

NEWS RELEASE

Absentee Ballot Request Forms

The Ida County Auditor's Office has been fielding concerns from voters who have received multiple absentee ballot request forms in the mail. Not to worry, says Auditor Charlys Folk. Careful recordkeeping will assure that voters vote only once in a given election.

"Political parties and other organizations are permitted to send mass mailings of request forms to voters, but my office is not," Folk explains. "Sometimes voters are confused by receiving multiple request forms, but with our online recordkeeping it's easy for us to determine if someone inadvertently completed and mailed us more than one of these requests. We will only send out one ballot per voter."

The auditor's office will start to mail ballots to voters who have filed requests on October 16. That is also the day that voters can begin to cast absentee ballots in person at the courthouse at 401 Moorehead St., Ida Grove.

Requests for mailed ballots must be in the auditor's office by 5:00 pm on October 21. No ballots will be mailed for requests received after that date. Early voting at the courthouse, however, will continue through Monday, November 4, the day before the election.

Ballots returned by mail must be in the auditor's office by 8:00 pm on Election Day, November 5, in order to be counted.

If you haven't received one of the flurry of ballot request forms in the mail but would like to vote absentee, you can download a form from the Iowa Secretary of State's website at <https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/pdf/absenteeballotapp.pdf>, or you may call the Ida County Auditor's Office at 712-364-2626 to ask for one to be sent to you.