

Message from Clerk Aten,

With the passage of Proposal 18-3, every voter has the option to vote by absentee ballot. Since that time, my staff and I have encouraged voters to sign up to be on our permanent list of absentee voters. As a matter of fact, we have more than doubled the number of voters on our list. We are currently up 1038 of our 6643 voters who are receiving applications prior to every election. All voters have the option to join the list at any time. Also, to be clear, you can call the office or send an email, or go to www.michigan.gov/vote prior to any election and get an application for a ballot.

Please look for my mailing of applications to arrive in your mailbox in the next few days.

As of yesterday, the Secretary of State has decided to take the unprecedented action of mailing absentee applications to all registered voters who aren't the permanent list. The State's mailing will come in an envelope with a letter that suggests returning applications by email as an alternative to the more traditional options of mail or drop box. Submitting applications by email is one option, but we hope that most voters will continue with the practice of delivery to our drop box or by mail, to make sure emails don't get tied up in SPAM filters.

Many of you often report to me that you receive applications that look like they came from my office, but in fact, they are distributed by 3rd party organizations. You only need to submit one application. If we receive duplicates from you, we will only send one ballot.

I know it's hard in these changing times to keep up with things. Here are some basics to put your minds at ease:

- Any signed, written request for a ballot from a Lansing Township voter will be processed by my office, regardless of format.
- Those who prefer to vote at the precinct can disregard the application(s)
- Ballots will never be sent out unless the voter submits a completed application to my office.
- The applications will allow you to request a ballot for either August or November or BOTH elections. Please mark your preference. You may have requested a November ballot on your March application, we have that information and will process your request.
- Signatures are required on every application and ballot envelope and are verified against the signature on the voter registration file.
- Ballots for the August 4th election should be available to be mailed in late June/early July.
- If you didn't receive an application, it can be downloaded from our website, www.lansingtownship.org or call 517-485-4063 to request one.
- Absentee applications can be submitted until July 31st by mail or drop box, or until August 3rd in person. I recommend submitting as early as possible to allow you to complete the process in time to have your ballot counted. It must be returned to my office by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

At this time there haven't been any changes regarding in-person voting in the precincts. I will keep this page updated with the latest information we receive from the Secretary of State.