

# SENIOR CITIZEN PROPERTY TAX RELIEF IN BERKSHIRE COUNTY

## I. SENIOR “CIRCUIT BREAKER”:

•If you are 65 or over before January 1, 2016, you may be eligible to claim a refundable Senior “Circuit Breaker” tax credit against your Massachusetts personal income taxes for the rent or real estate taxes you paid on your principal residence. The maximum credit allowed this year is \$1,070. (For more information, go to:

<http://www.mass.gov/dor/docs/dor/taxtips/seniors-retirees.pdf>)

Seniors needing help filing their income taxes can receive free help from the AARP Foundation Tax Aide Program. Preparation sites in north and central Berkshire County include:

### **DALTON SENIOR CENTER**

40 FIELD STREET EXT, DALTON, MA 01226-1558, (413) 684-2000

### **PITTSFIELD SENIOR CENTER**

330 NORTH ST, PITTSFIELD, MA 01201-4605, (413) 499-9346

### **ADAMS SENIOR CENTER**

3 HOOSAC ST, ADAMS, MA 01220-1709, (413) 743-8333

### **WILLIAMSTOWN SENIOR CENTER**

118 CHURCH ST, WILLIAMSTOWN, MA 01267-2439, (413)-458-8250

## II. PROPERTY TAX WORK-OFF ABATEMENT:

•Taxpayers over 60 may be eligible for a Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-Off Abatement. Under this program, taxpayers volunteer their services to their municipality in exchange for a reduction in their property tax bills — up to \$1,000 annually.

Each participating city or town sets its own rules and requirements for program participation. Here are the contacts and/or information links for some of the Berkshire County communities running programs:

**Adams:** Donna MacDonald, Board of Assessors, (413) 743-8300 x118

**Pittsfield:** Assessors Office (413) 395-0102

[http://www.cityofpittsfield.org/city\\_hall/board\\_of\\_assessors/uploads/FY16\\_Senior\\_Tax\\_Work\\_Off\\_Program.pdf](http://www.cityofpittsfield.org/city_hall/board_of_assessors/uploads/FY16_Senior_Tax_Work_Off_Program.pdf) Announcement of 2017 program expected in March/April 2016

**Lanesborough:** Lorna Gayle, Director, Lanesborough Council on Aging, (413) 448-2682

**Williamstown:** Debbie Turnbull, Assistant to Town Manager, (413) 458-3500

Guidelines are online at: <http://williamstown.net/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/1117>