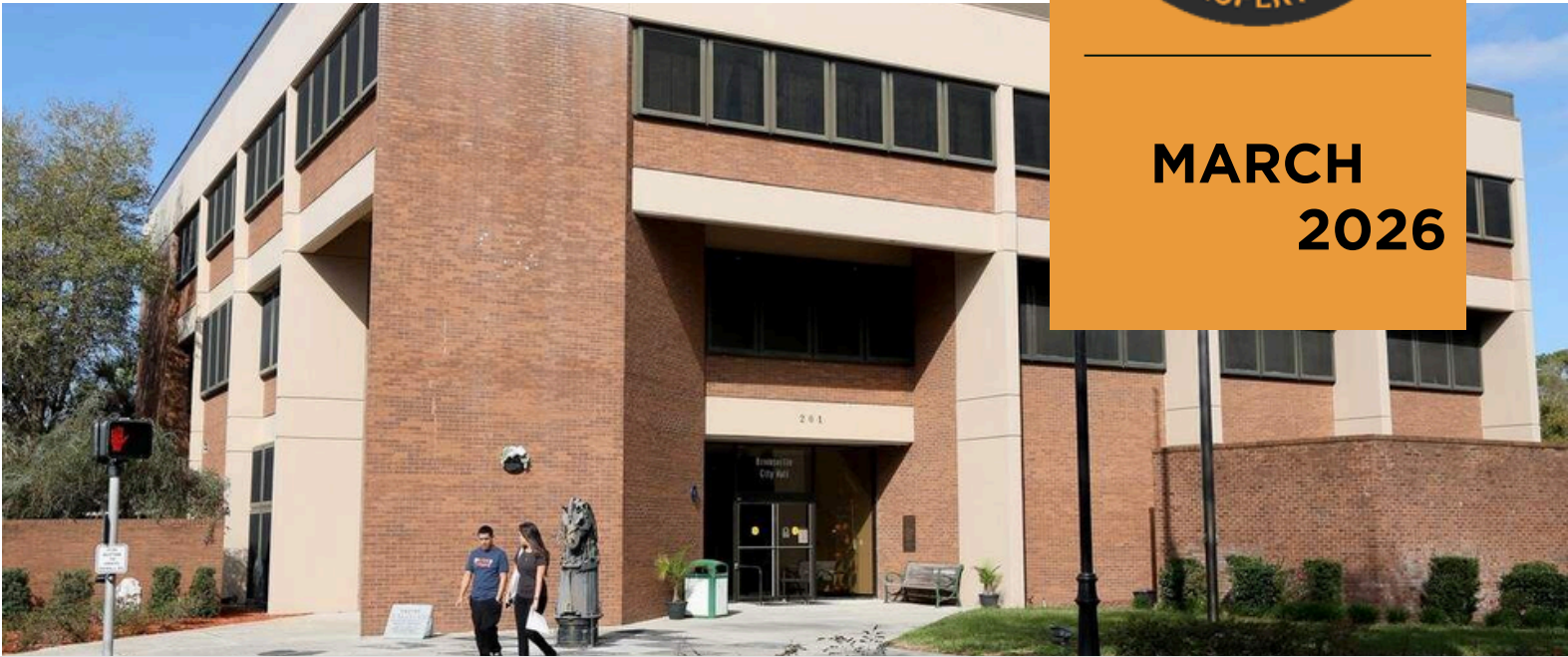


QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



**MARCH
2026**



Important Dates

In this inaugural edition of the Hernando County Property Appraiser Newsletter, we highlight key information regarding property tax exemptions and share helpful tips for navigating our website more efficiently.

A variety of exemptions are available to qualifying property owners. Please note that the application deadline is March 1, 2026, for exemptions to be applied to the 2026 tax roll. Most exemptions require applicants to have an established homestead exemption and to occupy their residence as of January 1 of the current tax year.

Additionally, on page 5, we feature several of our most frequently visited webpages and explain how these online tools can assist you in locating the information you need.



The deadline to apply for property exemptions is **March 1st, 2026**



The deadline for tangible personal property tax return filing is **April 1st, 2026**



Update your mailing address by **10/31/2026** to ensure your tax bill gets sent to the correct place



<https://hernandocountypa-florida.us/>



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Property Exemptions

The deadline to apply is 3/1/26

Homestead Exemption

Applicant must be a permanent resident of FL; the property must be your primary residence as of 1/1 and proof of residency & other documentation may be required.

Disability Exemptions

Applicant must submit a statement of disability from one licensed, FL physician on the FL state DR-416 form, provide a

letter from the US dept of veteran affairs, or the social security administration which states that the applicant is legally blind, or totally and permanently disabled and the disability date.

Total & Permanent Disability Exemption

This exemption may be applied to any real estate owned, and occupied as a permanent residence, less any portion used for commercial purposes for any individual not deemed quadriplegia, paraplegia, hemiplegia, or other total and permanent disability requiring use of a wheelchair for mobility or who is legally blind. This exemption must be applied for in person at one of our office.

Widow/Widower Exemptions

An application must be filed for this exemption, and a copy of the death certificate must also be submitted. If the recipient of this exemption remarries, they are no longer entitled to this benefit.

First Responder Exemptions

This exemption may be applied to any real estate that is owned and used as a homestead by a person who has a total and permanent disability as a result of an injury or injuries sustained in the line of duty while serving as a first responder in this state or during an operation in another state or country authorized by this state is exempt from taxation if the first responder is a permanent resident of this state on 1/1 of the year with the exemption is being claimed.

A first responder is defined as a law enforcement officer, correctional officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician or a paramedic.

This exemption requires certain documentation to be submitted along with an application on or before 3/1 of the year of which the exemption is being applied. You must apply for this exemption in person or at one of our offices.

Low Income Senior Exemptions

Applicants must be 65 or older as of 1/1 of the tax year, must be receiving the homestead exemption on their property and their household gross income must not exceed the income limitations set by the Department of Revenue.



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More information can be found on our website under the exemptions tab.

Military Property Exemptions

The deadline to apply is 3/1/26

Types of Military Exemptions

\$5,000 Service-Connected Disability Exemption

Applicant must submit a letter from the VA (stating the % of service-connected disability is more than 10%)

\$5,000 Service-Connected Disability Exemption for Surviving Spouse

Applicant must be a spouse of a deceased Service-Connected

Disabled Veteran. Applicant must submit a letter from the VA stating the % of service-connected disability (10% or more) of deceased spouse along with a copy of the spouse's death certificate. If the recipient of this exemption remarries, they are no longer entitled to this benefit. The applicant must have been legally married to the deceased at the time of their death.

Combat Related Disability Tax Discount

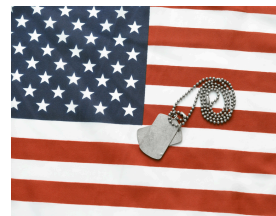
Applicant must be 65 or older as of 1/1, must be honorably discharged and must have a service-connected disability of 10% or more that is combat related

Service-Connected Total and Permanent Disability Exemption

Any honorably discharged veteran with a service-connected total and permanent disability, surviving spouses of qualifying veterans and spouses of FL resident veterans who died from service-connected causes while on active duty as a member of the US armed forces or confined to a wheelchair are entitled to an exemption of real estate used and owned as a homestead less any portions used for commercial purposes. To be eligible for this exemption, the applicant must own, occupy and have permanent resident of this state as of 1/1 of the tax year for the exemption is being claimed. If applying for the first time the applicant must provide a letter from the VA as proof of service-connected total and permanent disability or the death of the spouse while on active duty. The letter must reflect the homestead address.

Deployed Military Exemption

Applicants must currently receive a homestead exemption, be deployed during the preceding calendar year on active duty outside the continental US, Alaska, or Hawaii in support of named military operations.



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More information can be found through Veteran's Affairs | www.va.gov / 1 (800) 827-1000

Hernando County, FL

Fun facts about Hernando County



Hernando county was founded in February 1843.

Our county was named after Hernando De Soto.

According to the 2020 census our population was 194,515.

Hernando county spans about 589 square miles composed of about 473 square miles of land

and 116 square miles of water.

Hernando County sits along Florida's Nature Coast; an area celebrated for its scenic landscapes and abundant outdoor recreation.

Brooksville is home to the county government, and Spring Hill remains the largest community in the county.



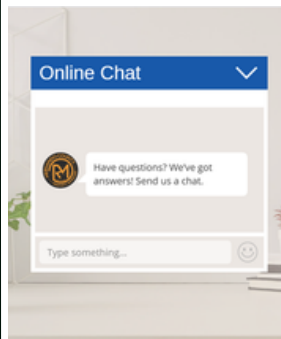
Do you have fun or noteworthy county facts? We'd love to hear them, feel free to email them to us.



Did you know?

- Get married
- Buy a new home
- Record a new deed
- Turn 65
- Get divorced

If you made any life altering changes in 2025 it could affect your 2026 tax bill.



Our website has a live chat feature available Monday - Friday from 9am - 4pm where you can connect with us instantly.



Florida's portability law lets homeowners transfer up to \$500K of their save our homes tax benefit to a new property, reducing property tax.



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Website Tips & Tricks

Quick Links

Property Search

Tax Estimator

File Homestead Online

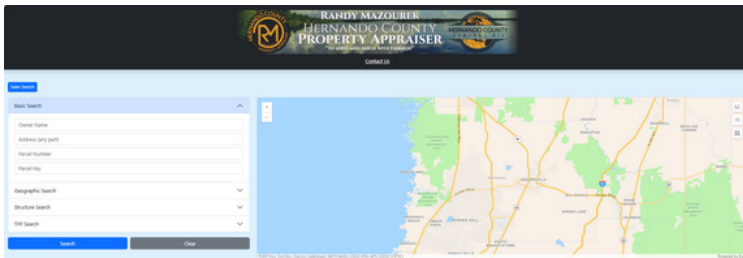
Agricultural Classifications

News

January 22, 2025

We're on Facebook! Follow the Property Appraiser's Office for the latest news and updates

Property Search Tool



The most popular feature on our website is the Property Search tool. It allows you to easily look up properties and access a wide range of details about any specific location.

You can use the Quickview option to see key information right from the search results. If you need a deeper look, simply select View, and the full property record will open in a new tab.

In this detailed view, you'll find everything from the legal description and sales history to tax data, land size, and much more. It's a convenient way to get all the information you need in one place.

<https://propsearch.hernandocountypa-florida.us/>

Property Record Cards

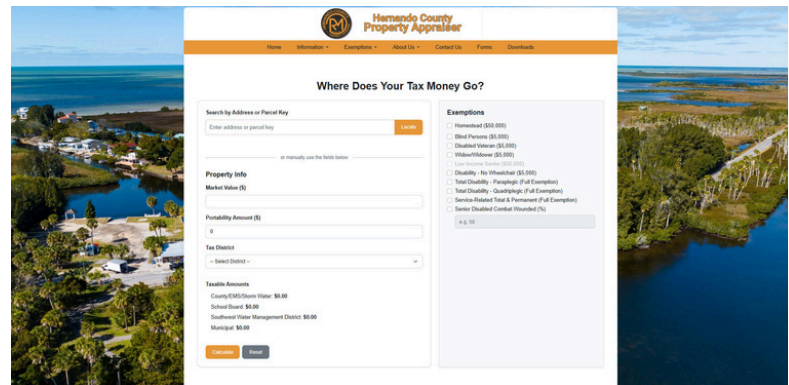


Property record cards provide a streamlined overview of essential information at a glance. From legal descriptions and property values to current ownership and more, these cards make it easy to access the

details you need quickly and efficiently. Find your property record card using our property search tool;

<https://propsearch.hernandocountypa-florida.us/>

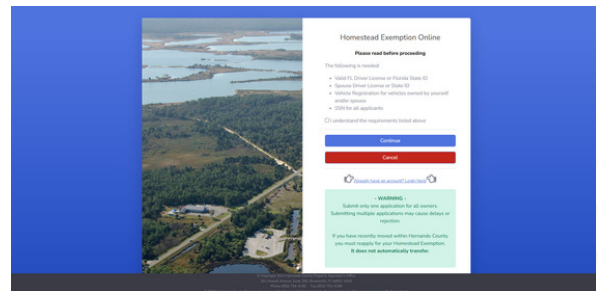
Tax Estimator Tool



This tool can help you calculate what your property taxes may look like at a specific address. Please be advised that the estimator is used to determine the **approximate** taxes on any market/assessment value that you input for any chosen tax district in the county. Other variables may apply so this should only be used as an estimate.

<https://taxestimator.hernandocountypa-florida.us/TaxEstimator>

Apply for homestead online



Applicants that meet the homestead requirements may apply for the homestead exemption online at;

<https://pahxapp.hernandopa-fl.us/>



<https://hernandocountypa-florida.us/>



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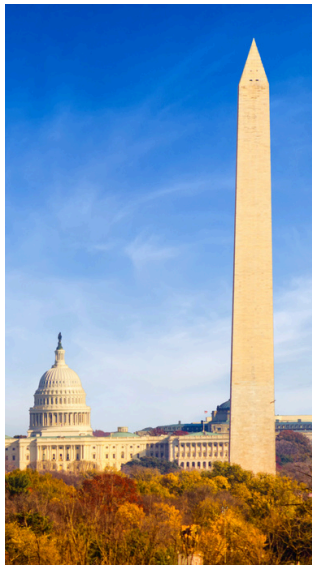
Upcoming Events

2026 Mid-Winter Conference Tallahassee, FL



Mr. Mazourek will attend the 2026 Mid-Winter Conference hosted by the Florida Property Appraisers' Association, where he will participate in a series of workshops designed to keep him informed on legislative developments, provide valuable insights to policymakers, and support collaboration with various agencies on critical issues related to property taxation.

Esri FedGIS Washington, DC



Three of our staff members will be representing our office at the Esri FedGIS conference in Washington, DC.

During their time there, they will participate in a variety of classes and presentations designed to strengthen their technical expertise and expand their knowledge in areas relevant to local government.

What would you like to see in our next newsletter?

We value your feedback and would love to hear from you. Tell us what topics you'd like to see in future newsletters, share any suggestions for improvement, or highlight an exceptional service experience. Reach out to our Communications Specialist at Nicole.Bertulli@hernandocounty.us.



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