

CLINTON COUNTY
APPLICATION FOR HOMESTEAD AND FARMSTEAD EXCLUSIONS

Please read instructions on reverse side before completing application. Applications must be filed with the County Assessors Office by March 1st. The County Assessors Office phone is **570 893-4031**.

Basic Information

Name / Address

- 1. Property Owner(s) _____
- 2. Property Address _____
- 3. Municipality _____
- 4. School District _____
- 5. Mailing Address _____
- _____
- _____
- City/State/Zip _____

Send your completed application to:
CLINTON COUNTY ASSESSMENT OFFICE
230 EAST WATER STREET
LOCK HAVEN, PA 17745

- 6. Phone Number of Applicant..... Daytime _____ Evening _____

Homestead Information

- 7. Do you use this property as primary residence?..... Yes ___ No ___
- 8. Do you claim anywhere else as your primary residence or do you or your spouse receive a homestead tax abatement or other homestead benefit from any other county or state?..... Yes ___ No ___
- 9. Is your residence part of a cooperative or a condominium where some or all of the property taxes are paid jointly?..... Yes ___ No ___
- 10. If you answered yes to question 9, do you pay a portion of the jointly paid taxes?..... Yes ___ No ___
- 11. Do you use any portion of this property for something other than your primary residence, such as a business or rental property?..... Yes ___ No ___
- 12. If you answered yes to question 11, what percentage of the property is used solely as your residence?..... %
- 13. Your parcel number is: _____

Farmstead Information

(This section only needs to be completed if you are also applying for a farmstead exclusion.)

- 14. Does this property include at least ten contiguous acres of farm land?..... Yes ___ No ___
- 15. Are there buildings and structures on the property that are used primarily to:
 - A. Produce or store any farm product for purposes of commercial agricultural production? ___ Yes ___ No ___
 - B. House animals raised or maintained on the farm for the purpose of commercial agricultural production? ___ Yes ___ No ___
 - C. Store machinery or equipment used on the farm for the purpose of commercial agricultural production? ___ Yes ___ No ___
- 16. If you answered yes to questions 15 a,b, or c, do any farm buildings or structures receive an abatement of property tax under any other law?..... Yes ___ No ___

I hereby certify that the above information is true and correct.

Signature(s) _____ Date ____/____/____

Any person who knowingly files an application which is false to any material matter shall be subject to payment of taxes due, plus interest, plus penalty and shall be subject to prosecution as a misdemeanor of the third degree and a fine of up to \$2,500.00.

Date Filed	____/____/____	OFFICIAL USE ONLY	Homestead Value	_____	
Date Reviewed	____/____/____	Land Value	_____	Farmstead Value	_____
Reviewed By	_____	Imprv Value	_____	Approved	___ Denied ___
Applicable Years	_____	Total Value	_____		
		Land Use	_____		
					11:49:29 02/16/2005

You must file this form in order to receive PROPERTY TAX RELIEF under the Homeowner tax relief act of 2004

INSTRUCTIONS..... APPLICATION FOR HOMESTEAD AND FARMSTEAD EXCLUSIONS

The Homeowner Tax Relief Act, Act 72 of 2004, was signed into law by Governor Rendell on July 5, 2004, to allow school districts to reduce property taxes through homestead and farmstead exclusions. Property tax relief will be funded by a combination of state revenue from gaming and dedicated local income taxes. Under a homestead or a farmstead property tax exclusion, the assessed value of each homestead or farmstead is reduced by the same amount before the property tax is computed. Most likely, initial property tax reductions will not take effect until July 1, 2006; however, the changes may occur as early as July 1, 2005 or as late as July 1, 2007. In addition, some school boards may choose not to adopt the homestead and farmstead exclusions.

1. Fill in your name and name of other owners of record, such as your spouse or a co-owner of the property. All recorded owners must apply for the exclusion.
2. Fill in the address of the property for which you are seeking a Homestead Exclusion.
3. Fill in your municipality, if you are not sure what your municipality is, contact your local tax collector or county assessment office at: 570 893-4031 .
4. Fill in your school district. If you are not sure what your school district is, contact your local tax collector or county assessment office at: 570 893-4031 .
5. Fill in your mailing address.
6. Please list phone numbers where you can be reached during the day, and the evening, if you are unavailable during the day.
7. Only a primary residence may receive the homestead exclusion. This is the fixed place of abode where the owner intends to reside permanently until the person moves to another home. You may be asked to provide proof that this property is your primary residence, such as your drivers license, your voter registration card, your personal income tax form or your local earned income tax form.
8. Do you have another residence which you claim as your primary residence? For instance do you claim another state as your primary residence, or another county in Pennsylvania? The Homestead Exclusion can only be claimed once for a place of primary residence. You may not claim this property as your primary residence if you claim another property as a homestead or if you or your spouse receive a homestead tax abatement or other homestead benefit from any other county or state.
9. If you live in a unit of a cooperative or a condominium and you pay all or a portion of your real property taxes jointly through a management agent or association, rather than paying your taxes separately from other units, check yes.
10. If you answered yes to question 9, provide the percentage of overall tax you pay. You may be asked to provide a contact to confirm this information.
11. Check yes if the property for which you are seeking a homestead exclusion is used for other purposes, such as a business or rental property.
12. If you answered yes to question 11 indicate what percentage of the property is used as your private residence.
13. Fill in Review the parcel number of the property for which you are seeking a homestead exclusion. You can also find the parcel number on your real property tax bill. If this is incorrect, call your local tax collector or county assessment office at: 570 893-4031.
14. Only buildings and structures on farms which are at least ten contiguous acres in area and used as the primary residence of the owner are eligible for a farmstead exclusion. If your property includes at least ten contiguous acres of farm land, check yes.
15. Check yes if the buildings or structures are used primarily to:
 - A. Produce or store farm products produced on the farm for the purpose of commercial agricultural production.
 - B. House animals raised or maintained on the farm for the purpose of commercial agricultural production.
 - C. Store agricultural supplies or machinery and equipment used on the farm in commercial agricultural production.
16. Check yes if any farm buildings or structures receive an abatement of property tax under any other law.

Change in Use

When the use of a property approved as homestead or farmstead property changes so that the property no longer qualifies for the homestead or farmstead exclusion, property owners must notify the assessor within 45 days of the change in use. If the use of your property changes and you are not sure if it still qualifies for the homestead exemption, you should contact the assessor.

False or Fraudulent Applications

The assessor may select, randomly or otherwise, applications to review for false or fraudulent information. Any person who files an application which contains false information, or who does not notify the assessor of a change in use which no longer qualifies as homestead or farmstead property, will be required to:

- * Pay the taxes which would have been due but for the false application, plus interest.
- * Pay a penalty equal to 10% of unpaid taxes.
- * If convicted of filing a false application, be guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree and be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding \$2,500.00.

By signing and dating this form, the applicant is affirming or swearing that all information contained in the form is true and correct. Applications must be filed before March 1 of each year.

For questions on the Homestead or Farmstead Exclusion, please contact your local tax collector or the county assessment office at: 570 893-4031 , Monday through Friday.

Send your completed application to:

CLINTON COUNTY ASSESSMENT OFFICE

**230 EAST WATER STREET
LOCK HAVEN, PA 17745**