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Property Tax Reduction/Deferral Programs

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ADA COUNTY ASSESSOR

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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208-

Apply for 2012 Property Tax Reduction/Deferral Now Through April 16th

(Boise, ID) - The Ada County Assessor's Office is now accepting applications for enrollment in the 2012 State of Idaho Property Tax Reduction and Property Tax Deferral programs. Residents are encouraged to submit applications as early as possible before the **Monday, April 16, 2012 deadline**.

PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION (CIRCUIT BREAKER) PROGRAM:

Through the Property Tax Reduction Program, qualified property owners can reduce their annual property tax bill by up to \$1,320. The State of Idaho reimburses Ada County for the reduction in property taxes, up to the claimant's qualifying benefit amount. Eligibility for the Property Tax Reduction Program requires that a property owner be eligible for State of Idaho Homestead (Homeowner's) Exemption benefits, and that they meet one or more of the following qualifications as of January 1, 2012:

- Age 65 or older
- Widow/Widower of any age
- Blind
- Fatherless or motherless child under 18 years of age
- Former prisoner of war/hostage
- Disabled as recognized by the Social Security Administration, Railroad Retirement Board or Federal Civil Service
- Veteran with a 10% or more service-connected disability or receiving a pension from Veteran's Affairs (VA) for non-service-connected disability
- Additionally, applicants must have a 2011 net income of \$28,000 or less after deducting non-reimbursed medical expenses. *(Other deductions may include funeral expenses, business/farm losses, early banking withdrawal penalties and/or alimony paid. Applicants must provide documentation proving their wages and all sources of income.)*

The Ada County Assessor's Office recently mailed Property Tax Reduction applications to residents who qualified for the program last year. Residents who would like to apply, or who requested an application but have not yet received it, should contact the Assessor's office at (208) 287-7200.

FREE Application Assistance IS AVAILABLE

There is **no cost** to apply for the 2012 Property Tax Reduction Program, and residents should not work with someone who tries to charge an application fee. Residents who need one-on-one assistance to complete the application are encouraged to visit locations where Assessor's Office employees will be offering assistance free of charge. *Please see the schedule on the next page for dates and locations.*

Residents can also receive assistance at the Ada County Assessor's Office, located at 190 W. Front Street, Suite 107, directly east of the Ada County Courthouse. Applications for this program must be submitted **by April 16, 2012.**

**2012 Property Tax Reduction Program (Circuit Breaker)
Application Assistance Schedule:**

Boise Senior Center (345-9921)
690 Robbins Road, Boise, ID 83702
Every Tuesday & Thursday: Feb. 2 - April 10, 9am-12pm

Star Senior Center (286-7943)
102 Main St., Star, ID 83669
Friday: February 17 & March 16, 9:30am-12pm

Meridian Community Center (888-3579)
201 E. Idaho Ave., Meridian, ID 83642
Every Wednesday: Feb. 8 - April 4, 9am-12pm

Garden City Senior Center (336-8122)
3835 Reed St., Garden City, ID 83714
Friday: February 24 & March 30 - 9am-12pm

Kuna Senior Center (922-9714)
299 Avenue B, Kuna, ID 83634
Friday: February 10, March 2 & April 6 - 9am-12pm

** This schedule does not include the Eagle Senior Center for the 2012 season.*

PROPERTY TAX DEFERRAL PROGRAM:

The Property Tax Deferral Program offers residents a way to defer property taxes on their home and up to one acre of land. These taxes must eventually be repaid to the State of Idaho, with 6% interest. To qualify, you must apply for and meet the eligibility requirements of the Property Tax Reduction (Circuit Breaker) Program, and have a 2011 income of \$40,000 or less. The deferred property taxes plus interest must be repaid when:

- Any part of the property is sold or the title is transferred
- The qualified claimant, or the last qualified claimant dies
- The property no longer qualifies for the Homestead Exemption (meaning it's no longer the resident's primary residence)
- The Idaho State Tax Commission determines that the property tax deferral was granted to an individual who isn't a qualified claimant, or granted for property that does not qualify

Residents interested in applying for the 2012 Property Tax Deferral Program must submit an application with notarized signatures **by April 16, 2012.**

For more information call (208) 287-7200, or visit the Ada County Assessor's Office at 190 E. Front Street, Suite 107 - directly east of the Courthouse on the ground floor of the Civic Plaza Apartment Complex.

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