

**Michigan Absentee Ballot Information**  
provided by the Birch Lake Homeowners Association

All registered voters in Michigan have the right to vote by mail using an absentee ballot delivered to their home. Voters can also request an absentee ballot directly from their local clerk's office. Absentee ballots are available beginning 40 days prior to every election. Michigan voters can now join the permanent absentee ballot list by checking a box on the application to automatically receive an absentee ballot for every election. Michigan voters can decide to be placed on a **permanent absentee ballot list**. Their local clerk will then automatically mail them an absentee ballot for all local, state, and federal elections.

Absentee ballots must be mailed or delivered to the applicant at the applicant's registration address unless the applicant requests that the absent voter ballot be sent to a different address as provided on the applicant's absent voter ballot application. If that address is no longer valid, or the voter had decided to have the ballot sent back to the address on the registration the voter must notify the clerk of this change. In addition, a clerk may mail or deliver an absent voter ballot, on request of the applicant, to a post office box if the post office box is where the applicant normally receives personal mail, and the applicant does not receive mail at the applicant's registration address.

Voters can securely track the status of their absentee ballot application and ballot at [Michigan.gov/Vote](https://Michigan.gov/Vote). Voters may also contact their local clerk's office with questions about the receipt of their application.

Absentee voting in Michigan is a secure and time-tested system based on standards for election security adopted from national best practices. Absentee voting security measures include:

- Records and procedures to prevent double or fraudulent voting.
- Official signature verification to confirm a ballot's validity.
- Secure, locked drop box locations and video monitoring.
- Processing featuring bi-partisan election workers.

Those who requested an absentee ballot but end up voting in person: Do **not** mail a ballot *and* vote in person. If a voter who has been issued an Absentee Voter Ballot decides to vote at the polls, they can bring their absentee ballot with them and insert it into the tabulator. The voter must check in with a poll worker before doing so.