

Revised 5/23/12



**TOWN OF TEMPLETON**  
**Council on Aging/Senior Center**  
**Food Pantry/Meals on Wheels/**  
**Transportation**  
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## Information on Senior Tax Work-Off Program

The town of Templeton has established a property tax work-off program for taxpayers over 60 years old. Under the program, participating taxpayers work in various town departments and receive an abatement on their taxes. The maximum amount of the tax reduction is \$500.00 (per household).

The town of Templeton voted to fund this program with \$10,000, which allows 20 people to earn the maximum amount of \$500.00.

A sub-committee of some selected Templeton Department Heads shall administer the Senior Tax Relief Work-Off Program.

The Selectmen also voted to pay the state's minimum wage of \$8.00 an hour. With this, the resident/home owner can work a maximum of 62.50 hours a year.

In order to be eligible, you must be the assessed owner of the property on which the tax will be abated and live in Templeton. If the property is subject to a trust, the senior must have legal title. Income & asset limits apply as follows:

Single Income Limits--\$20,000 from ALL sources, then subtract \$4,308.00 for cost of living allowance.

Asset Limit: \$38,720.60—including ALL bank accounts, stocks, bonds, securities, CD's, IRA's, recreational vehicles, second homes, and businesses.

**PLEASE NOTE:** ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST FILE A NEW APPLICATION EACH YEAR. APPLICANTS SHOULD BE MADE AWARE THAT CREDITS GRANTED ARE CONSIDERED REPORTABLE INCOME FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX PURPOSES AND THAT A W-2 WILL BE ISSUED BY THE TOWN.

Married Income Limits--\$30,000 from ALL sources, then subtract \$6,462.00 for cost of living allowance.

Asset Limit: \$41,485.99—including ALL bank accounts, stocks, bonds, securities, CD's, IRA's, recreational vehicles, second homes, and businesses.

This abatement is not considered income or wages for state income tax, unemployment, or workmen's compensation.

\*It is considered income for federal income taxes.

The approval format includes four-section application requesting information on eligibility, skills, and experiences and a CORI. The application will be evaluated by the subcommittee using the following selection criteria:

- Meets income, age, residency, and home ownership eligibility requirements
- Ability to perform work
- Availability of a position suitable for the skills of the applicant
- Is able to pass a CORI check

Selected applicants will be placed within a town department, board, agency or program upon recommendation of the subcommittee and subject to review. An applicant may refuse the first offering. The department head will supervise and train the applicant and report accrued hours worked to the Council on Aging Director on a weekly basis (consistent with scheduled payroll submissions).

All senior work-off homeowners go on the payroll and must go to the Selectmen's office and fill out paper work just like any new employee. They need to bring their social security card and a driver's license or some other form of ID. Being on the payroll requires a social security

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number. They are exempt from state tax and with this small amount made generally no federal tax is taken out. However, Medicare is deducted but the amount is small.

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