

COMMISSIONERS OF OXFORD

Ordinance No. 1215

Introduced by: Peter Dunbar

Date: February 12, 2013

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF OXFORD TO ADOPT A
FINANCIAL HARDSHIP EXEMPTION PROGRAM FOR THE BAY
RESTORATION FEE**

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted, and public hearing scheduled on March 12, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. at the Oxford Town Meeting Room, Market Street, Oxford, Maryland 21654.

By Order _____
Town Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance Number _____ of the Town of Oxford was duly read, advertised, and enacted in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Charter of the Town of Oxford on this _____ day of _____, 2013.

Attest: _____
Cheryl Lewis, Clerk/Treasurer
Town of Oxford

COMMISSIONERS OF OXFORD

ORDINANCE NUMBER: 1215

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DATE OF INTRODUCTION: February 12, 2013

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF OXFORD TO ADOPT A FINANCIAL HARDSHIP EXEMPTION PROGRAM FOR THE BAY RESTORATION FEE

WHEREAS, the Town of Oxford is required by Md. Code Ann. Environment Article § 9-1605.2, to collect the Bay Restoration Fee; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of Oxford are specifically authorized by Md. Code Ann. Environment Article § 9-1605.2(d)(1) to create a program to exempt certain citizens of Oxford from paying the Bay Restoration Fee based upon a substantial financial hardship as a result of the fee; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners of Oxford have determined that it is desirable and in the public interest to adopt a financial hardship exemption program for the Bay Restoration Fee to allow citizens, for whom the payment of the Bay Restoration Fee would create a substantial financial hardship, to be exempt from paying the Bay Restoration Fee.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF OXFORD AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: Application Process. All applications for an exemption shall be reviewed for sufficiency by the Town Clerk.

Section 2: Eligibility. To be eligible for the exemption, the applicant must be a citizen of Oxford and be the party responsible for paying the Bay Restoration Fee. The applicant must also meet at least two (2) of the following criteria for exemption from the Bay Restoration Fee, and submit the required documentation.

1) Receipt of energy assistance within the last 12 months. Confirmation on official letterhead is required of the applicant.

2) Receipt of public assistance-supplemental Social Security Income (SSI) or food stamps within the last 12 months. Confirmation on official letterhead required of the applicant.

3) Receipt of Veteran's or Social Security disability benefits within the last 12 months. Confirmation on official letterhead required of the applicant.

4) Meet the income criteria, as prescribed by the Maryland Department of the Environment. The current year's tax return is required to be submitted by the applicant.

Section 3. Period of Exemption. The exemption will be valid for 12 months from the date of approval for applicants are owner occupants of their dwelling and six months for applicants who rent their dwelling. Before the expiration of the exemption, it will be the responsibility of the applicant to reapply and provide all required documentation upon reapplication.

Section 4. Disqualification. Any citizen who, in the discretion of the Town, submits false information in support of an application for an exemption will be disqualified from re-applying for an exemption.

Section 5. This ordinance and the rules, regulations, provisions, requirements, orders and matters established and adopted hereby shall take effect and be in full force and effect twenty (20) days from and after the date of its final passage and adoption. This ordinance shall be incorporated into the Oxford Town Code upon its adoption.

ENACTED this _____ day of _____, 2013.

COMMISSIONERS OF OXFORD:

Gordon Graves, President

Peter Dunbar, Commissioner

Carole Abruzzese, Commissioner

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance Number _____ of the Town of Oxford was duly read, advertised, and enacted with the applicable provisions of the Charter of the Town of Oxford on this _____ day of _____, 2013.

ATTEST:

Cheryl Lewis
Clerk-Treasurer