



The 411 on voting by mail

Mail early – Return your ballot before Saturday, February 29 to be sure to have your vote counted in the early vote returns released Election Night after the polls close at 8pm.

Mailing takes time, but postage is paid! – Mailing your ballot can take anywhere from 3 to 7 days. Postage is paid.

Drop it in a drop box – Your ballot will get to us sooner if you drop it off at one of our 24-hour drop boxes that are located throughout the county until 8pm Election Day. We empty these boxes daily!

- Santa Cruz County Government Center - 701 Ocean St., Santa Cruz
- Santa Cruz City Public Parking - 212 Church St., Santa Cruz
- UC Santa Cruz - Quarry Plaza
- Scotts Valley City Hall - 1 Civic Center Dr., Scotts Valley
- Felton Covered Bridge Park - Graham Hill & Mt. Hermon Rd., Felton
- Capitola City Hall - 420 Capitola Dr., Capitola
- Cabrillo College Parking Lot R (by the football field) - Cabrillo College Dr., Aptos
- Aptos Polo Grounds (by the dog park) - 2255 Huntington Dr.
- County Health Center Watsonville - 1430 Freedom Blvd. Watsonville
- Watsonville City Parking Lot 14 - 316 Rodriguez St., Watsonville

Drop it off at a polling place – You can also drop off your ballot at any polling place in the State of California.

Lost your ballot? – If you lose your ballot or decide not to use it to vote, you can go to your polling place to vote. They will need to call the Elections Department so we can cancel your vote-by-mail ballot before they can issue you a regular ballot. If they can't cancel your mail ballot, you can always vote provisionally – your ballot ends up in a pink envelope and we will count it during our canvass once we make sure you didn't vote already.

111,000+ voters are voting by mail – Of our 163,000+ voters more than 111,000 are voting by mail.

Counting vote-by-mail ballots – There are several steps to counting a vote-by-mail ballot. It takes time. Rest assured that all vote-by-mail ballots are processed and counted if eligible in all elections, no matter what.

Your signature must compare – We must check the signature on the envelope to the signature we have on file for you. If the signature does not compare, we will contact you and you will have to submit a form with your new signature. Or if you forgot to sign your envelope, we will contact you to get your signature. The forms to provide or fix your signature are due by March 29.

Always sign your vote-by-mail ballot envelope yourself. Don't let mom do it for you!