

PRESS RELEASE

TAX RELIEF FOR THE ELDERLY AND TOTALLY DISABLED

The Shelton Assessor's Office is accepting applications for credit against tax payments for Elderly Homeowners and Totally Disabled Persons.

The State and Local Programs are available to Homeowners who were 65 years of age on or before December 31, 2007 and to Homeowners, regardless of age, who are Totally Disabled. Totally Disabled is an individual who receives Permanent Total Disability benefits under Social Security, or any Federal, State, or Local Government Retirement or Disability Plan, including the Railroad Retirement Act or government related teacher's retirement plan.

Income limits for both Elderly Homeowners and Totally Disabled Persons are \$36,500 for married couples, and, \$29,800 for a single person. Income includes wages, pensions, Social Security payments, interest on savings, and any other income for the calendar year 2007. Applicants who file a Federal Tax Return for 2007 are requested to present a copy to the Assessor's Office for income verification.

Applicants must also bring their 2007 Social Security Benefit Statement (Form SSA-1099) with them. The Assessor's Office is required to send a copy of the statement to the State with the application.

A designated agent, be it a family member or other, may apply on an eligible person's behalf, provided that all the necessary papers accompany them.

The credit against taxes for the State Elderly and Totally Disabled Program varies according to the level of income. The credit against taxes for the Local Elderly and Totally Disabled Program is \$300.

In October 2007 the Board of Aldermen approved by municipal ordinance an Elderly Homeowners Freeze program. To be eligible one must have been 70 years old by December 31, 2007. The income limits for the Local Freeze Program are the same as the income limits for the State and Local Homeowners and Totally Disabled Programs. If one meets the guidelines, the taxes are frozen. The Local Elderly Freeze Program is in addition to the State and Local Elderly Homeowners Program.

Applications for the State and Local Homeowners Elderly and Totally Disabled

Elderly/Totally Disabled Homeowners Program
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Programs and the Local Homeowners Elderly Freeze Program will be accepted until Thursday, May 15th at the Assessor's Office, City Hall, Mondays through Fridays, 9:00 A.m. until Noon. For more information, call the Shelton Assessor's Office; 924-1555 Ext 352.

2/06/08