

Summer Newsletter

OSCEOLA
COUNTY
SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS ✦
July 2024



Welcome to the 2024 Summer Elections Newsletter!

This summer the Elections office is preparing for our Primary Election on August 20th and the General Election on November 5th. I often get asked what the Supervisor of Election does when there isn't an election happening. Election preparation is not just something that happens in the month leading up to the election but in the entire year leading up to it.

Currently in my office we are designing, printing, and proofing the ballots and envelopes, training 600+ election workers, getting all of our equipment ready to go, and working to get all of our voters registered and mail ballot requests processed for those who wish to vote by mail. Next week the election officially begins with mail ballots going out to our overseas voters.

Keep in mind the important dates and deadlines for our August Primary Election listed in this newsletter and don't forget to use your voice and vote in whichever way you prefer to do so.

Looking forward to a great election season with you!

*Mary
Jane Arrington*



In this newsletter you can expect:

Prepping for an
Election

Primary Election
Information for
Voters

Vote-by-Mail
Mailer

Recent Events

Celebration
High School
Students Vote
for their Student
Government



2024 Primary Election

2024 Primary Election

Our next election is on August 20, 2024. Here's the important things to know specific to this election:

- Vote-by-mail ballots will go out in mid-July to everyone with a request on file.
- The last day to request a vote-by-mail ballot is August 8.
- Book closing (the last day to register for the first time or to change your party) is on July 22.
- Early voting will run August 5-18 at nine locations around the county. You can vote at any of these locations.
- Election Day is Tuesday August 20. You can only go to your home polling location on this day.
- Florida is a closed primary state! Voters will receive a ballot for the party they are registered with.

Other election reminders/tips:

- Vote-by-mail ballots must be back in our office by 7pm on Election Day.
- Voters can track their vote-by-mail ballot using BallotTrax.
- Voters can fill out their sample ballots at home and bring them to the polls for reference.
- Anyone who is in line at 7pm, when the polls close, is entitled to vote.

Vote by Mail Mailer

On December 31, 2022, all Vote by Mail requests expired. Since then, our office has been working to educate voters about this and collect request renewals. So far, only about a third of those voters who received a Vote by Mail ballot in 2022 have placed a new request. Requests should be made sooner rather than later. The deadline to request a mail ballot for the August election is August 8. Requests can be made by calling or visiting our office, completing an online request or sending in a request form. You can check to see if you have a request on file by calling our office or visiting our website at: <https://www.voteosceola.gov/Voter-Information/Check-Your-Voter-Status>.

EXPIRED Your Mail Ballot Request Has Expired

**YOUR VOTE
YOUR VOICE
YOUR WAY** | **RENEW YOUR 2024
VOTE BY MAIL
REQUEST TODAY** *Vote
Osceola*

Mary Jane Arrington
Osceola County
Supervisor of Elections

YOU CAN REQUEST A MAIL BALLOT BY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS:

1. Online: Visit www.voteosceola.gov or scan QR Code.
2. By Phone: Call our office at 407-742-6000.
3. In writing: Fill out the enclosed request form and return it using the enclosed postage paid envelope.

WWW.VOTEOSCEOLA.GOV #KnowBeforeYouGo



Recent Events

April

This month started off with the Canvassing Board meeting to conduct the audit for the Presidential Preference Primary on April 1. Things did not slow down from there. The outreach staff wrapped up Sunshine State Young Reader elections at 5 schools and high school voter registration at Osceola High School and Osceola School for the Arts.

Staff also attended a job fair at St. Cloud High School, a health festival held at Johnson University, Healthy Kids Day at the YMCA, an event at the Council on Aging and the Caribbean Fusion Festival at the Kissimmee lakefront. Election staff facilitated an election for the Osceola Classroom Educator Association on April 17. To finish up the month, judicial qualifying was held from April 22 through April 26. Two county judge candidates qualified during this time.

May

May kicked off with many election worker related events. There was an adopt-a-precinct coordinators' meeting on May 1, clerk roundtables on May 3 and 6, and 8 new election worker orientations over the following two weeks.

Outreach staff could be found around town during this month at the Before the Storm event on May 4, at Celebration High School's student government election on May 17 and at the Osceola County employee health fair on May 24.

On May 20, our office sent mailers out to roughly 45,000 voters who previously had vote-by-mail requests on file but have not renewed their request since expiration in 2022. These mailers contained a flyer, a vote-by-mail request form and return postage-paid envelope. If you received this mailer, it means that you do not currently have a vote-by-mail request on file. You will need to renew your request prior to the next election if you would like to receive one. The deadline to request a vote-by-mail ballot is 12 days before election day.



June

In June outreach staff visited several events to help citizens get registered to vote. On June 1 they were at PrideFest in Kissimmee, on June 10 they were at a Hope Cares event, on June 13 they visited the Mercury Marine employee event, on June 15 they had a table at Kissimmee's Juneteenth Festival and on June 18 they were at Kissimmee City Hall. The week of June 10 was candidate qualifying. This is where all local candidates, including special districts, had to turn in paperwork and fees to qualify to be on the ballot later this year. The candidate department processed qualification paperwork for 99 candidates!



Celebration High students vote for their Student Government

On May 17, three members of our outreach staff visited Celebration High School to facilitate their election for student government. Over 1,100 students were able to cast a ballot. Staff brought voting booths, ballots, and tabulation machines for the students to experience what it's like to vote on election day. Student volunteers checked in voters and distributed ballots. Student candidates had placed signs around the school and campaigned for themselves prior to the event.

This is the second year in a row that the elections office has held this election for Celebration High School. It's a wonderful learning experience for future voters and a way to engage students in the student government process. If you work at a school that's interested in partnering with us, reach out to Kari Ewalt at kari.ewalt@voteosceola.gov.



Thank you for reading!

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