



For immediate release:

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Tax Relief May Be Available For Property Owners Impacted By Heavy Rain and Flood Damage

SDAT Will Identify Damaged Real Property for Reassessment, Encourages Residents To Apply

The [Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation](#) (SDAT) is encouraging residents whose real property has been damaged by the recent severe weather to contact the Department, as they may qualify to have their property assessments reduced. Maryland residents can fill out the attached pdf and email it to their local SDAT assessment office. A list of all SDAT offices with contact information can be found on SDAT's website [here](#).

Multiple locations across Maryland such as Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Annapolis have been impacted by flooding and power outages, but Ellicott City in Howard County was particularly devastated. If you are a resident or business owner in Ellicott City, please contact the Howard County Assessment Office by calling 410-480-7940 or emailing sdatt.how@maryland.gov.

Governor Larry Hogan has declared a statewide [State of Emergency](#) on Sunday, May 27, in response to the major flooding in order to provide Maryland residents with vital assistance and resources throughout the duration of this hazardous situation. SDAT offices have been in contact with county governments and other local organizations to offer any assistance and coordination necessary. In the coming weeks, SDAT's assessors will be logging affected properties and will begin visiting areas impacted by the severe weather in order to locate and identify damaged property.

When a decrease in value is confirmed by an assessor—either from an exterior inspection or from a resident submitting the attached application—an adjusted real property assessment will be sent to the County Finance Office and a new tax bill may be issued. If a property owner has already paid their tax bill, a prorated abatement will be issued. If the extent of damage is not clear from an exterior inspection, the attached form will be mailed to the property owner for them to complete and send back. In addition to property tax relief, business personal property lost as a result of the damage may also be eligible for a personal property assessment reduction.

The Department joins Governor Hogan and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) in reminding residents to take all necessary precautions to stay safe. Please avoid all affected areas and continue to monitor the weather forecast because more rain is expected throughout the week. [Click here](#) for more information from MEMA on how residents can be weather prepared by ensuring that they know how to receive warnings, follow safety tips, and take certain actions.

SDAT will continue to be in contact with state and local governments to ensure that residents who may qualify for a reduced assessment are aware of the damaged property assessment reduction form.

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LARRY HOGAN
GOVERNOR



DEPARTMENT OF
ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION

MICHAEL HIGGS
DIRECTOR

DENISE HERNDON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

BOYD RUTHERFORD
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DAMAGED PROPERTY ASSESSMENT REDUCTION FORM

This form seeks information to determine the eligibility for a damaged property abatement (property tax refund) under Maryland Tax-Property Article §10-304. Return this completed form to the local assessment office for which your property is located. Upon receiving this form, a property inspection may occur.

_____	_____
Property Ownership Name(s)	Current Mailing Address
_____	_____
Phone Number	Email Address
_____	_____
Damaged Property's Physical Address	Property Account Number (if known)
Date of Damage: _____	Cause of Damage: _____

Please describe the extent of damage to the dwelling, accessory structure or building. Please include any pictures and/or insurance, fire, engineer or other damage reports you may have available. _____

Can the dwelling and/or building be occupied in their current condition? YES NO

Estimated cost in damage to dwelling or building (if known): _____

Estimated time it will take to repair the damage (if known): _____

Was business personal property damaged or lost as a result of this damage? YES NO

If yes, please complete the additional information below so the Personal Property Division may be notified.

Business Entity Name: _____ Business Entity ID Number (if known): _____

Please describe the extent of business personal property lost or damaged. Please be specific to describe if all, or only a portion of the business personal property was damaged or lost at the time of this damage. _____

This form seeks information for the purpose of determining an assessment reduction resulting from property damage. Failure to provide this information may lead to the denial of the assessment reduction. Some of the information obtained would be considered part of a "personal record" as defined in State Government Article, §10-624. Consequently, you have the statutory right to inspect your file and to file a written request to correct or amend any information you believe to be inaccurate or incomplete. Additionally, personal information provided to the State Department of Assessments and Taxation is not generally available for public review. However, this information is available to officers of the State, county or municipality in their official capacity and to taxing officials of any State or the federal government, as provided by statute. Additionally, if your property would be used by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation as a comparable for purposes of establishing the value of another property in a hearing before the Maryland Tax Court, the requested information, or a portion thereof, may have to be provided to the owner of that other property.