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**Property Tax Relief Available To Flood, Wind Victims**

**OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 20, 2007** — Property tax relief is available to the owners of properties damaged or destroyed by recent flooding and windstorms, according to the Washington State Department of Revenue.

Property owners can apply to county assessors to reduce the taxable value of affected properties. Relief could include a partial refund of taxes paid in 2007 and a reduction of future taxes until the property is restored.

Applications are available at the offices of county assessors or online at [http://dor.wa.gov/Docs/forms/PropTx/Forms/TaxpClaimReducAssmtDestryRealPersProp\\_E.doc](http://dor.wa.gov/Docs/forms/PropTx/Forms/TaxpClaimReducAssmtDestryRealPersProp_E.doc). The forms should be submitted to county assessors.

The Department is working with assessors in flood-ravaged areas such as Lewis County to deal with changes in values of properties and the resulting impact on levies and property tax bills due next February.

More information on property tax relief is available at <http://dor.wa.gov/Content/GetAFormOrPublication/PublicationBySubject/TaxTopics/PropertyTax/ProptaxReliefFlood.aspx>, or by going to the Department's home page at <http://dor.wa.gov>.

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