

FUTURE CHANGES IN ELECTIONS



3 Things You NEED to Know!!

How to Vote? Say goodbye to “Chad”. Punchcard voting is in the process of being phased-out. Soon, Thurston County voters will be using Optical Scan technology. No more hanging, dangling, pregnant, or swinging chads!!

How You Vote? As you may be aware, Washington State’s Primary Election system is in the midst of major changes. The blanket primary has been ruled unconstitutional. We are currently planning on holding a Montana style Primary Election in September. This will involve voters selecting a single party’s ballot, and voting only on candidates in that party. This will be FOR THE SEPTEMBER PRIMARY ELECTION ONLY. The court’s ruling in no way affects the way you vote in the General Election.

More changes may come between now and September, so watch for news of Primary Election changes. Call the Elections Department at (360)786-5408 or check our website (below) for more information or clarification of changes to the Primary. Our September Local Voters’ Pamphlet will include the most up-to-date information.

Can You Vote? With the passage of new federal regulations, first-time voters may be required to provide valid identification at the polls, or to provide copies of their Washington State ID with their absentee ballots. If you registered after JANUARY 1, 2003, and are unsure if this requirement applies to you, please call our office for clarification.

The Thurston County Auditor’s Office remains committed to ensuring all individuals are informed and educated about their voting rights.

For additional information regarding recent or upcoming changes to Washington State election laws & procedures, please contact us at:

Thurston County Auditor’s Office
2000 Lakeridge Drive SW
Olympia, WA 98502
(360)786-5408
www.co.thurston.wa.us/auditor
Auditor@co.thurston.wa.us