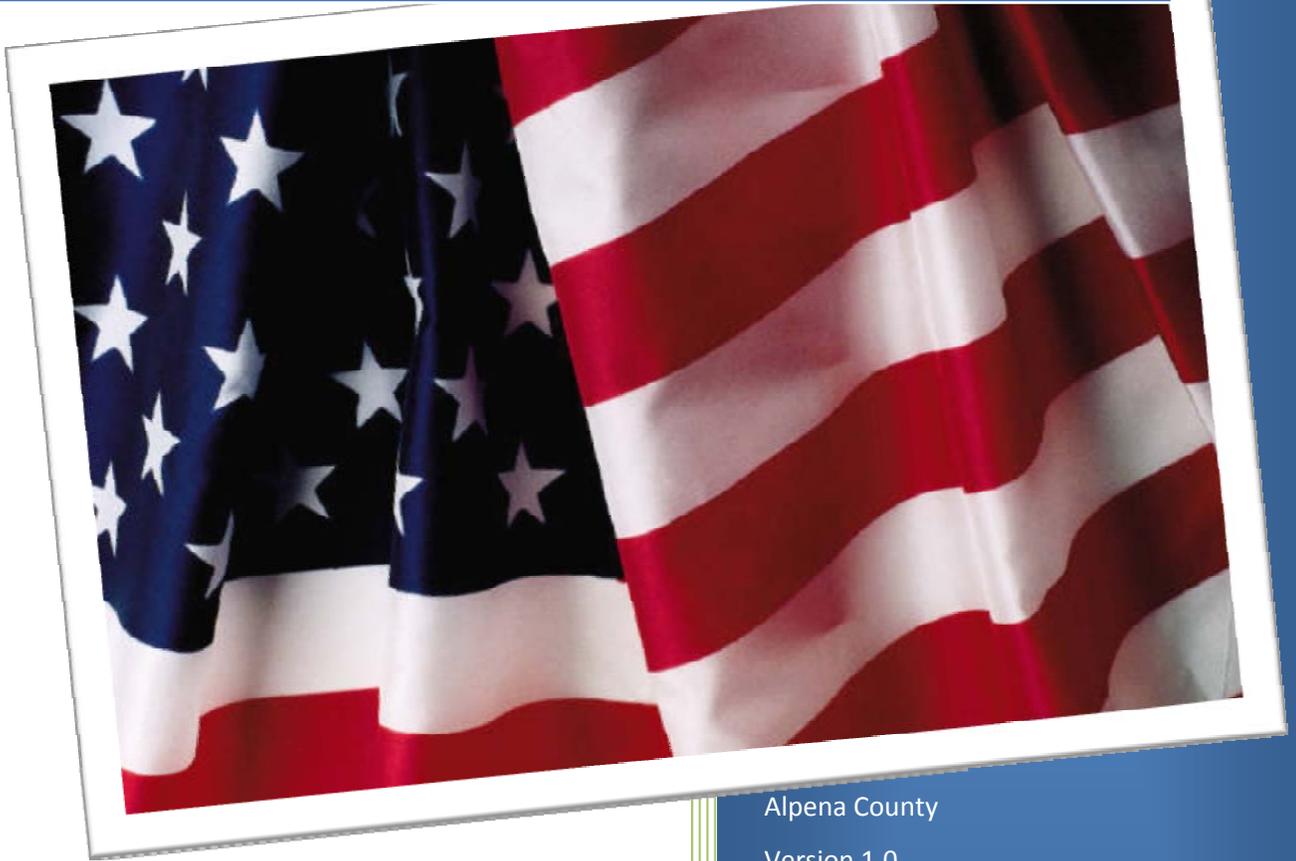


# 2010



## Voting and Elections Guide



Alpena County

Version 1.0

April 2010

### Voting Information



The County Clerk is responsible for preparing and proofreading the ballots for elections held in Alpena County. She is available on election nights to receive and tally the unofficial totals and then filing with the State certified election results after the Board of Canvassers have certified the election. The County Clerk directs recall and recount activities in the county and is responsible for precinct election workers training. Nomination petitions and campaign finance materials can be obtained from the Clerk's office for citizens who wish to run for public office. The filing of petitions and campaign finance reports are filed in compliance with state. Election laws information is available on the State website [www.michigan.gov/sos](http://www.michigan.gov/sos)

## Polling Places in Alpena County

### City of Alpena

**Karen Hebert, City Clerk - 989-354-4158**

Precinct 1	Thunder bay Rec. Center-701 Woodward Ave.
Precinct 2	Thunder bay Rec. Center-701 Woodward Ave.
Precinct 3	Presbyterian Church-101 Gilchrist (corner of US 23 & Johnson St.)
Precinct 4	First United Methodist Church-167 S. Ripley Blvd.
Precinct 5	First United Methodist Church-167 S. Ripley Blvd.
Precinct 6	St. Bernard's Parish Center-322 W. Chisholm St.

### Alpena Township

**Christine Dubey, 989-356-0297**

Precinct 1	Hinks School -7667 US 23 North
Precinct 2	Alpena Township Civic Bldg.- 4385 US 23 North
Precinct 3	Word of Life Baptist Church -1900 Bagley St.
Precinct 4	Southside Township Fire Station -US 23 S. (corner of Paad St.)
Precinct 5	Gordon School -2373 Gordon Rd.

**Green Township**

**Melony Sumerix - 989 379-2398**

Green Township Hall-M 32 West (past M 65 South)

**Long Rapids Township**

**W. Neil MacArthur - 989 379-2776**

Long Rapids Emergency Facility-5310 M 65 North

**Maple Ridge Township**

**Tammy K. Schultz - 989 356-0744**

Maple Ridge Township Hall-6010 W. LaComb Rd.

**Ossineke Township**

**Dennis Liske - 989 727-3028**

Ossineke Township Hall-9041 Nicholson Hill Rd.

**Sanborn Township**

**Lynda VanDusen, 989 471-5138**

Sanborn Township Hall- 12011 US 23 S. (corner of Nicholson Hill Rd.)

**Wellington Township**

**Arlene Wodja, 989 379-4763**

Wellington Township Hall-15616 Long Rapids Rd. (corner of Collins Rd.)

**Wilson Township**

**Pamela Walker, 989 727-3981**

Wilson Township Fire Station-3746 King Settlement Rd. (between M-32 W and Werth Rd.)



## Frequently asked Voting Questions

### **What is the difference between a primary and general election?**

A primary election is held by the political parties to select their nominees for the offices to be elected at the general election. In a primary, Republicans run against Republicans and Democrats run against other Democrats. In a primary, you can vote for only one party. (No split ticket)

A general election is between party nominees and any candidates without political party affiliation, the general election determines which candidate will occupy the

office that is up for election. Statewide ballot proposals also appear on the general election ballot.

### **Who may register to vote?**

If you are a US citizen, at least 18 years old by Election Day and a resident of Michigan and the city or township where you are applying to vote.

### **When do I need to register by?**

You may register at any time, but to vote in an upcoming election you must be registered at least 30 days prior to the election.

### **Do I have to register for each election?**

No, As long as you continue to reside in the city or township that you registered in, your registration is permanent.

### **Where can I register?**

At any Secretary of State branch office, your city or township clerk's office, the County Clerk's office, any Family Independence Agency office, or a specified Department of Community Health and Michigan Jobs Commission.

**Do I need to register in person?**

No, Individuals may register by mail, but must vote in person the first election following their registration.

**What happens if I move?**

You should immediately notice the clerk of your city or township of your new residence, if you move within your city or township of residence. If you move outside of your city or township, you must re-register at your new address.

**Absentee Voting**

**When can I vote by absentee ballot?**

You can vote by an absentee ballot if you are 60 years of age or more, expect to be absent from the community in which you are a registered voter for the entire time the polls are open, unable to go to the polls because of religious beliefs, are confined to jail or prison awaiting arraignment or trial, or have been appointed as an election inspector in a precinct other than where you are registered to vote. You can also receive an absentee ballot if you are unable to get to the polls without the assistance of another person.

**How do I receive an absentee ballot?**

You can obtain an absent voter ballot by writing to the clerk of the city or township in which you are a registered voter. You must include on your request:

You're Name, the date of the election, the address where you are registered, the reason why you are requesting an absentee ballot and the address where to send the ballot. (This must be your registration address, an address outside of your jurisdiction, a hospital, or some other residential institution.) **You may download your absent voter ballot request by [clicking here](#). Please note; you will need [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#) to open the ballot. Once you have printed and filled out your absentee request you must mail it or take it to your local County Clerk.**

**Important: Be sure to include your signature and date.**

Members of the armed forces and military dependents, and U.S. citizens temporarily living outside of the U.S. may use a Federal Post Card Application to obtain an absent voter ballot.

**What is the application deadline to receive an absentee ballot?**

The day to apply for an absentee ballot is on the Saturday preceding the election and returned by no later than 8:00 pm on Election Day to the city or township clerk's office.

## Voting Procedures

### Where do I vote?

Your voter ID card will list the polling place or you may call your city, township or county clerk. Or [www.publius.org](http://www.publius.org)

### When will be the polls open?

The polls are opened from 7 am to 8 pm on Election Day.

### How do I vote?

1. You sign an Application to Vote.
2. An election inspector checks your name against the poll list of registered voters.
3. You vote: Alpena County uses the Accu-Vote system. The candidates will be listed on the ballot with blank ovals to the right of their names. Indicate your selection by completely filling in the oval next to your candidates' name. If you wish to write in a candidate's name, you may write-in the name in the space provided under the heading listing the office, you must also fill in the oval next to the write-in's name.
4. After completing your ballot, proceed to the tabulator, insert your ballot, the tabulator will scan and validate your vote. Should you have any problems, contact an election worker.

### What happens if my name isn't on the poll list?

Answer any questions the election inspector may ask in attempting to confirm your registration.

### May I receive assistance when voting?

Yes, any elector may request voting assistance from the precinct workers without stating a reason. Two precinct workers (1 from each political party) will assist you. If you need assistance in the voting process; blind, disabled, or unable to read or write, anyone (except your employer, an agent of your employer or an officer or agent of your union) to give you assistance.

**May I take campaign literature into the polling place?**

Yes, as long as the articles are for your personal use and you do not distribute or display them to others, be sure not to leave any material in the polling place.

**Is campaigning allowed on Election Day?**

Yes, as long it is done at least 100 feet from any door used by voters to enter or exit the building in which the polls are located.

## Election Web Sites

Publius: <http://www.publius.org>

- View Ballots
- Get a map showing polling locations
- Check voter registration status
- Locate the address of your local County Clerk's Office

Secretary of State: <http://www.michigan.gov/sos>

- Michigan Voter Registration Application
- Secretary of State Voter Information Center
- Help America Vote Act (HAVA)
- Election Results
- Other information regarding Elections in Michigan

## RECALL PETITION FILING PROCEDURES

### Officers Subject to Recall

All elective officers in the state, except judicial officers, are subject to recall by the voters of their respective districts. An officer who is being recalled may continue to perform the duties of his/her office until the result of the recall election is certified (168.951).

## **CIRCULATING RECALL PETITION FORMS**

The following is a summary of the laws, court rulings and Attorney General Opinions which govern the circulation of recall petitions for county offices, city offices and township offices.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- An officeholder may not be recalled during the first six months or the last six months of his or her term of office. (168.951)
- The wording submitted for review at a clarity hearing must be based upon the officer's conduct during his or her current term of office All recall reasons submitted must be of sufficient clarity to be approved.
- Recall petitions should not be circulated prior to the clarity hearing.
- Recall petitions filed more than 180 days after the clarity hearing are invalid.
- Signatures on recall petitions must not be more than 90 days old at the time the petitions are filed at the county clerk's office.(168.961)
- A signature is acceptable if it includes the signer's name; the signer's street address; the zip he post office which serves the signer's residence; and a proper date. **THIS INFORMATION MUST BE IN THE SIGNER'S OWN HANDWRITING.**
- Each signer must affix his or her signature to a petition sheet which bears-in the heading of the sheer-the name of the city or township and county in which the signer is registered to vote. The heading of the petition sheet may not list more than one city or township.
- A signature is invalid if the signer is not registered to vote in Alpena County or is registered to vote in the county but not in the city or township listed in the heading of the petition sheet.
- If the candidate listed in the heading of the petition holds a ward or precinct office, all of the signers on the petition must also be registered in that same ward or precinct. (168.954)
- The circulator may not leave a recall petition unattended in a public place; all signatures must be signed in the presence of the circulator. (168.957)
- Each petition must only be circulated by the person who signs as the circulator. (168.957)
- The number of signatures needed to recall an officer is 25% of the votes cast in the officer's district for all candidates for the Election of the Governor at the last November general election. (168.955)

**ATTENTION TO DETAIL ADVISED**

The headings on recall petition sheets should match the recall wording exactly as it was approved at the recall clarity hearing, and must conform to the specifications prescribed by the Secretary of State.

(168.952a)

Petitions cannot be circulated prior to the wording approved at a clarity hearing.

Petition sheets and signatures found to be invalid cannot be corrected through the submission of affidavits, registration records or additional petition signatures.

The information in this brochure is offered as a summary of the provisions which govern the validity of recall petition signatures; it is not a complete interpretation of the governing laws.

Office hours are Monday-Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. closed all legal holidays. For more information call the Alpena County Clerk's office at (989) 354-9520.)