

## KITSAP VOTING

Washington State has a permanent voter registration system. The county auditor serves as official registrar and appoints deputy registrars for all of Kitsap County. Citizens may register at city halls, libraries, public schools, most federal and state agencies including the Department of Licensing at the Kitsap County Auditor's Office, and at voter registration drives.

To become a registered voter a person must be a United States citizen, at least eighteen years old on or before the next election, a resident of the State of Washington, and not currently denied civil rights through judicial action. A person may register at any time. However, one must register at least thirty days prior to an election in order to vote at the polls for that election. A person may register to vote less than thirty days prior to an election by going in person to the Election Division of the Auditor's Office and agreeing to vote by absentee ballot for that election. Applications for absentee ballots and specific voting procedures for primary elections are available by contacting the Elections Division, or by visiting them online. No political party preference is declared when registering.

A voter who fails to vote for twenty-four months or in the most recent presidential election must re-register. Name changes for voter registration require written notice indicating the voter's former signature and new signature. Voters moving within Kitsap County submit the address change in writing. These changes may be made by mail or in person at the Elections Division of the Auditor's Office.

Persons wishing to file for office must do so with the county auditor and must be registered a voter in their district. Those filing for offices within split legislative districts or for congressional seats or state offices must file with the Secretary of State in Olympia. The filing period is Monday through Friday of during the last week of July. The filing fee is one-percent of the position's salary, if any.

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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Elections are held every year. Federal, state and county elections are held in even numbered years. Local and special district elections are held in odd numbered years.

Primary elections are held the third Tuesday in September. These elections determine which candidates shall appear on the general election ballot. General elections are held the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

State ballot measures may appear on the general election ballot. Special elections, such as school or municipal proposal elections, may be held at other specified times.

The current budget is available for citizens on the county web site, or can be obtained from the Department of Administrative Services on compact disc by calling 360-337-7150.

Also available through the Administrative Services is the publication A Citizen's Guide to the Kitsap County Budget.

A patriotic parade down Port Orchard's Bay Street in 1920.

KITSAP COUNTY WASHINGTON

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