

FARM FORESTRY EXEMPTION Frequently Asked Questions

General

What is the Farm Forestry Exemption (FFE)?

FFE is a tax exemption designed to protect wooded areas. Farmers with farm property or farm property holdings with wooded areas may be eligible for the exemption. Previously, the tax exemption applied to one acre of forested land for every 10 acres of farmland and could not exceed 20 acres in any one municipality.

What changed with FFE?

In the 2021 Fall Economic Statement, the Provincial Government stated its intent to increase the limit on the tax exemption for farm woodlots from 20 to 30 acres to keep pace with the growth of farm sizes.

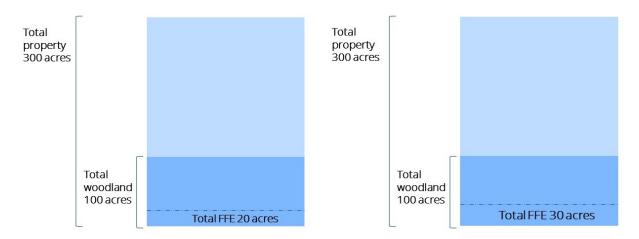
The changes were enacted with the Bill 43 amendment to section 3(1)19 of the *Assessment Act* to allow the Minister of Finance (Minister) to prescribe a higher number of acres. O. Reg 230/22 was filed to increase the acreage maximum per farm property owner in a municipality from 20 to 30 acres effective January 1, 2023.

What does this change mean for you and your property?

With this change, you may qualify for a tax exemption on up to 30 acres of forested land in any one municipality.

FFE Acreage Prior to 2023

Acreage after January 1, 2023





How do you know how much of the assessed value qualifies for the FFE exemption?

To improve transparency with property owners, the FFE assessed value will now appear on property assessment notices. The municipality will not charge property taxes on the assessed value shown as "Exempt".

Why does it look like the assessed value of your property has increased?

You may notice that the assessed value of your property is different from what may be listed on a previous property assessment notice. The assessed value that you see reflects the value of your property plus the assessed value of the FFE applied to your property.

Property taxes will not be charged to the assessed value shown as exempt as detailed above. Before this change, the assessed value for the FFE was deducted from the total assessment and not provided on the notice.

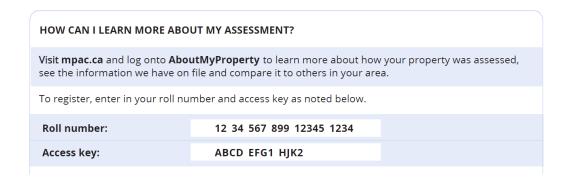
How will you be notified of my property's eligibility?

If your property qualified for the legislative change of 20 to 30 acres, you would have received a Special Amended Notice effective January 1, 2023, indicating a change to your property's eligible acreage and classification update.

For all other properties eligible for Farm Forestry Exemption, a Property Assessment Notice effective January 1, 2024, will now show the valuation attributed the FFE eligible acreage and indicated as an exempt partition to your property's classification.

How do you confirm the current information MPAC has regarding your property?

To see the information we currently have on file for your property, please <u>log into AboutMyProperty</u> using the roll number and access key found on your recent Property Assessment Notice.



Who can you contact regarding your property's eligibility and how the eligible acreages have been calculated?

If you would like to access your FFE calculation, please contact our Customer Contact Centre at 1 866 296-6722 (toll free) or 1 877 889-6722 (TTY), Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (EST) or visit mpac.ca and log onto AboutMyProperty.



MUNICIPAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT CORPORATION



Report generated on 2023-02-28 Roll number: 12 34 111 222 12345 Identification number: 0

Farm Forestry Exemption (FFE) Calculation

| PROPERTY OVERVIEW | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------|----------|----------------------------|------------|-----------------|-----------|--|
| Roll Number | Address | Lot Size | Eligible Forestry Lands | Percentage | FFE Calculation | FFE Acres | |
| 12 34 111 222 12345 | 10 DOWNING ST | 150.00 | 15.00 | 33.33% | 30.00 x 33.33% | 10.00 | |
| 12 34 111 222 67890 | 88 GREEN RD | 50.00 | 6.00 | 11.11% | 30.00 x 11.11% | 3.33 | |
| 12 34 111 222 98765 | 99 DIRT RD | 250.00 | 40.00 | 55.56% | 30.00 x 55.56% | 16.67 | |
| TOTAL | | 450.00 | 61.00 | 100.00% | | 30.00 | |

| TOTAL ALLOWABLE FFE: 30.00 acres | TOTAL APPLICABLE FFE | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| 450.00 x 10% = 45.00 acres | 30.00 acres | | |

You are receiving this Farm Forestry Exemption per the Assessment Act Section 3.(19). Forestry Purposes.

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What if you disagree with your property's assessment?

You have the option to file a Request for Reconsideration with MPAC. To learn more about this process, please <u>visit AboutMyProperty</u> or call our Customer Contact Centre at 1-866-296-6722 (toll free) or 1-877-889-6722 (TTY), Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (EST).