



ELECTION DAY
&
EARLY VOTING

V. Election Day & Early Voting

The Board of Supervisors of Elections has authorized two (2) days of Early Voting for the May 2019 Election. Early Voting will take place at the Magruder Park Recreation Center from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, 2019 and 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday May 4, 2019. **All City Wards will vote at one (1) location for early voting.**

Location of Polling Places for Election Day, May 7, 2019

Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. All polling locations are accessible to the disabled.

Ward 1	Hyattsville City Building 4310 Gallatin Street First Floor, Multipurpose Room
Ward 2	Magruder Park Recreation Center 3911 Hamilton Street Rear Multipurpose Room
Ward 3	University Christian Church 6800 Adelphi Road Sanctuary Room
Ward 4	St. Matthew's Episcopal/Anglican Church 5901 36 th Avenue Entrance off 36 th Avenue
Ward 5	Magruder Park Recreation Center 3911 Hamilton Street Front Multipurpose Room
Same Day Voter Registration	Hyattsville City Building 4310 Gallatin Street Second Floor, Pranglely Room

Candidate Rules for Election Day

1. No person is permitted to canvass or electioneer in the polling room or within a radius of one hundred (100) feet from the entrance of the building being used as the polling place. A painted line, or sign, will mark these distances.
2. All placards, posters and other material used by candidates must be removed from the area of distribution at the close of the polls.
3. It will be unlawful for any person, other than the judges, poll watchers, and City officials to remain in polling places at the City election after the close of the polls, except employees of the building.

Poll Watchers

Poll watchers may be present in the polling place during an election. Poll watchers are intended to observe the conduct of the election and their prime concern is the integrity and fairness of the election. They may observe the election before, during and after the polls close.

Poll watchers may represent established political parties, candidates, qualified civic organizations, or organized proponents or opponents of ballot propositions. Each poll watcher must present to the Chief Judge a Watcher's Certificate issued by the City Clerk to be admitted as a poll watcher at a polling location.

Anyone wishing to be a poll watcher must present credentials to the City Clerk by 5:00 p.m. the day prior to the advance voting day or the Election Day. (Credentials include a valid driver's license and letter signed by a candidate or a letter on letterhead from an organization.)

One poll watcher may be present in the polling place representing a candidate or group at any given time. When overcrowding interferes with the orderly conduct of the election, the Election Judge may ask all poll watchers to leave. The Election Judge may cause the removal of any poll watcher who is disrupting the election process.

Functions of a poll watcher:

- A. Before the first ballot is cast, poll watchers may observe machine preparation. During the preparation of the machine, the counters will be verified, witnessed, and posted for inspection by the poll watcher.
- B. Poll watchers will be positioned near enough to the election judges to hear and see procedures. Chairs will be set up in the designated area.
- C. Poll watchers may challenge a person's right to vote, only on the basis of identity, that is, the person is not whom they purport to be. The poll watcher should politely inform the Chief Judge of the challenge.
- D. The Chief Judge determines whether or not to sustain a challenge.
- E. Poll watchers may observe the tally procedures after the polls close.
- F. If an error or violation continues after the Chief Judge has been informed, the poll watcher should record their observations, immediately contact the Hyattsville Board of Supervisors of Elections at (301) 985-5001 and remain at the polling place until proper authorities arrive. Under no circumstances should a poll watcher argue with the Election Judge or interfere with the election process.

The Judges of Election are the sole authority in the polling place on Election Day. No person except a judge may handle or touch election supplies or materials. A police officer may be in the polling place to preserve order and carry out lawful directions given by the judges. If the poll watcher(s) at any polling location become disruptive or interfere with the election process, they will be asked to leave.

Poll watchers may not enter into the area of the voting machines/booths and shall be assigned a position inside the polling room to enable them to see any person who offers to vote. Only the Chief Judge may give the number of voters to poll watchers.

Such watchers may be permitted to remain within the polling room until the returns are completed. No watchers shall be permitted to enter a polling place before the opening of polls, unless they are present one-half hour before the opening. They are not to confer in the polling room with any voter. Questions pertaining to this should be directed to the Board of Supervisors of Elections on Election Day.

Complaints

- A. The Board shall investigate and resolve any written complaints or contests relating to voting, the validity of any ballot, candidate certification, violations of this Chapter, or other City election matters within the authority granted to the Board by the City Charter or Code.
- B. When reviewing a complaint, contest, or other potential violation within its authority pursuant to this Article, the Board has the power to:
 - 1. conduct a reasonable investigation;
 - 2. conduct one or more hearings;
 - 3. adopt reasonable rules and procedures for the conduct of hearings that are not inconsistent with this Article;
 - 4. summon concerned parties and/or necessary witnesses to hearings;
 - 5. dismiss a complaint;
 - 6. conciliate a complaint;
 - 7. issue orders;
 - 8. implement enforcement actions as provided by this Section; and
 - 9. extend the time for any hearing and the issuance of any finding, opinion, and/or orders.