

New WI Voter Photo ID Rules – Major Changes

Conover, WI – Town Clerk-Treasurer, Kathy Mitchell urges voters in the Town of Conover to plan now to make sure they have an acceptable photo ID to vote beginning with the next Election (possibly in August, 2015). Most voters already have one of the types of photo ID required to vote.

Election Day - On Election Day, voters must show one of the following photo IDs before they can cast a ballot:

- Wisconsin Driver License
- Wisconsin State ID Card
- Military ID Card
- U.S. Passport Book or Card

* These IDs are still valid if expired after the date of the most recent general election which was November 4, 2014.

The following forms of photo ID are also acceptable:

- A Certificate of Naturalization, within two years of issuance
- Driver License Receipt issued by the WI DOT, within 45 days of issuance
- ID issued by a federally recognized Wisconsin Indian Tribe
- A photo ID issued by a Wisconsin accredited university or college, or technical college along with an enrollment verification document. Valid for two years from date of issuance. (Please contact your local clerk, the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board or your college or university for specifications)

* An acceptable photo ID is not required to include a current address.

If you do not have a valid Wisconsin Driver License or State ID you can receive a free State ID from your local DMV if you specifically request a free ID for voting purposes. If you do not have a birth certificate, the DMV can help with that, too. Please contact your local DVM for more information.

Absentee Voting - During in-person absentee voting, voters must present photo ID just like on Election Day. In-person absentee voting can begin the third Monday before the election, and must end at 5 p.m. *or the close of business*, the Friday before the election. In-person absentee voting hours in the town of Conover are Mon. – Sat. 7 a.m. to 8:30 am and 9:30 am to 2 p.m.

When voters request an absentee ballot by mail, they must include a photocopy of their photo ID with the request, or the ballot cannot be mailed. However, voters who are “indefinitely confined” because of age, illness, infirmity or disability and voters in care facilities do not need a photo ID. Instead, the absentee witness verifies the voter’s identity. Active members of the U.S. Armed Services who are away from home are also exempt from the photo ID requirement. Please contact your local clerk’s office for more information.

For specific questions on how the new Voter ID law affects you please contact my office at 715-479-8688 or my cell # 715-891-7868 or email: conoverclerk@gmail.com.

Voters are also encouraged to visit the Wisconsin Government Accountability’s Photo ID website, www.bringit.wisconsin.gov for information about the new law.