Voting Matters So, let's talk about it!

6PM, THURSDAY, OCT. 15, 2020

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CLERK GAIL L. PELLERIN

MYTH. You must sign your name on the ballot return envelope exactly as you are registered to vote

We look for comparisons. You do not have to sign exactly as you are registered to vote. If we have any problem finding comparison, we will contact you. In Santa Cruz County, you have until Nov. 29 to cure your signature.

MYTH. Ballots mailed to voters are not secure.

Studies have shown that using the ballot mailed to you is secure. It is as safe as voting in person. The ballot in the envelope is exactly like the ballot you vote in person. The only difference is it is put in an envelope that you sign, which is an added layer of security.

MYTH. Ballots are counted after Election Day only if the vote is close.

Rest assured that every ballot cast from an eligible voter is counted. It doesn't matter if the contests are close or the margin is wide.

MYTH. We only count provisionals if the vote is close.

Provisional ballots are cast by voters if their eligibility to vote cannot be confirmed at the time they show up to vote. All provisional ballots are researched. And, if the voter is eligible to vote, the ballot is counted.

MYTH. You don't count the ballot if voters don't date it and fill out the other information.

We must have the voter's signature on the ballot envelope. The other information is helpful to confirm that it is your ballot, and the date is helpful if the voter is returning the ballot close to Election Day.

MYTH. Ballots returned after Election Day were voted after Election Day.

Ballots that are postmarked on or before Election Day and received by the 17th day after the election will be deemed received on time. Voters cannot vote a ballot after Nov. 3 and still have it postmarked Nov. 3. Also, any voter in CA can return their ballot to any drop box or voting location in CA. Counties will forward those ballots to the respective counties, and that will often occur after Election Day.

MYTH. Rules and regulations from other states do not apply here.

We are all hearing lots of news about voting in other states. Those laws do not apply in CA. No witness is required. No notary. No extra envelope. Follow the instructions mailed with your ballot.

MYTH. Election officials will look how I voted when you open the envelope.

Election officials work at open tables with others. Ballots are processed in groups of 100. Ballots are extracted from the envelopes with the envelope turned upside down and ballots are still folded. We verify we have 100 ballots, and the envelopes are then removed from the table. When processing tens of thousands of ballots, we are not interested in viewing how people voted. We are only interested in confirming the ballot can be scanned successfully.

Did you sign below in your own handwriting? ¿Firmó abajo con su propia letra?

Voter's declaration. I declare that: • I am a resident of and a voter in the county, and the person whose name appears on this envelope. . I have not applied, nor will I apply for a vote-by-mail ballot from any other jurisdiction in this election. . I declare under penalty of perjury that this is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. Declaración del votante. Yo declaro que: · Soy residente y votante en el condado, y la persona cuyo nombre aparece en este sobre. • No he solicitado, ní solicitare una boleta de voto por correo de otra jurisdicción en esta elección. Declaro bajo pena de perjurio que esto es verdadero a lo mejor de mi conocimiento y creencia. Voter, sign here in ink. Power of attorney is not acceptable. Votante, firme aqui con tinta. Un poder nortarial no es aceptable. Vote X

Date / Fecha (MM/DD/YYYY) 10-31-2020 If you are unable to sign, make your mark and have a witness sign below: Si usted no puede firmar, haga una marca y que firme un testigo en la linea:

Witness, sign here / Testigo, firme aquí

Made a mistake on your ballot? Call the Elections office for a replacement 831-454-2050 or vbm@votescount.cam	¿Cometió un error en su boleta? Llame a la oficina electoral para un reemplazo 831-454-2060 o vbm@votescount.com
l authorize the person below to return my Autorizo a la persona abajo a devolver me l	
Their name / Su nombre	
Their signature / Su firma	
Relationship to voter / Relación a este vota	inte

Your signature must compare with the signature on your voter registration card. Voting more than once in an election is a crime.

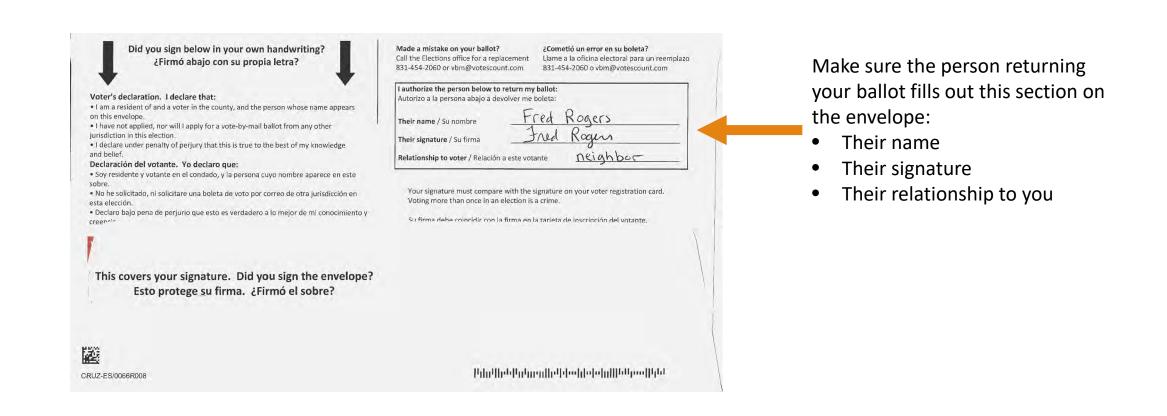
Su firma debe coincidir con la firma en la tarjeta de inscripción del votante. Votar más de una ves en una elección es un crimen.

Your phone # or email / Su telefono o email: 831-221-1010

Print name / Nombre en letra de molde	Jill Voter	
Print your voter registration address / I	mprima su dirección de registro de vot	
122 -		
123 Ocean St		

Make sure you sign your ballot envelope in your own handwriting

If you need to ask someone you trust to return your ballot





Which boxes are real?

Our outdoor boxes are available 24/7. They either silver or blue. They both clearly indicate that it is an Official Ballot Drop Box for Santa Cruz County. The laws governing the boxes are posted on the front of the box.

Are the boxes secure?

Boxes are bolted to the ground from the inside.

A two-person team has been assigned to each box. They are emptying the boxes at least once a day, more frequently as we get closer to Election Day.

There is chain of custody documentation that must be completed by the team and verified by the elections officials accepting the ballots at County Elections.

To open the box, the elections officials must cut the wire seal containing a unique number and unlock the padlock. Two keys must be used to unlock the box to access the ballots.

When completed, the team locks the box and uses a new wire seal. The number of the new seal is recorded on the documentation.

Ballot drop box locations

Aptos - Public Library parking lot, 7695 Soquel Dr. Aptos - Polo Grounds, 2255 Huntington Dr. Aptos - Cabrillo College by football stadium, 3732 Cabrillo College Dr. Ben Lomond - Highlands Park parking lot, 8500 Highway 9 Boulder Creek – Public Library, 13390 W. Park Ave.: walk up **Capitola** - City Hall parking lot, 420 Capitola Ave. Capitola - Shopping Mall Capitola Road side, near Bank of America, 1855 41st Ave. **Felton** - Covered Bridge Park parking lot, Mt. Hermon/Graham Hill Rd. Santa Cruz - County Gov. Center parking lot, 701 Ocean St. Santa Cruz - Public Library parking lot, 212 Church St. Santa Cruz - UCSC Quarry Plaza: walk up **Scotts Valley** - City Hall parking lot, 1 Civic Center Dr. Watsonville - Parking Lot 14, 316 Rodriguez St. Watsonville - County Health Center parking lot, 1430 Freedom Blvd. Watsonville - Corralitos Community Center parking lot, 35 Browns Valley Rd.



Inside ballot drop box locations

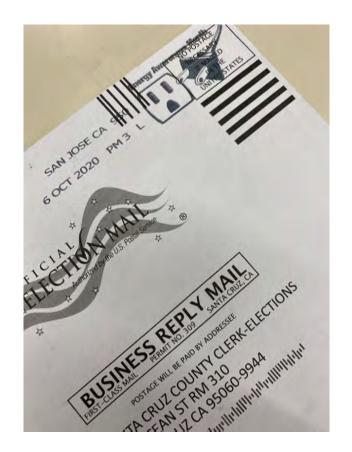
County Elections: 701 Ocean St., Room 310, Santa Cruz Santa Cruz City Clerk: 809 Center St., Santa Cruz Simpkins Swim Center: 979 17th Ave., Santa Cruz Capitola City Clerk: 420 Capitola Ave., Capitola Watsonville City Clerk: 275 Main St., 4th Floor, Watsonville Watsonville Public Library: 275 Main St., 1st Floor, Watsonville We will also have a drop box at each residential care facility for their residents. *No box at Scotts Valley City Hall since they are closed to the public.



Inside drop boxes are staffed

These boxes are staffed and only available when the office is open to the public. The box is sealed with a cable tie that is broken each time it is emptied. Two-person teams empty the boxes regularly and provide the chain of custody documentation.

If you mail your ballot, make sure it is postmarked on or before November 3!



Ballots postmarked on or before November 3 and received by the elections official by November 20 will be considered received on time and will be counted if the voter is eligible to vote.

If you mail it on November 3, walk it into the post office and have it postmarked!

Postage is paid!

Dropping off your voted ballot at a voting location

- 1. We will have tents outside and a mobile ballot drop box staffed by two people.
- 2. You may be able to drive up and drop off your voted ballot, or you may have to park your car and walk up.
- 3. The elections clerk will ask you if it is your ballot and if you signed it.
- 4. If so, you may deposit it into the box.
- 5. If you are not sure if you signed it, the elections clerk will ask you to pull the tab and sign the ballot envelope before you deposit the ballot.

6. If you are returning the ballot for someone else, the elections clerk will ask you to print your name, sign your name, and write your relationship to the voter in the space provided on the ballot envelope before depositing it into the ballot box.





How's ballot tracking working?

Voters love tracking their ballots.

Alerts are not happening in real time.

Also, it sometimes takes us 48 hours to get your ballot in our office and have your voter record tagged so you get an alert that your ballot was received.

Voters are not getting an alert from Ballot Tracking when the ballot has been delivered to your mailbox.

To get that information for your ballot and all your mail, sign up for informed delivery at <u>usps.com</u>.









VoteMobile – can go anywhere

Schedule is posted online at <u>www.votescount.us</u>



Our office and Watsonville City Clerk are open now. Monday – Friday, 8am to 5pm.



16 more will open:

Saturday, October 31, 2020, 9am to 5pm Sunday, November 1, 2020, 9am to 5pm Monday, November 2, 2020, 8am to 5pm Tuesday, November 3, 2020, 7am to 8pm

UCSC will be open Monday & Tuesday ONLY.

In-Person voting locations

- **1. Aptos** Temple Beth El, 3055 Porter Gulch Rd.
- 2. Boulder Creek Boulder Creek Recreation Hall, 13333 Middleton Ave.
- **3. Capitola** New Brighton Middle School, 250 Washburn Ave.
- 4. Felton San Lorenzo Valley High School, 7105 Highway 9
- 5. Santa Cruz Santa Cruz County Clerk/Elections, 701 Ocean St., Room 310 Opened Oct. 5 for voting
- 6. Santa Cruz Simpkins Swim Center, 979 17th Ave.
- 7. Santa Cruz Bonny Doon Elementary School, 1492 Pine Flat Rd.
- 8. Santa Cruz Kaiser Permanente Arena, 140 Front St.
- 9. Santa Cruz Masonic Center, 828 N. Branciforte Ave.
- 10. Santa Cruz Natural Bridges School, 255 Swift St.
- 11. Scotts Valley Scott Valley Community Center, 360 Kings Village Rd.
- 12. Scotts Valley SV High School, 555 Glenwood Dr.
- 13. Soquel Soquel High School, 401 Soquel-San Jose Rd.
- 14. Watsonville Watsonville City Clerk's Office, 275 Main St., 4th Floor Opened Oct. 5 for voting
- **15.** Watsonville Pajaro Valley Community Trust, 85 Nielson St.
- 16. Watsonville La Selva Beach Clubhouse, 314 Estrella Ave.
- 17. Watsonville Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds, 2601 East Lake Ave.
- 18. Watsonville Calabasas Elementary School, 202 Calabasas Rd.
- **19. Santa Cruz** UCSC, Merrill Cultural Center open ONLY Monday, Nov. 2, 8am to 5pm and Tuesday, Nov. 3, 7am to 8pm

Locations are subject to change. Check www.votescount.us for latest information.



Voting location safety checklist

- ✓ Wear a face covering while at the voting location.
- Keep 2 arms' length distance from other people.
- ✓ Wash hands before and after entering the voting location.
- Use hand sanitizer after touching doors or voting equipment.
- Bring your own pen.
- ✓ We will take your temperature upon entering.

Want more information about how to stay safe while voting?

Review Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/election-polling-locations.html

Line Management

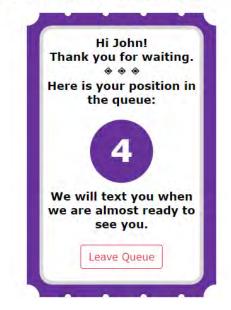
Wait Time App

Voters will be let in if there is sufficient space.

If not, you will be put into the queue with your cell phone number, email or you can wait in a designated area.

When it is your turn, you will get an alert to come in and vote.

You can check wait times at the different voting locations online at **www.votescount.us** or on the My Santa Cruz County App.

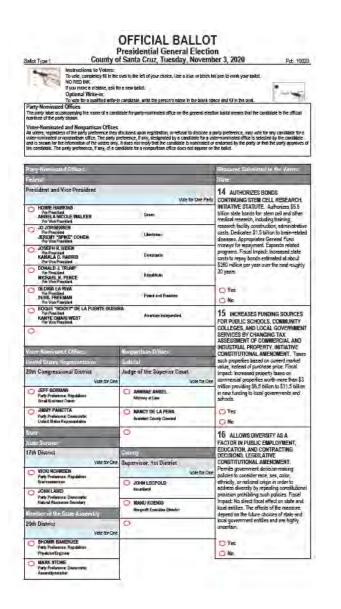


Waiting Queue for Aptos - Temple Beth El

Polling Sites Wait Time

Last Updated: 12:56:22 pm

#	Polling site	Wait Time (mins)
1	Aptos - Temple Beth El 3055 Porter Gulch Rd, Aptos, CA 95003	26
2	Boulder Creek - Boulder Creek Recreation Hall 13333 Middleton Ave, Boulder Creek, CA 95006	26
3	Capitola - New Brighton Middle School 250 Washburn Ave, Capitola, CA 95010	26
4	Felton - San Lorenzo Valley High School 7105 Hwy 9, Felton, CA 95018	0
5	Santa Cruz - Santa Cruz County Clerk/Elections 701 Ocean St, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 Room 310	0
6	Santa Cruz - Simpkins Swim Center 979 17th Ave, Santa Cruz, CA 95062	0



Traditional Paper Ballot

Fill in the oval to the left of your choice.

For most contests, your choice is ONE but for others, like some city council or school and special districts, you may be able to vote for two, three or four candidates.

You may vote for fewer candidates than allowed, but if you vote for more candidates than allowed, your vote(s) in that contest will NOT be counted.

Voting Tips

Voting is NOT a test.

You do not have to vote on every single contest.

If you make a mistake, you can either get a replacement ballot or clearly correct it on the ballot.

To correct your ballot, make a distinct "X" through the mismarked oval, fill in the oval of your preferred choice, and circle your choice. Do not put your initials, name or other identifying marks on the ballot.

Using the Tablet to vote a Paper Ballot

If you choose the Tablet:

The Tablet Clerk will take your Tablet Activation Card and will use their poll worker card to key up your ballot.

The tablet has accessibility features to allow any voter to vote independently and privately: audio ballot, large font, and a port for someone to use their own assistive device. If you need any of these features, please let the Tablet Clerk know.

The next screen, you select your language: English or Spanish.

Then you make your selections.

When you are done, your ballot will be printed. Your selections are printed on the ballot for you to review.





Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail Ballot -RAVBM

- We can email you a ballot if you sign up by October 27: form is online at <u>www.votescount.us</u> or call us at 831-454-2060.
- To vote using a RAVBM, you need to have access to a computer, printer and envelopes to return your ballot
- We will email you an access code to access your ballot and vote it.
- To return your voted ballot, you will need to use your own envelope unless you have the envelope we sent you. If you use your own envelope, you will need to sign it on the outside and print your name, address, and a way to contact you. You may want to put it in a second envelope to protect your information.



	Registration and Returns by District for Presidential General on November 3, 2020			
District	Registration	Ballots Returned	Percent Returned	
County				
Santa Cruz County	169,532	18,774	11.07%	
United States Representative				
18th Congressional District	37,548	3,481	9.27 %	
20th Congressional District	131,986	15,293	11.59%	
State Senator				
17th Senatorial District	169,532	18,774	11.079	
Member of the State Assembly				
29th Assembly District	140,928	16,293	11.56%	
30th Assembly District	28,604	2,481	8.67 %	
County Supervisor				
1st Supervisorial District	38,442	4,688	12.199	
2nd Supervisorial District	36,974	5,340	14.449	
3rd Supervisorial District	34,431	3,300	9.58 %	
4th Supervisorial District	22,433	1,936	8.63 %	
5th Supervisorial District	37,252	3,510	9.42 %	
City				
City of Capitola	7,103	949	13.369	
City of Santa Cruz	38,958	3,805	9.77 %	
City of Scotts Valley	8,648	875	10.129	
City of Watsonville	21,242	1,841	8.67 %	

Current numbers. WOW!!

County Voter Information Guide

Guide contains Candidate statements, Local measures, info about voting, drop boxes & voting locations.

We had to make some changes to the printed materials, so check the website at <u>www.votescount.us</u> for the latest information.

Soquel High instead of Soquel Conference Grounds.

Added Gateway School Gym.



For the latest information about the election and any changes that may need to be made due to COVID, go to www.votescount.us. Para obtener la información más reciente sobre la elección y cualquier cambio que debo realizarse debido a COVID, visite www.votescount.us.

Sample Ballot and Voter Information Guide Muestra de Boleta y Guia de Información para el Votante

Presidential General Election Tuesday, November 3, 2020

Ballots will be mailed October 5 to all voters to promote safe voting from home.

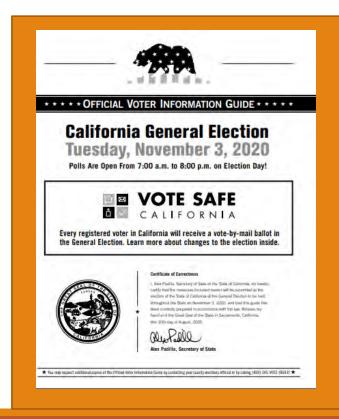
Elección general presidencial Martes, 3 de noviembre de 2020 Las boletas se enviarán por correo el 5 de octubre a todos los votantes para promover la votación segura desde casa.

In-person voting locations and hours on page 3.
Lugares de votación en persona y horas en la página 3.

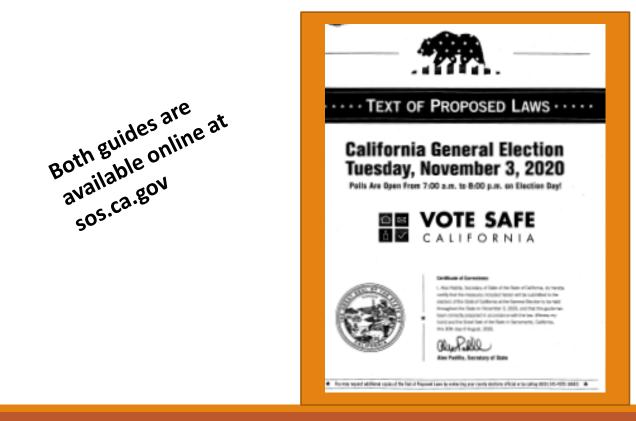
Santa Cruz County Elections Department 701 Ocean Street, Room 310, Santa Cruz Open Monday—Friday, Bam to 5pm www.votescount.us info@votescount.us Information in English: 831-434-2060 Información en español: 831-434-2060 若備更多中文堂訳: 831-434-5137 Impormacyon sa Tagalog: 831-454-5133 Toll Free (sin cargo): 866-282-5900 TOD: 711 FAX: 831-454-2445

Two State VIGS – only one mailed to voters

This guide contains a summary of the 12 State Props + text of Prop 14.



This guide is not mailed to voters. You have to ask for it. Call 831-454-2060. This guide contains the text of Props 15 – 25.



Easy Voter Guide



Download the November 2020 Easy Voter Guide in five languages

Produced for statewide elections in California since 1994, the Easy Voter Guide is a collaboration of the League of Women Voters[®] of California Education Fund and the California State Library. http://www.easyvoterguide.org/

Voter's Edge

GET THE FACTS Before you vote.

UNBIASED INFOMATION ON CANDIDATES AND BALLOT MEASURES



We link to this on our website.

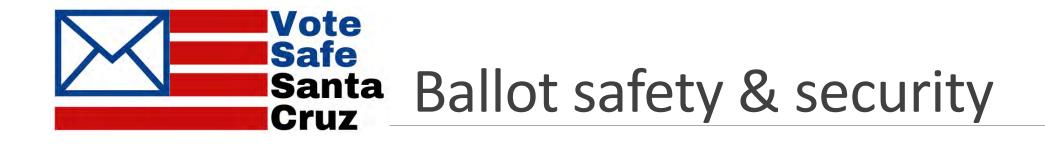
Voter's Edge California (VEC) is a joint project of MapLight and the League of Women Voters of California Education Fund (LWVCEF).* Voter's Edge California is a comprehensive, nonpartisan online guide to elections covering federal, state, and local races in the state of California.

https://votersedge.org/ca

The Voting Way Song by Cal Voter Foundation



https://www.calvoter.org/content/2020-election-song



Postmark + 17 (new law)

Ballots that are postmarked on or before Election Day or are time stamped or date stamped by a bona fide private mail delivery company on or before Election Day and received by the county elections official by the 17th day after the election – November 20 – shall be considered received on time.

- In March 2020, 70,678 vote-by-mail ballots were cast
 - 852 ballots were challenged
 - 632 were due to arriving too late, 76.6% of those challenged

- The signature on the ballot return envelope is compared to the signature on file by humans. We know sigs change, and we can tell if someone has aged and it has effected the handwriting.
- ▶ In March out of 70,678 vote-by-mail ballots cast:

108 (.0015%) were challenged for no signature (77 were cured)

95 (.0013%) were challenged because the signature did not compare (35 were cured)

If your signature is challenged

If your signature is missing from your ballot envelope or challenged because it does not compare, we will contact you.

If you sign up for **WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov** you will get an alert.

You have until Nov. 29 to cure your signature by completing a form we will mail to you and post on our website.





The following election materials will be translated into Spanish and will be available at all our voting locations:

- A Spanish version of the ballot on the tablet and one on paper
- Voting Instructions
- State Voter Information Guide
- Voter Bill of Rights

Assistance with voting

As a voter, you may bring up to two individuals with you to your polling place to help you cast your ballot if those individuals do not represent your employer or your union. Your polling place may have poll workers ready to assist voters who speak Spanish and other languages.

Spanish ballot will be mailed to voters who requested Spanish

Since all voters will be mailed a ballot for the November election, we will also mail a copy of the Spanish ballot to the 3,490 voters who have asked for election materials in Spanish. It will be in a separate mailing from their official ballot.

No electioneering



No one can solicit the vote of a vote-by-mail voter, or do any electioneering, while in the residence or in the immediate presence of the voter, and during the time he or she knows the vote-by-mail voter is voting.

Electioneering is also prohibited within 100 feet of a voting location.

Any person who knowingly violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

If you see something, SAY SOMETHING!

If you suspect voter fraud, please contact the Secretary of State. They have a complaint form posted online at https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/publications-and-resources/voter-complaint/

You may also call the Secretary of State at: English: (916) 657-2166 or (800) 345-VOTE (8683). Spanish: (800) 232-VOTA (8682)

You may also contact the Santa Cruz County Clerk at 831-454-2060 or **info@votescount.us**. The County Clerk is not authorized to do investigations, so the office will refer the case to the appropriate local agency.

Help us spread the word! Be a trusted messenger!

If voters have not received a ballot yet, call us or fill out the request for a replacement ballot online at <u>www.votescount.us</u> – first bullet under Voting Options

Register to vote online at <u>www.registertovote.ca.us</u> – do it by Oct. 19 to get a ballot mailed to you. Otherwise, you need to go in person, and perhaps wait in line.

If you don't have a CA driver's license or ID, you will need to print, sign and return your voter registration. Or pick up a voter registration card at any post office, library, city hall, county elections.

Check to make sure your voter information is correct at<u>voterstatus.sos.ca.gov</u>

Sign up to track your ballot at <u>wheresmyballot.sos.ca.gov</u>





How you can spread the word

Talk to your family, friends, neighbors

Chalk art

Rock art

Car art

Social media

Newsletters (churches, schools, groups, organizations) Email

Yard signs to promote voting!

Observers are always welcome

We are getting a few cameras so you can watch our ballot processing and counting from the safety and comfort of your own home.

Information about observing our processes is posted online at <u>www.votescount.us</u>

Anyone can observe any procedure at the voting locations (except as to how someone voted). Persons are permitted to observe voting but MUST NOT INTERFERE with the duties of the Elections Officers. They may not handle official ballots or intrude upon the voting process. Observers must wear face masks and adhere to public safety guidelines.

If you would like to be an election observer, please notify:

- Gail Pellerin at gail.pellerin@santacruzcounty.us, 831-454-2419, or
- Tricia Webber at tricia.webber@santacruzcounty.us, 831-454-2409

Delivering democracy takes many people

Voting locations – people who have signed up to work all 4 days will be assigned in early October.

More people will be assigned to work Tuesday only.

A team has been assigned to manage the VoteMobile.

Online training begins next week and is required of ALL election workers, plus there will be some in-person labs.

Two-person teams have been assigned to manage the ballot drop boxes.

Election Worker hotline – staffed by county employees and some volunteers.

Voter Hotline – Still recruiting county staff – must work from county workstation.





Key dates and milestones

Oct. 15, 2020 - 19 Days until Election Day!

Oct. 19, 2020 - Close of Registration for administrative purposes. Voters may still register and vote right up through Election Day.

Oct. 27, 2020 – Last day to request a RAVBM.

Oct. 31, 2020 - Happy Halloween – 16 additional in-person voting locations open.

Nov. 2, 2020 – UCSC voting location opens.

Nov. 3, 2020 - Election Day is the last day to vote!

Nov. 29, 2020 – Last day to cure a signature.

Dec. 1, 2020 – Deadline to certify the election.

Assuming Office Dates

December 4 – Special Districts: Candidates declared elected or appointed take office this date at noon after having taken the oath or posted any bond required by the principal act. §10554

December 4 – School and Community College Districts: Candidates elected to school board take office, though no reference is made to "noon."

December 7 – State Senate and State Assembly Members take office.

December 8 – Santa Cruz & Watsonville City council members take office.

December 10 – Capitola City council members take office.

December 16 – Scotts Valley City council members take office.

January 3 – Congressional members take office.

January 4 – County Supervisors and Superior Court Judges take office.

January 20 – Inauguration Day. President takes office at noon.

Thank you for participating!

Gail L. Pellerin County Clerk 831-454-2060 (main) 831-454-2419 (direct) info@votescount.us www.votescount.us

