# **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

## PROPERTY TAX DEFERRAL FOR THE ELDERLY AND TOTALLY DISABLED

FILING PERIOD FEBRUARY 1<sup>ST</sup> – MAY 15<sup>TH</sup>

# **INCOME GUIDELINES FOR 2023**

**MARRIED - \$53,400** 

**SINGLE - \$43,800** 

Assessor's Office Town of Wallingford 45 South Main Street Wallingford, CT 06492

203-294-2001

# TOWN OF WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT

#### **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR TAX DEFERRAL PROGRAM**

## WHAT IS THE TAX DEFERRAL AND HOW DOES IT WORK

100% of taxes are postponed, to be collected at a future date.

#### HOW LONG ARE THE TAXES DEFERRED?

Taxes are deferred until:

- a) The property is sold or transferred;
- b) The death of the property owner;
- c) Property owner no longer occupies property as primary residence.

#### WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE TAX DEFERRAL?

Must be the record owner of, or hold life use, in the real property in which he occupies as his principal residence and be on our homeowners program.

Must have owned and occupied for at least one year prior to the deferral year. Must occupy the residence for more than 183 days of each calendar year.

Must be 65 years of age or older by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current Grand List year, or be receiving total disability benefits from Social Security or a Federal, State or local government retirement or disability plan.

Must meet qualifying income guidelines.

Must not owe delinquent real estate taxes to the Town of Wallingford.

## HOW DO I APPLY FOR THE TAX DEFERRAL PROGRAM?

Application forms are available at the Assessor's office.

# WHEN CAN I APPLY FOR THE TAX DEFERRAL PROGRAM?

You must apply every other year between February 1<sup>st</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>. The Assessor's office will assist you when filing for deferral benefits.

#### WHAT IS THE RATE OF INTEREST CHARGED ON THE DEFERRED TAXES?

There is no interest charged. If the deferred taxes are not paid when they become due and payable, they shall begin to accrue interest at the same rate as for delinquent taxes. Currently that is 18% per annum.

## WHY IS THERE A LIEN PLACED ON MY PROPERTY?

By law, the Town of Wallingford must place a lien on all properties under the tax deferral program (C.G.S. 12-129n). This lien protects all taxpayers of the Town of Wallingford by insuring the payment of all deferred taxes.

# IF I AM ABLE TO, CAN I PAY MY TAXES AT ANY TIME?

Yes, you can pay some or all of the taxes owed at your option. This will reduce the amount of taxes that must be paid upon the transfer of your property.

# WHAT HAPPENS IF MY INCOME INCREASES ABOVE THE ALLOWABLE LIMIT?

You will not be eligible for benefits for that particular year. If you are not eligible, you will be responsible to pay any applicable taxes for that particular year.