



## Getting Ready for the Quad Year

Stepping up taxpayer education and outreach for 2011



2011 is a quadrennial year, and that means it's going to be a busy year in the Supervisor of Assessments Office. With every taxpayer receiving an assessment notice this year, we're gearing up for a deluge of calls and visits from Will County residents with assessment questions and concerns. To that end, we're stepping up our education and outreach efforts.

### Inside this issue:

- What the Quadrennial Year Means for You Ask Rhonda!*
- Tax Forums Are Coming...*
- Senior Events 2011*
- Employee Spotlight*

Last year, we hosted numerous senior events and tax forums, and we've planned even more for this year. We feel that these events dramatically increase the number of senior exemption applications and decrease the number of unnecessary assessment appeals. For instance, we saw senior applications go up and appeals for 2010 go down from the previous year.

We've also revamped many of our educational brochures, streamlining them to present assessment information more clearly. In addition, we've added some new brochures, including one for the quadrennial year.

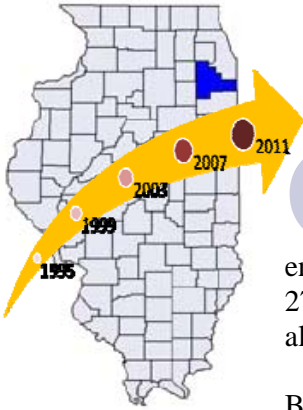
On the technology front, we're continuing to improve our Web site, so taxpayers have the latest information about their property and exemptions. Our latest enhancement is the addition of links to Google Street View. Taxpayers can perform a property search and, if an image is available, simply click a link to go directly to Google Maps to see the Street View.

It's a new year, and our resolution for 2011 is to ensure all county taxpayers have the information they need to understand their assessment, receive the exemptions to which they're entitled, and make informed decisions with regard to appeals.

And it's a resolution we promise to keep.

The Chief County Assessment Office is the Office of the Will County Supervisor of Assessments. To ensure that all statutory guidelines are met, it is the taxpayer's responsibility to speak with the Office of the Supervisor of Assessments regarding assessment concerns, exemption applications, and appeals. The Will County Supervisor of Assessments serves as the appointed official statutorily responsible to all Will County taxpayers regarding property assessments, exemptions, and appeal filings, and is the taxpayer's official source for assessment information.

Rhonda R. Novak, CIAO/I  
Chief County Assessment Officer



# 2011 IS A GENERAL ASSESSMENT YEAR WHAT THAT MEANS FOR YOU...

**G**eneral Assessment Years, also called quadrennial years, occur every four years in Will County. During these years, local township assessors must physically view and assesses every parcel in their township. Quad years were established by law to ensure that assessments are fair and equitable across the county. And with more than 270,000 parcels in Will County, assessors will be very busy this year taking an inventory of all taxable property.

But assessors aren't the only ones who should be looking at your property with a fresh eye. Because every taxpayer receives an assessment notice during quad years, they are also present a great opportunity for all county residents to personally assess their property to ensure their assessment is accurate.

There are several things taxpayers can do to make sure their assessment is correct. First, they can check their property record card on file in the local township assessor's office to be sure that all of the property characteristics listed on the card are correct. Next, they can compare their assessment to assessments of like properties in their area. Property information can be found on the Supervisor of Assessments' Web site. Lastly, taxpayers can always talk with their township assessor about their concerns. Because of the high volume of assessment notices published during quad Years, it's really important to talk with your assessor as early as possible because they will be very busy.

Of course, just as in any other year, if your cannot come to a resolution about your assessment with your local township assessor, you can file an appeal.

Assessment notices are published in late August to early September. You have thirty days to appeal after publication.

## Ask Rhonda!



**Question:** Since township assessors look at every parcel individually during quadrennial years, does that mean that the county will not apply a multiplier?

**Answer:** No. Just as in any other assessment year, if enough reassessment is not done at the township level by the local township assessors, the county will apply a multiplier.

If you have an assessment question, e-mail Rhonda at [rnovak@willcountyillinois.com](mailto:rnovak@willcountyillinois.com).

## Be on the lookout... Tax Forums are coming!



The Supervisor of Assessments Office hosts several Tax Forums every year. Forums are a great place to learn about the property tax process and get your assessment questions answered.

Check the "Events" page on our Web site in the coming months for dates and times.



# Senior Events

## 2011

- **March 7, 2011**  
**6:30 pm-7:30 pm**  
Three Rivers Library  
109 N. Wabena Ave.  
Minooka, IL 60447  
With Guest Speaker  
Rhonda Novak
- **March 16, 2011**  
**9:00 am-12:00 pm**  
Senior Expo  
Joliet Junior College  
Seniors in Motion  
1216 Houbolt Rd.  
Joliet, IL 60435
- **April 6, 2011**  
**10:00am-2:00pm**  
Homer Township  
Assessor Office  
14350 151st St.  
Homer Glen, IL 60491
- **April 12, 2011**  
**10:00am-2:00pm**  
Frankfort Public Library  
21119 Pfeiffer Rd.  
Frankfort, IL 6042
- **April 27, 2011**  
**10:00am-2:00pm**  
Washington Township Assessor  
Office  
30200 Towncenter Dr.  
Beecher, Illinois 60401
- **April 29, 2011**  
**10:00am - 2:00pm**  
Wilmington Public  
Library  
201 S. Kankakee St.  
Wilmington, IL 60481
- **May 2, 2011**  
**10:00am-2:00pm**  
Jackson Township  
Assessor Office  
100 E. Mississippi St.  
Elwood, IL 60421
- **May 2, 2011 @ 6:00pm**  
Three Rivers Library  
109 N. Wabena Ave.  
Minooka, IL 60447
- **May 12, 2011**  
**10:00am - 3:00pm**  
Romeoville Recreational  
Center  
900 W. Romeo Rd.  
Romeoville, IL 60446
- **May 18, 2011**  
**10:00am-2:00pm**  
Homer Township Assessor Office  
14350 W. 151st St.  
Homer Glen, IL 60491
- **May 20, 2011**  
**2:00pm-4:00pm**  
Homer Township  
Assessor Office  
14350 W. 151st St.  
Homer Glen, IL 60491
- **May 23, 2011**  
**10:00am-3:00pm**  
Grand Haven  
1520 Grand Haven Rd  
Romeoville, IL 60446  
(Residents Only)
- **May 24, 2011**  
**11:00am-2:00pm**  
Peotone Library  
515 North First St  
Peotone, IL 60468
- **May 25, 2011**  
**10:00am-3:00pm**  
Carillon Lakes  
21325 Carillon Lakes Dr  
Crest Hill, IL 60403  
(Residents Only)
- **June 1, 2011**  
**10:00am-2:00pm**  
Lago Vista  
16800 Vista Blvd.  
Lockport, IL 60441  
(Residents Only)

Every year the Supervisor of Assessments Office hosts numerous senior education events across the county. Staff will be on hand at all of the events to answer questions and help with applications. Seniors and their families are encouraged to come and find out about how to sign up for senior exemptions.

For more information about any of the upcoming senior events or to talk with someone about senior exemptions, please contact Jennifer Scharf at (815) 740-4321 or Barb Yahnke at (815) 740-4663.

### *Schedule Your Senior Event Today!*

Does your business, agency, or organization want to plan a senior event for local residents?

Simply call the Supervisor of Assessments Office today and ask to speak to Jennifer or Barb.

The SOA Office is happy to partner with you to better serve Will County's seniors.



Visit our Web site at [www.willcountysoa.com](http://www.willcountysoa.com) to download and print senior application forms.

- **June 6, 2011**  
**10:00am-2:00pm**  
Plainfield Township  
22525 W Lockport St  
Plainfield, IL 60544
- **June 7, 2011**  
**10:00am-3:00pm**  
Grand Haven  
1520 Grand Haven Rd  
Romeoville, IL 60446  
(Residents Only)
- **June 9, 2011**  
**10:00am-2:00pm**  
DuPage Township  
241 Canterbury Ln  
Bolingbrook, IL 60440
- **June 15, 2011**  
**10:00am-2:00pm**  
Frankfort Township  
11000 W Lincoln Hwy  
Frankfort, IL 60023



Will County Supervisor of Assessments  
302 North Chicago Street  
Joliet, Illinois 60432

Assessments: 815-740-4648  
Mapping: 815-740-4664  
Fax: 815-740-4696

**Committed to serving  
Will County taxpayers with  
fairness and pride.**

Lawrence M. Walsh, County Executive  
Rhonda R. Novak, Supervisor of Assessments



Visit us on the Web!  
[WWW.WILLCOUNTYSOA.COM](http://WWW.WILLCOUNTYSOA.COM)

According to state law, the Supervisor of Assessments Office provides statistical assessment performance data to the Illinois Department of Revenue. In addition, it gives technical advice and provides statistical analysis of assessment data to the township assessors and the Will County Board of Review. These statistics are derived from data gathered in the processing of approximately 25,000 Real Estate Transfer Declarations annually.

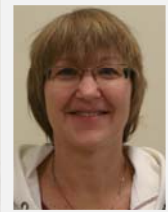
The Supervisor of Assessments Office also maintains records of total exempt properties and administers other special exemptions, such as the Senior Homestead Exemption, the Senior Assessment Freeze, the Veterans Exemption, the Veterans/Fraternal Organization Assessment Freeze, the Open Space Preferential Assessment Type, and the Model Home Exemption. In all, our office will grant over 30,000 Senior Homestead Exemptions and 12,432 Senior Assessment Freeze Exemptions for the 2010 tax year.

The Supervisor of Assessments acts as an equalization authority and, as such, works closely with the twenty-four township assessors, who are responsible for the initial assessed valuation calculation. The Supervisor of Assessments also serves as Clerk of the Board of Review

Other duties of the Supervisor of Assessments Office include: issuing parcel PIN numbers, maintaining the county's base parcel map, publishing assessment change notices and mailing notices to taxpayers.

## Employee Spotlight

*Nancy Camera*



Nancy has been with Will County for over 15 years. She began working as a summer temp and was hired full time in May 1995. She and husband Al Wroblewski have been together for about 18 years. They have two Chinese shar-pei dogs: Fly, the oldest, and their newest dog from rescue, Gunner.

**What do you like to do in your spare time?** We like to fish. We also like hang out with friends.

**What are your guilty pleasures?** Weekends away from home.

**What are your pet peeves?** Judgmental people and people who don't use common sense.

**What are your favorite restaurants?** Islamorada Fish Company in Bolingbrook, IL.

**What are your favorite sports teams?** The Bears. I follow the Cubs somewhat but don't get to watch many games.

**What do you like best about your job?** The diversity. Something different everyday. I also really enjoy working with the people—both the public and my fellow coworkers.

**What is something most people don't know about you?** I'm a shoe-aholic.

**Where is your favorite place to travel?** I love to go to warm places where we can relax and take our boat.

**What is your favorite book?** I have been an avid reader all my life, and I have too many favorites to list them!

**Who has been the most influential person in your life?** My Mom. She taught me to be self sufficient and that if you work hard, you can get what you want.

*The Assessment Review* is a quarterly publication of the Will County Supervisor of Assessments Office. All articles are written by Shavahn Dorris-Jefferson unless otherwise indicated.