

NEWS RELEASE from the Smith County Appraisal District 245 SSE Loop 323, Tyler, TX 75702. 903/510-8600 Michael Barnett, Chief Appraiser.

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For **IMMEDIATE** Release

SOME NON-PROFITS ELIGIBLE FOR TAX EXEMPTIONS

“Non-profit organizations may qualify for total exemption from property taxes in 2011, but they must apply for the exemption at the Smith County Appraisal District,” said Mike Barnett, Chief Appraiser.

Property tax exemptions are available to many non-profit charitable, youth development, and religious organizations; non-profit private schools; cemeteries; and other qualified organizations. Requirements vary for different types of organizations as set out in the Texas Constitution and the Property Tax Code.

Although certain organizations may be required to reapply annually, most organizations, once granted tax exemptions, do not have to reapply for the exemption each year unless the chief appraiser asks them to file again. They must reapply if their qualifications for exemption change or if they acquire new property.

“Often, organizations mistakenly believe they are entitled to property tax exemption because they have received a federal income tax exemption or an exemption from state sales taxes,” Barnett said. However, state constitutional requirements for property tax exemptions are stricter than the provisions covering federal income and state sales taxes.

Additional information and application forms are available from the Smith County Appraisal District, 245 S.SE. Loop 323, Tyler, 903/510-8600.

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