

NOTICE TO GENESEE COUNTY VOTERS

Standard pre-election testing was conducted on the ballots for Genesee County. During this testing, the county uncovered occasional problems with the ability of some test ballots to be fully read by the tabulators that will be used on Election Day. The Genesee County Clerk's Office has confirmed that these problems were due to inconsistencies in the ballot printing process. Ballot read errors during testing were inconsistent and unpredictable, making it necessary to reprint all Genesee County ballots. The replacement ballots have been extensively tested to ensure the original print problems were resolved.

Some absentee ballots were mailed to voters prior to the decision to re-print the ballots, and replacement ballots are being issued to those voters. There are 28 cities and townships within Genesee County. The majority of replacement ballots have been mailed; the remainder should be mailed no later than October 14.

Note: Replacement ballots are easily identifiable because they contain a ballot number printed in green at the bottom of the ballot (below the perforation). Originally-issued ballots had numbers printed in black.

We would like to address some frequently asked questions relative to the process moving forward:

Question: I have received an absentee ballot but have not voted and returned it. What do I do?

Answer: Hold onto the original ballot until you receive a replacement ballot. Vote the replacement ballot and return it to your local clerk before 8:00 p.m. on November 8, 2016. You can then destroy the original ballot. If you don't receive a replacement ballot by October 19, 2016, contact your city or township clerk.

Question: I have received an absentee ballot and already destroyed it because the news media said to. What do I do?

Answer: Wait until you receive a replacement ballot. Vote the replacement ballot and return it to your local clerk before 8:00 p.m. on November 8, 2016. If you don't receive a replacement ballot by October 19, 2016, contact your city or township clerk.

Question: Although I requested one, I have not yet received any absentee ballot. Why?

Answer: Some of the local clerk's had not yet mailed absentee ballots when the printing inconsistencies were discovered. Those local clerks include: Burton City, Davison City, Fenton Township, Flint City, Genesee Township, and Mundy Township. Voters who never received an absentee ballot from their local clerk will soon receive one. Vote that ballot and return it to the local clerk before 8:00 p.m. on November 8, 2016.

Question: What if I am leaving town and can't wait to receive a replacement ballot?

Answer: Voters who have already received a ballot can vote that ballot and return it to your local clerk's office. A replacement ballot will still be sent. If you do not vote and return the replacement ballot, your original ballot will be counted, but will need to be duplicated by a team of precinct workers on Election Day.

Question: I don't vote absentee, how will this affect the ballot I vote in my precinct on Election Day?

Answer: There will be no effect on those ballots. All ballots were re-printed including those that will be used on Election Day.

We want to assure voters that the county and your city or township clerk have procedures in place that will ensure only one ballot for each voter will be counted.

To find contact information for your local city or township clerk, see the Michigan Voter Information center at www.michigan.gov/vote.