

## OFFICE OF THE PROPERTY APPRAISER

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## Duval County Property Appraiser's Office Provides Online Homestead Application

The Duval County Property Appraiser's Office now provides an online Homestead Exemption application aimed at saving homeowners time and money.

"We wanted to make the process as easy as possible for our customers," said Jim Overton, Duval County's Property Appraiser. "Until now, new homeowners had to either visit our office downtown, or submit applications by fax or mail with additional attachments," he said. "Now they can put the information into their own computer, hit a button and it's done."

The application is intuitive and will ask applicants necessary questions based on responses. In special circumstances, an applicant may be required to provide additional information; but in most cases, the homestead exemption application can be completed entirely on the web.

The homestead exemption is a benefit for Florida homeowners which can provide up to \$50,000\* off the assessed value of a home; therefore lowering property taxes. Once in place, the homestead exemption triggers another state law which limits the increase in the property's assessed value to 3% or less per year. Qualifying homeowners who moved into their home after January 1, 2011 are eligible for a 2012 exemption and may begin filing now. The deadline to file is March 1, 2012.

The exemption application is available on the Property Appraiser's Web Site at <u>duvalpa.com</u>. The web site is one of the most accessed local government sites in Jacksonville.

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For information on Homestead and other Exemptions, contact the Customer Service/Exemptions Division at (904) 630-2020.

\*a portion of the homestead exemption does not apply to school taxes