



## MAYOR DAVID J. NARKEWICZ

City of Northampton  
Office of the Mayor  
210 Main Street Room 12  
Northampton, MA 01060-3199  
(413) 587-1249 Fax: (413) 587-1275  
mayor@northamptonma.gov

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### **Northampton Launches Senior and Veteran Tax Work Off Program**

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The Northampton Senior and Veteran Tax Work Off program is set to begin July 1, 2014. This initiative, laid out in Mayor Narkewicz's inaugural address, will allow income-eligible seniors and veterans to earn up to a \$1,000 abatement of their property taxes in exchange for volunteering in city departments and agencies.

In announcing this program Mayor Narkewicz said, "We must be continuously mindful to ensure that Northampton remains affordable to those of every generation and on every rung of the economic ladder – particularly our seniors and veterans. "

Many other Massachusetts communities have created these tax work-off programs to the benefit of residents and municipal governments alike. Northampton's program will offer 20 slots for senior citizens and 10 slots for veterans for work in various city departments including the Arts Council, Central Services, Health Department, Recreation Department and Senior Center.

The Senior Citizen Tax Work Off Program is open to seniors age 60 and older, who own property in and pay real estate taxes to the City of Northampton. Annual adjusted gross income cannot exceed \$30,000 for a single person or \$34,400 for a couple. The Veteran Tax Work Off Program is open to veterans (as defined by MGL Ch 4 §7 clause 43), who own property in and pay real estate taxes to the City of Northampton. Participants in either program must complete 125 hours of service in the program year, this current program year runs from July 1, 2014 to November 30, 2014. Interested seniors and veterans can complete an application online or pick one up in person at the Assessor's Office, Senior Center or Veterans Services Office. Applications for this program year will be accepted until June 23, 2014 and applications for subsequent program years will be available in October.

More information on the program can be found by visiting [www.northamptonma.gov](http://www.northamptonma.gov) or by contacting the Senior Center at (413) 587-1228 or Veterans Services at (413) 587-1299.