

Assess Your Assessment

It's That Time of Year

By Jean Murdock
Town of Webb Assessor

What time is it? **Exemption Renewal Time. Deadline date 3/1/2011.** Each year the Assessor and Assessor's Staff review the exemptions currently on file and determine if the exemptions require renewal and/or continue to be valid. Some exemptions require annual renewal while others are a one-time application.

The exemptions requiring annual renewal include: Agricultural, Clergy, Forest, Not-for-Profit Organizations, Persons with Disabilities and Limited Income, some STAR Enhanced, and Senior Citizens. As a courtesy, the Town of Webb Assessor's Office mails the renewal forms to any individual or organization who needs to complete a renewal. In addition, for those property owners who are enrolled in the Income Verification program for STAR Enhanced and the State is unable to verify eligibility, a renewal form is mailed. Jane Meneilly is the Town of Webb Assessor's main contact for exemptions. She will answer any questions you may have regarding renewals, eligibility requirements, and required documents such as driver's license as proof of age and residency, and income information.

You may have heard that effective with the 2011 Assessment Roll year, New York State has implemented a Basic STAR income limit. In the past all homeowners regardless of their income were eligible for the Basic level exemption. Beginning with 2011 homeowners with earnings of \$500,000 or more are no longer eligible. The NYS Department of Taxation and Finance will provide information to determine if Basic STAR recipients meet the new income eligibility, exceed the income threshold, or can't be determined as eligible or ineligible. To implement this change, NYS matched income tax data to assessment roll data. If any property owners are determined to be ineligible or if the State is unable to determine eligibility, the Assessor's Office will send a letter with further instructions.

The definition of income for Basic Star follows: "(1) Income of all owners who reside primarily on the property; (2) Income of any owners' spouses residing there; (3) For the 2011 – 2012 school levy, 2009 income will be used; and Income is federal adjusted gross income, less the taxable amount of total distributions from IRAs." I am anticipating the number of property owners in the Town of Webb with combined earnings over \$500,000 will be negligible.

Remember – The **deadline for filing exemptions in the Town of Webb (Taxable Status Date) is March 1, 2011.** All exemption applications must be filed by that date for consideration of eligibility on the 2011 Assessment Roll.

For more information about assessing related questions or concerns, please call the assessor's office at 369-6880, reference the Town of Webb website at www.townofwebb.org or go to the New York State Real Property Tax Services Office website at www.orps.state.ny.us.