

WEST VIRGINIA -ELECTION CONNECTION-

Your source for Election News from Secretary of State Natalie E. Tennant

Issue 54 – October 31, 2012

In this issue ...

- General Election timeline
- Hurricane Sandy Update
- Congressional, WV House, and WV Senate interactive map
- Voter Registration Totals
- Daylight Savings Time in iVotronic machines
- Important upcoming dates
- How you can submit an item to the Election Connection

Less Than 1 Week Until Election Day!

On Wednesday, October 31, there will be exactly six days until the November 6 General Election!

Hurricane Sandy Update

A special thanks to election officials across the state for their extraordinary work during Hurricane Sandy.

Several counties were forced to suspend early voting on October 30. There was cooperation between state and county officials to assess the situation and make a decision that protected the safety of poll workers and voters.

There have been several media inquiries about how a prolonged power outage might affect voting on Election Day. Right now, the Secretary of State's Office is discussing with county election officials contingency plans concerning polling places, poll workers, and backup options for electricity.

Interactive Map For Congressional, House, and Senate District

You can now search for your address and zoom into to see congressional, WV Senate, and WV House districts on the following maps (All maps are clickable):

- Congressional -

http://www.sos.wv.gov/elections/currentelection/districts/Pages/Districts_Congressional.aspx

- WV Senate –

http://www.sos.wv.gov/elections/currentelection/districts/Pages/Districts_Senatorial.aspx

- WV House -

http://www.sos.wv.gov/elections/currentelection/districts/Pages/Districts_Delegate.aspx

Voter Registration Totals From SVRS

County	Democrat	Republican	Mountain	No Party Affiliation	Other	Total
BARBOUR	4602	3394	6	1479	164	9645
BERKELEY	23188	24378	139	19755	345	67805
BOONE	14450	2142	8	1851	514	18965
BRAXTON	5997	1570	5	1112	53	8737
BROOKE	10704	3878	10	3059	195	17846
CABELL	31167	19394	78	10413	584	61636
CALHOUN	3386	1211	8	875	175	5655
CLAY	4413	1271	3	649	241	6577
DODDRIDGE	1153	2707	9	827	160	4856
FAYETTE	17203	5015	40	4473	137	26868
GILMER	3140	917	8	513	212	4790
GRANT	1268	5268	4	1535	33	8108
GREENBRIER	13582	6894	17	3925	1187	25605
HAMPSHIRE	5622	4846	27	2937	988	14420
HANCOCK	13430	6003	11	3924	236	23604
HARDY	4629	2220	8	1915	21	8793
HARRISON	23475	12326	43	8316	128	44288
JACKSON	8737	8704	30	3855	314	21640
JEFFERSON	13446	10316	81	10897	834	35574
KANAWHA	69650	37869	178	25269	1725	134691
LEWIS	4274	3341	11	1497	47	9170
LINCOLN	13073	2997	7	2191	222	18490
LOGAN	20480	2494	12	1815	708	25509
MARION	25335	9316	35	5397	1983	42066
MARSHALL	11092	6231	22	4255	465	22065
MASON	9823	6178	16	2619	329	18965
MCDOWELL	12119	1356	9	1951	550	15985
MERCER	20565	9996	63	8201	736	39561
MINERAL	6064	7464	11	3774	184	17497
MINGO	17711	1865	5	1537	520	21638
MONONGALIA	27639	16443	93	12743	790	57708
MONROE	4874	3357	6	1676	64	9977
MORGAN	3430	5035	48	2988	301	11802
NICHOLAS	9806	3852	29	2510	402	16599
OHIO	15667	10153	33	5138	2276	33267
PENDLETON	2858	1576	5	914	239	5592
PLEASANTS	2548	1617	0	867	186	5218

POCAHONTAS	2632	1384	7	1108	15	5146
PRESTON	7623	8251	16	3517	187	19594
PUTNAM	15023	15026	35	6058	564	36706
RALEIGH	29291	15249	43	10709	362	55654
RANDOLPH	10700	4132	21	2937	625	18415
RITCHIE	1989	3734	5	1239	154	7121
ROANE	4371	3393	20	2208	21	10013
SUMMERS	5961	1775	13	1317	179	9245
TAYLOR	5180	3308	4	1531	486	10509
TUCKER	2664	1503	8	708	406	5289
TYLER	2096	2948	5	1043	73	6165
UPSHUR	4627	6793	10	2699	34	14163
WAYNE	19572	7219	11	3029	502	30333
WEBSTER	4574	727	7	360	583	6251
WETZEL	8078	2737	9	1610	326	12760
WIRT	2070	1473	6	734	67	4350
WOOD	20931	21839	36	11791	465	55062
WYOMING	12550	3570	11	1766	674	18571
Total	640532	358655	1385	222016	23971	1246559
	51.38%	28.77%	0.11%	17.81%	1.92%	

Daylight Savings Time in iVotronic Machines

This is from an email from ES&S and Casto+Harris about daylight savings time in iVotronic machines:

“Counties using iVo's need to adjust the clock on their machines when testing due to daylight savings time. In years previous, DST didn't occur until AFTER the general election, so we didn't need to be concerned with it. This November, however, DST (November 4th) occurs two days prior to the Election (November 6th); thus, we will gain an hour and "fall back" on Sunday, November 4th. Therefore, if counties don't set the time back an hour (i.e. 10:00 am when it's really 11:00 am) when pre-testing their iVo's in October, then pollworkers will be prompted to "close the polls" starting at 6:30 pm instead of 7:30 pm. **That also means that the machines will think it's 6:30AM when it is really only 5:30AM.**

The DST box in the *setup & configuration* settings should remained unchecked or without an "X" since the 9.1.6.2 firmware does not have the new DST dates which changed in 2007.”

REMEMBER: You SHOULD adjust for DST in your Election Day machines, but NOT in your Early Voting machines!

Important Dates Coming Up

- **Vacancy on the ballot occurring October 16 – November 1, 2012:** Write-in filing by November 1, 2012: Write-In Candidate Filing Deadline in Case of Death

or Disqualification of Candidate (Vacancy occurs no earlier than the twenty-first day and no later than the fifth day before the general election, the certificate shall be received no later than the close of business on the fifth day before the election, or the close of business on the day following the occurrence of the vacancy, whichever is later.)

- Write-in candidate files certificate of announcement to become certified write-in candidate in case of death of nominee or death of incumbent in office excluding certain federal, statewide and judicial offices not on ballot. (§ 3-6-4a(c)(3))
- **October 22 - November 5:** “Last Minute” Independent Expenditures Reported (Expenditure made on or after the fifteenth day but more than twelve hours before the day of any election - report must be received within 24 hours after the expenditure is made)
 - Independent expenditures in the amount of \$1,000 or more for statewide, legislative or multi-county offices or in the amount of \$500 or more for county, single-county or municipal offices which are made must be reported within 24 hours to the Secretary of State or the clerk of the county commission. (§ 3-8-2)
- **October 24 – November 3:** Early Voting in Person Conducted (New language beginning on the thirteenth day and continuing through the Saturday before the Tuesday general election)
 - Voter may vote an early ballot at the county clerk's office during normal business hours; additionally, early voting must be conducted between 9 a.m. and 5p.m. on the last two Saturdays before the primary election. (§3-3-3)
- **October 30 - November 5:** Instructional Program Make-Up Session (Within last seven days before election)
 - County clerk conducts make-up session for poll workers unable to attend regular session. (§ 3-1-46(c), 3-4A-14)
- **October 30 - November 5:** Publish Official List of Candidates or Sample Ballot for Election Day (On the last day on which a newspaper is published immediately preceding the general election)
 - Ballot commissioners publish the official list of candidates and issues as follows: (1) for counties in which two or more qualified newspapers publish a daily newspaper, publish a Class I-0 legal advertisement in the two qualified daily newspapers of different political parties within the county having the largest circulation; (2) for counties having no more than one daily newspaper, or having only one or more qualified weekly newspapers, publish sample as Class I legal advertisement in qualified newspapers having largest circulation. Counties may choose to publish the facsimile ballot for a second time instead of the official list. (§ 3-6-3, 59-3-1 et seq.)
- **October 30 - Noon, November 6:** Request Emergency Medical Absentee Ballot (No earlier than the seventh day preceding the election and no later than noon of election day)
 - Period in which an eligible person (a member of said voter's immediate family or hospital personnel) may request an emergency absent voter

ballot. Eligible persons include: (1) a voter who, on election day, is in the hospital or other duly licensed health care facility within the county of their residence (or, provided the county commission has adopted an extension of service, to a health care facility in an adjacent county or within 35 miles of the county seat); or (2) a voter who resides no more than 30 days in a nursing home within the county, provided the county commission has adopted an extension of service to those facilities. (§ 3-3-1(c)(2), 3-3-5c(d))

- **October 31 (Deadline):** Deadline for Absentee by Mail Application (Not later than the sixth day preceding the election)
 - o Last day to receive application for absentee ballot by mail. Ballot shall be mailed no later than following day. (§ 3-3-5(b)(1))
- **November 1:** Public Inspection of Vote Recording Devices and Ballots AutoMark for Election Day (Five days before the election)
 - o County commissioners and ballot commissioners convene to inspect the devices and the ballots to determine if all applicable provisions of law are met. (3-4A-13)
- **November 3:** Deadline for Early Voting in Person
 - o (Not later than the last Saturday before the general election from 9 am to 5 pm) Last day to vote an early ballot in person in the county clerk's office. (§ 3-3-3)
- **November 5 (Deadline):** Deadline to Hand-Deliver Absentee Ballots to the County Clerk's Office (No later than the day preceding the election)
 - o Last day for county clerk to accept hand delivered absentee ballot by mail: Provided, that no person may personally deliver more than two absentee ballots in any election. (§ 3-3-5(k))
- **November 5 (Deadline):** Election Commissioners Receive Election Supplies (Not later than the day before the general election)
 - o Last day on which election commissioners of each precinct, as designated by ballot commissioners, shall receive necessary election supplies from county clerk and county commission. (§ 3-1-24, 3-4A-13(f), 3-5-14)
- **November 5 (Deadline):** Failure to Pick Up Supplies (By close of offices of county clerk and county commission on the day prior to general election)
 - o Board of ballot commissioners, or chairman thereof, forthwith dispatches, by special messenger, election supplies to any election commissioner who has failed to pick up supplies by designated time. (§ 3-1-25, 3-4A-13a)
- **November 6: GENERAL ELECTION DAY** (Tuesday after first Monday in November of even years)
 - o Polls open at 6:30 a.m. Polls close at 7:30 p.m. (§ 3-1-31)
 - o If appointed election official fails to appear at polling place by 5:45 a.m., election officials shall contact county clerk for assistance in filling vacancy. (§ 3-1-30)
 - o In counties using electronic voting systems, clerk of county commission must deliver vote recording devices to the polling places not less than a hour prior to polls opening. (§3-4A-16)

- Upon request by or for person eligible to vote emergency absentee voter's ballot made no later than noon of election day, emergency absentee voting commissioners deliver application and ballot to voter in hospital (or nursing home if authorized). (§ 3-3-5c)
- A voter whose registration record lists one address but has since moved to another within the county may update their registration at the polling place and shall vote in the precinct of current residence using a provisional ballot. (§ 3-2-22(a)(6), 3-2-31(b))
- A voter whose legal name has changed may update their registration by filing an affidavit of change of legal name at the polling place on election day. (§ 3-2-22(d)(2))
- Write-in absentee ballot must be received by the county clerk prior to the close of the polls on election day or it may not be counted. Write-in ballot is only for persons outside U.S. who apply for regular absentee ballot at least 30 days before the election, but could not receive and return it within the absentee voting period due to remote location. (§ 3-3-5b(f))
- Before closing of polls (7:30 p.m.) county clerk, or a messenger, delivers to precinct all absent voter's ballots received for paper ballot systems that had not been picked up by the election commissioner. (§3-3-7)
- **November 6:** Post Precinct Returns (In counties using paper ballots, when results for the precinct are received) The precinct returns shall be posted on the outside of the front door of the polling place. (§ 3-6-8)
- **November 7:** Absentee Ballots Without Postmark Accepted (Day after Election Day)
 - Absentee ballots without postmark are accepted if delivered by the US Postal Service or other express shipping service and received by the county clerk, no later than the day after election day. (§ 3-3-5)
- **November 7:** Cancellation of Registration of Voters Made Inactive on February 1, 2008 (Day after 2nd federal general election following mailing of confirmation notice)
 - Clerk of the county commission cancels registration of voters who were placed on the inactive file on February 1, 2008 and who have NOT responded to confirmation notices, updated their registration or voted in ANY state, county or municipal primary, general or special election held within the county since February 1, 2006. (§ 3-2-27)
- **November 8 (Deadline):** Mail Precinct Returns to Secretary of State (In counties using paper ballots, within 48 hours of receiving precinct returns)
 - County clerk mails by certified mail a copy of the precinct returns to the secretary of state. (§3-6-8)
- **November 13** (Before canvass convenes): Absentee Ballots Postmarked by Election Day Accepted (No later than the hour at which the board of canvassers convenes to begin the canvass.)
 - Absentee ballot by mail accepted if ballot bears a postmark of the US Postal Service dated no later than election day and the ballot is received by the county clerk, within the required time. (§ 3-3-5)

- **November 13***: Canvass Returns (On the fifth day, Sundays excepted, after general election)
 - o The county commission, as board of canvassers, meets to canvass general election returns from day to day adjourning no longer than is absolutely necessary until the canvass is complete; publicly declaring the election results by entering an order certifying the election results only after a forty-eight hour period (Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excepted) within which any candidate may demand recount; thereafter issuing certificates of results. The canvas is open to the public. However, only those authorized may handle election materials. (§ 3-6-9, 3-6-10)

Have an idea?

Is there something that you want to see addressed in the Election Connection? The goal of this newsletter is to keep everyone up to date about challenges facing election officials in West Virginia and to inform everyone about best practices that are being put into place. If you have an idea for a topic, have a question, or if you think there is a subject that election officials around the state would be interested in, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary of State's Office. You can contact the Elections Division by email at elections@wvsos.com or (304) 558-6000 or Jake Glance directly at jglance@wvsos.com. Your input is appreciated.