



**ANNUAL APPLICATION FOR VALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY
USED FOR OPEN SPACE PURPOSES**

DATE: _____

APPLICATION NO. _____

TO: THE COOK COUNTY ASSESSOR

TOWNSHIP _____

You should complete this form to request an alternate assessment if your property is more than 10 acres in area and is used for open space purposes. You must be liable for the property taxes and the property must have been used for open space purposes for the 3 years immediately preceding this assessment year. Property is considered used for open space purposes if it:

- is actually and exclusively used for maintaining or enhancing natural or scenic resources,
- protects air or streams or water supplies,
- promotes conservation of soil, wetlands, beaches, or marshes, including ground cover or planted perennial grasses, trees, shrubs, other natural perennial growth, and any body of water, whether man-made or natural,
- conserves landscaped areas, such as public or private golf courses,
- enhances the value to the public of abutting or neighboring parks, forests, wildlife preserves, nature reservations, sanctuaries, or other open spaces, or
- preserves historic sites.

You must file this form with the Cook County Assessor's Office (CCAO), at the address shown below, by January 31 of each assessment year.

Note: When any portion of this property is no longer used for open space purposes, the person liable for taxes must immediately notify the CCAO in writing, and will also be required to pay the county treasurer the difference in taxes based on the fair cash value of the property in each of the 3 preceding assessment years, plus 5 percent interest. Payment is due by the following September 1.

1. The undersigned _____ being the person liable for taxes on certain real property hereinafter described, hereby requests that the said real property be valued for the assessment year January 1, 20____, as provided in 35 ILCS 200/10-155, namely on the basis of its fair cash value estimated at the price it would bring at a fair voluntary sale for use by the buyer for open space purposes.

2. Legal Description (Attach), Property Index Number [PIN] (s), and Street Address

3. The undersigned states that he (she) is the person liable for the taxes on the above described real property; that the above described real property is used for open space purposes, and has been used for the three (3) years immediately preceding January 1, 20 ____.

4. The undersigned states that the above described real property consists of _____ acres in area and: (Please circle one of the following which applies)

(a) is actually and exclusively used for maintaining or enhancing natural or scenic resources,

(b) protects air or streams or water supplies,

(c) promotes conservation of soil, wetlands, beaches, or marshes, including ground cover or planted perennial grasses, trees and shrubs and other natural perennial growth, including any body of water, whether man-made or natural,

(d) conserves landscaped areas, such as public or private golf courses,

(e) enhances the value to the public of abutting or neighboring parks, forests, wildlife preserves, nature reservations, sanctuaries, or other open spaces, or

(f) preserves historic sites.

Please submit along with the completed application any documentation that evidences the claimed use and size.

5. The undersigned understands that when any portion of the above described property is no longer used for open space purposes, the undersigned must notify the Cook County Assessor's Office of that fact in writing. In such an event, the difference between the taxes paid for the three (3) preceding years based on a valuation under the open space statute and what the taxes would have been if the property had not been valued as open space together with interest at five percent (5%) will become due from the undersigned, by the following September 1.

6. The undersigned shall notify any potential purchaser of the property of the requirements of this annual application. If the property is to be used as open space, the purchaser shall complete an application for open space valuation at closing. If the purchaser does not intend to continue the open space use, an escrow will be set up to cover the additional taxes that will be billed on September 1 following the closing. Such additional tax is the responsibility of the seller of the property.

7. Public access (circle one) is / is not allowed. If public access is allowed, please describe the nature of the access.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Applicant's Name Printed: _____

Applicant's Title: _____

Applicant's Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Date: _____, 20____.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
____ day of _____, 20____.

NOTARY PUBLIC

Mail to: Cook County Assessor's Office
Incentives Department, c/o Open Space
118 North Clark Street
Room 301
Chicago, Illinois 60602

For Assessor's Use Only

Township _____

Appeal No. _____

Open Space Purposes Valuation _____

Approved for year(s) _____

Denied for year(s) _____