



MAHASKA COUNTY, IOWA ELECTIONS

Mahaska Co Auditor & Commissioner of Elections

641-673-7148

auditor@mahaskacounty.org

www.mahaskaelections.org

April 23, 2020

You've likely been hearing many news reports, etc. regarding plans to address voting for the June 2nd Primary Election in Iowa during this COVID-19 public health emergency. Specifically, here are the plans we are developing for voting in the 2020 Mahaska County Primary Election.

Vote by mail/vote from home



We encourage all voters to take advantage of the opportunity to vote by mail/vote from home (commonly known as absentee voting). The Iowa Secretary of State will be mailing absentee ballot applications to every registered voter in Iowa beginning the week of April 20th. Applications are also available at www.mahaskaelections.org. Remember we must have a signed application from you as a voter to mail you a ballot, and the last day we can mail ballots is May 22, 2020. Voted ballots can be mailed back, or placed in secure drop box just outside Auditor's office door.

Vote in person prior to Election Day



If you want to vote in person at the courthouse prior to election day, that opportunity will begin Monday, May 4, 2020. Depending on whether the courthouse has been able to open up more fully to the public we are developing plans for possible all curbside voting or be using an area in front of our office in the lobby, along with the option of curbside voting.

Vote at the polls



If you want to vote at the polls on election day, we have made the decision to combine precincts and reduce polling locations to two sites for Mahaska County. We make this decision carefully with full concern for our precinct officials and voting public. More detail will be provided in the future.

Safe Voting Plans



We are planning to have hand sanitizer available for voters to use before they proceed through the check-in process. We are providing acrylic panels to provide a health safety barrier between our precinct officials and voters—for your safety and that of our precinct officials. Voters will be able to scan their ID under the scanner for a more efficient check-in, and then hold their ID up to the panel for the precinct official to view the ID. In addition, we will be offering hand sanitizer, gloves and masks to our precinct officials for their use on election day. Voters can expect to see social distancing markers in the polling place.

We'll keep you up to date as our plans develop further. Stay safe and healthy!

Please visit our election specific website: www.mahaskaelections.org for all the details regarding the June Primary Election, including forms and sample ballots.