Early Voting

Overview

Early voting was adopted in 2014 as part of the new elections reform law and will be conducted prior to every biennial state election beginning with the Presidential Election on November 8, 2016.

During the time period designated by law, qualified voters in the Town of Carver may vote early in person at the early voting location(s) or by mail. Early Voting *does not* replace Absentee Voting.

Differences between Early Voting and Absentee Voting:

Early	Absentee
No excuse required	Allowed for specific reasons only
No application required at voting location	Application required at voting location
Application required for mailing	Same
Family member may not complete an others application	Family member may complete an others application
Family member may not return an others ballot	Family member may return an others ballot
Requires ballot envelope	Same
Must be received by close of polls on Election Day	Same
May not vote at polls if early voted	May vote at polls if ballot was not yet processed
Ballot is processed at polls on Election Day	Same

Early Voting in Accordance with Mass. General Law:

- *"The voting period for early voting shall run from the eleventh business day preceding the general election until the close of business on the business day preceding the business day before the election; provided, however, that if the eleventh business day before the election falls on a legal holiday the early voting period shall begin on the first business day prior to the legal holiday."*
- Early voting shall be conducted during the usual business hours of the town clerk. The town may, in its discretion and by vote of the Board of Registrars, provide for additional early voting hours and locations beyond the hours required by law.
- Early voting location(s) will be accessible to persons with disabilities.
- Early voting location(s) will be equipped with an accessible marking unit.
- Early voting location(s) will be suitably equipped to provide an early voter with sufficient privacy to mark their ballot.