

ELECTION NEWS

Osceola County Supervisor of Elections Newsletter

Spring 2023

Track Your Mail Ballot

Osceola County Supervisor of Elections Office offers a service for all Vote by Mail voters to receive notifications about the status of their mail ballot from the time it is sent to their house until the time it is counted. Voters can sign up at osceolamailballots.com to receive text and/or email notifications regarding their ballot. This service provides transparency and peace of mind to voters.

All information in the push notifications is also available on our website for voters to look up. However, with ballottrax, voters can sign up once and always have information about their ballot in the palm of their hand without any extra effort. If you vote by mail- sign up today! "Ballottrax is a convenient way of tracking your vote by mail ballot from start to end"

Maria Ricci,
 Vote by Mail
 Coordinator



Osceolamailballots.com

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Sunshine State Young Reader Awards Election

Schools across the state of Florida participate in the Sunshine State Young Readers Award program. Students read books from a select list and then vote for their favorite. Votes across the state are tallied and the winning authors get a prize and can publish another book. Our outreach team has been assisting Osceola County schools with the voting process for this program.

This year, nine schools invited our team out to run their election.
Roughly 2,000 students had the chance to vote using real election equipment. This program helps to expose students to the voting process and allows them to feel more comfortable voting once they come of age.



Election Worker Mini Classes

Election workers are an invaluable part of the election process. The elections office staff knows how challenging it can be for election workers to work in a position and then have a two-year break in between elections. Heather, our election worker coordinator is hosting mini training sessions to help our workers in the off season.



These mini training sessions are totally optional for workers and will be focused on specific election worker related tasks. Email invites are being sent out to active election workers for these monthly training sessions. The classes will be small, and space is limited. The first workers who sign up will get a seat.



The Law Has Changed!

Mail Ballots Requests Can Be Made at www.voteosceola.gov

There is a new law in Florida that requires voters to request a mail ballot for each election cycle. This means that all requests on file for the 2022 election have expired and anyone who would like to receive a Vote by Mail ballot for the 2024 election cycle, will need to submit a new request.

Voters can request a Vote by Mail ballot by calling our office, visiting our website, mailing us a request form, or stopping by in person. When making a request, voters must provide either their Driver License Number or the last 4 digits of their Social Security Number so that we can verify the number against what is already on file with our office. This is where things can get a little complicated.

Some voters have provided us with both their Driver License Number and the last 4 of their Social Security Number previously on a voter registration application and those numbers have been verified by the Department of State. Some voters have only provided us with one of those two numbers. And some voters, who registered prior to the time when the identifying numbers were required, have never provided us with a number at all. The bottom line is, we can only process a request with an identifying number that we can verify. If a voter submits a request with a different identifying number than the one on file, we will first attempt to call the voter and, then, correspondence will be sent to the voter.

Voters can check their mail ballot request status on our website or by calling our office.

Supervisor Arrington suggests, "All voters who wish to vote by mail should make their request now rather than waiting until right before the next election."

Recent Events

January

Our first outreach of the New Year was the Three King's Festival at Old Town. High school voter registration also kicked off this month with a visit to NeoCity Academy. We put out a video short in the month of January to remind voters that all Vote by Mail requests are now expired. Anyone who wants to receive a mail ballot through the 2024 elections needs to make a new request. January wrapped up with a voter registration outreach at the Hope Center.





February

February's voter information video highlighted outside elections for schools. We love connecting students with the voting process and hope that early voting education will turn them into voters for life! Throughout the month, elections staff attended trainings to brush up on records management and vote by mail best practices. On February 27, the outreach team set up a table outside St. Cloud City Hall to assist voters with registration and requesting mail ballots.

March

March was a super busy month for the outreach team! Even with the Spring Break holiday, the team visited nine schools to conduct voter registration with seniors and to run SSYRA elections for elementary and middle schools. On the weekends, the outreach team connecting with the community at the Sheriff's Community Appreciation Day on March 11 and the Kowtown Festival on March 18. At the end of the month, staff assisted the Osceola County Education Association in conducting their annual officers' election.

Upcoming Events

Come out and see us at the Caribbean Fusion Festival in Kissimmee on April 23!



Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at www.voteosceola.gov or give us a call for more information at (407) 742-6000