

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BUSINESS FILERS

Who must file? As stipulated in 58.1-3518 of the Code of Virginia, it is the responsibility of every taxpayer who owns, leases, rents, or borrows tangible personal property that was used or available for use in a business and which was located in Washington County, Virginia, on January 1 of each year, to report such property on this return. If any taxpayer neglects or refuses to file, the Commissioner of the Revenue shall from the best information that can be obtained, enter the fair market value of such property and assess it as if it had been reported. (code of VA sec. 58.1-3519)

Must I file every year? **YES!!!** Don't mark "same as last year". This is **NOT** an acceptable filing. Things change. If you disposed of some equipment, you'll continue to be taxed on it. You may have added new equipment in the preceding year and this needs to be reported. A depreciation schedule should be attached. Return the form and depreciation schedule to Commissioner of the Revenue, One Government Center Pl., Suite C, Abingdon VA 24210. Forms may be emailed to grector@washcova.com

What if I own no business personal property? You **MUST** still file a return. Please enter "NONE" in both sections and provide an explanation as to how your business is conducted without the use of tangible personal property. If your business has closed, please provide a closing date.

How is equipment valued? Virginia Tax Code requires equipment to be valued by "a percentage or percentages of original cost" (cost of acquisition). This includes shipping and installation where applicable. The formulation for valuation is included in the table on the front of this form.

What if the equipment is fully depreciated? If equipment is fully depreciated but is still being used in your business, it is still a taxable asset in Washington County, Virginia.

What is considered business equipment? Business equipment includes **but is not limited to** furniture (desks, chairs, file cabinets, etc.), fixtures, copiers and other office machines, business telephones and cell phones, fixed and portable signs (billboards, banners, directories, etc.), professional books, vehicles and/or trailers not tagged, heavy construction equipment, lawn care equipment, tools (major professional tool sets, power tools, but not minor small tools), furniture used in a bed and breakfast, leasehold improvements (other than real estate) etc.

What is considered computer equipment? Computer equipment includes **but is not limited to** mainframe and personal computers, PDAs, monitors, CPUs, servers, uninterrupted power supplies, disk drives, touch-screens, printers, scanners, computer network equipment, POS equipment, "self-service" web or computer kiosks, fax machines, card readers, magnetic tape drives, modems, digital cameras, etc.

What if I have leased equipment? If you are using equipment in your business that you have leased, rented, or borrowed, and the lessor is responsible for the taxes, please provide us with their contact information. If additional space is needed, attach a separate sheet.

Name, address and phone # of lessor _____
