



NEWS RELEASE

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Absentee voters: Get your ballots in

Jackson, Wyo., Nov. 3, 2016 – With hundreds of absentee ballots still out, the Teton County Clerk’s Office is reminding voters to return their documents by 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 8, to ensure they are counted in the election.

As of the week before the election, as many as 700 ballots requested for mail-in/absentee voting had yet to make their way back to the elections office, according to Melissa Shinkle, Chief Deputy Clerk.

“In local races, every vote matters, so we want to make sure citizens don’t inadvertently miss their chance to vote,” Shinkle said.

Voting by absentee has become a popular way to cast ballots in Teton County. More than 50 to 60 percent of Teton County’s registered voters are expected to take advantage of absentee voting this year, Shinkle said.

That figure includes early walk-in voting via the absentee polling location downstairs at the Teton County Administration Building. There, voters can cast “absentee” ballots on location any weekday prior to Election Day. In recent days, from 250 to 275 people a day have been taking advantage of the ability to pre-vote via the flexible absentee system, which allows any eligible voter to vote early for any reason.

The Teton County Clerk’s Office has employed three temporary staff to assist in the absentee polling office, which in recent weeks has seen a continual flow of people from the moment the office opens at 8 a.m. until it closes at 5 p.m. each day. Extra bursts of early voting activity tend to occur post-presidential debates, after local candidate forums wrap up, and when newspaper election sections are available.

Note that absentee ballots must be mailed back or returned to the Absentee Polling Site at the County Administration Building. (They cannot be turned in at Election Day Vote Centers.)

Absentee Polling:

Sept. 23 through Monday, Nov. 7, at the County Administration Building (downstairs), 200 S. Willow St. Open between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Call (307) 733-4430 for more information.

Election Day Vote Centers:

On Nov. 8, 2016, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Teton County residents may vote at ANY of the following Vote Centers: Teton County Library, Teton County/Jackson Recreation Center, Old Wilson Schoolhouse Community Center, Teton County Weed & Pest Building, Alta Elementary School, and Moran Elementary School.

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