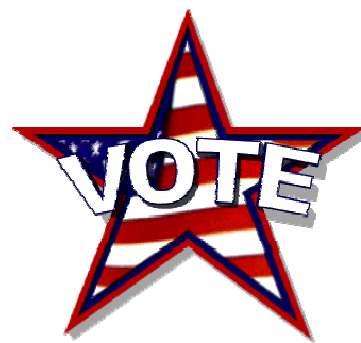


Cowlitz County Elections



The Cowlitz County Elections Department administers all local, county, state, and federal elections for the citizens of Cowlitz County. The Elections staff registers voters, maintains voter registration records, accepts candidate/jurisdiction filings, produces a local voters' pamphlet, issues mail ballots, processes returned ballots, tabulates ballots, and releases election results.

Elections typically occur three or four times each year. Special elections are held as needed in February, March, April and/or May. The Primary is held in August and the General Election is held in November. There are about 55,000 registered voters in Cowlitz County. All elections in Cowlitz County are conducted by mail. Ballots are mailed to voters 18 days before each election to the address information on record. It is important that voters keep their address information (physical address and mailing address) current so they receive their ballot in a timely manner.

The Elections Department is committed to giving all eligible persons the opportunity to vote and make their voice heard. The Elections staff has developed administrative standards and procedures for issuing, processing, and counting ballots that are clear, transparent, and uniform. The public is invited to visit the Elections Department and observe the election process.

The election staff makes AutoMARK™ ballot marking machines available to voters who are blind, vision-impaired, or have a disability or condition that would make it difficult or impossible to mark a ballot in the usual way. The machines are available 20 days before each election. In addition, the county meets regularly with members of its community Disability Advisory Committee to determine how best to meet the needs of voters with disabilities. New members are always welcome.

If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact the Elections Department at 360-577-3005.

