

The *NVRA* Connection

Website: www.sos.state.or.us

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UPCOMING 2005 ELECTION DATES

<u>Registration Cutoff Date</u>	<u>Election Date</u>
February 15	March 8, 2005
April 26	May 17, 2005
August 30	September 20, 2005
October 18	November 8, 2005

THANK YOU

Another statewide election year has come and gone. As always you played a critical role in our success. Thank you! Once again Oregon had outstanding voter registration and turnout numbers. On election day 2,141,249 Oregonians were registered to vote. That is 82.4% of the eligible population! And of those registered to vote 1,851,671 or 86.5% cast ballots. According to one study from George Mason University Oregon ranked 4th in the nation for voter turnout!

PLEASE REMEMBER

Even though there are no statewide elections in 2005, we will see local elections. The role you play is still vital in ensuring successful elections this year.

Please send in completed voter registration cards to your county elections office **within 5 business days of receipt**, and if it is registration cutoff day, send them in that **same day**. Also, please be sure to date stamp the reverse side of all voter registration cards the same day they are received. Remember you play a critical role in this process!

When there is a delay in mailing registration cards, or the agency fails to date stamp the back of the card, the price paid is a disgruntled angry citizen wrongfully deprived of their right to cast a ballot. That failure reflects on all agencies involved and furthers the perception that government is not doing their job.

So, please take special note of the upcoming registration cutoff dates.

2005-2006 NVRA GUIDE

Current information is a key to a successful program. To assist you with this, we are updating the NVRA Guide and will mail it to you around the end of March. Its title is *2005-06 NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE*. When you receive this manual, please carefully review it to ensure that all policies and procedures are followed.

OCVR- OREGON CENTRALIZED VOTER REGISTRATION

In the 2003 Legislative session the deadline to implement a centralized voter registration system was extended from January 31, 2004, to January 1, 2006. In compliance with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), the system will be a "single, uniform, official, centralized, interactive, computerized, and secure statewide voter registration and election management system for all thirty-six counties and the Secretary of State's office."

The goal is to create a single voter registration and election management system capable of replacing all existing systems with equal or better functionality.

At this time testing of the system has begun in six pilot counties, and soon will begin here in the Secretary of State's office. For further information about Oregon's Centralized Voter Registration System please visit our website, www.sos.state.or.us. Select "Elections Division," then "Oregon Central Voter Registration" to find additional information.

SUPPLIES

Additional supplies including blank agency voter registration forms, agency voter registration reporting forms and special envelopes may be obtained through regular agency channels.

ANY CHANGES? PLEASE LET US KNOW

On the reverse side of this newsletter is a **NVRA Site Coordinator Change Form**. If any information regarding your site or site coordinator has changed, complete this form and mail us a copy or fax it to our office.

We appreciate your cooperation in keeping us updated! Thank you again.