

# **Ashby Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-off Program**

#### How it works:

- \* Ashby Senior Citizens, who qualify for the program, can reduce their property taxes by up to \$1000 (max) per year by working for the Town of Ashby.
  - \* Sign up by visiting the Ashby Assessors Office in the Town Hall to complete the <u>required</u> <u>application</u> for approval.
- Each participant reports to the individual department head for which they are assigned & all worked hours are to be signed off on by that department head. All work needs to be preapproved by a department head and all work-off hours need to be signed off on by a department head.

## Job Opportunities & Requirements:

- Visit the Ashby Assessors Office to find out what jobs are available and find a job to match your skills.
  - \* Jobs are first come first served and based on individual department needs.
  - \* The Volunteer must have the appropriate skills and physical ability for the position.
- \* The Volunteer and the department head must both agree the job is an appropriate match.
  - A participant cannot be related to the head of the department in which they are volunteering.
    - Volunteers cannot run town machinery.

### **Eligibility Requirements:**

- Applicants must be an Ashby resident over the age of 60.
- \* A participant must complete an application and subsequent payroll paperwork.
- \* The participant must have owned & occupied their property for at least one year.
  - Only property with a dwelling qualifies.
  - \* Only one person per household can participate in the program.
    - \* Your exemption cannot exceed your owed property tax.

For questions and an application please contact the

**Town Assessors Office: 978-386-2427 ext 15** 

Assessors Office Hours: Monday / Wednesday / Thursday 9:00 AM to 1 PM.

Friday 9:00 AM to 12 PM

Wednesday Evening 4-8

### Frequently asked questions:

- \* How many hours can I work? The maximum hours able to be worked per year is 83.
- \* How much do I earn per hour? You will earn the state minimum wage currently \$12.00 per hour.
- \* Do I have to work the full 83 hours? No you can work any number of hours up to 83.
- \* Do I have to earn the full \$1,000? No you can earn any amount up to \$1,000.
- \* I saw something needed to be done in town so I did it. Can I use those hours towards my work-off hours? No. All work needs to be pre-approved by a department head and all work-off hours need to be signed off on by a department head.
- \* Can I fill in for a town employee who is out sick? No. All work needs to be pre-approved by a department head and all work-off hours need to be signed off on by a department head.
- \* My relative is a town employee...can I still participate in the program? Yes.
- \* Can I work for my relative who is a department head in town? No. You cannot be related to your department head.
- \* Can I work for my friend who is a department head in town? Yes. You can work in any department in which you are NOT related to the department head as long as you are qualified for the position.
- \* Can I volunteer for the same department as my relative who is a town employee? Yes, as long as your relative is NOT your department head, and you are qualified for the position.
- \* What forms will I need to complete to participate in the program? First, complete an application.

  Once your application is approved, like all new town employees, you will be required to complete all town employee payroll required forms including: I-9, W-4, OBRA, etc.
- \* Who signs off on the hours I've worked for the Town? The department head for which you are working.
- \* When should I turn in my hours sheet and to who? Your hours sheet(s) should be turned into the Town Assessor's Office after your department head has signed it.
- \* What happens to my worked hours if I become ill or unable to continue participating in the program? All earned hours will be applied to your property's tax bill.
- \* Who should I talk to about available jobs? Contact the Town Assessors Office for available positions in town.

# THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING TO HELP YOUR TOWN!