

Minnesota online polling location finder updated to reflect redistricting

Written by
Thursday, 09 August 2012 02:10



[Polling Place Finder](http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us) : <http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us>

Secretary of State Mark Ritchie encourages Minnesota voters to use the Office of the Secretary of State's free online service to locate their polling location for the August 14 state primary election. Voters can find their voting location, a map to that location, information about their voting district, and candidates appearing on their ballot simply by entering their address into Polling Place Finder application at www.mnvotes.org.

"Redistricting changed the boundaries of the congressional, legislative and many municipal districts and may have changed voter's polling places," explained Secretary of State Ritchie. "The Poll Finder application tells voters which district they reside in, where to go to vote and who will be on their ballot in that district."

A state primary election serves a different purpose than a general election. For partisan races a primary election narrows the field of candidates for the three major political parties: Republican, Independence, and Democratic-Farmer-Labor to those who will be on the general election ballot. Primary voters also narrow the field of nonpartisan candidates in contests for judicial, county and local offices. Voters will elect those who will represent them in public office during the general election held on November 6.

Minnesota has an "open primary," which means that voters are not required to register with a political party. However, primary voters cannot vote for candidates in more than one political party.

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"Primary elections are very important, because primary voters determine which candidates will be on the November 6 general election ballot," said Secretary of State Ritchie. "Ultimately, the policy decisions that affect all Minnesotans will be decided from the slate of candidates nominated on August 14."

Most polling locations will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on August 14. Minnesota has Election Day registration, which allows voters to register at the polls. For more information about voter registration and candidates appearing on your ballot, visit the Office's voter information webpage at www.mnvotes.org.

Unofficial primary election results will be posted on election night after the polls close at 8 p.m. on the Office's website at www.sos.state.mn.us.