BOARD MEMBERS:

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AFFILIATIONS:

(GAAO) GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF ASSESSING OFFICIALS

GAP GROUP, INC.

LEE COUNTY BOARD OF TAX ASSESSORS

104B LESLIE HIGHWAY LEESBURG, GEORGIA 31763

> (229)759-6010 FAX (229)759-3035 QPUBLIC.NET/GA/LEE

Important Reminders

OFFICE STAFF:

JOE WRIGHT CHIEF APPRAISER

AL DEEN DEPUTY CHIEF APPRAISER

PATSY J. PONDER PERSONAL PROPERTY APPRAISER

> KAREN M. COE SENIOR APPRAISER

JOYCE E. LOWTHIAN MANUFACTURED HOUSING APPRAISER

BROOKE CROSS Administrative Assistant/Appeals Specialist

The Lee County Board of Assessors and its staff want to remind the citizens of Lee County of some important upcoming dates. The time to file returns and applications for exemptions is upon us. The deadline to file for homestead exemption and receive the credit for the current year is April 1, although we do take applications year round. A common misconception of the elimination of the homestead exemption has been mentioned several times, but there is still a \$2000.00 exemption off of the assessed value available. The homestead tax relief grant that was funded by the State was eliminated causing a decrease in the exemption amount, but the exemption itself was not eliminated.

Property returns for real and personal property should also be filed by April 1, as well as applications for other exemptions, such as Conservation Use Assessment and the Forest Land Protection Act. If you have any questions concerning available exemptions or the filing of returns, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

A couple of other changes due to new legislation are also forthcoming. ALL owners of taxable real property will receive a Notice of Assessment that will include a tax estimate along with the value of the property. You will have 45 days from the date of the notice in order to file an appeal if you disagree with the value. Please remember upon the receipt of these notices that it is NOT a tax bill, but only a notice with a tax estimate based on last year's millage rate. We hope to start mailing these notices by mid-April. If you have any questions concerning these notices, please call our office.

We will also be sending questionnaires to new owners on some properties that have recently sold. If you receive one of these questionnaires, please fill it out and return it to our office at your earliest convenience.

If we can be of assistance in any way with any of these matters or other matters pertaining to property tax administration in Lee County, please do not hesitate to contact our office. Our phone number is 229-759-6010. Our mailing address is 104-B Leslie Highway, Leesburg, Georgia, 31763, and we are located at 104-B Leslie Highway in Leesburg.