

Senior Volunteer Tax Relief Program

Work to be done in 2022-23, reduction to be applied to taxes in Fiscal Year 2024

The Williamsburg Senior Volunteer Tax Relief Program allows eligible taxpayers to receive a reduction in their property taxes in exchange for volunteer work for the Town. The reduction may be for up to \$1500 per household per year and is based on the hours worked and a rate equal to the Massachusetts minimum wage. Please note that the Federal government regards the amount earned as taxable income.

Participants must be at least 60 years old, residents of Williamsburg, and have household income under approximately \$50,000. For other rules, please see next page.

The work year is Nov. 1, 2022, to Oct. 31, 2023.

The Town board or department for which a person works will keep track of the hours and will inform the Select Board by Nov. 1, 2023. Participants are encouraged to track their own hours.

Submit application to the Board of Selectmen at the Town Office Building, 141 Main Street, P.O. Box 447, Haydenville, MA 01039, by Oct. 1, 2022. (Late applications will be accepted if there is room available.) For information: 413-268-8400 option 9, or selectmen@burgy.org.

Name _____

Address _____

Property address, if different _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

I hereby declare that I am at least 60 years old, that I reside in Williamsburg, and that my household income is not more than \$53,638.

Signature of Applicant

Date

(Optional:) I hereby declare that my household income is not more than \$34,552.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Approval by Select Board, prior to the beginning of volunteer work.

Chair of Select Board

Date

Income

Income should include all money coming into the household, both taxable and non-taxable (e.g., remember to include Social Security). The Select Board does not want to see tax returns or be told the exact amount of income. Applicants just certify that they are below or above a certain limit.

Special circumstances – such as extraordinary medical bills, special skills, or barely over the maximum – may be submitted to and considered by the Board.

Other Considerations

Goal – The program allows eligible taxpayers to receive a reduction in their property taxes in exchange for volunteer work for the town. The goal is to help low-income people and also to do work needed by the town.

Number of participants – Number is limited to 12 at the full \$1500 per household. If there are more applicants, the amount that can be earned by each may be lower, so that everyone can be included.

Income levels – There is a “Maximum Household Income Level” (\$53,638); applicants making less than this amount may participate in the program; applicants making more may not. There is also an “Income Preference Level” (\$34,552); applicants making less than this amount are given preference; applicants making more than this amount can still participate. This is household income, not individual income. The levels are adjusted each year for cost of living.

Substitute – If the participant is physically unable to work, an approved representative or representatives may work instead.

Couples and co-owners – Both members of a couple may work, but the total amount earned is subject to the limit that can be earned.

Approval date – Participants must be approved by the Select Board before they start work for the year. The year runs from November 1 to October 31.

Skills and Interests

Name _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Date _____

Skills and interests (please list broadly, even things you think may not be usable; for example, gardening, mowing, cleaning, driving a van, filing):