Press Release

August 3, 2020

Absentee Ballot Voting for Democratic and Republican Primaries on August 11, 2020

Wilton will hold the Democratic and Republican Presidential Preference Primaries on August 11, 2020. In addition, there will also be a Republican primary to select the candidate for the 26th State Senate District.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, active registered voters who are eligible to vote in the primaries may vote by absentee ballot. In late June, the Secretary of the State mailed out an Application for Absentee Ballot to all active registered voters who are eligible to vote in the primary. Individuals who submitted those applications should receive an absentee ballot by mail either today or in the next few days.

Voting by absentee ballot

Absentee ballots must be received by the Wilton Town Clerk by 8:00 pm on August 11th to be counted. Ballots can be submitted in one of two ways:

- Drop at secure ballot box located outside the Wilton Police Department at 238 Danbury Road, Wilton by 8:00 pm on August 11th. Ballots cannot be dropped after 8:00 pm.
- Submit by mail to Wilton Town Clerk, Wilton Town Hall, 238 Danbury Road, Wilton, CT 06897. Ballot must be received by the Town Clerk by August 11th (ballots that are post marked August 11th or earlier but not received by August 11th will not be counted).

Controls have been put in place to ensure voters only vote once. Anyone who returns an absentee ballot will have their name marked with a red letter "A" in the polling place checker books and will not be able to vote at the polls. If two absentee ballots are returned by one voter, the Wilton Town Clerk will count only the last ballot issued to that voter. In the event that a voter receives two ballots, please notify the Wilton Town Clerk by phone at (203) 563-0106 and only vote on one ballot.

To request an Application for Absentee Ballot, please visit <u>Absentee Ballots</u> page on Town of Wilton website or call Wilton Town Clerk at (203) 563-0106.

Voting in person

Those eligible to vote in the primary also have the option to vote in person. All three of Wilton's voting districts will be open on August 11th from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm. Please note that the locations of the polling places at Cider Mill School and Middlebrook School have been moved to the cafeterias.

- District 1 at Wilton High School Clune Center.
- District 2 at Cider Mill School Cafeteria (enter to the left of the main door to the school).
- District 3 at Middlebrook School Cafeteria (enter under the canopy at the rear of the building).

The following COVID-19 related safety precautions will be taken at each polling place:

- All polling places will have separate entrances and exits.
- Six feet social distancing will be enforced.
- Voters are asked to wear a mask/face covering, unless they are medically unable to do so. Disposable gloves will be available to wear in the polling place.
- All poll workers will be provided with masks, gloves and face shields. There will be a plexiglass shield/guard between the voter and the poll workers.

- Upon checking in, voters should announce their address and hold up their identification to the plexiglass shield. Each voter will be given a pen that they should use to mark their ballot (pens will not be available in the voting booths). Voters should return the pens so that they can be sanitized and reused.
- There will be touchless hand sanitizer dispensers at the exit of each polling place.
- Poll workers and custodians will be doing regular wipe downs of the polling places.
- Bathrooms at the voting district locations will not be open to the public.

New voter registration and political party changes

New voter registration deadlines are August 6th by mail or online and August 10th by 12 noon in person. Voters who have been unaffiliated with any political party for three months may enroll in either the Democratic or Republican Party by August 6th by mail or by August 10th by 12 noon in person, if they wish to vote in the primary. The deadline for changing from one major party to the other major party and to be eligible to vote in the new party's primary has already passed.

You can download a voter registration form on <u>Register to Vote</u> page on Town of Wilton website. To confirm whether you are registered in a political party or to check your polling place go to <u>Voter Look Up & Voting District Maps</u> page on Town of Wilton website.

For more information, please contact Wilton Town Clerk at (203) 563-0106 or Registrar of Voters at (203) 563-0111.

Press Contact:

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