



News Release

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Charleston County Auditor Launches Homestead Exemption Campaign

The Charleston County Auditor's Office will be contacting citizens eligible for the Homestead Tax Exemption who are not enrolled in the program. Staff believes close to 4,000 Charleston County citizens are not taking advantage of this tax saving opportunity. The Auditor's office has identified those homeowners and will be mailing them a notice asking that they apply.

Homestead Tax Exemption Form: <https://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/auditor/files/Homestead-Exemption-Application.pdf?450>

"We believe we are one of the first counties in the state to take on this challenge," said Charleston County Auditor Peter Tecklenburg. "I often speak with citizens who don't know what tax saving potential is available to them and we decide it's time to contact people directly."

The Auditor administers the Homestead Exemption program, a statewide program that provides property tax relief to taxpayers over the age of 65 and those with disabilities. In Charleston County, nearly 25,000 residents currently receive the benefit.

The credit removes \$50,000 worth of tax appraisal from a taxpayer's primary residence. For example, if someone owns a home worth \$250,000, the county will only tax the home as if it is worth \$200,000. This is a savings of around \$225 on the average tax bill.

- The Homestead Exemption program is one of many tax saving opportunities available through Charleston County Government. A complete list is available here: <https://www.charlestoncounty.org/tax-forms.php>
- For more information on the Charleston County Auditor's Office: <https://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/auditor/index.php>

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- Prepared by the Public Information Office -