

Vol. 94
June 1, 2026



<https://ccc-cultivatingcommunityconnections.net>

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Please visit our web site at:

<https://ccc-cultivatingcommunityconnections.net>

Contact Us At:

CultivatingCommunityConn@gmail.com

C-Cultivating
C-Community
C-Connections

* Encouraging Community Involvement
* Linking Communities to Resources

Uniting community members to transform our neighborhoods is at the heart of what we do.



Movers and Shakers (Prince George's County)



Accurate Information to Share

Let's help more registered voters to ACTUALLY VOTE!

Did you know - #1 way to increase voter turnout is for each of us to TALK to our family and friends about the importance of voting in the primary. Here's why:

- Local government has a big impact on quality of life issues so it is vital that we elect local people who care about residents!
- Primary voters MUST select representatives that are honest public servants. The only way to do that is to help others find the facts.
- We can help others find accurate information.

Step One: Get information about registering to vote and voting! Here is a verified source:

<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/boards-commissions/board-elections>

Primary Election

Early Voting - June 11, 2026 through June 18, 2026 (7am - 8pm)

Election Day - June 23, 2026 - 7am - 8pm

General Election

Early Voting - October 22, 2026 through October 29, 2026 (7am - 8pm)

Election Day - November 3, 2026 - 7am - 8pm

[2026 Drop Box Locations](#)

Your Voter Information

Use the [Maryland State Board of Elections Voter Lookup](#) tool to find your current voter registration and district information.

Check Your Voter Registration (See p. 2 for a list of what types of questions Voter Lookup can answer for you.)



What Do You Think?

Cultivating Community Connections would like to know about the people in your community that are making a difference. Tell us who they are and what they are doing.

Email us at:

CultivatingCommunityConn@gmail.com

Our Leadership Team

Carol Jenkins- founder

Jeff Jenkins- co-founder

In memory of Melissa Daston-
Movers and Shakers past
president

Carol Relitz- web administrator

Thank you for supporting CCC's efforts to strengthen communities.

Step Two: Separate Fact from Fiction

West Laurel was fortunate to have Dr. Demetra Hutchinson, Deputy Director Board of Election, as their guest speaker on the interesting topic of voter information and misinformation. She shared all of the steps that are in place to guarantee that every vote is counted and NO voter can vote more than once.

Did you know:

- There is a bar code on every ballot that is mailed to a registered voter.
- That bar code is unique for every voter.
- An audit is done if multiple ballots are returned by a voter. To see more about how the audit is done, see p. 3-5 or go to the Maryland Board of Elections web site.

Your Ballot Information

<https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/votersearch>

You can use the [voter look-up website](#) to:

- Review your voter registration record.
- Request a duplicate voter registration card.
- Find out where to vote.
- Find out your voting districts.
- Find out your local board of elections.
- See the status of your mail-in or provisional ballot.
- View your sample ballot.

https://elections.maryland.gov/press_room/index.html

Recent Releases and Statistics

2026 Press Releases

- [Maryland State Board of Elections Shares More Information and Next Steps Regarding Mail-In Ballots \(PDF\)](#), [La Junta Electoral del Estado de Maryland brinda más información y comparte los pasos a seguir con las papeletas de voto por correo \(DOCX\)](#) - 05/18/2026
- [Press Statement from Taylor Print & Visual Impressions, Inc. on Mail In Ballots \(PDF\)](#) - 05/15/2026
- [Maryland State Board of Elections Addresses an Error with Mail-In Ballots \(PDF\)](#) - 05/15/2026

Who to Contact For More Help

Appointed by Board of Elections:

Wendy N. Honesty-Bey, *Election Director* (301) 341-7300; fax: (301) 341-7391

Demetra Hutchinson, *Deputy Election Director* (301) 341-7300; fax: (301) 341-7391

1100 Mercantile Lane, Suite 115A, Largo, MD 20774

e-mail: election@co.pg.md.us

web: <https://md-princegeorgescounty.civicplus.com/559/Board-of-Elections>

https://elections.maryland.gov/press_room/rumor_control.html

Rumor Control

Reporting Disinformation on Social Media

It is important that if you see any dis/misinformation on the social media platforms to report it to the State Board of Elections. Election dis/misinformation means incorrect or misleading information regarding the TIME, PLACE, OR MANNER OF AN ELECTION, ELECTION RESULTS, OR VOTING RIGHTS in Maryland. As the trusted source of election information, we will correct the record. [Report it here.](#)



Fact Checks

Verifying Identity at the Polls

Rumor: Unless Marylanders show photo identification at polling places, we cannot be confident that people aren't impersonating voters to steal votes.

Fact: Maryland elections officials take multiple steps to confirm each in-person voter's identity. Every voter has to provide their name and home address, date of birth, or other identifying personal information to an election judge, who confirms that the information matches records. Every voter also signs a card to affirm their identity and request for a ballot, under penalty of perjury. Instances in which fraud is suspected are referred to the Office of the State Prosecutor.

Ballot Drop Boxes

Rumor: The ballot drop boxes are operated and maintained by the United States Postal Services.

Fact: Ballot drop boxes are operated and maintained by the local election officials. Ballot drop boxes are monitored and secured by trusted election officials. Ballots are retrieved from the boxes at least once daily by election officials. The drop boxes are not the property of the United States Postal Service.

Rumor: The process for using ballot drop-off boxes is not legitimate and they should not be used.

Fact: Under State law, the local boards of elections approve proposed locations for ballot boxes, and the State Administrator reviews and if appropriate, approves the proposed locations. The boxes also include "Official Ballot Drop Box".

State law does not prohibit a voter from giving permission for another individual to deliver the voter's completed ballot in a sealed and signed envelope to an election office, a USPS mailbox, or a ballot drop box.

Security of Election Systems in Maryland

Rumor: Election systems are not secure.

Fact: We've read the recent news articles about the security of election systems and want to share how we secure Maryland's election systems. Simply put, Maryland's election systems are secure, have built-in redundancies, and have been subject to security testing.

We are now using a paper-based voting system. This means that there is a paper record of every vote cast, and these ballots can be retabulated if needed. The voting equipment is never connected to the Internet. The network used to generate official election results is never connected to the Internet. Physical access to the network is restricted and limited to election officials - all of whom have had a security background check - and all network transactions are logged. [More information on the security features and practices for Maryland's voting system is available here. \(PDF\)](#)

Maryland uses a single voting system - Elections Systems and Software (ES&S) - in every jurisdiction in the state. Each voting unit is tested prior to each election, and election officials perform post-election audits to verify the accuracy of the voting system's results. (A third party performs an automated ballot tabulation audit, and bipartisan teams of election officials perform a risk-limiting audit.) To maximize transparency, the Maryland State Board of Elections (SBE) posts the results of these audits [online](#). In addition, the ES&S system enables every voter in Maryland to cast or print a paper ballot, ensuring each voter can review an official voting record to confirm the accuracy of his or her ballot selections. Election officials also follow strict chain of custody procedures and use tamper-evident seals to secure equipment. The ES&S voting system was certified by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) in 2015 and is used by jurisdictions throughout the country. More information about election security in Maryland can be found [here](#).

We use other systems to administer the election process, but these systems are not part of the voting casting or counting process. Two frequently discussed systems are voter registration databases and online voter registration systems. The voter registration database is the system where voter registration information, voting history, absentee voting requests, and other data is stored. An online voter registration system is a web-based system voters use to submit a new voter registration application, submit updated voter registration information, or request an absentee ballot. While these systems are connected to the Internet, access is via a secure network, all data is encrypted, and the systems are continuously monitored and audited. [More information on the security features and practices of Maryland's voter registration systems is available here. \(PDF\)](#)

Rumor: The voting system we use has security vulnerabilities.

Fact: Maryland uses a single voting system - Elections Systems and Software (ES&S) - in every jurisdiction in the state. Each voting unit is tested prior to each election, and election officials perform post-election audits to verify the accuracy of the voting system's results. (A third party performs an automated ballot tabulation audit, and bipartisan teams of election officials perform a risk-limiting audit.) To maximize transparency, the Maryland State Board of Elections (SBE) posts the results of these audits online. The ES&S machines used in Maryland are not equipped with modems and are never connected to the internet. In addition, the ES&S system enables every voter in Maryland to cast or print a paper ballot, ensuring each voter can review an official voting record to confirm the accuracy of his or her ballot selections. Election officials also follow strict chain of custody procedures and use tamper-evident seals to secure equipment.

The ES&S voting system was certified by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) in 2015 and is used by jurisdictions throughout the country. More information about election security in Maryland can be found here.

Rumor: The voting system does not always perform as expected.

Fact: The local boards of elections all perform logic and accuracy (L&A) testing on all voting equipment used prior to each election. This testing confirms the logic and the accuracy of the voting equipment at the same time - they are not separate tests. You can review the results of this testing at the public demonstration held by each local board of election office.

L&A testing is performed with "perfect" ballots - that is, ballots that are generated by the printer according to the State's logic - because the purpose of this test is to test that it is counting ballots accurately. If a voter's mark cannot be read by the scanning unit, the scanning unit will return the ballot.

- During early voting or on election day, the voter can correct the mark so that the scanning unit can read it or instruct the election judge to override the message and accept the ballot as initially marked. If the voter decides to accept the ballot as initially marked, the contest with the unreadable mark will not be counted but all other marks will be counted.
- During the counting of mail-in ballots (regardless of how the voter returned the ballot), if a scanning unit cannot read a mark on a mail-in ballot, the local board of canvassers will decide whether the voter's intent is clear. If the intent is clear, the ballot will be copied by a bi-partisan team of election officials and scanned. If the voter's intent is not clear, the election officials will override the message and the scanning unit will not count the contest with the unreadable mark but will count all other marks. This process is performed during a public meeting of the local board of canvassers. The canvasses for the upcoming election are open to the public to observe the careful and deliberative process performed by the members of the local boards of elections.

Check Out Our Useful Resource on CCC's Web Site

<https://ccc-cultivatingcommunityconnections.net>



A big "Thank you!" to our web master, Carol Relitz, for all of her work on the CCC web site!!

Thank you to all of the volunteers who work so hard to serve their communities!

A special thank you goes out to the members of Cultivating Community Connections and Movers and Shakers. You are making a difference every day. Thank you for all of your efforts and your support!