

Changes for the June 2022 Primary

Registered voters in DuPage County will use new equipment for voting in the June 2022 primary. It will no longer be possible to vote electronically. The manufacturer will not support the equipment after 2021. The 20-year-old optical scanners for paper ballots will also have to be replaced. The one constant will be that the electronic poll books used for the first time in the 2020 election for checking in voters will still be used. New equipment being used for the primary will print each voter's ballot on demand and integrate with the electronic poll books. No longer will election judges hand each voter the correct ballot out of several stacks of pre-printed ballots. This change simplifies the work of election judges and saves the cost of printing ballots never used. Early voting and Election Day voting will be the same. Mail in ballots will look the same as ballots printed at polling places. A special ballot marking device will be available for disabled voters. None of the equipment for voting will be connected to the internet. The uniform paper ballots will make audits easier. Election judges will continue to hand deliver memory cards from the new voting machines to the county complex after each polling place has completed its shut down procedures. My sources for this article include an article by Katlyn Smith in the November 4-5, 2021 issue of the Downers Grove Suburban Life and my experience as an election judge.