

## **SOLID WASTE FEE RELIEF PROGRAM**

The purpose of this program is to provide assistance in the payment of monthly city solid waste fees to citizens of Newport News with low annual incomes.

**PROGRAM DATES:** Applications are available throughout the year.

**NOTARY:** All applications must be notarized. Assistance with application completion and free notary services are available by appointment at the Department of Public Works (Solid Waste Division) in Oyster Point.

**ELIGIBLES:** Residents of the City of Newport News legally responsible for paying the solid waste fee, either directly in their water bill or indirectly through rent paid to landlords.

**REQUIREMENTS:** Applicant must be legally responsible for payment of the Solid Waste fee, reside in the dwelling, nursing home, mental institution, or institution for physical and/or mental care. Rental property, vacant property, and businesses are not eligible.

**INCOME:** Combined total gross income of all household members is counted. Eligibility is based on income and household size.

**EXEMPTIONS:** Residents and relatives (other than individual legally responsible for paying solid waste fees and spouse), receive a \$10,000 deduction each from their gross annual income.

Permanently and totally disabled (person legally responsible for paying solid waste fee and/or spouse) receive a \$10,000 deduction from income (or 50% of income - whichever is greater).

**RESOURCES:** Applicant and spouse allowed up to \$200,000 in assets. Includes checking balance, savings, certificates of deposit, savings certificates, value of automobiles, boats, campers, stocks & bonds, cash value of life insurance policies, and non-exempt property, and excess property value.

**EXEMPTIONS:** If homeowner, value of home and up to 1 acre of land it resides on.

**RELIEF AMOUNTS:** The amount of relief an applicant is eligible for is based on total gross combined annual income of applicant & all residents, after deductions are applied.

***LEVELS OF RELIEF:***

**100% RELIEF:** 100% relief of \$4.78 per week is provided and no solid waste fee is charged on the applicants water bill. If applicant is paying solid waste fees through property rental, a check for the amount of the fees, \$4.78 per week, is mailed to the applicant 6 months after the month eligibility is established.

**67% RELIEF:** 67% relief will provide relief of \$3.20 per week and the applicant will be responsible for paying the remainder of the weekly solid waste fee of \$1.58. \$1.58 per week will be billed to the applicant in their water bill. Renters will receive a check 6 months after the month of eligibility for \$3.20 per week.

**33% RELIEF:** 33% relief will provide relief of \$1.58 per week and the applicant will be responsible for paying \$3.20 per week of the remaining solid waste fee in their water bill. Renters will receive a check 6 months after the month in which eligibility is established for \$1.58 per week.

(All relief amounts are reflected only in the amount of Solid Waste Fee that is charged, it has no impact on the amount of your bill for water consumption or other fees reflected on your water bills.)

***APPLICATIONS:***

Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Division (513 Oyster Point Road, Newport News, Virginia 23602; 269-2874) administers the Solid Waste Fee Relief Program. Applications will be mailed to individuals upon request.

Applications may be picked up in person at the Solid Waste Office, 513 Oyster Point Road. Home visits, application completion, and notarization of applications are arranged for individuals who are bedridden or homebound. Call 269-2874 for information.

***RECERTIFICATION:***

Applicants found eligible for the Solid Waste Fee Relief Program are required to be recertified at least annually. An application will automatically be mailed to eligible applicants when it is time to renew their eligibility.

***CHANGES:***

Individuals who have been found eligible for any of the three levels of relief are required to report any changes that would effect their eligibility due to changes in their income, resources, or situation. Changes are to be reported to the Department of Public Works (Solid Waste Division) as they occur.

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

### APPLICATION FOR THE SOLID WASTE GRANT RELIEF PROGRAM

1. Applicants must be residents of the City of Newport News, reside in the dwelling, and be legally responsible for paying the Solid Waste fee.
2. Combined gross income of Homeowner, Spouse, and all residents living in the dwelling (excluding \$10,000 for each resident with income), cannot exceed \$17,790 for one person. Income standards increase by \$500 for each additional person residing in the dwelling.
3. Combined Financial Worth (assets) of Homeowner and Spouse cannot exceed \$200,000 (homeowners: the resident and up to one acre of land it stands on is exempted).
4. The applicant must include ALL gross yearly income of Homeowner, Spouse and all residents of the dwelling from whatever source. Amounts must be exact – approximations are not acceptable.
5. All resources of the Homeowner and Spouse must be included on the application. For homeowners, this does not include the residence and up to one acre of land it stands on.
6. Categories of Relief:

If the combined gross income of the applicant (and any number of residents in the dwelling) is \$13,837 or less, (increase by \$500 for each additional person residing in the dwelling) they shall receive a 100% grant that will relieve them of all Solid Waste fees.

If the combined gross income is \$13,838 (for one person) the applicant shall be awarded a grant that will relieve 67% of the Solid Waste fee.

If the combined gross income is \$15,815 (for one person) the applicant shall be awarded a grant that will relieve 33% of the Solid Waste fee.

7. The applicant must complete Section I through III of the application form in full, and secure the required notarization. Sign and date the form in the presence of a notary.
8. Applications must be filed by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month in order to receive a grant for the next billing cycle.
9. You will be advised of your eligibility by mail as soon as a determination is made on your application. Your water bill will reflect the change in your Solid Waste fee.
10. You will not receive any money directly, (unless you are on a master meter) a grant will be awarded to the City of Newport News to help defray the cost of your Solid Waste fees.
11. If you are on a “Master Meter” (you pay for your water and solid waste fees in your monthly rent to a landlord) you will receive a check for the grant amount you were found eligible for at the end of each six months period. You must be receiving City Solid Waste Services.
12. This application applies only to City of Newport News Solid Waste fees. It does not include any other fees or your bill for water consumption.

◆◆◆◆PLEASE NOTE◆◆◆◆

Income from employment is your **GROSS INCOME**. Report on your application the amount of your income from your paycheck **BEFORE ANY DEDUCTIONS ARE SUBTRACTED**.

**SOCIAL SECURITY** income **INCLUDES** your monthly check amount **PLUS** the monthly **Medicare** premium x 12 months.

If you have saving accounts, certificates, etc. **YOU ALSO HAVE INTEREST EARNINGS**. Don't forget to include your interest earned under Income on Side 1 of your application.

Automobiles have a make and model. Please report **ALL INFORMATION**. (Example: Make = 1998 Ford; Model = Mustang).

Many **LIFE INSURANCE** policies have a cash value. It is determined by face value, age of policy and age of insured. Some policies have charts included to figure this out. If you can't figure it out – contact your Insurance Agent for this information. **CASH VALUES MUST BE REPORTED ACCURATELY**.

If you **OWN PROPERTY OUTSIDE NEWPORT NEWS**, please note on your application where it is located. Use the Real Estate Property Assessment from that locality to determine the value of the property.

Income figures and your assets must be **EXACT FIGURES**. Approximations of any figure (either high or low) are not acceptable. **YOUR APPLICATION IS A SWORN AFFIDAVIT**.

Unless the resident of the dwelling is in a nursing home, mental hospital, or facility for physical or mental care, they **MUST OCCUPY THE DWELLING**. If in one of the above noted facilities, **THE PROPERTY CAN NOT BE RENTED** or used for any consideration. Rental property and vacant homes are ineligible for Solid Waste Grant Relief.

If you are **permanently and totally disabled**, you will need to verify your disability in order to receive the disability income deduction. You will need to call and request additional information concerning the documents acceptable to prove your disability.



**III. NET FINANCIAL WORTH**

Please complete this statement of Net Financial Worth. Included in this statement must be all assets and financial worth of the applicant and spouse, including equitable interests. IF YOU ARE A HOMEOWNER, DO NOT INCLUDE THE VALUE OF THE RESIDENCE AND UP TO ONE ACRE OF LAND UPON WHICH IT STANDS.

NET VALUE OF ASSETS

VEHICLE #1 MAKE: \_\_\_\_\_ YR: \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL: \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE #2 MAKE: \_\_\_\_\_ YR: \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>ALL OTHER ASSETS:</b>	<b>Owner (Applicant)</b>	<b>Spouse</b>
Checking Account(s)		
Savings Account(s)		
Savings Certificates		
Certificates of Deposit		
Insurance Cash Value		
Stocks		
Bonds		
Boat		
Trailer/Camper		
Real Estate (Exclude Residence and up to one acre of land)		
Other Assets (Please Explain)		
<b>TOTAL</b>		

AFFIDAVIT

I request Solid Waste Fee Relief and certify that these statements are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I agree to let the Department of Public Works know immediately of any changes that occur in my situation as indicated above. I understand that any person or persons falsely claiming Solid Waste Fee Relief shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$500.00 for each offense.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

STATE OF VIRGINIA } To-wit:  
CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS }

Personally appeared before me in my City and State aforesaid \_\_\_\_\_ who being first duly sworn by me acknowledged the signature to the foregoing sworn affidavit to be his own and stated that on information and belief the said statements are true and correct.

Subscribed and sworn to me the undersigned Notary Public, in my City and State aforesaid

the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_.