



A Non-Partisan
Discussion
On the
Ins and Outs of Voting
in
Middlesex County, New Jersey
2020 General Election

Presented by

**The League of Women Voters' of Monroe
Township
Wednesday,
September 23, 2020**

Let's Start with the Basics

- Are you Registered?
 - **To be eligible to vote one must be:**
- To participate in the general election, you must be registered to vote in Middlesex County by Tuesday, October 13, 2020.
- Must be a United States citizen
- Must be 18 years of age by Election Day, but can register at 17
- Must be a New Jersey resident and of your county at least 30 days prior to the election
- Not be serving a sentence or on parole or probation as the result of a conviction of any indictable offense under the laws of this or another state or of the United States

Polling Place Search

My Voter Information

Voter Search

Enter your name and date of birth to search for your voter registration record.

First Name *

M.I.

Last Name *

Date of Birth *

NJ Division of Elections:

voter.svrs.nj.gov/
registration-
check

Voter Registration

How do I Register to vote

If you are not registered to vote in Middlesex County, there are several ways to do so.

[Register to vote Online](#)

Complete and mail in the [Voter Registration Application](#)

In-person at the [County Clerk's office](#) or the [Board of Elections](#)

While applying or renewing your driver's license at Motor Vehicles

Deadline for Registering to Vote

- **Online: Oct. 13**
- **By mail: Postmarked by Oct. 13**
- **In person: Oct. 13**

Is October 13, 2020

How is Election 2020 Different?



Governor Murphy's Executive Order 177

- All active registered voters will receive a vote by mail ballot.
- Completed ballots can be returned by mail, placed in a secure drop box or drop it off in person at the County Board of Elections Office
- To vote at the polls on Election Day voters will be required to use a provisional ballot. ADA machines will be reserved for disabled voters unable to fill out a provisional ballot.
- Every municipality will have at least one polling place open.

Governor Murphy's Executive Order

Voting in the November General Election will be different from the primary election:

- Vote by mail ballots can be dropped at polling places on Election Day.
- At least half of the regular polling places will be open.
- There will be at least 10 ballot drop boxes per **county**.



General Election Dates to Know

- Oct. 5 - Vote By Mail Ballots deadline to be mailed out
- Oct. 13 – Deadline to register to vote in the Nov. election
- Nov. 3 – General Election
- Nov. 5 – Last day for Board of Elections to receive ballots without a postmark
- Nov. 10 – Last day for Board of Elections to receive ballots with a postmark of Nov. 3 or earlier.



ALL ACTIVE REGISTERED VOTERS WILL

- Will automatically receive your vote by mail ballot.
- Ballots will be mailed NO LATER than October 5
- No Application is Necessary

Vote By Ballot Box/Mail

People have two overriding concerns when casting a mail-in ballot:

1. Will it be counted?
2. Is vote by mail secure against fraud?



Will it arrive at the Board of Elections office in time?

- If you use the mail system, please allow as much time as possible for it to arrive.
- Ideally, mail it back immediately, or at least two weeks prior to Election Day (this is Oct 20).
- We anticipate an unprecedented number of people will be voting by mail in this election and we don't want to overwhelm the mail system (flatten the mail curve!).
- Use a Secure Ballot Drop Box.
- These will be placed at strategic locations throughout New Jersey.
- These boxes are emptied regularly and brought directly to the Board of Elections.

Will my ballot be counted?

- Will it get to the Board of Elections at all or by the ballot deadline?
- Will it be discounted for some procedural reason when it arrives?
- Will I be notified if it is thrown out and will I get a chance to correct any errors?



www.lwvmonroetwp.org
https://www.facebook.com/MonroeLWV

[illegible]

Will my ballot be discounted by the Board of Elections?

- There are stringent rules regarding filling out the vote-by-mail ballot. Your ballot will come with written instructions – be sure to follow those.
- If you have any questions your county clerk can answer them and should have a video online regarding how to fill it out.
- Top reasons ballots were rejected from 2015 to 2019 according to the NJ Division of Elections:
 - Certificate Not Signed (CNS)
 - Ballots received After Polls closed (BAP)
 - Certificate Missing (CMS) (this means the flap was torn off)
 - Signature Does Not Match (SNM)
 - Other (O)
 - Incomplete Bearer Portion (IBP)
 - Ballot Not Enclosed (BNE)

- A ballot drop box is a secure, tamper proof box where your ballot can be dropped anytime up until 8 PM of Election Day. (Note: you can only use this box for your own ballot. If you are assisting another voter, that voter's ballot must be mailed.)
- It is lighted and under video surveillance 24 hours a day.
- It is emptied regularly by election officials and the ballots are transported directly to the Board of Elections.

Monroe Twp. Public Library

Jamesburg Borough Hall

What is a Ballot Drop Box?



How many and where will they be?

- There will be at least 11 in every county, 13 in counties with a population of 150,000 to 400,000 and 17 in counties with populations over 400,000.
- A notice will be sent out with the location of ballot drop boxes as well as your polling location by October 23.



Secure Ballot Boxes for Middlesex County

Jamesburg Municipal Complex
131 Perrineville Road, Jamesburg

Piscataway Municipal Complex
455 Hoes Lane, Piscataway

Sayreville Borough Hall
167 Main Street, Sayreville

Milltown Municipal Complex
39 Washington Ave., Milltown

Metuchen Municipal Complex
500 Main Street, Metuchen

Plainsboro Municipal Complex
641 Plainsboro Road, Plainsboro

Woodbridge Municipal Building
1 Main St., Woodbridge

Edison Municipal Complex
100 Municipal Blvd. Edison

East Brunswick Municipal Complex
1 Civic Drive, East Brunswick

County Administration Building
75 Bayard Street, New Brunswick

Perth Amboy Public Safety Complex
361 New Brunswick Ave, Perth Amboy

Thomas Deverin Community Center
100 Cooke Avenue, Carteret

Cranbury Police Department
1 Logan Dr, Cranbury

Dunellen Public Library
100 New Market Rd, Dunellen

Helmetta Borough Hall
51 Main St, Helmetta

Highland Park Borough Hall
221 South Fifth Avenue, Highland Park

Middlesex Borough Hall
1200 Mountain Ave, Middlesex Borough

Monroe Township Library
4 Municipal Plaza, Monroe Township

North Brunswick Township Hall
710 Hermann Road, North Brunswick

Old Bridge Township Municipal Complex
1 Old Bridge Plaza, Old Bridge

South Amboy Train Station
137 N. Broadway, South Amboy

South Brunswick Municipal Building
540 Ridge Rd, Monmouth Junction

South Plainfield Borough Hall
2480 Plainfield Ave, South Plainfield

South River Administration Building
48 Washington St, South River

Spotswood Municipal Building
77 Summerhill Rd, Spotswood

Drop box located within the parking lot, in the Safe Zone

Drop box located on walkway between municipal building and police station

Drop box located behind building, on the sidewalk
(right side when facing the building)

Drop box located at beginning of side entrance accessible from the parking lot. Slated as Safe Exchange Zone

Drop box located in back of parking Lot - by handicap parking lanes.

Drop box located in front of stairs to Municipal Buiding.

Drop Box is curbside. Adjacent to north side of main entrance stairs to town hall.

Drop Box located Municipal Complex entrance outside under awning.

Drop box located between parking lot and East Brunswick Municipal Complex by police entrance.

Drop box located in front of front entrance.

Drop box located between Municipal Court and Police Station; closer to police station entrance.

Drop Box located inside the vestibule of the building.

Drop Box located in front of police station.

Drop Box located on sidewalk near entrance to library.

Drop Box located in front of borough hall.

Drop Box in front of borough hall.

Drop Box located in the rear of townhall.

Drop Box located to the right of the entrance to the library.

Drop Box located in front of townhall.

Drop Box located on the sidewalk nearest the curb in front of municipal building.

Drop Box located on the curb in front of the train station across from townhall.

Drop Box located in front of municipal building.

Drop Box located in read of municipal building.

Drop Box located in front of administration building.

Drop Box located in front of town hall.

**Ballot Drop Boxes are County
Specific!!!**

**Make sure you are dropping your
completed Ballot in a**

**Middlesex County Secure Ballot
Drop Box**

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

CONDADO DE MIDDLESEX

MIDDLESEX કાઉન્ટી



THIS ELECTION BALLOT DROP BOX IS MONITORED 24 HOURS A DAY BY VIDEO SURVEILLANCE.

TAMPERING WITH THIS ELECTION BALLOT DROP BOX IS A CRIME PENALIZED UNDER NEW JERSEY AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS.

IT IS AGAINST THE LAW FOR ANYONE EXCEPT THE VOTER TO DEPOSIT A BALLOT IN THIS DROP BOX UNLESS THE ENVELOPE IS SEALED AND THE SEALER PORTION IS FULLY COMPLETED. AN INDIVIDUAL MAY PLACE A MAXIMUM OF THREE (3) BALLOTS PLUS THEIR OWN IN THIS DROP BOX. N.J.S.A. 17-63-16D3

THIS ELECTION BALLOT DROP BOX CLOSERS AT 8:00 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AT 732-943-3471.

ESTA URNA DE BOLETAS ELECTORALES ESTÁ MONITOREADA LAS 24 HORAS DEL DÍA POR VIGILANCIA POR VIDEO.

MANIPULAR ESTA URNA DE BOLETAS ELECTORALES CONSTITUYE UN DELITO PUNIBLE CONFORME A LAS LEYES DE NEW JERSEY Y/O LEYES FEDERALES.

ES ILÍCITO QUE CUALQUIER PERSONA, EXCEPTO EL VOTANTE, DEPOSITAR UNA BOLETA EN ESTA URNA SALVO QUE EL SOBRE ESTÉ SELLADO Y LA PARTE DEL PREENSOR ESTÉ TOTALMENTE COMPLETA. UNA PERSONA PUEDE COLOCAR UNA MÁXIMA DE TRES (3) BOLETAS, ADICIONAL A LA PROPIA, EN ESTA URNA. N.J.S.A. 17-63-16D3

ESTA URNA DE BOLETAS ELECTORALES CIERRA EL DÍA DE LAS ELECCIONES A LAS 8:00 P.M.

SI TIENE ALGUNA PREGUNTA, ROGAMOS COMUNICARSE CON LA JUNTA DE ELECCIONES DEL CONDADO DE MIDDLESEX AL NÚMERO 732-943-3471.

આ દરજી સેલ 24 કલાક માટે સુરક્ષિત છે (સુરક્ષા કાઉન્ટર 24 કલાક સુરક્ષિત રહેશે).

આ દરજી સેલ 24 કલાક માટે સુરક્ષિત છે જે ન્યુ જર્સી અને/અથવા ફેડરલ કાયદાઓનું ભંગનું છે.

પાત્ર વ્યક્તિ સિવાય કોઈ અન્ય વ્યક્તિ આ દરજી સેલમાં કોઈપણ બેલોટ પાત્ર ના દરજી સેલમાં દાખલ કરી શકે છે જો તે બેલોટ પાત્ર સુરક્ષિત છે અને તેની પાછળની ભાગ પૂર્ણપણે પૂર્ણ છે. કોઈપણ વ્યક્તિ એક મહત્તમ ત્રણ (3) બેલોટ પાત્રો પાત્રો પાત્રો આ દરજી સેલમાં દાખલ કરી શકે છે. N.J.S.A. 17-63-16D3

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જો કોઈ પ્રશ્ન પાત્રો પાત્રો, તો કૃપા કરી MIDDLESEX કાઉન્ટી બોર્ડ ઓફ એલેક્શન્સ 732-943-3471 ના સંપર્કમાં આવો.



OFFICIAL ELECTION
BALLOT DROP BOX



URNA DE LA BOLETA
ELECTORAL

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MIDDLESEX COUNTY

CONDADO DE MIDDLESEX

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જો કોઈ પ્રશ્ન પાત્રો પાત્રો, તો કૃપા કરી MIDDLESEX કાઉન્ટી બોર્ડ ઓફ એલેક્શન્સ 732-943-3471 ના સંપર્કમાં આવો.



OFFICIAL ELECTION
BALLOT DROP BOX



BOLETA

I want to vote in-person

A limited number of polling places will be open on
Election Day 6am - 8pm,

The majority of voters will only be able to cast your ballot in person using a
PROVISIONAL PAPER



What is a Provisional Ballot?

The paper Provisional Ballot looks exactly like the ballot we sent to you in the mail except "Provisional Ballot" or "Mail-In Ballot" appears in the upper right-hand corner. Other than that they are identical.

Paper Provisional Ballots require the voter to fill out a form (affirmation Statement) to go along with the ballot. This form is what is used to investigate the eligibility of the voter.

Provisional Ballots are the last ballots counted in every election.

This is because of the Vote By Mail program.

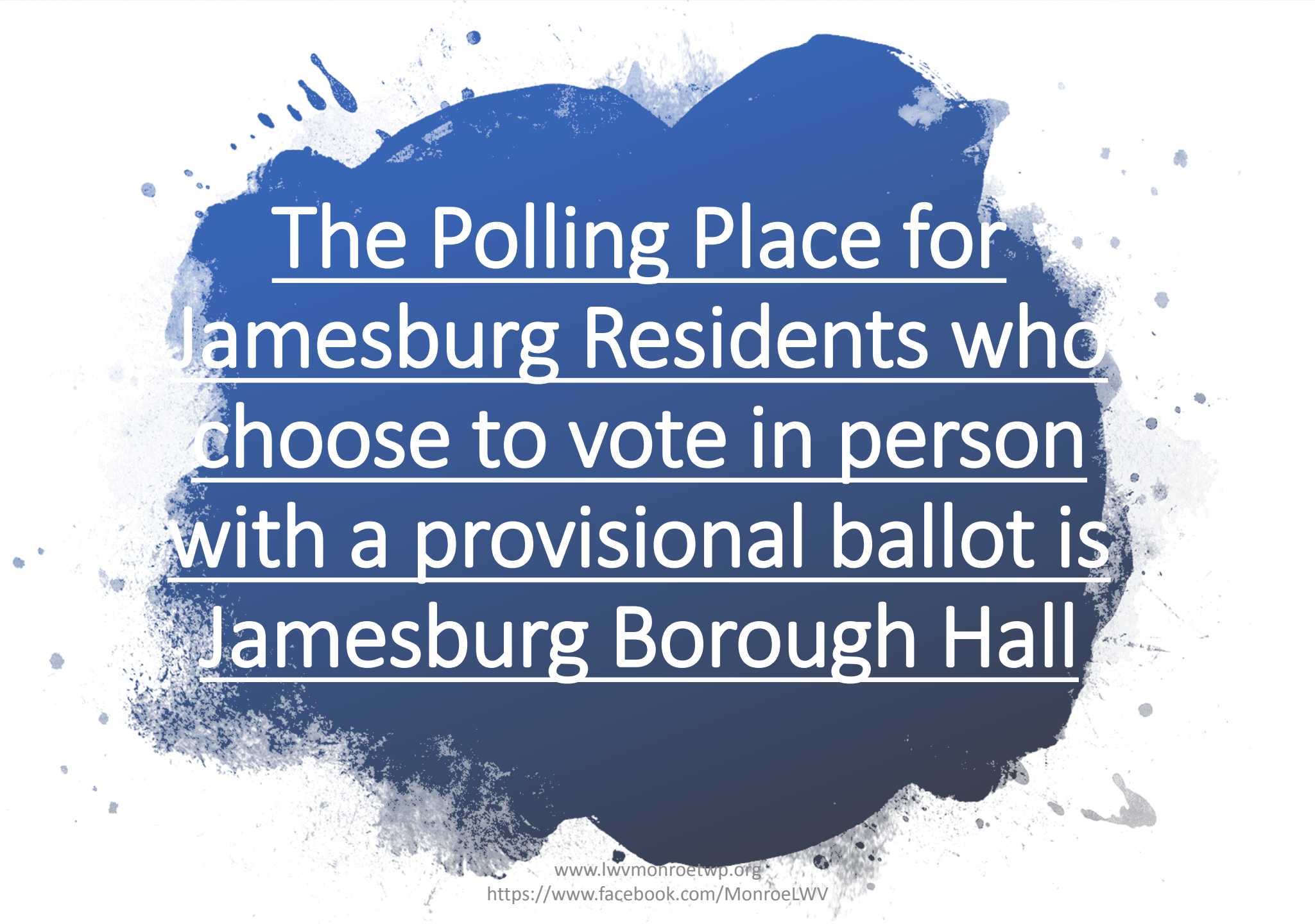
The Election Board must wait until after the deadline to receive Mail-In Ballots has passed before they can conclude their investigation.

This is to prevent a dishonest person from dropping their ballot off at a post office and then heading to the polls to vote a Provisional Ballot (voting twice).

Once the deadline is closed, and if the voter did not return a ballot via mail, their Provisional Ballot is accepted.

- **For the Nov. 3 General Election, the deadline to receive ballots in the mail is November 10, so no provisional ballots will be counted before Nov. 11 at the earliest.**
- **All Provisional ballots that have been investigated and deemed eligible get counted.**
- **The Executive order allows voters to return their mail-in ballots to their polling place on Election Day, these ballots are counted starting the day after the election, Nov. 4."**

| Ward & District | If you Normally vote at: | Your Polling Place for the 2020 Election is: |
|--|--------------------------------|---|
| Ward 1 District 11 | Monroe Twp. Ems -Centre Drive | Brookside Elementary School |
| Ward 1 District 15 | Monroe Village | |
| Ward 2 Districts 2 & 13 | Brookside Elementary | |
| Ward 3 Districts 6 & 8 | Brookside Elementary | |
| Ward 3 Districts 10 & 11 | Regency Clubhouse | |
| Vote Vote Vote Vote | Vote Vote Vote Vote | Vote Vote Vote Vote |
| Ward 3 Districts 2, 5 & 7 | Community Center | Community Center |
| Ward 3 District 3 | Monroe First Aid – Monmouth Rd | |
| Vote Vote Vote Vote | Vote Vote Vote Vote | Vote Vote Vote Vote |
| Ward 1 District 2, 3, 4, 5 | Rossmoor Clubhouse | Monroe Township High school |
| Ward 1 District 12 | Monroe Twp. EMS – Centre Drive | |
| Ward 2 Districts 3, 9, 11, & 12 | Greenbriar Clubhouse | |
| Ward 2 Districts 5, 6, 7 & 8 | Concordia Clubhouse | |
| Ward and District | If you normally vote at: | Your polling place for the 2020 Election is |
| Ward 1 Districts 14 & 17 Ward 2 District 10 | Oak Tree Elementary | Oak Tree Elementary School |
| Vote Vote Vote Vote | Vote Vote Vote Vote | Vote Vote Vote Vote |
| Ward 1 District 1 | Encore Clubhouse | Senior Center |
| Ward 1 Districts 6,7,8,9, & 10 | Clearbrook Clubhouse | |
| Ward 1 District 13 | The Ponds Clubhouse | |
| Ward 1 District 16 | Renaissance Clubhouse | |
| Ward 2 District 4 | Monroe Twp. Library | |
| Ward 2 Districts 14 & 15 | Stonebridge Clubhouse | |
| Vote Vote Vote Vote | Vote Vote Vote Vote | Vote Vote Vote Vote |
| Ward 2 District 1 Ward 3 District 4 & 9 | Woodland Elementary | Woodland Elementary School |
| Ward 3 District 1 | Monroe First Aid – Monmouth Rs | <div>www.lwvmonroetwp.org</div> <div>https://www.facebook.com/MonroeLWV</div> |
| Vote Vote Vote Vote | Vote Vote Vote Vote | Vote Vote Vote Vote |



The Polling Place for
Jamesburg Residents who
choose to vote in person
with a provisional ballot is
Jamesburg Borough Hall

Will I be notified if my ballot is discounted?

Yes!

And You will also receive a postcard from the County Clerk when your Ballot has been received/accepted

On Aug. 27 the Ballot Cure Act was passed and signed by Gov. Murphy.

The Ballot Cure Act:

- will ensure that you will be notified if your ballot is rejected and allows you to provide a “cure” for your ballot if it is missing a signature or the signature does not match.
- It also provides for a “Track My Ballot” user portal whereby we can see when your ballot arrives, whether it was rejected, why it was rejected and how to provide a cure. There is a current user portal here: <https://voter.svrs.nj.gov/auth/sign-up> and it is updated regularly.

Legislation also passed on August 27

A4320/S2633 - “VBM Education Bill”

- Prohibits rejection from defects (i.e. “Gluegate”).
- Must retain components for 2 years
- Secretary of State to provide VBM education
- Removes postmark requirement if received within 48 hrs. after polls closed on Election Day

Legislation also passed on August 27

A4475/S2580 “Secure Ballot Drop Box Act”

- Minimum 10 ballot drop boxes per county
- Requires installation 45 days before Election Day
- Requires 1 at Municipal building where the population is >5000.
- Allows mail-in ballots to begin being counted 10 days prior to Election Day (this applies only to this coming Election Day, 2020).

<https://tinyurl.com/y4374avl>

Fraud and Vote by Mail

- The conservative Heritage Foundation lists 210 total cases of ballot fraud in the U.S. in vote by mail cases between 1988 and 2020.
https://www.heritage.org/voterfraud/search?combine=&state=All&year=&case_type=All&fraud_type=24489&page=0
- An expansive study in 2017 from the Brennan Center for Justice, a liberal-leaning think tank, found that the rate of voter fraud in the United States was somewhere between 0.00004% and 0.0009% of all votes.
https://www.brennancenter.org/sites/default/files/2019-08/Report_Truth-About-Voter-Fraud.pdf

Myths about Vote By Mail

- You must use a certain colored ink on your ballot.
- You should add a first class stamp to your ballot to ensure it's treated as first class mail.
- You can tell from the envelope whether the ballot is from a Democrat or Republican.
- Provisional ballots will not be counted unless the race is tight.
- Any others that you know of?

Contact your Board of Elections or County Clerk with any questions!

- Middlesex County Board of Elections:
<http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/Government/Departments/CS/boardofelections/Pages/default.aspx>

- After filling out your Vote By Mail ballot, you can:
- Mail it from the comfort of your home (no postage necessary)
- Drop it off yourself at the Middlesex County Board of Elections
- Drop it off at your designated Polling Location (See Attached or contact 732-656-4573)
- Deliver the ballot yourself to one of the secured drop box locations in Middlesex County

Litigation regarding Vote By Mail in NJ

As many of you know the Trump administration has filed litigation challenging New Jersey's plan to mail vote-by-mail ballots automatically to every registered and active voter.

The League of Women Voters of New Jersey and the NAACP New Jersey State Conference filed a motion to intervene in *Trump v. Murphy*. The League's motion argues that the suit, in seeking to block the automatic mailing of vote-by-mail ballots, will require the group to invest substantial resources to re-educate voters right before an election, with no guarantee that voters will realize they now must apply for their vote-by-mail ballots in time to vote this November.

The case, *Trump v. Murphy*, is pending before Judge Michael A. Shipp in the District of New Jersey.

What can you do to make this election run smoothly during the pandemic?



We are facing a shortage of poll workers and our democracy needs you. Poll workers staff our polling places, answer voters' questions, and ensure things run smoothly.

Please answer the call and sign up for be a poll worker today:

<https://nj.gov/state/elections/pollworker.shtml>

You can also apply to aid in counting ballots through your county Board of Elections:

<http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/Government/Departments/CS/Boardofelections/Pages/default.aspx>

And... Educate your Peers & Family Members

- Don't procrastinate
- Take advantage of the Ballot Drop Boxes (Note: if you are helping a family member with their ballot, that ballot must be mailed.)
- We will be sharing this presentation and a lot of great resources on
 - The LWVMT Facebook Group & Page
<https://www.facebook.com/MonroeLWV>
 - The LWVMT Website
 - <https://my.lwv.org/new-jersey/monroe-township>
 - The Monroe Twp. LWV League in Action Newsletter

Spread good information!

- You can find accurate information regarding the upcoming election at the following Facebook pages. Find answers to your questions and use your social media to share their useful graphics:
- League of Women Voters NJ <https://www.facebook.com/LWVNJ>
- Middlesex County website
<http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/Government/Departments/CS/Boardofelections/Pages/vote2020.aspx>
- Division of Elections <https://www.state.nj.us/state/elections/election-information-2020.shtml>

College student specific information



- <https://www.collegevotersunited.org/vote>
- <https://www.rutgers.edu/news/rutgers-eagletons-center-youth-political-participation-launches-ru-voting-national>

The Rights of the Disabled Voter

- The ARC of NJ

GOTV 2020

- https://www.arcnj.org/news_events/gotv2020/?fbclid=IwAR0z4DyOz7H7MiCgGkZsrEXK7kJH_8UjnUSXRCxT67nnJa4i40seYFk8fic
- <http://www.njelections.org/voting-information-voter-rights.html>

- Thank you to Laura from the West Windsor/Hightstown League of Women Voters for providing us with your PowerPoint. You provided us with a great foundation to build on.
- We relied heavily on the LWV NJ, Middlesex County Board of Elections, and New Jersey Division of Elections for our information. As things are changing rapidly, we will keep updating our Social Media with the information.
- Judy, Andrea & Patty

NJ GENERAL ELECTION COVID-19 RESPONSE

Understanding Governor Murphy's Executive Order #177 regarding the November 3rd General Election. Visit LWVNJ.org for updates!



AUTOMATIC VOTE-BY-MAIL

The election will be conducted primarily via vote-by-mail ballots, which will be sent to all active registered voters without the need for an application to receive a vote-by-mail ballot. All ballots will have prepaid postage.



ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION

Online voter registration will be available on September 4, 2020. The deadline to register to vote is October 13th. Make sure to check your voter registration status by visiting nj.gov/state/elections.

POLLING LOCATIONS

Each municipality will be required to open at least one in-person polling site. All counties must ensure that at least 50% of their total polling places are open. **Any voter who chooses to cast their vote in-person will do so using a provisional ballot.** All individuals with disabilities will have access to an ADA-conforming voting machine.

RETURNING VOTE- BY-MAIL BALLOTS

All ballots will be mailed from County Clerks by Monday, October 5th. Voters will be able to return ballots by mail, by depositing it in a secure drop box, or by handing it directly to a poll worker at a polling place on Election Day. All ballots being returned through the mail must be postmarked by November 3rd and received no later than 8 pm on November 10th. Ballots that lack postmarks due to postal error received by November 5th will be valid.



DROP BOX LOCATIONS

To the extent possible, each county will have at least 10 secure ballot drop boxes in locations that are readily accessible to the registered voters within the county.



NO SAMPLE BALLOTS

Voters will receive notification about their polling place location, secure ballot drop box locations, and information about how to obtain or view a sample ballot. This notification will be mailed by October 23rd.

