



***Make your Voice Heard – Register and Vote!***

**August 6, 2020**

## **Local General Election & Primary Voting**

**As part of our HOA Advocacy efforts, we are encouraging all TV homeowners to vote.**

During the upcoming August 6<sup>th</sup> Primary and Local General Election, in Tennessee and Loudon and Monroe Counties specifically, several statewide candidates will be selected to run in the November General Election and several local issues and positions will be decided.

***We All Need to Vote in This Election!***

We all are aware of the significance of the federal and state elections, but many people will ask why bother, with local elections, especially school board issues and positions since we have no one in school. They have little impact on us.

In reality, the opposite is true. Local offices have a great bearing on us and Tellico Village. Living in an unincorporated area our fate lies in the hands of these local officials. Our tax rates and the extent of public services are decided at the local level. School board positions are critical as we want to ensure we have school board leadership in place that will protect and enhance the quality of education in our area while balancing it with fiscal responsibility. We as a community need to get out and vote en masse, to preserve our current lifestyle and help ensure our future.

Your HOA is committed to educating our members about the voting process, the issues on the table, and candidates' views on topics that are important to us. The following information should help you navigate the voter registration process as well as the various options you have in casting your ballot. Hopefully, you will find it useful.

***What You Need to Do NOW! It's as Simple as 1-2-3!***

***1) Make sure you are Registered to Vote.***

**You must be a qualified voter in order to register. [For information about Voter Qualifications in Tennessee, click here.](#)**

You should check your registration status if you have:

- Moved between counties.
- Moved within the county but failed to transfer your registration and did not vote for two November general elections.
- Had full rights restored by court order or pardon.
- Changed your name and also want to change your voter registration.

[Click here to check your registration status through the State of Tennessee website.](#)

## **2) If I am not Registered to Vote, how do I Register to Vote?**

The last day to register to vote in the August 6th Primary is July 20, 2020. There are several ways to register:

- **In Person at:**
  - County Election Commission Offices
  - County Clerk's Offices
  - Public Libraries
  - Register of Deeds Offices
  - Driver's License Bureau
- **By Mail**

To register by mail [download and complete the Voter Registration Application](#) (click on link) and mail it to your [County Election Commission](#) (click on link for office locations). **Note: If you register by mail, you must vote in person the first time you vote.**
- **Online**

You must have a Tennessee driver's license or Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security ID in order to submit an application online. If you do not have a Tennessee driver's license or Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security ID, you will be able to print the [Voter Registration Form](#) and submit by mail. For more information go to: [Online Voter Registration](#)

## **3) OK, I'm Registered to Vote, When and How Can I Vote?**

There are three ways to vote in the upcoming election:

- **On Election Day (August 6<sup>th</sup>)**
  - At your *assigned* polling place (places will be advised in future).
- **In Person Early Voting, (from July 17<sup>th</sup> through August 1<sup>st</sup>)**
  - At a polling place (Absentee Voting In-Person)
- **By-Mail Voting (Absentee Voting By-Mail)**

If you qualify, your HOA is highly recommending Tellico Villagers vote By-Mail as our community deals with the challenges of COVID-19 and continues to promote Staying Safe practices.

- [Anyone 60 years of age or older](#), automatically qualifies for Absentee By-Mail voting. There are no other conditions. There are multiple other ways a person can qualify, but fear of getting COVID-19 is not one of them.
- You can request an Absentee Ballot for the August 6th Election from May 8th to July 30<sup>th</sup>. **Click on this link for the Absentee Ballot Request Form:** [Absentee Ballot Request Form](#)
- See below for the Absentee Ballot Process for voting by mail. **For additional information on absentee voting, click here:** [Absentee Voting in Tennessee](#).

## **Absentee Ballot By-Mail**

**Absentee Ballot By-Mail Process** - Absentee Ballot Requests can be made from **May 8<sup>th</sup> to July 30<sup>th</sup>**

### **How to Request/Receive Absentee Ballot**

- The August 6, 2020 Election is a Primary Election, so you must select a political party and vote their ballot to vote in the Federal/State Election. If you do not wish to make a choice, then you will be given a General Election ballot that will not contain any political party affiliation.
- A voter requesting an absentee ballot to vote by mail must have *registered to vote in person* or has voted in-person the first time in a previous election. If the voter has registered by mail, but not voted before, they can go to an Election Commission Office and can convert their by-mail voter registration with a valid photo ID to an in-person registration and can then vote By-Mail.
- The absentee voter application can be faxed, scanned and emailed, or mailed to the Election Commission office.

### **How to Return Absentee Ballot**

- A voted ballot must be returned to the Election Commission Office by the United States Post Office, FedEx, UPS or other courier service by the closing of the polls at 8 P.M. on Election Day. *Voted ballots cannot be hand delivered to the Election Commission office.*
- You can return your voted ballot at any time prior to Election Day. All ballots are recorded as received and locked in a locked and sealed ballot box until election day.

Additional information on voting in Tennessee can be found at: [GoVoteTN](#)

We hope you found this helpful. For more information on these and other topics related to the upcoming election, visit the HOA website at [HOATellicoVillage.com](#).

Respectfully,  
Your HOA

***In the upcoming weeks, your HOA will be providing information on candidates to assist homeowners in choosing who they will vote for in the upcoming primary.***

