



Talking Points: Election Security

General Messages

- Election officials and poll workers are our neighbors and friends from our own community.
- Election workers power our democracy and ensure every vote counts.
- Ohio's elections are secure.

Examples of Election Security Measures

Before the Election

- Federal & bipartisan state experts test, examine, and certify all voting equipment as secure.
- Ballots and machines are all locked with tamper proof seals and stored behind double locked doors that may only be accessed when unlocked together by Republican and Democratic election officials.
- Before voting begins, voting machines and tabulators go through a full battery of logic and accuracy testing by a bipartisan team to ensure they work properly and have not been manipulated.

During the Election

- Ohio's voting machines and tabulators are never connected to the internet.
- Absentee voters can track the status of their ballot just like a package online at voteohio.gov.
- Each of Ohio's 88 county boards of elections has two Republican members and two Democratic members. Any handling of ballots or voting equipment must take place by a bipartisan team of election officials.
- Ballots and machines are all locked with tamper proof seals and stored behind double locked doors that may only be accessed when unlocked together by Republican and Democratic election officials.
- Throughout the election, boards reconcile voter lists and ensure no votes were counted twice.
- All Election Day precincts are staffed by a bipartisan group of poll workers and open to the media and poll observers.
- Regardless of how you vote, every Ohio ballot is recorded in hard-copy on paper.

After the Election

- After an election, every county conducts a post-election audit. All audits are open to the public.

Action Steps

You can take a more proactive role in defending our democracy too!

- Volunteer with Election Protection (protectthevote.net).
- Contact your board of elections to attend public meetings and the election audit to learn more about how elections work.
- Become a poll worker (voteohio.gov/defenddemocracy).