

USEFUL VOTER INFORMATION

In Leelanau County fewer than 50% of people in the 18-24 age group actually vote! Voting is a right and a responsibility. This information will help you be informed when you vote. Share it and save it.

Michigan's primary election will be on August 5, 2014. The general election will be November 4, 2014. The primary is how each party chooses its candidates for the general election. In the primary, the voter must vote for only one party. You may vote across party lines in the general election. The voter registration deadline is 30 days before the election. You may still vote at your old precinct up to 60 days from the date you moved.

People who don't know if they are registered or where to vote may visit the website: www.michigan.gov/VOTE. By writing in your name, birthdate, and zip code or your driver's license number, you may learn if you are registered and where your voting precinct is located, including a map. There is a sample ballot, local clerk contact information, absentee voter information, etc. Take a few minutes to become familiar with this website.

QUESTIONS ABOUT VOTER ID?

Voters with picture ID: Voters may satisfy the ID requirement by showing a Michigan driver's license or a Michigan personal identification card.

Voters who do not possess a picture ID may show any of the following forms of photo ID as long as they are current:

- Driver's license or personal ID card issued by another state.
- Federal or state government-issued photo ID.
- U.S. passport.
- Military identification card with photo.
- Student identification with photo from a high school or an accredited institution of higher education.
- Tribal identification card with photo.

Voters without picture ID: Michigan election law anticipates that not all voters will have photo IDs. **Voters who do not have acceptable picture ID or forgot to bring acceptable picture ID to the polls may vote like any other voter by signing an affidavit on the back of the voter application on election day.** Questions regarding the voter identification requirement may be directed to your local city or township clerk's office.

For more election related information, visit www.michigan.gov/vote.

GETTING A STATE ID CARD

If you do not have a driver's license or other acceptable photo identification, you may get a state identification card at your local Secretary of State branch office for \$10. State ID cards are free to individuals who are 65 or older or who are blind. Cards are also free to those who have had driving privileges terminated due to a physical or mental disability.

Proof of identity and residency are required when applying for a state ID card. The fee may be waived for individuals who present other a good cause to waive the fee.

Visit www.Michigan.gov/sos for details on what forms are acceptable to prove identity and residency or call (888) SOS-MICH (767-6424).

If an elderly person is no longer driving, he or she may need to get a State ID card to vote. Check with your family, friends and neighbors. Be sure they have the proper ID so they can exercise their right to vote without confusion or embarrassment at the polls. Election officials are required to ask for a photo ID. Know your rights, be prepared, and make every vote count!

If you have moved or changed your name, you must change your driver's license and voter registration which you can do at the Secretary of State's office. Always sign your name the same way.

ABSENTEE VOTING

A person who registers to vote by mail or online must vote in person in the first election in which he or she participates. The restriction does not apply to overseas voters, voters who are disabled or voters who are 60 years of age or older. (Voting in person on one governmental level clears the restriction on the other levels. For example, if a voter subject to the restriction votes in person at a school election, the voter would be free to obtain an absentee ballot for the first state election in which he or she wishes to participate.)

If you are subject to the "voting in person" requirement and have a need for an absent voter ballot, you may satisfy the requirement by requesting an absent voter ballot in person from the clerk of the city or township where you are registered to vote by the day preceding the election. Requests to have an absentee voter ballot mailed to you must be received by your city, county or township clerk no later than 2 p.m. the Saturday before the election. After receiving your absentee voter ballot, you have until 8 p.m. on Election Day to complete the ballot and return it to the clerk's office. Your ballot will not be counted unless your signature is on the return envelope and matches your signature on file. Absentee ballots are counted on Election Day along with all ballots cast at the polls.

In this day of gerrymandering, voter suppression laws being passed in 41 states in the last three years and the Supreme Court decision regarding the Voting Rights Act, it is all the more important that you vote in every election, even ones you consider unimportant. Many local elections are won by only a few votes and the candidate elected may or may not have your best interest in mind.

Voice your opinion by voting in every election. Don't give up your right to vote!



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
LEELANAU COUNTY**

lwvleelanau.org