

Important Information for Thurston County Voters

Dear Thurston County Voters:

Welcome to the 2005 Primary Election Local Voters' Pamphlet. This fall marks a new era in elections for Thurston County voters. In the 2005 state legislative session, laws were passed to implement the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA). This legislation was designed to help restore confidence in elections, to improve accessibility, and to allow voters with special needs to vote independently and secretly.

The biggest change HAVA made to elections was abolishing punch card voting throughout America. Over the past eighteen months, my office has been working to replace our punch card system by gathering input from voters and selecting a new tabulation system. I am happy to report this means you will have an improved ballot.

The new ballot is called optical scan and we hope you will find it easier to use. This year's slogan, "*Just Fill in the Bubble*," explains how you vote an optical scan ballot. To vote, find a dark colored ink pen and fill in the bubbles next to your choices. Complete instructions can be found in your voting materials.

Another important change you will see this year is the move to vote-by-mail elections in Thurston County. The Primary Election will be conducted by mail with the exception of the City of Yelm. Starting with the General Election on November 8, Thurston County will be conducting all elections by mail. The county commissioners and I made this decision following public meetings and gathering input from citizens.

The primary ballot contains local races and issues. Depending on where you live, you will be voting on candidates for town/city council and school board. Other issues may include the Fire District 13 levy lid lift. I encourage you to take time to read through the candidate and issue statements in this pamphlet to be more informed.

If you live in a participating jurisdiction you should receive your ballot in the mail by September 1, with the exception of polling place voters in Yelm. All you need to remember to vote the new optical scan ballot is "*Just Fill in the Bubble!*" The best way to have your voice heard in your community is to vote in the September 20 Primary Election.

Sincerely,



Kim Wyman
Thurston County Auditor



Participating Jurisdictions

Town of Bucoda
City of Olympia

City of Yelm
Griffin School District No. 324

Fire Protection District No. 13 - Griffin

Keep this pamphlet! Ballots will begin arriving on September 1.

Primary Election Sample Ballot

Thurston County, Washington • September 20, 2005

This sample ballot contains all candidates and measures certified to appear on the September 20, 2005 Primary Election ballot. You will not be entitled to vote on all races and issues that appear on this sample ballot.

| Town of Bucoda | City of Yelm | Fire Protection District No. 13 - Griffin |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Town Council, Position No. 5 4 YEAR TERM Vote For One</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jeff Gross</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Kay Hughes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Linda E. Hardy</p> <p><input type="radio"/> E. C. Hocker</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Pat Meeks</p> | <p>City Council, Position No. 4 4 YEAR TERM Vote For One</p> <p><input type="radio"/> W. Steve Nuehring</p> <p><input type="radio"/> John G. Rivera</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Mike McGowan</p> | <p>Proposition No. 1 Levy Lid Lift</p> <p>The Board of Fire Commissioners of Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 13 adopted Resolution No. 05-06, concerning a proposition to increase the regular property tax rate. This proposition would authorize the District to increase its regular property tax levy rate to \$1.40 per one thousand dollars of assessed value to be levied in 2005 and collected in 2006 as provided in Resolution No. 05-06.</p> <p>Should this proposition be:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Approved</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Rejected</p> |
| City of Olympia | Griffin School District No. 324 | |
| <p>City Council, Position No. 5 4 YEAR TERM Vote For One</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Todd E. Adams</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Ira Knight</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jeff Kingsbury</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Robin L. "Buck" Torske</p> | <p>School Board Director, Position No. 5 4 YEAR TERM Vote For One</p> <p><input type="radio"/> John Pearce</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Teresa Scott</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Arthur M. Dalessandro</p> | |
| <p>City Council, Position No. 6 4 YEAR TERM Vote For One</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Phyllis Booth</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Doug Mah</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jim Wiest</p> | | |



Cities and Towns

Types of City Government

There are three principal forms of city government in Washington: mayor-council, council-manager, and commission. Few cities in Washington, and none in Thurston County, presently operate under the commission form. Under both the mayor-council and council-manager forms of government the council is the city's legislative and policy-making body. All council members are elected.

The council enacts all ordinances, resolutions, and policies consistent with state law, for the safety and welfare of the city's or town's residents. Ordinances may include local tax measures authorized by statute. Traffic, fire protection, police, land use, municipal services, business, and other regulations are overseen by the council. The council controls the city's finances through the budgeting and auditing processes and by exercising general oversight. The council also makes contracts, creates subordinate positions, prescribes duties, and fixes salaries.

The mayor's role depends upon the form of government in a particular city or town.

Forms of Government

a.) Mayor-Council: Bucoda, Rainier, Tenino, Tumwater, and Yelm

The mayor in the mayor-council form of government, who is also elected, is the city's chief executive or administrative officer and the ceremonial head of the city. The mayor carries out the council's policies, administers day-to-day city affairs, and, with some limitations, appoints, supervises, and discharges subordinate officers. The mayor presides over council meetings and has a veto power over ordinances.

b.) Council-Manager: Lacey, Olympia

In the council-manager form of government the council appoints a city manager as the chief administrative officer. The manager appoints and discharges all department heads and subordinate officers and is responsible to the council for the proper administration of all city affairs. The council may discharge the manager but may not interfere with or bypass the manager's day-to-day administration of subordinates. A council member is selected by the council, or by an alternative election method, to act as chairman with the title of "mayor". The mayor continues to be a full member of the council with all attendant rights, privileges, and immunities. The mayor also presides over council meetings and acts as the ceremonial head of the city. The mayor has no regular administrative powers but may be required to exercise certain powers in emergencies.

Town of Bucoda, Council, Position No. 5



Nonpartisan

Jeff Gross

I am employed currently, and for the past four years, with Tenino Public Works involving all aspects of field operations. Previously, I was project superintendent for two prominent Seattle area landscape companies involving million dollar projects. I am a Tenino High School graduate with three years secondary education in environmental horticulture. I am seeking this position to give the south end of town a voice on the council and to address concerns about the water system. I would provide a better line of communication between the citizens and City Hall and encourage the citizens to be more active in the town's decisions. I will assist in the completion of the community's projects and help the community, as a whole, to achieve their future goals.



Nonpartisan

Kay Hughes

No Candidate Statement Submitted

Town of Bucoda, Council, Position No. 5 (continued)



Nonpartisan

Linda E. Hardy

My husband and I have lived in Bucoda for 18 years. Shortly after our move to Bucoda I held the position of Clerk-Treasurer for the Town of Bucoda. While raising our family here I have been involved with Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, coached soccer, and have taught Sunday school. My husband and I have enjoyed living in Bucoda. It has been a great community to raise our family. I am a public school teacher. I have a Masters Degree in Education. My goal as council member is to help the Town of Bucoda achieve its goals in order to continue to make this a community we can all be proud of. I would really love to serve the Town of Bucoda.



Nonpartisan

E.C. Hocker

Most people in town know me as Ted. I've lived in Bucoda for a little more than 15 years. I am now retired. Before that I've owned my own businesses: a grocery store, a pizza parlor and a service station. Before owning my own businesses I worked for a mortgage company and also managed a condominium complex in California. My experiences with running the condominium complex left me with lots of experiences to offer as council person. My hope in becoming a council person is to help run our city. My goals are to keep Bucoda a small town while helping the growth that must come be managed in the most efficient way. Thank you.



Nonpartisan

Pat Meeks

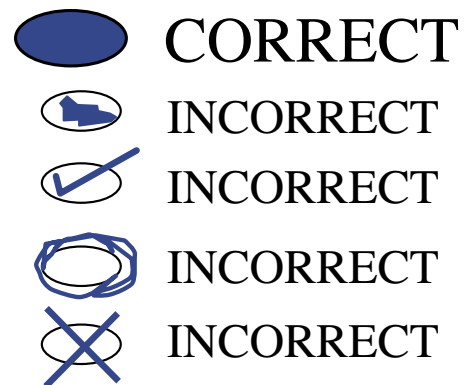
I have lived in the Tenino-Bucoda area for close to 30 years. I really like the small town atmosphere. I'm married, have 2 sons and 2 grandchildren, my husband William is an ironworker. We were part owners in a saloon for a short time. My hobbies are my flowers, working in the yard, and walking.

I think Bucoda has a lot of potential, I've seen a lot of changes, and would like to be part of it.

Welcome to Optical Scan Voting!

It's easy, it's familiar, and it takes only 3 simple steps:

1. Decide how you want to vote.
2. Use a pen with dark ink.
3. Completely fill in the bubbles that correspond to your choices.



City of Olympia, Council, Position No. 5



Nonpartisan

Todd E. Adams

Dear Citizens of Olympia, my name is Todd Adams, and I am seeking your approval and support, to serve as your next city Council Member for position number 5.

I am native to Washington State, and I have lived here in Olympia with my two beautiful daughters and lovely wife since 1996. I briefly served in the United States Marine Corps, and I have college course work in criminal justice and political science. I am currently an employee of the Washington Secretary of State's Office.

I am running for this position, because I enjoy the challenge and reward of working with the citizens of this great community. If elected, some of my goals are to increase and support business, reduce homelessness, solve downtown parking issues, beautify the downtown core, and restore pride in our community.

I encourage and appreciate, wholeheartedly, your vote in the upcoming election.
Sincerely, Todd Adams



Nonpartisan

Ira Knight

I believe that we need a Council that represents all of the people of Olympia. As a grandfather, I seek safety and improved education for our children. As a military retiree, I will support an environment that is friendly to our military. And as a member of Olympia's City Council, I will work to re-build a vibrant downtown, address the problems of rapid growth and expansion, and ensure fiscal responsibility.

My focus will be on issues that affect the everyday life of Olympians. I will bring my experience to find new solutions to old problems. I will support efforts to increase our police force. I will address our concerns with traffic control, maintaining our roads, and building sidewalks for pedestrians.

I will listen to you. I will provide answers for you. I will do my best to fulfill your expectations to improve our community. I would greatly appreciate your vote.



Nonpartisan

Jeff Kingsbury

Olympia holds such promise. I want to build on our successes to create a cultural legacy that: fosters the entrepreneurial spirit that is the cornerstone of our economic development; preserves our environment and provides an unlimited future of opportunities; utilizes our public waterfront as the first choice for *public buildings* (libraries, city hall, and museums); preserves historical neighborhoods and encourages new buildings that are a source of pride, ensures adequate police protection, parking, affordable housing and pedestrian enhancements that improve public safety; and supports the economic and social needs for all of the Olympia community.

I will be objective, and responsive about Olympia's needs and dreams. I will listen, synthesize and work for a better community. I want extraordinary things to happen. My decisions will stand the test of time. We need leaders that will invest in tomorrow. I am this kind of leader!

Let's build an even greater future!



Nonpartisan

Robin L. "Buck" Torske

As Councilperson, my goal is to bring about unity of purpose in our community through clear, honest communication of issues; and respect for the diversity of our citizens' shared values and needs. My watchwords are, "Common ground for the common cause".

My experience in retailing, small business and skilled trades and labor, coupled with wide-ranging responsibilities and leadership during more than twenty years of Naval service, uniquely qualify me to represent your interests. Like you, I believe we can achieve anything we set our minds to, and exemplify our proud title as an "All America City".

For three years, I have come to love and embrace what we have, and see the potential of what we can be. With steady and principled government, inclusive participation by our citizens, and sound planning, Olympia will set the standard for America.

Thank you for your consideration.

City of Olympia, Council, Position No. 6



Nonpartisan

Phyllis Booth

I am running for Olympia City Council because it's your city, your money, your future. It's time that we, the citizens, had a voice to counter the special interests looking for handouts. Olympia's infrastructure needs major repairs: roads, sewers, jails, and schools are inadequate for the needs of our community. These are our needs, not boondoggles like the conference center.

I have been actively involved in regional and city issues since 1995. I fought against the conference center as a leader of the "Let Us Vote" campaign. I know the process and budgeting and can hit the ground running.

I believe we can protect the best of Olympia while promoting an environment that nurtures our citizens and supports local business. I am a mother, nurse, and former journalist.

Please vote for Phyllis Booth for position 6 on September 20. Together we can make sure change is for the better.



Nonpartisan

Doug Mah

It is an honor serving as your Olympia city councilmember. I am working hard to ensure responsible management of our roads, public safety, wastewater, drinking water, and city services. My accomplishments include creating safer streets, increasing bus service, increasing environmental protections, helping local businesses, and saving a soup kitchen. As councilmember, I listen to all sides to provide balanced leadership and solutions.

As a native Washingtonian, I value and focus on restoring and protecting Budd Inlet and Puget Sound. As your councilmember I will continue to make smart investments in downtown that create greater social, economic, and cultural diversity. I will create new partnerships and alliances that achieve community goals. I will continue to serve with the skill and professionalism we expect – and deserve – from our elected officials. With your support, we will make Olympia an even better place to call home. Thank you for your vote.



Nonpartisan

Jim Wiest

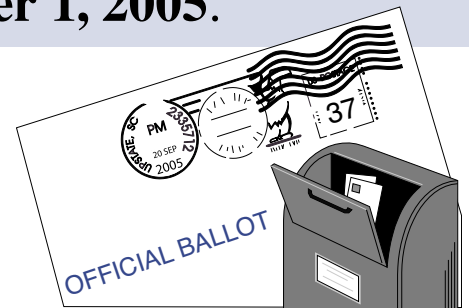
Jim Wiest is 57 years old, married, a resident of Thurston county since 1974, a graduate of Pacific Lutheran University in 1976 (Personnel Management major), self-employed (luxury transportation) since 1995, a graduate of Leadership Thurston County in 2002, and actively involved in the Thurston County community since 1974.

Jim Wiest *steadfastly* opposes *police violence*. As your Olympia City Councilmember and a former Community Service Officer (CSO) with the OPD, Jim Wiest would stop *police violence* by having a full, thorough, and *independent investigation* of OPD internal practices, policies, procedures and employee activities conducted; *replacing* Gary Michel as Chief of Police; and *establishing* an OPD Citizen Advisory Board.

Wiest *has not* and *will not accept* money or an endorsement from the Olympia Police Guild!
Wiest_4_a_safe_olympia@yahoo.com

Ballots should begin arriving on September 1, 2005.

If you have not received your ballot by September 7, please contact the Thurston County Auditor's Office at (360) 786-5408 to have a replacement ballot sent to you. Remember, returned ballots must be postmarked by election day or can be dropped off at one of the locations listed on page 5.



City of Yelm, Council, Position No. 4



Nonpartisan

W. Steve Nuehring

My name is W. Steve Nuehring, I am running for city councilmen. I have enjoyed the city of Yelm since 1994. I came here with a military and technical background in electronics and computer science.

The beautiful town of Yelm has seen changes in the past and yet finds itself at an exciting crossroad. We must embrace the culture and the performing arts which have kept our Community, a charming and enriching place to live, while tackling the more challenging tasks of adequately planning for the inevitable growth that plagues our streets with congestion.

Whether that growth is business or simply population. We must confront these challenges head-on, and can no longer wait for someone else to.

I will ensure that you have a voice and an ear, while doing my best to see that Yelm is a town you're proud to call your hometown. Remember W. Steve Nuehring councilmen.



Nonpartisan

John G. Rivera

John Rivera, a 20-year retired Army veteran and 10 year Yelm resident. Committed to strong family values, is married to his wife Jean of 26 years and raised his two children in Yelm. Possesses a heart after the youth of our community and is a local Youth Pastor and church administrator. He brings over 24 years experience in leadership development, team building, and program development and is currently serving the State of Washington as an IT manager.

The youth of our community are our future leaders and I am committed on working to bring services that will help strengthen them and our community. As our community rapidly grows, we need to make sure our youth are not left behind in the wake of big business. If elected I will not go with the status quo, but work to help make our community a better and safer place for everyone.



Nonpartisan

Mike McGowan

Mike McGowan came to Washington State in 1986 and is a 13-year resident of Yelm. During his 10-year tenure as Public Service Associate at the Yelm Timberland Library, Mike has done extensive work with the schools and youth of the Yelm area.

Mike understands the importance of both a strong local economy and a healthy living environment. While working at the library, he has established partnerships with local businesses and organizations.

As our council member, Mike will use his public service experience to provide a balanced approach to representing the people of Yelm. He will work to make city government a more open process. He is committed to real communication – asking questions, listening to constituents and speaking honestly.

“Yelm welcomed my family and gave us a safe, friendly place to live. It is my duty to help guide the city through the changing times ahead.” Contact: votemikemcgowan@earthlink.net



**Coming Soon to a Mailbox Near You:
Your Ballot!**



The September 20 Primary Election will be conducted by mail (except within Yelm city limits). Thurston County will conduct every election after this primary entirely by mail. All eligible voters will be mailed a ballot. Voters can return their ballot by mail or by bringing it to a drop-off site or to the county courthouse by 8:00 p.m. on election day.

School Board Directors

Thurston County is divided into nine separate school districts, each governed by a five-member board. The board's responsibilities include: budget, policy development, classroom instruction, planning, and communications.

School board directors delegate authority for day-to-day functions to professional staff, however they may never delegate ultimate responsibility.

Board members are elected in a nonpartisan general election by voters within that school district. They receive no salary. A board may approve a per diem compensation for its members for attending board meetings.

In most districts candidates must reside in the sub-district for which they are seeking office. All candidates are elected by the voters of the entire school district.

Griffin School District No. 324, Position No. 5



Nonpartisan

John Pearce

A proud product of public K-12 education, John Pearce moved to Olympia in 1998. In 2000, he bought a house on Shellridge Road and, later that year joined the Griffin Fire Department where he is a Firefighter and Training Instructor.

John is a strong advocate for good schools and high-quality education for all children. Using the knowledge and experience gained in over 17 years of self-employment, including nine years as a professional instructor and writer—John constantly develops creative solutions and approaches to student learning. He looks forward to working with other School Board members and officials toward the continuous improvement of Griffin Schools.

As John says, “Public education for all children is the key to strong, healthy families, and crucial for ensuring the future of our community, our state, and our nation.”



Nonpartisan

Teresa Scott

With two sons attending Griffin, I am inspired to seek an active roll in shaping the future of Griffin School District. I am currently secretary for the Griffin PTO; participate on the Griffin Special Education Advisory Committee; help organize our annual Science Fair; and have supported students, parents, and teachers at Griffin by helping bring the controversial staff development pilot to fruition. These experiences have taught me much about the dedication and creativity of our staff, the vision of our administration and directors, the talents of our students and the strength and diversity of our families and community. I am dedicated to using resources efficiently and to maintaining and increasing accountability, creative problem solving, and citizen participation in decision making. I look forward to representing Griffin community as we continue to equip our students with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in a future we can't even imagine. TeresaLScott@earthlink.net



Nonpartisan

Arthur M. Dalessandro

My name is Arthur M. Dalessandro; I am 42 years old and employed as the Director of Workers' Compensation Services at Washington Employers Association. My wife and I chose to make our home on the Steamboat Island peninsula almost 13 years ago, not only for its beauty and life style but for the “Griffin School District”. Griffin ranked high in test scores and low in student to teacher ratios. Our daughter and son have both enjoyed learning and look forward to going to school everyday. Beyond supporting school fundraisers, chaperoning dances and being a Cub Scout leader I feel I owe it to the community to ensure the ongoing success of the school district. I believe in utilizing technology but I also believe in the fundamentals. I believe in supporting teachers, but I also believe in accountability. I will represent your voice on the board. Thank you for your support.

Fire Protection District No. 13 - Griffin Proposition No. 1 Levy Lid Lift



Official Ballot Title:

The Board of Fire Commissioners of Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 13 adopted Resolution No. 05-06, concerning a proposition to increase the regular property tax rate. This proposition would authorize the District to increase its regular property tax levy rate to \$1.40 per one thousand dollars of assessed value to be levied in 2005 and collected in 2006 as provided in Resolution No. 05-06. Should this proposition be:

Approved _____ Rejected _____

Statement For:

Continue Protecting Your Community

The Griffin Fire District strengthens our community by providing high-quality emergency medical and fire-suppression services, 24 hours a day every day of the year. When you call 9-1-1 at 2a.m., well-trained volunteers are there for you in a matter of minutes.

Only voter support of the partial levy lid lift will allow continuation of the Griffin Community's high level of protection by: Retaining two full-time paid firefighters who provide the bulk of the Fire District's protection while most of the community's residents and volunteers are at work or in school; restoring reserve funds to adequate levels – in recent years, the Department needed its reserve fund to maintain the high quality service that the Community expects; the most recent levy lid lift increase for the District was in 1982; the District is asking for only a partial levy lid lift, yet one that still allows adequate funding; the requested increase of only 39 cents per \$1000 of assessed value means that a home valued at \$200,000 would only pay an additional \$6.50 per month over current rates – less than the price of a movie ticket; in 2007 and subsequent years, an increase in the total assessed value of homes in the District will decrease the levy rate, lowering assessments for the District.

Please support your Fire District by voting yes on our partial levy lid lift.

Pro statement submitted by: Bill Durward, Steve Lundin, Virginia Morris, John Pearce and John Wood.

No Statement Against:

No one could be found to write a statement against the Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 13 - Griffin Proposition No. 1, Levy Lid Lift.

Explanatory Statement:

Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 13, Griffin Fire Department, has placed a proposition on the September 20, 2005 ballot to authorize Thurston County to change our tax levy rate to \$1.40 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The proposition is presented to voters pursuant to Initiative 747. Initiative 747 mandates that any increase in property tax revenue to 101% of the previous year's revenue or the previous highest revenue. The statutory authorized dollar rate for junior taxing districts is \$1.50.

Explanatory statement prepared by: Charles H. Houser III of Valz, Houser, Kogut & Barnes, P.S., Attorneys at Law.

Are You Working or Stationed Out of State? Do You Plan to Travel Abroad? Will You Be Deployed Before the General Election?

Welcome to Thurston County's Email Ballot Program.

The Thurston County Auditor's Office remains committed to maximizing access to voting for active duty members of the military and U.S. citizens residing or traveling abroad. To this end, we offer our email ballot program.

What an email ballot is: Qualified voters receive their ballot and instructions as Word documents by email. The voter then prints out and votes his or her ballot and mails it to the auditor's office along with an original signature. We cannot accept electronic ballots and signatures.

When: Email ballots are sent and received by the voter approximately 30-45 days prior to the election. In addition, a regular ballot is mailed via air mail. Only one of these is counted.

Where: Voters can receive their ballots anywhere in the world in a matter of minutes, provided they have internet access, an internet email address, and access to a printer.

Full Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Residential Address _____

Mailing Address (if different) _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Military Yes No

Please send me an email ballot.

Signature

Date

**Thurston County Auditor • 2000 Lakeridge Drive SW • Olympia, WA 98502-6045
auditor@co.thurston.wa.us • (360) 786-5408**

WHAT TO DO IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE:

Vote For One



George Washington

(This vote will **not** be counted.)



Thomas Jefferson

(This vote will be counted.)

If you incorrectly mark your ballot, correcting it is simple!
Make an X through the incorrectly marked bubble, and fill in
the correct bubble of your choice.

**Please do not attempt to erase your
original mark.**

Thanks!

Drop-off Sites & Polling Place Information

The 2005 Primary Election is a vote-by-mail election in all participating jurisdictions except the City of Yelm. All eligible voters within these jurisdictions will receive a ballot in the mail for the Primary Election. This type of election allows you the convenience of voting at home by simply returning your ballot by mail. If you would rather return your ballot in person you may drop it off at any of the locations listed below. Voters are strongly encouraged to return their ballots early.

Ballots MUST be voted and postmarked or dropped off no later than 8:00 p.m. election day, September 20, 2005

Ballot Drop-Off Sites & Yelm Polling Place

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| August 31 - September 20 | <i>This site is open Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Election Day - September 20, 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.</i> | |
| | Thurston County Auditor's Office | Thurston County Courthouse 2000 Lakeridge Dr SW, Olympia |
| Three-Day Drop-off Sites September 16, 19 & 20 | <i>Drop-off sites open Friday, 16th, & Monday, 19th, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Election Day - September 20, 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.</i> | |
| | Olympia City Hall | 900 Plum St SE, Olympia |
| | Bucoda Town Hall | 110 Main St N, Bucoda |
| | Fire District #13 Station (Griffin) | 3707 Steamboat Lp NW, Olympia |
| Yelm Polling Place & Drop-off Site (open same hours as above) | First Baptist Church (Yelm) | 602 103rd Ave NE, Yelm |

Placing your ballot in a postal service mailbox on election day does NOT guarantee a valid postmark.
Please check pickup times before depositing your ballot.

Your ballot must be postmarked no later than September 20, or delivered to any of the above drop-off locations prior to 8:00 p.m. on election day, September 20, 2005.

Replacement Ballots

If your ballot is damaged, destroyed, or lost, a replacement ballot may be obtained at the Thurston County Auditor's Office at the Thurston County Courthouse up to 8:00 p.m. on election day, September 20, unless you live within the city limits of Yelm. If you live in Yelm and need a replacement ballot or if you have any questions, please call the auditor's office at (360) 786-5408. **Yelm Voters** - absentee voters in the city limits of Yelm may not receive replacement ballots on election day. Instead they may vote at the polling place if necessary.

If you do not receive a ballot by September 7 and you are a registered voter living in one of the jurisdictions listed on page 3, please contact the Thurston County Auditor's Office immediately.

Voter Registration Information

Voter Qualifications

To register to vote, you must be:

- A citizen of the United States
- A legal resident of Washington State
- At least 18 years old by election day
- Not presently denied civil rights as a result of being convicted of a felony

Federal law now requires you to provide valid identification to register to vote.

In Washington State you do not have to register by political party to vote in the state's regular primary or general elections.

Registration Deadlines for New Applicants

You may register to vote at any time. State law requires you to register at least 30 days before an election if registering by mail. If you miss the 30 day registration deadline you may register between 15 and 30 days before an election providing you meet the following requirements: you must be a resident at the same address for at least 30 days prior to an election; you must register in person at the Thurston County Auditor's Office; and you must vote an absentee or vote-by-mail ballot. If you register after the 15 day deadline your registration will be processed for the next election.

Where to Register

You may call and request a mail-in voter registration form from our office at any time. Also, you may obtain forms at the following locations:

- Thurston County Auditor's Office
- City or town clerk's offices
- www.vote.wa.gov
- State driver licensing offices
- Most fire stations
- Public libraries
- Public schools

Change of Residence

If you move to a **new** county you must complete a new voter registration form. (See "Registration Deadlines for New Applicants.")

If you are already registered to vote and move within **Thurston County** you do not need to re-register. However, you must request an address update on your registration. This can be done by calling, writing, or emailing the auditor's office.

To be eligible to vote in your new precinct you must re-register or update your registration at least **30 days** before an election.

Change of Name

You may use the mail-in registration form provided on page 14 to change your name. You may also change your name by completing a form when you renew your driver's license at the Department of Licensing, Driver License Division, 645 Woodland Square Lp SE, Lacey.

The 2005 Primary Election is Tuesday, September 20

Please remember: mail-in ballots must be postmarked by election day.

(360) 786-5408

www.co.thurston.wa.us/auditor

auditor@co.thurston.wa.us

**Thurston County Auditor's Office, Elections Department
2000 Lakeridge Dr SW, Olympia, Washington 98502**

