



TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN

VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- **Who May Register:**

Any person, who is a Massachusetts resident, a United States citizen and will be eighteen years old as of the next scheduled election, is eligible to vote. Citizens who are registering to vote for the first time in Massachusetts must provide a copy of their identification if registering by mail. If no ID is provided, they will be required to show proof of residency at the polling place on Election Day. When signing the registration form, you must attest, under the pains and penalties of perjury, that you are legally eligible to register and that the information you provide is accurate and truthful. The penalty for fraudulent registration increased recently to a fine of ten thousand dollars or imprisonment for up to five years, or both.

Effective 8/1/2016: If you are 16 or 17 you can pre-register and will remain so until you are eligible to vote. When you turn 18 you will receive written confirmation informing you that you're now registered to vote, what precinct you're in and where to vote.

- **How To Register:**

You may complete a voter registration card in person at the Town Clerk's Office. You may call the Town Clerk at 413-323-0281 and request a mail-in form, call the State Elections Division at 1-800-462-VOTE to request a form or Register to Vote Online @ www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr . When your voter registration is received and processed by the Town Clerk, you will receive a confirmation that you are now registered to vote, what precinct you are in and where your polling place is located. In addition, branches of the State Registry of Motor Vehicles, social service agencies and military recruitment offices provide voter registration services.

- **Registration deadlines:**

You must register to vote at least twenty days before any Town or State Election or Primary in order to be eligible to vote at the polls.

- **Annual Census:**

The Annual Census is conducted in January each year as required by Massachusetts State Law. You should return it as soon as possible. The census is important for many reasons. The current population count is the basis for allocation of State and Federal funds. Compliance with this State requirement provides proof of residence to protect voting rights, veteran's bonus, housing for the elderly and many other related benefits. Also, if you do not return your census, it may affect your voting status. The town census is the only way the Town Clerk can verify residency. That is important for school enrollment, the voter's list and maintenance of updated statistics.

- **Where do I vote?**

All voting takes place at the Belchertown High School, 142 Springfield Rd.