



Office of Consumer Affairs **CONSUMER FACTSHEET**

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Akron, OH 44308 (330) 643-2879  
[www.co.summit.oh.us/conaffairs.htm](http://www.co.summit.oh.us/conaffairs.htm)

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## **“Free” Tax Filing Assistance**

Are you confused about deductions and tax laws? Do you need assistance preparing your tax return? Whether you are elderly, single or a family, eligible residents of Summit County have many places to turn for help filing their income tax returns.

**Free File Program** is a federal tax preparation and e-filing program for eligible taxpayers through a partnership between the IRS and the Free File Alliance. Taxpayers with an Adjusted Gross Income of less than \$57,000, can e-file their federal tax returns for FREE. For more information visit the IRS website at <http://www.irs.gov>.

**Ohio Benefit Bank** sponsors a FREE service to anyone whose household income is less than \$57,000. You may file online or with a counselor’s help by calling (800) 648-1176 or for more information visit their website at [www.obb.ohio.gov](http://www.obb.ohio.gov).

**Volunteer Income Tax Assistant Program (VITA)** offers free tax help to low to moderate income (less than \$49,000) people who cannot prepare their own tax returns. Certified volunteers sponsored by various organizations receive training to help prepare tax returns. To locate the nearest VITA site, call (800) 829-1040.

**Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE)** provides free tax help to people 60 and older. Trained volunteers provide free tax counseling and basic income tax return preparation. The AARP offers the TCE program at more than 7,000 sites nationwide. For more information call (800) 829-1040 or visit their website at <http://www.aarp.org/money/taxaide/>.

**The Armed Forces Tax Council (AFTC)** assists military personnel and their families to get free tax help. The AFTC consists of the tax program coordinators for the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. For more information call (800) 342-9647 or visit their website at <http://www.militaryonesource.com>.

**Operation CPA** will prepare tax returns free of charge for Ohio military personnel who are currently deployed outside of the state. Operation CPA consists of volunteers from the Ohio Society of CPAs and the Ohio National Guard. For more information call (888) 959-1212 or email [cspanswers@ohio-cpa.com](mailto:cspanswers@ohio-cpa.com).

In addition, community leaders and organizations in Summit County have created the **Akron Summit Earned Income Tax Credit Program** to help residents learn about income tax benefits and credits that they may be eligible to receive. For more information call (330) 376-6660, or to schedule an appointment call (866) 861-6401.