

**PORTAGE COUNTY
AUDITOR'S OFFICE
IMPORTANT PHONE
NUMBERS**

Auditor- Janet Esposito	330-297-3565
Accounting	330-297-3561
Appraisal	330-297-3578
Board of Revision	330-297-3568
Cigarette/Vendor License	330-297-3570
Dog License	330-297-3560
Levies/Budget/Settlements	
County Government	330-297-3574
Homestead	330-297-3571
Manufactured Homes	330-297-3576
Real Estate Transfers	330-297-3569
Weights & Measures	330-297-3581
2.5% Homeowners Credit	330-297-3571
Fax	330-297-4560

Office Hours

**Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

Email: jesposito@portageco.com

or visit the

Website: www.portagecountyauditor.org

**Janet Esposito
Portage County
Auditor**

**449 S. Meridian Street
P.O. Box 1217
Ravenna, Ohio 44266-1217
Phone (330) 297-3571
FAX (330) 297-4560**



**PORTAGE COUNTY
AUDITOR
JANET ESPOSITO**

**2021 HOMESTEAD
EXEMPTION**



**PROPERTY TAX RELIEF
FOR
SENIOR CITIZENS
OR
100% DISABLED
OHIO HOMEOWNERS
CREDIT FOR 100%
DISABLED VETERANS**

- **REAL TAX RELIEF
HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION**

- **2021 INCOME REQUIREMENTS**

Home-owners with a **total household income** of \$34,200 or less are eligible to apply. *Social Security or disability payments are not included in figuring total household income. The State uses 2020 Tax Returns to verify income. Ohio Homeowners must meet the following criteria

- Own and occupy a home in Portage County as your principal place of residence as of January 1st of the current tax year.
- Is at least 65 years old or will reach age 65 during the current tax year; **or**
- Is certified totally and permanently disabled as of January 1st of the current tax year, regardless of age; **or**
- Is the surviving spouse of a current Homestead participant, and who was at least 59 years old on the date of their spouse's death.

- **New Veterans Additional Credit**

With the passage of HB 85 Veterans who are 100% service related disabled are entitled to an additional \$25,000 credit on the homestead exemption. This brings the Veteran Disability Credit to \$50,000 total credit. Veterans must provide a letter from the Veterans Administration Office stating it is a service related disability at 100% and a determination date of the disability, or letter from the Veterans Administration Office stating the Veteran is non-employable due to disability.

Important Notice:

- **Current Participants**

If you are currently enrolled and receiving the Homestead Exemption based on a prior application, you do not have to meet the income requirements and will remain on the program.

- **Qualified Homeowners in 2020 but did not apply may still apply**

If you as a homeowner would have qualified for the Homestead Exemption in 2020, but did not apply you are still able to file a "late application" in 2020.

To have qualified in 2020 the conditions below must apply:

1. Own and occupy a home in Portage County as your principal place of residence as of January 1, 2020.
2. Is at least 65 years old or will reach age 65 as of December 31, 2020, or be permanently and totally disabled on January 1, 2020. (Proof of Age or Disability Required)
3. Adjusted Gross Income per Household must be no greater than 33,600. State or Federal Income Tax Return serves as Income verification. State Return Line 3 is an easy way to check your return. The State uses 2019 tax return to verify.

- **Late Applicants born before 1949 do not have to comply with the Income requirements.**

Application Instructions:

Eligible homeowners may apply for the Homestead Exemption with the Portage County Auditor, Janet Esposito.

- **When to Apply**

Homeowners can apply after the **First Monday in January through December 31st.**

- **Where to Apply**

The application form is available at the Auditor's office, 449 S. Meridian Street, 5th Floor, Ravenna, Ohio 44266. The application takes about five minutes to fill out. The homeowner can also find it online at the Portage County Website

www.portagecountyauditor.org follow the

Homestead Exemption Form Link

- **What to bring when you Apply**

If the homeowner is applying under the income requirements they must bring proof of their total household income. A Federal Income Tax or State Income Tax Return fulfills this requirement.

If the homeowner is applying as a Late Applicant they must bring proof of their age or disability papers **showing the determination date** the homeowner became permanently and totally disabled.

New Veteran Credit- Veterans must bring in letter from Veterans Administration stating a determination date verifying a 100% service related disability, or Veterans letter stating the Veteran is non-employable due to disability. Veterans must also provide a copy of their

DD 214 discharge papers.