



Election Judge News

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“When one flower blooms, spring awakens everywhere.” - John O’Donohue

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February 28, 2024

Schedule Training!

By now everyone should have received an email asking you to sign up for your training class through Eventbrite. The training classes will be underway shortly, so if you have not received the email (check spam!) or have not signed up through Eventbrite yet, please do so! Call or email the office for assistance should you need any.

The training classes will run from March 14th through April 20th and are offered at several different times and days for each election judge position. Please remember that you only need to sign up for one class! After signing yourself up for a date and time, you are ready for the class! There is no need to bring a printed Eventbrite ticket to attend.

This year, because of the Election Judge pay raise, we will need to have everyone on the county payroll. Please be prepared to complete payroll paperwork at your assigned training class time. You will need to bring one or two forms of ID with you! If you have a U.S. Passport, that alone will satisfy the ID requirements. If you do not have a U.S. Passport, you may bring a Driver’s License AND a Social Security card. If you have none of these forms of ID, you may email or call the office for a list of additional acceptable documents.

If you would like to have direct deposit, instead of a paper check in the mail, now is the time to set that up! You will need to know your bank routing number and your account number. We do not need a voided check, but if it would help you to copy your bank information

from a check, you might want to bring one with you.

So, to recap, schedule your training time. Bring with you to the training a **U.S. Passport OR Driver’s License AND Social Security card**. You may also want to bring a check or your routing number and account number for direct deposit.

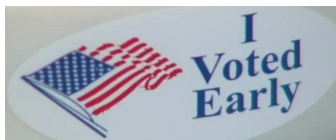
New for 2024

This year the training for Chapters 1 through 4 of the manual will be done online. Coming soon on our Election Judge page of the website (washco-mdelections.org), you will find “Required Training.” Be sure to click the link to the training slides for Chapters 1-4 training as well as the link for the ethics training video. Remember the Election Judge page is password protected! Look for an email in the next few days with the password so you can complete that training as soon as possible.

Be sure to refer back to the Election Judge page of the website often throughout the election season. Remember it’s a useful resource for all things Election Judge related!

Early Voting

Early Voting Center locations are finalized! Our Early Voting Center locations are now finally approved by the State Board and we are ready to move forward with plans to staff the locations and advertise to the public! Keep an eye out for an email with a sign-up genius for the Early Voting Center dates and locations.



EARLY VOTING

MAY 2, 2024 - MAY 9, 2024

EV CENTER #1

Washington County Board of Elections

17718 Virginia Avenue

Hagerstown, MD 21740

EV CENTER #2

Washington County Free Library, Smithsburg Branch

66 West Water Street

Smithsburg, MD 21783

EV CENTER #3

Boonsboro American Legion

710 North Main Street

Boonsboro, MD 21713

Election Judges Needed

Several of you may remember helping out with our Nursing Home Program in the past. It’s been a little while since the program has been utilized by many of the local nursing home facilities, but this year interest has begun again. The program allows us to provide a helpful service for those that may otherwise not be able to get to a polling place or simply need assistance with their mail-in ballot.

Election workers, through bipartisan teams, will offer residents assistance with registering to vote, requesting an absentee/mail-in ballot, and voting an absentee/mail-in ballot.

The program will start around



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2024 Presidential Primary Election

Early Voting:

May 2-9, 2024 7AM-8PM

Election Day:

May 14, 2024 7AM-8PM

2024 Presidential General Election

Early Voting:

October 24-31, 2024
7AM-8PM

Election Day:

November 5, 2024 7AM-8PM



Election Judge News

Election Judges Needed Cont'd.

April 10, 2024 and run until April 26, 2024. For this program to be successful, we need your help! If you are interested in volunteering please reach out to Cory Green at 240-313-2055

or corya.green@maryland.gov.

Training Center

Excerpts from Chapter 4 – People and Activities in the Polling Place

4.1 Electioneering

Electioneering is any activity that supports an election campaign. Electioneering is illegal in the polling place. It is also illegal anywhere within 100 feet of the entrance and exit to the polling place. This is called the “No Electioneering Zone.” No electioneering or political activity may take place within the “No Electioneering Zone.” No campaign materials may be posted or handed out in this zone.

Election judges are not allowed to show support or oppose any campaign or political party while working at the polling place. You may not wear or display any political material. You may not share any political opinions while you are in the polling place or while performing the duties of an election judge.

“Electioneering” includes wearing clothing that supports or opposes a candidate, ballot issue, or political party.

Voters are allowed to wear clothing, buttons, or other items with a political message while they are voting. Voters in general, and especially those who are wearing clothing, buttons or other items containing political messages, are not allowed to linger in the polling place or within the “No Electioneering Zone” after voting.

All day, you should keep an eye on the activity outside the polling place. Tell anyone who is campaigning within the “No Electioneering Zone” to stay outside the marked

boundary. If anyone refuses to stay outside the marked boundary, chief judges must call local law enforcement. Ask law officers to remove the person from the property. If voters leave political materials in the polling place, election judges must remove the materials right away.

Lawn signs or other campaign speech that is on private property are legal even inside the 100-foot zone. However, sometimes the election judge or the Washington County Board of Elections can show a reason why materials need to be removed in order to prevent voter confusion, harassment, or intimidation. Election judges may ask property owners to move their campaign signs to areas beyond 100 feet. If property owners do not agree, tell the Washington County Board of Elections.

Drop Boxes

We are still looking for election judges to help pick up the mail-in ballots from the drop boxes. This year we have eight (8) drop boxes throughout the county! The ballots from each drop box need to be picked up daily and then multiple times a day as we get closer to election day. If you would like to help with the drop boxes please contact Cory Green at 240-313-2055

or corya.green@maryland.gov.



Crossword Puzzle

Alright, it's time for a little pre-training training! Try your hand at completing the crossword puzzle on the next page and see how much election judge training information you already know and what you may need to brush up on! Just a little refresher that gets you ready for your training day and for the upcoming election!

Trivia Question: The first day of spring may be nearly a month away but the first signs of spring are well on their way! Some of the earliest flowers are going to be blooming soon! Which country is home to the largest flower festival in the world?

Answer below:





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Election Judge News

ELECTION JUDGE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. A ballot that should **NEVER** be put through the scanning unit
5. Step 1 Election Judge
8. Where paper ballots are tabulated
11. Election Judge who directs voters
12. Device that enables voters to cast his/her vote independently, regardless of disability (abbr.)
14. Required by the voter to receive a ballot
16. Distributed to voters at Step 2
17. Color associated with scanning unit paperwork

DOWN

1. Given to a voter to cover his/her ballot selections
2. Color associated with pollbook cords and connections
3. Step 1 should ask each voter to ___ the information printed is correct
4. Color associated with the HUB cords and connections
6. A period of time **BEFORE** Election Day in which voters may cast a ballot in person
7. An Election Judge who oversees polling place operations on Election Day

DOWN cont'd

9. Code displayed on the pollbook if a voter has already received an absentee ballot
10. An adhesive strip used to ensure voting equipment has not been previously opened
13. All **VOTED** ballots must be returned to the office in these
15. A device that contains an electronic list of all registered voters

