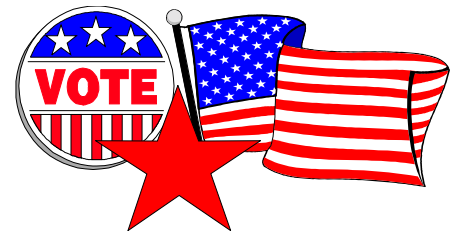


2007 VOTER GUIDE



Why is voting important to YOU?

YOUR VOTE is the single most powerful voice you have to tell the government how you feel about things that will have an impact on your financial and physical well-being, and the protection of your rights!

ONLY YOU KNOW what is best for you and your community. Do not count on someone else to know what is right for you unless you tell them!

Who can vote?

To be eligible to register and vote in Ohio, you **MUST**:

- ★ **Be a United States citizen.** Any native or naturalized citizen is eligible.
- ★ **Be a resident of Ohio.** You need to have lived here at least 30 days before an election.
- ★ **Be 18 years old.** You are at least 18 years old on or before the day of the general election. If you will be 18 on or before the general election, you may vote in the primary election for candidates, but not on issues.

When you vote, take I.D.

State law requires voters to show identification to vote.

Acceptable forms of I.D. are:

- Bank statements;
- Utility bills;
- Paychecks;
- Any government-issued document showing your current address;
- You may also use your Ohio driver's license or Ohio photo I.D. even if it shows a previous address.

2007 Dates to Remember

April 9

Voter Registration ENDS for Primary Election

May 8

Primary Election Day

Polls are open 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

October 9

Voter Registration ENDS for General Election

November 6

General Election Day

Polls are open 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

If you do not have the required proof of identity, you may cast a provisional ballot.

What are your rights?

As a voter you:

- ▶ can ask for written or verbal instructions;
- ▶ must be given another ballot if you make a mistake;
- ▶ can bring an aide or interpreter if you are disabled or have a language barrier;
- ▶ cannot be prevented from voting for any reason if you are a registered voter;
- ▶ can vote if you are in line at the correct polling location at the time the polls close;
- ▶ must be given an explanation and offered a solution if you are not allowed to vote;
- ▶ must be provided with a voting machine that is in working condition.

Did you know?



- ✘ Prior to an election (approximately 30 days prior to an election), you may request a sample ballot from your board of elections. A sample ballot looks like the real ballot that you will see at the polls and will tell you what issues and candidates you will be voting on in your community.
- ✘ You do NOT have to vote on everything. You can just vote on the issues or candidates you care about.
- ✘ If you make a mistake when voting, you may ask for a new ballot up to three (3) times.
- ✘ If you will be unable to vote on election day, you will be out of the county, you are 62 or older or physically disabled, you may be able to vote by requesting an absentee ballot. Call your board of elections to find out how.
- ✘ You do NOT have to belong to a political party to vote. You may vote on issues without declaring a political party by requesting an “issues-only” ballot. Your party affiliation (if you choose to have one) is determined by your party declaration and candidate ballot in a Primary election.
- ✘ Jury duty is selected not only from voter registrations, but ALSO from those with a DRIVERS LICENSE.
- ✘ If you are a registered voter, but have moved (within the state) or changed your name, you may update your registration and may be able to vote by going to the voting location where you live on the day of the election. If you vote under these circumstances, you will vote a provisional ballot, which is similar to an absentee ballot. You may update your changes prior to the election by filling out a form at a voter registration location or board of elections office.
- ✘ A voter with a disability or who is unable to read or write may be assisted by anyone the voter chooses, except by a candidate for office in that precinct, an employer or his/her agent, or an officer or agent of the union a voter belongs to. The voter may be assisted by two poll workers of opposite political parties. No one who assists a voter may disclose any information about how that person voted.

For more voter information, contact:

Athens County Board of Elections: 15 S. Court St., Athens, OH 45701 or (740) 592-3201

Ohio Secretary of State: 1-877-767-6446 or www.sos.state.oh.us

League of Women Voters of Ohio: www.lwvohio.org