



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Office of the Mayor
215 City Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19107

MICHAEL A. NUTTER
Mayor

(215) 686-2181
FAX (215) 686-2180

Dear fellow Philadelphian:

Did you know that you could save money on your real estate taxes? Upon passage of legislation, the City of Philadelphia will be offering a Homestead Exemption for all homeowners in Philadelphia.

A Homestead Exemption means that if you own your home, you can qualify for a reduction of your home's reassessment, and therefore reduce your tax bill. There are no age or income restrictions and all homeowners in the city are encouraged to apply.

To be eligible, you must own your own home and live in it, and complete the enclosed application. When you receive your home assessment in the fall, after our comprehensive reassessment has been completed, you will receive notification of whether you have qualified and the amount of the exemption. Qualification is simply based on whether the home is your primary residence—that is, if you own your home and live in it, too. Rental homes or vacation homes do not qualify. Mixed use properties qualify and will benefit from the exclusion for the portion of the property that is the owners' primary residence. After an application has been approved, you do not need to reapply each year unless the deed to the home changes.

The Homestead Exemption can help homeowners save money. For example, if your home is assessed at a value of \$100,000 and there is a \$15,000 Homestead Exemption, you would only pay taxes based on \$85,000 compared with the actual value of \$100,000—providing you with a savings.

Moreover, there are potentially other programs available that can help you reduce the amount of property tax you pay, including for those who meet income qualifications, are over age 65, or have a disability. More details about these programs can be found online at www.phila.gov, or by calling 311.

The process to apply for a homestead exemption is easy. Just fill out the enclosed form, and mail it in. You can also go online to www.phila.gov to apply. All applications must be received by July 31, 2012. Applications received after the deadline for consideration for this year, will be considered for tax year 2014.

I urge you to apply today. Again, the deadline for applications is July 31, 2012. Visit www.phila.gov or call 215-686-9200 for more information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Nutter", written over a white background.

Michael A. Nutter
Mayor



Web: www.phila.gov
Twitter: @PhiladelphiaGov
Facebook.com/PhiladelphiaCityGovernment
Call: 215-686-9200