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FEATURED

Two Sites Prepared Early Voting Ready

BY ELENA MARSH || Staff Writer
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File Photo. Early voting in Pinehurst on Nov. 4, 2022.

Photograph by Ted Fitzgerald/The Pilot

It's been a long build-up, but voting for the 2024 general election is finally set to begin for key national, state and local races.

The early voting period in North Carolina gets underway Thursday at 8 a.m., giving registered voters a chance to cast their ballots for a series of contests that stretch from the highest office in the land to some of the most local.

Moore County has two locations this year for those wanting to cast ballots early: the Moore County Agricultural Center, 707 Pinehurst Ave., Carthage; and the Aberdeen Recreation Center, 301 Lake Park Crossing, Aberdeen.

Early voting will stretch to Saturday, Nov. 2. Sites will open that day at 8 a.m. and close at 3 p.m. After that, voters will be required to go to their assigned polling locations on Election Day, which is Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Just like during the primary election this past March, photo identification will be required in order to vote. Acceptable photo IDs include a North Carolina driver's license, U.S. passport, military or veteran ID, a tribal enrollment card or another identification card issued by a U.S. government or N.C. state agency for a public assistance program.

The state has expanded this list to allow for some student and employee ID cards. But the institutions will need to apply to the state Board of Elections and receive approval to have the organizations' cards recognized as a valid form of identification.

Same-day registration will be available to eligible individuals who reside in a county but are not yet registered to vote there. They may register during the in-person early voting period. After registering, the newly registered voter can immediately vote at that same site.

Checking in to vote at an early voting site also allows voters to update their name or address within the same county if necessary.

The county has four unique ballots this year, which are labeled as B0001, B0002, B0003 and B0004. The different ballots available to the county are designed to cover the three state House of Representatives districts that represent Moore County. Voters in District 51, District 52 and District 78 will have to either call the office or do a voter search of their address and name to get the correct ballot with the correct house district.

This is how they are how assigned:

* District 78 will receive the ballot labeled B0001;

* District 52 will receive the ballot labeled B0004; and

* District 51 will receive a ballot either labeled B0002 or B0003. District 51 has two ballots because of an ABC election in the Greenwood Township encompassing Cameron.

Voters in that township who receive ballot B0002 have two additional choices: a referendum to decide whether to vote in the “on-premises” and “off-premises” sale of malt beverages and, separately, unfortified wines.

Those in District 51 who are residents of Vass, Little River and Carthage will receive ballot B0003. That ballot will not include the ABC referendum.

In addition to voting for U.S. president and vice president, voters will cast ballots for the state’s next governor, along with other constitutional officers, including attorney general and state treasurer.

Locally, the ballot includes two seats for the Moore County Board of Commissioners, both of which are uncontested; and four seats for the county Board of Education, all of which are contested.

Other local races, such as Moore County District Attorney and four judicial races, have just one candidate running unopposed.

For additional questions or concerns, contact the Moore County Board of Elections at (910) 947-3868 or elections@moorecountync.gov.

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