

## Instructions for Filing For Motor Vehicle Excise Abatement

There are two pieces of documentation that you must provide in order to be granted an abatement.

First, you must bring or send documentation to show:

1. Plate Return Receipt
2. New Registration showing old plate is on a new vehicle or
3. Lost Plate Affidavit (C-19) receipt

You must also include proof of what you did with the old vehicle, such as:

1. Trade-in papers
2. Bill of sale
3. Donation receipt
4. Insurance Total Loss Statement
5. Junkyard Receipt

The last action to occur will determine the date for granting the abatement. An example of this is if you returned your license plate on September and did not sell your vehicle until November. In this case, we would be able to grant your abatement effective November.

**Please be advised that no abatement can be granted until we have all the paperwork to show disposition of the vehicle *and* license plate. If you request an abatement and some paperwork is missing, we will return your documentation with a note stating what information is needed.**

If you still own the vehicle, but it is not registered, even if the plates are turned in, you still must pay excise tax on it for the year. If you still own it next year you won't receive an excise bill, but it can be considered taxable under Personal Property. This is a state law, Chapter 60A, Section 1.

If you moved to another town in Massachusetts, but your car was still registered in Clinton as of January 1st, you must still pay Clinton. If you moved out of state, you must send a copy of your new registration from the new state and Plate Return Receipts from Massachusetts.