 assessment. Any property receiving a tax exemption as a dairy farm, orchard or vineyard is not eligible. Applications must be filed by Friday, October 30, 2020.

All forms are available on-line at <https://ashfordtownhall.org/document-category/assessors-office/> and from the Assessor's Office. The offices are staffed Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri., 8:30 am - 3:00 pm.

Signed this 18th day of September 2020 at Ashford Town Hall, 5 Town Hall Rd., Ashford, CT 06278.

Kara J. Fishman, CCMA II, Tax Assessor

