



Voter 411

By the Wyoming County Bureau of Elections



Agenda

- Voter Registration
- Types of Elections
- Ways to Vote
- Filling Out a Ballot

Voter Registration

being registered and staying registered

- How do I to register?

- www.vote.pa.gov
- Department of Transportation (DOT)
- In the Election Bureau Office
 - 1 Courthouse Sq, Tunkhannock, PA 18657
 - (570) 996-2226



- What do I need to register?

- A Wyoming County residential address
 - A precinct/polling place is assigned based on your residential address
 - A PO Box can be used as a mailing address
- A form of identification
 - A Pennsylvania State ID or Driver's License is best, but you may also use the last four digits of your SSN

- Do I have to renew my registration?

- Not if you vote or regularly update your registration



Voter Registration

Updates & Renewals

- What do you mean “update” my registration?
 - Name and address changes
 - When you get married or move (even if it’s to a different apartment)
- How do I update my registration?
 - Same as registering
 - www.vote.pa.gov
 - Department of Transportation (DOT)
 - Election Bureau Office
- Doesn’t it get updated when I move?
 - Not unless you tell us. USPS does not update your voter registration.
- If you do any of the above, your voter registration is considered current.
- Also, Vote!
 - If you vote regularly, you decrease chances of any issues

Speaking of Voting.....

- When?
 - At least twice a year, every year!
 - Primary, General and possibly a Special Election
- How?
 - In person
 - By Absentee or Mail-In Ballot
- Where?
 - At your polling place on Election Day
 - In your PJs (absentee or mail-in ballot)
 - In the Election Bureau office (absentee or mail-in ballot) up to a week before the election





Primary Elections



- What is a Primary Election?
 - In PA, a Primary Election is used to nominate candidates or delegates for the Major Political Parties
- Who can vote in a Primary Election?
 - Major Political Parties select their candidates to move forward
 - In PA, only the Democratic and Republican Parties qualify
- Referendums
 - A separate ballot is created for all other voters to use
- When is the Primary Election?
 - May for most elections but April in a Presidential Primary Election

General Elections

- What is a General Election?
 - Where voters elect candidates to hold an elected office
- Who can vote in a General Election?
 - Any registered voter
- When is the General Election?
 - Always in November



November 5, 2024

Special Elections?

- When a state level office is vacated part way through a term
- Can be held at the same time as another election

Municipal vs Federal Elections

- What is a Municipal Election?
 - A Municipal Election is a local election
 - County and municipal offices as well as some judicial
 - Odd years only
- Why does this election matter?
 - You elect the people that manage the day-to-day affairs in your school district, township, borough, and county
- What is a Federal Election?
 - State and Federal offices
 - Even years only



Ways to Vote



- At your polling place
 - Polling places are open 7am-8pm every Election Day
 - You can find your polling place by going to www.wyomingcountypa.gov/elections or www.vote.pa.gov
 - If it is your first time voting at your polling place, please take a form of ID
 - You will sign the poll book by your name before you are issued a ballot
 - Wyoming County polling places use paper ballots
 - Clear Cast 2.3
 - You put your own ballot in the scanner when you're done
 - You may have someone come with you to help you fill out a ballot
 - Declaration of Need for Assistance
- Absentee or Mail-In Ballot
 - You must apply for an absentee or mail-in ballot
 - The deadline is a week before the election
 - Absentee vs Mail-In
 - There is no difference in ballots, only the applications for the ballots. Absentee is for an illness or being absent on election day.

Ways to Vote, Continued

- Absentee or Mail-In Ballot, continued
 - “Permanent” aka Annual List
 - We will mail you an application once a year, by the first week in February
 - You still must complete the application every year
 - If you apply online, and state you will be out of the area, you are applying for an absentee application
 - Absentee applications are not annual and must be submitted every election unless you submit a paper application by reason of illness with a doctor’s signature. Electronic Absentee applications can not have a doctor’s signature.
 - The ballot will be mailed to whichever address you place on the application for the entire year
 - In Wyoming for May but in Florida for November?
 - You may turn in your ballot to the office in person or by mail
 - You may only turn in your own ballot
 - Not your spouses, children or parents
 - POA are not recognized in Elections
 - Ballots require one stamp, Signature and date



Ways to Vote, Continued

At the Election Bureau

- The Office is open 8:30am-4:00pm, Monday through Friday
 - The ballots are only available in the office a couple of weeks before the election (call first)
 - You must complete an absentee or mail-in ballot application before the deadline (7 days before the election)
 - There is no “early voting” in Pennsylvania. All ballots filled out before Election Day are absentee or mail-in ballots and require an application.
 - All absentee and mail-in ballots are opened on Election Day





Paper Ballots

- Regardless of whether you are voting at the polls or by absentee or mail-in ballot, you'll be voting on a paper ballot.
- Make sure to fill in the ovals
- If you are doing a write-in, you must fill in the oval and write a name on the line
- Only fill out your ballot with a blue or black pen

HOW TO CORRECTLY MARK YOUR BALLOT

Completely fill in the oval next to your selection.



Do not circle your selection or partially fill in the oval.





Vote Local

Get voting and election
information from your local
election officials.



Election Bureau Office

- 1 Courthouse Sq, Tunkhannock, PA 18657
- 8:30am-4:00pm
- Monday-Friday
- (570) 996-2226
- fkellert@wyomingcountypa.gov