

FROM YOUR SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS:

Let's talk about absentee voting or what is now being called vote by mail. It was just a short time ago by law you had to have a good reason, like being in the hospital, to receive an absentee ballot. But times have changed and now you can receive an absentee ballot just because that's how you choose to vote.

To request an absentee ballot you can call or stop by any one of my offices or go to our website at www.sumterelections.org. It only takes just a couple of minutes to give us the needed information.

Here are just a few things that you need to know about absentee ballots:

1. Absentee ballots ARE NOT FORWARDABLE. You MUST be at the address you gave us to receive that ballot because it will NOT be forwarded to you. It will be returned back to my office and it will cancel any future requests you may have on file.
2. If you have not received your absentee ballot within 3 weeks before the election, please call the office to check on it. It may have gotten lost in the mail or have been returned to our office. Then we would still have time to send you another ballot.
3. In filling out your envelope, MAKE sure you SIGN the back of the envelope. No one else can sign for you. You cannot use a Power of Attorney or a Notary to sign for someone else. Husbands and wives be careful to sign your envelope not your spouses.
4. Please do not wait until the last minute to mail your ballot back to us. It may not reach us in time to be counted. If we are within just a few days of the election and you live in the county, please bring it into the office and drop it off. Also when mailing your ballot back to us, it may cost extra postage. This usually happens when we have a two page ballot.
5. Please remember that once your absentee ballot is mailed to you I have no control over what happens to it once it leaves my office.
6. The Supervisor of Elections Office located in Wildwood and the Villages will close at 3:00 PM on Election Day as all staff is needed in the Bushnell Office. If you have an absentee ballot to drop off at Wildwood or The Villages please do so by 3:00 PM and they MUST be dropped off at the Bushnell Office by 7:00 PM Election night.
7. If you want someone to pick up your absentee ballot for you, they cannot do that for you until March 10th. For more information, please contact our office as there are more instructions.
8. If you have already requested an absentee ballot these ballots will be mailed between February 9th and February 16th. There after absentee ballots will be mailed daily until March 11th.
9. If you have requested an absentee ballot for the Presidential Preference Primary Election and there is any question about where the ballot is to be mailed, please call our office to confirm the mailing address.

**Supervisor of Elections Office
900 North Main Street
Bushnell, FL 33513
352-569-1540**

**Supervisor of Elections Office
The Villages Sumter Co. Svc. Ctr.
7375 Powell Rd., Suite 145
Wildwood, FL 34785
352-689-4530**

**Supervisor of Elections Office
(Villages Gov. Annex Bldg)
8033 E. C-466, Suite 401
352-689-4660**

**Karen S. Krauss, Supervisor of Elections
Sumter County**