

★★ February Presidential Primary ★★

Early Voting & Absent Voter Ballot Information

Recent Important Changes

The passage of Proposal 2 in 2022 expanded voting rights for all Michiganders with many new options. It is our hope that the information below will provide general information so that you are informed of your expanded voting rights and can choose the best option for your election experience in 2024. These changes can be complex and we are here to help you understand them. Your Township Clerk's office is the best place to get accurate answers to your questions to ensure your vote is counted; we welcome your questions!

GENERAL INFORMATION																			
How many elections in 2024?	<p>There will be three elections in 2024:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> February 27th - Presidential Primary – <i>Voters must choose a party specific ballot or choose a non-partisan ballot for this election only. You do not need to be a member of the party to vote the ballot you request. Note: Only those in Perry School District will have a non-partisan ballot available to them as there are no non-partisan issues on other ballots for this election.</i> August 6th - State Primary Election November 5th - Presidential Election 																		
Registering to Vote	If you need to register to vote, the last day to do so for the February Presidential Primary, other than in-person, is February 12th. After that date, you must register in your Township Clerk's office with proper ID and proof of residency. You can also register to vote at www.michigan.gov/vote .																		
EARLY VOTING INFORMATION																			
What is Early Voting?	Early Voting takes place at a central location where a voter can come in before every state and federal election, vote a ballot, and run it through a tabulator.																		
Where is my Early Voting Site?	An Early Voting Site can include other municipalities. Williamstown Township is partnering with Wheatfield Township for Early Voting. The Early Voting Site for these municipalities is at Williamstown Township Hall: 4990 Zimmer Rd. Please enter the precinct through the Community Room entrance on the east side of the building. You will receive a postcard in the mail soon with more details.																		
When does Early Voting take place for Williamstown and Wheatfield residents?	<p>Early Voting occurs for Federal and State Elections and runs a minimum of nine consecutive days, ending on the Sunday before an election. Communities may decide to provide additional days of early voting, up to 29 days total. The dates and times for the shared Williamstown and Wheatfield Townships' Early Voting Site for the Presidential Primary are listed below:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Saturday Feb. 17th</th> <th>Sunday Feb. 18th</th> <th>Monday Feb 19th</th> <th>Tuesday Feb. 20th</th> <th>Wednesday Feb. 21st</th> <th>Thursday Feb. 22nd</th> <th>Friday Feb. 23rd</th> <th>Saturday Feb. 24th</th> <th>Sunday Feb. 25th</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>8am-4pm</td> <td>8am-4pm</td> <td>8am-4pm</td> <td>8am-4pm</td> <td>11am-7pm</td> <td>8am-4pm</td> <td>8am-4pm</td> <td>8am-4pm</td> <td>8am-4pm</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Saturday Feb. 17 th	Sunday Feb. 18 th	Monday Feb 19 th	Tuesday Feb. 20 th	Wednesday Feb. 21 st	Thursday Feb. 22 nd	Friday Feb. 23 rd	Saturday Feb. 24 th	Sunday Feb. 25 th	8am-4pm	8am-4pm	8am-4pm	8am-4pm	11am-7pm	8am-4pm	8am-4pm	8am-4pm	8am-4pm
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Each day of early voting, residents of both townships can cast their ballots. Election equipment and ballots will be securely stored at the end of each day. All early votes will be counted after 8 pm on Election Day – Tuesday, February 27 th . A public notice will announce the scheduled time.																			
Can I get assistance at Early Voting?	A Voter Assist Terminal (VAT) is available for anyone's use. If you're a voter who needs assistance to vote, please contact the Clerk's office for information or ask any Election Inspector upon arrival at the polls. They can assist you in determining the best option for your personal needs.																		
ABSENTEE VOTER BALLOTS																			
How has the Permanent Absentee Voting List changed with the passage of Proposal 2?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the passage of Proposal 2, Michigan residents can now be placed on a Permanent Mail Ballot list. This allows voters to automatically receive an Absent Voter Ballot before each eligible election. Please note this is different than the Permanent Absent Voter Application list that voters may currently be on. A voter's previous placement on the Permanent Absent Voter Application list does not carry over to placement on the Permanent Mail Ballot list. All registered voters in Ingham County have been mailed information from Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum updating residents on the changes as a result of Proposal 2 and the option of being placed on the Permanent Mail Ballot list. In addition to Clerk Byrum's mailing, Williamstown Township voters, who are on the Permanent Absent Voter Application list, will receive additional election information from Clerk Cleveland. Please complete the form included in this mailing. It contains important information about the absent voter ballot you are requesting for the Presidential Primary, as well as another opportunity to be placed on 																		

	<p>the Permanent Mail Ballot list. For the Presidential Primary, we cannot send you a Absent Voter Ballot without choosing the type of ballot you wish on either this form or in writing (and signed)!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is important to note that voters <u>need to choose the option to be placed on the Permanent Mail Ballot list</u> when either mailing is received if that is their choice. These forms will need to be returned to the Township Clerk via the mail (postage is paid), in person, or drive up to the new secure Williamstown Township Ballot Drop Box located in the front of the Township as soon as possible. If you are returning the form that came from the County Clerk, it can be sent back to her or can be given to the Williamstown Township Clerk via the above options. 							
<p>What if I do not want to be on the permanent absentee voter ballot list, but I still want an absentee ballot?</p>	<p>You can apply for an Absentee Ballot even if you're not on the Permanent Absentee Voter Ballot List by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coming into the Township office with ID and asking the Clerk's department for the application Going online to www.michigan.gov/vote Asking the Township Clerk to send you an application. <p>Note: for the Presidential Primary, you will need to also fill out a form that indicates which ballot you wish to vote (Democratic, Republican, or No Party Declaration). For this election, only Precinct 2-Perry Schools will have the option of a No Party Declaration (non-partisan) ballot, as no other entities have placed any proposals or millages on the ballot.</p>							
<p>What are my options for returning my Absentee Ballot?</p>	<p>Voters have several options for returning their absentee ballot to be counted by the Absent Voter Counting Board on Election Day:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It can be mailed via the USPS – please allow ample time for this delivery method. It can be returned to the secure ballot drop box located right outside the front doors of the township office. It is recommended that once voters are within one week of the election one chooses the drop box or in-person option, to ensure your ballot arrives in time to be counted. It can be returned in person and handed directly to a township staff member. <p>With the passage of Proposal 2, voters may also return the absentee ballot in person at the Early Voting Site and, after checking in with the Election Inspectors, put it directly into the tabulator. Please note that if you choose this option, the ballot will not be able to be spoiled and recast.</p>							
<p>How can I keep track of my ballot?</p>	<p>You can now track your ballot online by going to www.michigan.gov/vote.</p>							
<p>What if I change my mind after I return my AV Ballot?</p>	<p>If you have changed your mind about the candidates you voted for, your favorite candidate has dropped out, you accidentally filled out your spouse's ballot, or you've spilled something on your ballot (or the dog ate it), it can be spoiled and reissued if it has not already been tabulated. You can ask to spoil your ballot and receive a new ballot <i>within certain deadlines</i>. As soon as you know you want a new ballot, contact the Clerk's office for instructions about how to proceed.</p>							
<p>What if I will be away from home for a time during the election?</p>	<p>If you are voting absentee and you will be away just before or during the election, the Clerk's office will need to know where your ballot needs to be mailed. Please contact us via phone, (517) 655-3193 or email (elections@williamstowntownship.com) to provide this information. The post office will not forward ballots! Since your vote is very important to you, the Clerk recommends that you do not rely on friends or others to get your ballot to you if you are out of town. The Clerk's office can help provide the best solution for your circumstances.</p>							
<p>What if I am moving before the election occurs?</p>	<p>If you have moved into or out of the Township, please let us know as soon as possible! We often get election mail returned to us by the post office because the voter has moved and not informed us. <u>The only way we know you have moved is because you tell us</u>, or if you've moved within Michigan and change your driver's license to your new residence. Please help us keep the Qualified Voter File accurate by letting us know about moves and deaths as they happen. Please note that if you choose to be on the new Permanent Mail Ballot list, this voting status will move with the voter within Michigan.</p>							
<p>NEED MORE ASSISTANCE?</p>								
<p>Need additional help?</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="362 1667 1032 1770" style="text-align: center;"> <p>Important Contact Information Robin Cleveland, Township Clerk Julie Bellinger, Deputy Clerk</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1032 1667 1528 1917" rowspan="3" style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"> <p>Visit www.michigan.gov/vote for current election information specific to Michigan, including what's on your ballot, registering to vote, and much more! Check our Township website www.williamstownmi.gov/elections for the very latest information.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="362 1770 516 1833"> <p>Phone</p> </td> <td data-bbox="516 1770 1032 1833"> <p>(517) 655-3193</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="362 1833 516 1917"> <p>Email</p> </td> <td data-bbox="516 1833 1032 1917"> <p>elections@williamstowntownship.com</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Important Contact Information Robin Cleveland, Township Clerk Julie Bellinger, Deputy Clerk</p>		<p>Visit www.michigan.gov/vote for current election information specific to Michigan, including what's on your ballot, registering to vote, and much more! Check our Township website www.williamstownmi.gov/elections for the very latest information.</p>	<p>Phone</p>	<p>(517) 655-3193</p>	<p>Email</p>	<p>elections@williamstowntownship.com</p>
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