



If You Are a Widow or Widower, You May Qualify for Lower Property Taxes

by Stephanie Thomas

Look at your 2018 Property Tax Notice. You might be pleasantly surprised to learn that the **assessed value** of your house (ten percent of the value) could allow you a property tax exemption up to \$3,965. Many SaddleBrooke residents bought or built their homes years ago, and the tax value is often still based on your original cost to build or purchase. This figure can be much lower than what the market price would be today.

The Pinal County Tax Assessor publishes the following guidelines on its website. Senior Village is passing along this information to the SaddleBrooke community as a public service. Our volunteers will also help Village members determine if they might benefit from this exemption. Call Senior Village at 520-314-1042 to request service or more information.

Requirements for Widow or Widower's Exemption:

- Must be a **permanent** resident of Arizona-must present Arizona Driver's License or ID
- Must have resided with their spouse in Arizona at the time of the spouse's death: or if their spouse died while a resident of another state, then the surviving spouse must have come to Arizona before January 1, 1969
- Must present the death certificate of the deceased spouse to the Assessor
- Must not have property value (within the State of Arizona) that exceeds a Net ASSESSED value of **\$26,969**. Net ASSESSED value can be found on your tax notice or Notice of Valuation card
- Must re-apply EVERY THREE YEAR cycle between first Monday in January and thru last day of February. If applying during the middle of a cycle, you will be required to file at the beginning of the next cycle.

When and where to apply:

- **First Monday in January through Last Day of February**
- **First time applicants must apply in person**
Thereafter it may be done by mail (Notary Public required.)

- Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
- Pinal County Assessor's Office: Building E; 31 N Pinal St. Florence
- Phone: 520-866-6361

Documents Required with Applications

1. Copy of Death Certificate (Certified/Original)
2. 2018 Arizona State Income Tax Return
3. Copy of the prior year's tax bill or valuation card of all properties in Arizona
4. License plate numbers for all motor vehicles
5. Title/Tax bill
6. ARIZONA DRIVERS LICENSE OR AZ ID

<http://www.pinalcountyz.gov/Assessor/Pages/TransfersExemptions.aspx>