

DID YOU KNOW



In certain situations, Florida law requires the Property Appraiser to take action. Your Homestead Exemption can be Lost, Revoked, or Forfeited.

DON'T LOSE IT!

Please read the following carefully.

- ✓ To qualify for homestead exemption your Lake County property must be your permanent residence or the permanent residence of your legal or natural dependent(s). You and/or your spouse must not be receiving a residency-based exemption on any other property in Florida or in another state or U.S. Territory, such as but not limited to, the New York STAR, the Puerto Rico CRIM, the Wisconsin Lottery and Gaming Credit, the Ohio rollback, or the Georgia homestead. Some state benefits are not called exemptions; they may be a credit or circuit breaker. If you or your spouse own other residential property, please verify that you are not receiving any type of residency benefit in that state or territory. You may be required to show proof of cancellation. Florida law does NOT allow for dual exemptions and penalties imposed by the state for such are harsh.
- ✓ If you move to a new home, you must apply for homestead exemption at the new home. The exemption does not automatically transfer from your previous home. If there is an exemption already on the new property, it is not yours. It belongs to the previous owner(s) and will be removed in the following tax year.
- ✓ If you change your mailing address and do not notify us in writing, you may lose it.
- ✓ If you rent out your homestead property, you may lose it! Failure to notify the Property Appraiser that the home is a rental and no longer qualifies for the exemption could lead to a very costly tax lien being placed on the property.
- ✓ If you record a deed which changes the ownership of the property, in any manner, (such as but not limited to: adding a name, placing the property in a trust or life estate), you may lose it. You may need to re-apply for the homestead exemption. Contact our office if you make changes affecting the title.
- ✓ If you are an heir to a property and it is your permanent residence, you must apply for the homestead exemption. The previous exemption belonged to the previous owners, not you.
- ✓ If you prepare, sign, date, and have notarized, a deed; such as, for the purpose of deeding the home to your adult children, but you do not record the deed immediately (leaving the deed to be recorded upon your death), your children could be left with a huge property tax lien.
- ✓ If you receive a letter or questionnaire from the Property Appraiser, it is important. If you fail to reply, you may lose it.

Please, contact us with any questions you may have. We want to ensure you retain any benefits to which you are legally entitled. We are here to help.

Lake County Property Appraiser
Exemptions Department
352-253-2154

