

NEW VOTING RIGHTS: Proposal 2 of 2022

All Michigan voters now have the right to vote early in every statewide and federal election. Early voting will be offered for nine consecutive days, beginning on the second Saturday before the election and ending on the Sunday before the election.

The Clerk's office will still be open the Saturday prior to each election for absentee voting. You will not be placing your ballot into the tabulator on this day if you come to the Township Clerk's office; however, you can go to the early voting location if you wish to place your ballot into the tabulator yourself.

For Bay County, the early voting location will be the Bay County Community Center located at 800 John F. Kennedy Drive between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm.

Permanent Ballot List

Previously, Michigan voters could sign up to receive an absentee ballot *application* before each election. This new "Permanent Mail Ballot List" allows a voter to sign up to receive a **Ballot** before every election, eliminating the need to submit a new application each time. This means for **EVERY** election you will receive a ballot. If you are a snowbird and your address changes in the winter, **YOU** will need to remember to contact us with an updated mailing address for that election.

The permanent absentee list you may currently be on, which is where an *application* is sent to you for each election, will be phased out. If you wish to receive a **ballot** for each election you will need to mark the box below on your next application

Phone number

s and phone number will be used only for official election purposes.

Other elections: Complete to join the permanent absentee voter ballot list (optional)

Automatically send me an absentee voter ballot for each future election for which I'm eligible.

Absentee Voting Improvements

- Prepaid postage will be included on all absentee ballot applications and ballots
- The Michigan Voter Information Center tracking system for applications and ballots will be enhanced so voters can track and receive electronic notifications about the status of their application and ballot. Voters will need to opt in to receive email/phone notifications for this. (Michigan.gov/vote)
- Voters will be afforded an opportunity to correct any signature-related issues with their ballot or application via the enhanced tracking system. The Clerk's office will also call, email, text or mail you a notice that your signature didn't match – Voters now have up to 3 days after Election Day to remedy signature issues.
- The State has provided a secure ballot drop-box for each jurisdiction that will be available 24/7 for forty days prior to an election up to 8 p.m. Election Day. This is located outside our Administration Building Front door at 180 State Park Drive.



Military and Overseas Ballots

The absentee ballots of military voters and voters living overseas are considered timely if they are postmarked by Election Day and received by the Clerk's office within (6) six days of the election.

Voter Identification

*****NEW.** ID cards issued by county or local governments can be used as voter photo identification. This includes Concealed Pistol Licenses.

Absent Voter Ballot Processing

*****NEW.** Starting at the 2024 Presidential Primary voters may bring their absentee ballot to an Early Voting site or to their polling place on Election Day and put their ballot in the tabulator.

Ballot Spoiling Deadline Change

*****NEW.** Voters who have already returned their absentee ballot to the local Clerk can come to the Clerk's office and request to spoil it by 5pm on the *second Friday before an election*. (The deadline used to be the Friday before an election)