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ST. LOUIS COUNTY

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# Vote 1999



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VOTING INFORMATION

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## VOTING IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY

St. Louis County is unique among election jurisdictions in the United States. Our 92 municipalities, in many instances, bring our elected officials to the "neighborhood" level. Add to that our 24 regular school districts and 23 fire districts, community college and special school districts, state senate, representative and county council districts, and our elections take on the flavor of a New England town hall meeting.

Democracy, very definitely, begins at home when we choose our aldermen and county council members, our school and fire boards. Take your vote seriously. It does count!

**YOUR ST. LOUIS COUNTY  
BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS**

## VOTER IDENTIFICATION

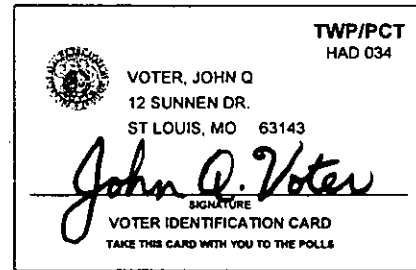
The St. Louis County Election Board requires all voters to show some form of identification, with a signature for comparison purposes, in order to vote.

**I've just received my Voter I.D. Card in the mail. Do I have to bring it with me when I vote?**

- Your Election Board I.D. is the *preferred* form of identification because it contains your township and precinct, information we need to keep the lines moving smoothly. If you forget your I.D. Card you can still vote but you will need to present some other form of identification with your signature.
- Voters with no identification may vote only when an election judge receives permission from our office in Maplewood.

**I've lost my Voter I.D. Card. How do I apply for a new one?**

- Replacement Voter I.D. Cards may be requested by contacting the Election Board, giving your name and address.
- New I.D. Cards will be mailed to all voters in each even numbered year, to new voters when they register and to anyone who changes his or her address.



## ELECTION DAY INFORMATION

**How will I know when elections are being held in my area?**

- One week before each election our office will mail you a postcard giving the date of the election, the address of your polling place and the names of the registered voters in your household.

**What time do the polls open?**

- Your polling place will open promptly at 6 a.m. and close at 7 p.m.

## ABSENTEE VOTING

**I don't think I can make it to the polls on election day. Can I get an absentee ballot?**

- Only those who will be prevented from going to the polls on election day for one of the following reasons may vote by absentee ballot:

- Voters who will be absent from St. Louis County on election day
- Incapacity or confinement due to sickness or disability\*
- Religious belief or practice
- Employment by the Election Board
- Imprisonment, provided all other qualifications for voting are retained
- *Permanent* disability (notary not required but must be on list with Election Board)

**\* The affidavit envelope does not have to be notarized for anyone requesting an absentee ballot because of sickness or disability.**

- All military, or any St. Louis County resident living outside the U.S., may request an absentee ballot by filling out Form 76 in lieu of a written request. In addition, their affidavit envelopes do not have to be notarized.
- If you are hospitalized after 5 p.m. the Wednesday prior to an election, at your request, a bi-partisan team of election judges will come to your hospital room to allow you to vote.

**How do I apply for an absentee ballot to be mailed to me?**

- If you would like us to mail you a ballot we will need a written request. *You must reapply for a new ballot for each election.* Absentee ballot requests must be made to the Election Board no later than 5 p.m. the Wednesday before the election. Your letter should contain the following information:
  - Your name, including Jr., Sr., II, etc.
  - Your Birthdate

- Your St. Louis County residence address
- The address where the ballot is to be mailed (if different)
- Your reason for voting absentee
- The date of the election for which you are applying
- Your political party preference if you are applying for a Primary election
- The signatures of everyone requesting a ballot

If you are voting absentee, your notarized affidavit envelope,\*\* with your voted ballot inside, must be returned to the Election Board no later than 7 p.m. the day of the election either by the voter in person, through the mail, or by registered carrier.

**\*\* Notary officials are required by Missouri law to perform this service free for absentee voters.**

**May I vote an absentee ballot in person?**

- You may vote an absentee ballot at the Maplewood office of the Election Board from 42 days before an election until 5 p.m. the day before the election. For elections with federal candidates on the ballot, new residents who move to St. Louis County *after* the last day to register may vote in person at the election office until 7 p.m. on election day.

**My daughter is away at college. May I have an absentee ballot mailed to her?**

- Yes. A member of her immediate family, by applying in person at the Election Board, may request a ballot be sent to her.

**For additional information on Absentee Voting, call 951-0133.**

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## **SPECIAL SERVICES FOR THOSE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES**

**What has the St. Louis County Election Board done to make voting easier for those with physical disabilities?**

- More than three fourths of our polling places are handicapped accessible and all locations have been supplied with one vote recorder seven inches below standard height to accommodate a wheelchair.
- If your polling place is not handicapped accessible you may vote on election day at our Maplewood office which is on ground level with reserved, handicapped parking.
- If you would like to use your own polling place but are unable to leave your car, a bi-partisan team of election officials will bring a vote recorder and ballot to you.
- If you are voting absentee because of illness or disability you do not have to have your affidavit envelope notarized.

## **CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRATION**

**I'm going to be traveling outside the United States. My travel agent told me I will need a *Certificate of Voter Registration*. How do I get one?**

- You may apply for a Certificate of Voter Registration either in writing or in person at our Maplewood office. We will need your name, voting address and mailing address (if different).
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## **VOTER INFORMATION**

### **What if someone changes his or her name?**

- This happens frequently because of marriage. If there is a legal name change, notify the Election Board, either in writing or in person, at any of our registration sites.

### **What if someone moves?**

- Notify the Election Board of any change of address. This may be done in person or at any of our registration sites, or in writing to us.
- The Election Board needs your change of address by the 4th Wednesday before an election to ensure that you receive a postcard notification of your polling place and that you are listed in the polling place binder. If you did not notify us of your address change, you need to call our office to determine your new polling place.

*For additional voter information call 951-0100*

<b>1999 REGULARLY SCHEDULED ELECTION DATES</b>		<b>Last Day to Receive Absentee Ballot Requests by Mail</b>
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Feb. 2, 1999	Supplemental Election	Jan. 27
April 6, 1999	Gen. Municipal Elec.	Mar. 31
June 8, 1999	School Election	June 2
Aug. 3, 1999	Supplemental Election	July 28
Nov. 2, 1999	Supplemental Election	Oct. 27

## **REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

**Where can I register or transfer my voting address?**

The St. Louis County Election Board maintains over 600 registration sites. These include most city halls, libraries and schools in addition to Special School District facilities, local branches of the St. Louis Jr. College District, the Univ. of MO-St. Louis, Human Development Corp. and various businesses, union halls and churches.

- State election laws also provide for registration by mail and at all motor vehicle registration offices and all state offices providing public assistance. For more information, or for the location of your nearest registration site, call 951-0122.

*You must be registered by the 4th Wednesday prior to an election to vote in that election.*

## **OFFICE HOURS**

**What are the Election Board's office hours?**

- We are open Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. In addition, we are also open between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. for the two Saturdays preceding a countywide election and one Saturday before smaller elections.

## **BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY**

**VIVIAN G. SCHMIDT**  
Chairwoman

**JOHN MOTEN, JR.**  
Secretary

**RICHARD W. SULLIVAN**  
Member

**BARBARA A. ENNEKING**  
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**KAREN E. GRACE**

Directors of Elections