






VOTER OUTREACH

Our office is dedicated to providing voter registration services and educational programs to people of all ages. We are always seeking creative ways to partner with community organizations. Below is a list of some of the outreach services we offer:

- Facility Tours
- Guest Speakers
- Democracy Days Civics Presentation
- Pop In To Register: Voter Registration Drives
- Election Services: Mock Elections, Student Government, etc.
- Sunshine State Young Readers Voting Program

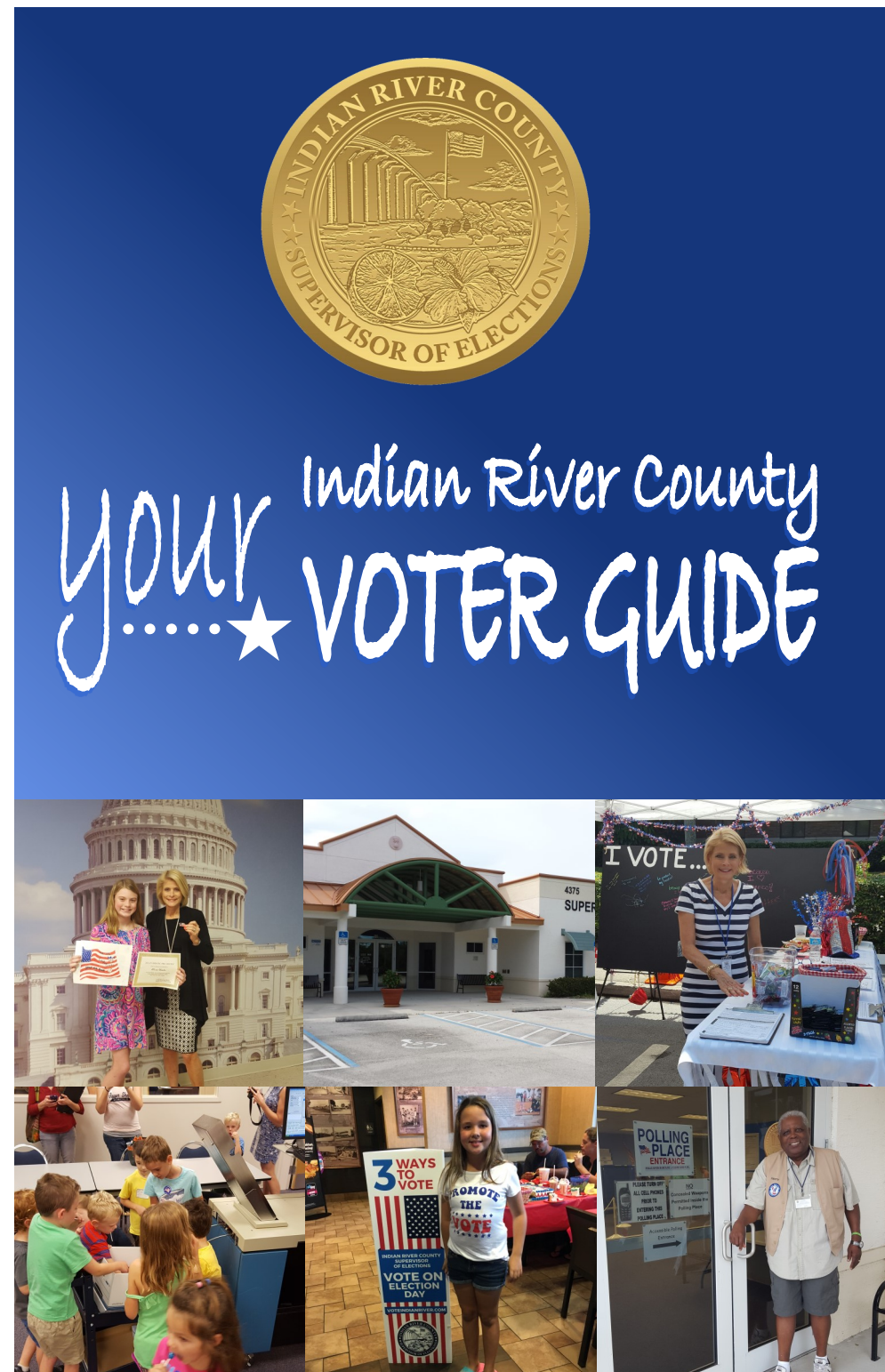
For information on the programs listed above or to contact the Communications and Outreach Coordinator, call 772-226-3446.

connect with us

 @VoteIndianRiver	 772-226-3440
 @VoteIndianRiver	 info@voteindianriver.com
 @VoteIndianRiver	 VoteIndianRiver.com
	4375 43rd Avenue, Vero Beach, FL 32967



Leslie Swan
Supervisor of Elections
Indian River County





Leslie Swan Supervisor of Elections

Dear Voter,

Thank you for taking time to review your Indian River County Voter Guide. My office is dedicated to providing the information, education, and technology needed for our election workers and staff to efficiently and effectively serve the voters of Indian River County.

This voter guide provides you with an overview of voting in Indian River County. It also contains important dates for upcoming elections, as well as, information on updating your voter registration information.

I encourage you to also visit our website and follow us on social media to obtain the most current and comprehensive elections information. The staff at the Elections Office is here to assist Indian River County residents as they exercise one of the most precious rights we have as Americans: the right to vote! It is an honor and a privilege to serve as your Supervisor of Elections.



Leslie R. Swan

Indian River County
Supervisor of Elections

VOTER'S RIGHTS

Each registered voter in this state has the right to:

1. Vote and have his or her vote accurately counted.
2. Cast a vote if he or she is in line at the official closing of the polls in that county.
3. Ask for and receive assistance in voting.
4. Receive up to two replacement ballots if he or she makes a mistake prior to the ballot being cast.
5. An explanation if his or her registration or identity is in question.
6. If his or her registration or identity is in question, cast a provisional ballot.
7. Written instructions to use when voting, and, upon request, oral instructions in voting from election officers.
8. Vote free from coercion or intimidation by election officers or any other person.
9. Vote on a voting system that is in working condition and that will allow votes to be accurately cast.

VOTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Each registered voter in the state should:

1. Familiarize himself or herself with the candidates and issues.
2. Maintain with the office of the supervisor of elections a current address.
3. Know the location of his or her polling place and its hours of operation.
4. Bring proper identification to the polling station.
5. Familiarize himself or herself with the operation of the voting equipment in his or her precinct.
6. Treat precinct workers with courtesy.
7. Respect the privacy of other voters.
8. Report any problems or violations of election laws to the supervisor of elections.
9. Ask questions, if needed.
10. Make sure that his or her completed ballot is correct before leaving the polling station.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What happens if I do not vote in every race?

The ballot scanner will accept your ballot and count only the voted races .

If I requested and received a vote-by-mail ballot, can I still vote in person?

Yes. Bring your mail ballot packet to your polling place and ask an election worker to cancel the ballot so you are eligible to vote at your polling place.

Can I change my ballot once it has been scanned and accepted by the ballot scanner?

No. Once a ballot has been accepted, it cannot be retrieved.

What is a Universal Primary Contest?

A Universal Primary Contest occurs when all candidates in a race have the same party affiliation and the winner of the primary election will have no opposition in the general election. All eligible voters, regardless of party affiliation, may vote in the primary election for that race.

How does a felon get voting rights restored?

Visit the Florida Commission on Offender Review’s website at www.fcor.state.fl.us for information concerning voting rights restoration.

How can I register and still keep my address and other identifying information confidential if I am a victim of violence?

Visit the Florida Attorney General’s website at www.myfloridalegal.com for information regarding the Address Confidentiality Program.

CONTENTS

DATES AND DEADLINES4

VOTER REGISTRATION5

UPDATING YOUR INFORMATION.....6

CLOSED PRIMARIES6

3 WAYS TO VOTE7-9

 VOTE-BY-MAIL7

 VOTE EARLY8

 VOTE ON ELECTION DAY9

WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE POLLS10

VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES11

POLLING PLACE CHANGES.....11

MILITARY & OVERSEAS VOTERS12

ELECTION WORKERS12

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS13

VOTER’S RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES15

VOTER OUTREACH16

CONNECT WITH US16

DATES & DEADLINES

2017 ELECTIONS

MUNICIPAL ELCTION	
Election Day	November 7
Registration Deadline	October 10
Vote-By-Mail Request Deadline	November 1


* Municipalities are not required to provide early voting for their elections.

2018 ELECTIONS

PRIMARY ELECTION	
Election Day	August 28
Registration Deadline	July 30
Vote-By-Mail Request Deadline	August 22
Early Voting	August 18-25

GENERAL ELECTION	
Election Day	November 6
Registration Deadline	October 9
Vote-By-Mail Request Deadline	October 31
Early Voting	Oct 22-Nov 3

For Comprehensive Election Information

 772-226-3440



VoteIndianRiver.com

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why does Indian River County use paper ballots?

Florida law requires that all Florida voters use a paper optical scan ballot whether voting by mail, at an early voting site or at the polls on Election Day.

Is there a paper trail?

Yes. Your paper ballot is secured in the ballot box and is the official record of your votes. Paper ballots are also available for recounts and audits.

How do I know my votes are being counted?

The screen on the DS200 unit displays a message indicating your votes are being recorded and that your ballot has been accepted.

How do I find out if my provisional ballot was counted?

You will be given a Notice of Rights information sheet at the time you vote a Provisional Ballot, which will include instructions on how to inquire if your provisional ballot was counted, and if not, the reason(s) why. Information as to whether your provisional ballot was counted or not must be made available no later than 30 days following the election. (Sections 101.048(5)-(6), F.S.)

What is a poll watcher? Must they be a registered voter?

A person who is asked by a candidate, political party or political committee to go to a polling place and observe is called a poll watcher. The poll watcher observes the elections process to see if any violations of election laws occur. If such a violation occurs, the poll watcher is to inform the Clerk of the violation. Each poll watcher must be a registered voter of the county in which he or she serves. No candidate, sheriff, deputy sheriff, police officer or other law enforcement officer may serve as a poll watcher.

MILITARY & OVERSEAS VOTERS

United States uniformed services members on active duty, Merchant Marine members, spouses or dependents thereof, or United States citizens residing outside of the United States, may register to vote and request a vote-by-mail ballot at the same time by using a **Federal Post Card Application** (FPCA). FPCAs can be obtained from any Voting Assistance Officer or from the Federal Voting Assistance Program website at www.fvap.gov.

You may also call or request by mail, fax, or email a voter registration application or a vote-by-mail ballot be sent to you. You may even request your vote-by-mail ballot be faxed or emailed to you. If you include an email address with your vote-by-mail ballot request, the Elections Office will notify you by email that your request has been received. Overseas voters may return their ballots via fax, but not email.

Track your vote-by-mail ballot at VoteIndianRiver.com, by selecting **Track My Vote-By-Mail Ballot** under the Vote-by-Mail tab on the homepage.

For presidential preference primary elections and general elections, an overseas voter's vote-by-mail ballot that is postmarked or dated by Election Day and received within 10 days of the election shall be counted, provided the ballot is properly executed.

ELECTION WORKERS

Election workers have the opportunity to serve our community as a representative of the democratic process and also assist Indian River County residents as they exercise one of the most precious rights we have as Americans: the right to vote!

Elections workers are paid for their time spent in training and for their work at the polls. Sign up for the next orientation by calling the Election Worker Coordinator at 772-226-3844.

VOTER REGISTRATION

YOU MAY REGISTER IF:

- You are a citizen of the United States.
- You are at least 18 years of age (you may pre-register at 16).
- You are a legal resident of the Florida county where you intend to vote.

YOU CANNOT REGISTER TO VOTE IF:

- You are not a citizen of the United States.
- You have been convicted of a felony or adjudicated mentally incapacitated with respect to voting, and you have not had your right to vote restored. Contact the Office of Executive Clemency at 800-435-8286 to confirm your rights are restored.

WHAT IS REQUIRED

- Complete and submit a voter registration application.
- You must provide your Florida Driver's License or ID number or the last four digits of your social security number.

WHEN TO REGISTER

- Voter registration books close **29 days before each election**.
- You must be registered with a political party in order to vote in that party's primary election.
- Any political party change must be made at least 29 days prior to a partisan primary election in order for the change to be valid for that election.

WHERE TO REGISTER

- Election Offices
- Tax Collector's Offices
- Public Libraries
- Public Assistance Offices
- Centers for Independent Living
- Offices serving persons with disabilities
- Armed Forces Recruitment Office
- Online voter registration available at VoteIndianRiver.com

UPDATING YOUR INFORMATION

ADDRESS changes can be processed:

By phone: 772-226-3440

Online: VoteIndianRiver.com. Select **Register to Vote**.

By email: info@voteindianriver.com

By mail or in person: 4375 43rd Avenue, Vero Beach, FL 32967

If by fax, email or mail, you must submit a signed written notice to the Elections Office, with your date of birth included.

NAME, SIGNATURE, and PARTY AFFILIATION changes must be submitted in writing, either by completing a Voter Registration Application or by providing the Elections office with a signed note.

CLOSED PRIMARIES

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

In a primary election, voters are limited to choosing candidates of the party in which they are registered. All registered voters, regardless of party affiliation, may vote in universal primary contests, non partisan races, and ballot issues. Voters registered with no party affiliation (NPA) are not eligible to vote in closed party primaries.

Democrats will receive a Democratic primary ballot;
Republicans will receive a Republican primary ballot;
Minor party and no party affiliation voters are not eligible to vote in partisan races, unless their party has candidates.

VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES

Election Day and Early Voting locations are equipped with an ExpressVote to assist persons with disabilities. This ballot marking device allows voters with disabilities the option of a touchscreen, or an audio headset with keypad to mark their ballot. The screen has large-print capability and adjustable screen contrast for enhanced viewing.

- Insert your ballot into the ExpressVote.
- Select your choices on the screen or keypad.
- Select **Back** or **Next** to navigate through the ballot.
- Once you have reviewed your ballot, touch **Print Card** and the ExpressVote will mark the ballot and return it to you.
- Insert your ballot into the digital scanner.



Polling Place Changes

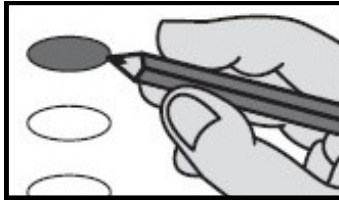
Any time there is a change to your polling place, you will receive notice and a new voter information card at least 14 days before the election. Notice will also be posted at least once in the newspaper, no sooner than 30 days before, but no later than 7 days before the election. A polling place change notice will also be posted online at VoteIndianRiver.com. In case of an emergency and when time does not permit, the notice of the new polling place will be posted at the old polling place site.

If you need assistance at any time during the voting process, do not hesitate to ask an election worker for help.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE POLLS



Electronic Pollbooks



Paper Ballots



Digital Scanners

Present your current and valid photo and signature ID.

Sign the Electronic Pollbook keypad with the provided stylus.

Initial your voting pass to verify you are receiving the correct ballot.

Proceed to a voting booth with your ballot and secrecy sleeve.

Use the pen provided to fill in the oval next to your choices.

Review your ballot. If you are satisfied, place your ballot in the secrecy sleeve and take it to the scanner.

Remove your ballot from the secrecy sleeve. Insert your ballot into the digital scanner. If your ballot is marked correctly, the scanner will record your votes and deposit your ballot into a locked ballot box.

Collect your "I Voted" sticker as you exit.

How to Mark your Ballot

Darken the oval  to the left of your choices.

For Write-In Candidates: Darken the oval to the left of the word "write-in," and write the name of the qualified write-in candidate on the line provided.

If you make a mistake, simply ask an election worker for a replacement ballot.

3 WAYS TO VOTE

In the state of Florida there are three ways to vote: by mail, early and on Election Day, making it extremely convenient for your voice and your vote to be heard. Be prepared to provide current and valid photo and signature ID if you choose to vote early or on Election Day.

1. Vote-By-Mail

WHO CAN VOTE-BY-MAIL?

Any registered voter may vote-by-mail, and vote-by-mail ballots can be mailed anywhere in the world. A vote-by-mail ballot request can be made in person, by phone, by mail, by email or online at VoteIndianRiver.com. One request can cover a specific election or all elections through two general elections. Mail ballots cannot be forwarded, therefore it is extremely important to keep your address up to date with the Elections Office.

HOW TO REQUEST A VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOT:

- Call 772-226-3440.
- Visit VoteIndianRiver.com. Select **Request to Vote-by-Mail**.
- Mail your request to or visit the Elections Office located at 4375 43rd Avenue in Vero Beach.

Requests must be received by the Wednesday before an election.

Military and overseas voters: Ballots are mailed **45** days before an election and you may also request that your vote-by-mail ballot be faxed or e-mailed to you.

Domestic voters: Ballots are mailed **28-35** days before an election.

7pm Voted ballots must be signed and received by the Supervisor of Elections Office **no later than 7:00 pm** on Election Day in order to be counted. Vote-by-mail ballots will not be accepted at polling locations on Election Day.

RETURNING YOUR COMPLETED BALLOT

After marking your ballot using a black ink pen:

- 1. Insert your ballot into the secrecy sleeve included in your vote-by-mail packet.
- 2. Insert your secrecy sleeve and ballot into the return envelope.
- 3. Sign, date and seal the return envelope.
- 4. Return your ballot 1 of 3 ways:
 - Mail it using the proper postage.
 - Deliver it to one of our VBM Drop Boxes, available at each early voting site, during early voting hours only.
 - A 24-hour drop box is located outside of the Elections Office, or you may bring it inside during business hours.

2. Vote Early

When: During federal elections, early voting must be offered for at least eight days, beginning the 10th day before an election. Early voting shall be provided for no less than 8 hours and no more than 12 hours per day at each site.

Where: You may vote at any of the locations listed below.

Early Voting Locations

Supervisor of Elections Office 4375 43rd Avenue, Vero Beach
Sebastian City Hall Council Chambers 1225 Main Street, Sebastian
Indian River County Main Library 1600 21st Street, Vero Beach

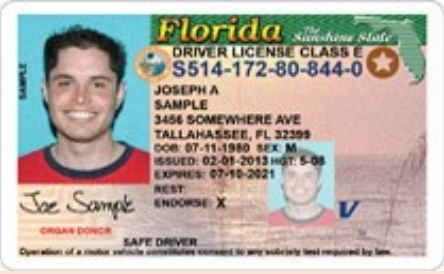
3. Vote on Election Day

WHEN: Polls are open 7am to 7pm

WHERE: You are required to vote at your assigned polling location on Election Day, based on your legal address. To determine your polling location, check your voter information card, call the Elections Office, or select **Find My Precinct** on our website homepage.

Be sure the address on record with the Elections Office is your current address. If your address differs, call the Elections Office as soon as possible to update your voter information and avoid delays at the polls.

**REMEMBER TO
BRING YOUR
PHOTO &
SIGNATURE ID
WHEN VOTING
IN PERSON**



FORMS OF ACCEPTABLE ID

- FL Driver’s License
- FL ID Card (DHSMV Issued)
- U.S. Passport
- Debit or Credit Card
- Military ID
- Student ID
- Retirement Center ID
- Neighborhood Association ID
- Public Assistance ID
- Veterans Affairs ID
- Concealed Weapons Permit
- Government-issued Employee ID

The ID presented can be a combination of two IDs listed above that satisfy the photo and signature requirement.

Provisional ballots: If you forget your ID, you may vote a provisional ballot, which will be evaluated by the Canvassing Board for determination of eligibility. See FAQs for more information.