

# Absentee/Early Voting

## What is absentee/early voting?

Absentee/early voting allows you to cast a ballot without going to a voting place on Election Day. Maine State Law permits absentee ballots to be cast at any election by any voter who properly requests a ballot through the Town Clerk's Office and is a registered voter of the Town of Arundel.

## Who may vote absentee/early?

Any registered voter may cast an absentee ballot instead of voting in person at a voting place on Election Day. You don't need to have a specific reason or be unable to vote at the voting place on Election Day to receive an absentee ballot.

## When can I request a ballot?

There is no master list of those who wish to always have their ballots mailed to them for absentee/early voting. You need to request this for every election.

Arundel voters may request absentee ballots beginning three (3) months before Election Day without a reason. The statewide deadline for requesting an absentee ballot is at the close of business on the Thursday before Election Day.

## How do I request an Absentee Ballot?

If you are already a registered voter in the Town of Arundel you may request an absentee ballot 5-30 days prior to an election in any of the following ways:

- *Come and vote in person* at the Town Hall prior to Election Day.
- *Call our office 207-985-4201 to request* your ballot(s) be mailed to you.
- *Request your ballots in person by coming to the Town Hall.* You or an immediate family member (related) can come to the Town Clerk's Office and pick up a ballot for a registered voter.
- *A (non-related) 3rd party person designated by the voter* (by signing a form from the Clerk's Office first, giving permission for that person to hand carry a ballot to you), may bring a ballot to you, and then the 3rd party person would return the voted ballot back to the Town Clerk's Office. NOTE: This method will require 3 trips to the Town Clerk's Office by the designated individual.

## What if I have an emergency but still want to vote?

Voters needing to vote during the last 3 days prior to an Election because they are unable to attend the Election, may do so only if there are Special Circumstances. The voter or immediate family member will need to sign the State of Maine Special Circumstance Request Form that

they had no prior knowledge of being unable to vote on Election Day. The form outlines the following qualified reasons to vote within this format:

- I will be absent from my municipality of residence unexpectedly during the entire time the polls are open on election day;
- I have a physical disability;
- I am unable to leave my home or treatment facility due to incapacity or illness;
- I am a resident of a coastal island ward or precinct and am unable to travel to the polls.