



Office Phone: 513-887-3154  
Office Fax: 513-887-3149

130 High Street  
Hamilton, Ohio 45011



News Release, September 18, 2008

**AUDITOR ROGER REYNOLDS EXAMINING HOME DAMAGE**  
*Property Owners May Qualify for up to a 50% Tax Bill Reduction*

HAMILTON, OHIO – If you sustained storm damage from the severe winds of Sept. 14, you may be eligible for property tax relief. If there is damage or demolition which will affect the value of your property for tax year 2008, payable in 2009, you may file an Application for Valuation Deduction for Destroyed or Injured Property with the Butler County Auditor's Office.

In an effort to speed up this process and help homeowners, Butler County Auditor Roger Reynolds, along with others in the Real Estate Division, is surveying property damage across the county and will provide the necessary form to property owners.

“If you call our office and report property damage we will come out and take a look and provide the application for valuation deduction,” said Reynolds. “Of course there may be thousands of homes affected, so if we can't get to your home immediately I would recommend homeowners also consider downloading the form from our Web site or stopping by the Auditor's Office at 130 High Street in downtown Hamilton.”

Before any consideration of value can be determined for the tax bill, DTE Form 26, the Application for Valuation Deduction for Destroyed or Damaged Real Property, must be completed, notarized and returned to the Butler County Auditor's Office, 130 High Street, Hamilton, Ohio 45011. You will receive up to a 50% reduction on your January tax bill for damage to your property caused by the Sept. 14 storm. The application deadline is Dec. 31, 2008.

Even if the damage is repaired promptly, property owners should take pictures of the damage and file them with the notarized application.

You may [download DTE Form 26](#) on the Auditor's Web site, [www.butlercountyauditor.org](http://www.butlercountyauditor.org). Near the top of the page click “Forms” and look for DTE 26. You may also call our office at (513) 887-3154 to obtain a copy of the form or receive additional information.