



TAX & TAG TIPS

AUGUST 2022

Savvy Taxpayer Tip: Understand the Value Offset Exemption

With Gwinnett County property values soaring recently, many homeowners have asked about the Value Offset Exemption (VOE). Let me provide the basics of how this important exemption works on your behalf.

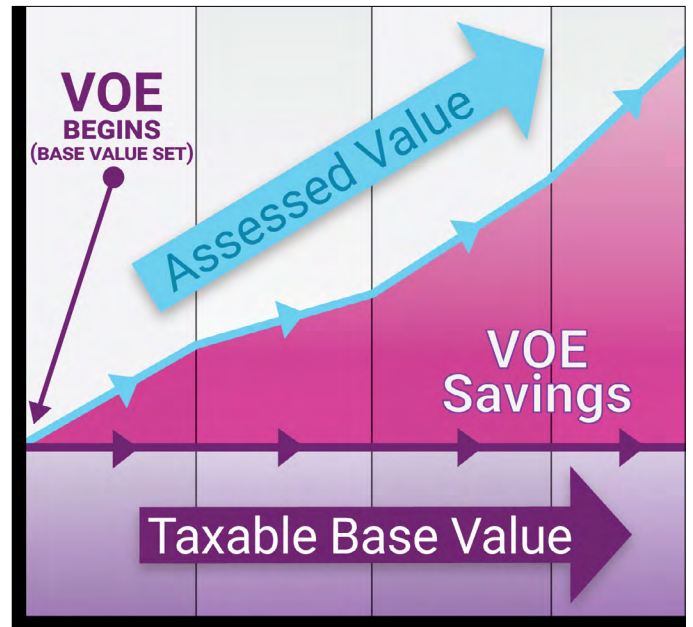
When you apply for any homestead exemption you are also applying for the VOE. The same application is used for all types of homestead exemptions. The Value Offset Exemption keeps you from paying additional county taxes because of a property value increase. The VOE sets a "base value" of your property when it is granted. If your property value increases, you don't pay county tax on the increase above the base value. Your taxable value for the county portion of your taxes stays the same. The difference between your annual assessed value and taxable value is your VOE savings.

If your assessed value is reduced below the base value, you would be taxed based on the lower assessed value just as if you did not have VOE.

There are a few other things to keep in mind about VOE. The VOE applies to the county portion of the tax bill for as long as you own the home and remain eligible for the exemption. It does not apply to school, state, and city taxes, which will continue to be taxed at the annual assessed value. The VOE also does not apply to new additions, such as adding a pool or finishing a basement. Physical changes to a property also change the base value. Lastly, the VOE benefit is limited to the value of the home and up to five acres of land.

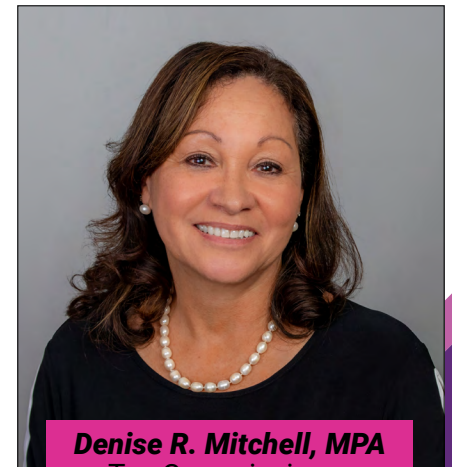
Homeowners must apply for homestead exemptions by April 1 to reduce taxes in the current year. Once approved, there is no need to reapply every year. Applications take only a few minutes to complete online at GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/apply.

If you have any questions regarding homestead exemptions or your tax bill please do not hesitate to contact my office. The contact information is on the reverse side.



The VOE holds the taxable value of a property constant for the county tax portion, even if the assessed value increases.

Best regards,



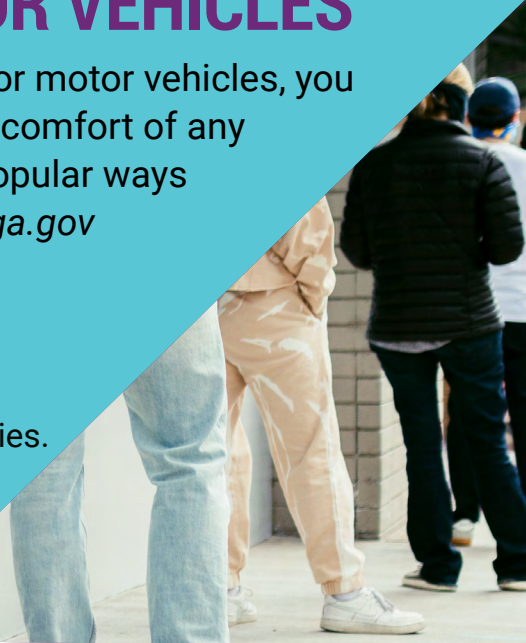
Denise R. Mitchell, MPA
Tax Commissioner



SAVE GAS! DO MORE THAN EVER ONLINE FOR MOTOR VEHICLES

With all of the e-services available online for motor vehicles, you can do everything except title work from the comfort of any Internet-connected device. Here are the most popular ways people are helping themselves at eservices.drives.ga.gov

1. **Duplicate Registration** – receive by email, print.
2. **Cancel Registration** – find your vehicle, submit, done.
3. **Renew Tags** – receive decal within 5-10 days; convenience fee applies.
4. **Pay Insurance Fines** – identify your vehicle and yourself, pay.
5. **Prestige License Plate Inquiry** – discover what's available.



GET YOUR DECAL INSTANTLY AT A KIOSK

Kiosks are proving to be very popular and for good reason. First, you can renew your tag while you're grocery shopping, since many Kroger stores have kiosks. All you need to get started is your driver's license, and you can renew up to 60 days before your birthday. Convenience fees apply and you may renew up to 10 vehicles under one convenience fee. For locations, visit GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com/kiosks.



We're Here to Help!

Customer Service Agents available 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. weekdays.

Property Tax: tax@gwinnettcountry.com • 770-822-8800
Motor Vehicles: tag@gwinnettcountry.com • 770-822-8818
Chat with us at GwinnettTaxCommissioner.com.



MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

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MON • TUE • THU • FRI	WED	SAT • SUN
8:30 - 5:30	8:30 - 6:00	Closed