

“THE PURGE”
WHY DO ELECTION OFFICIALS CANCEL VOTERS?

As mandated by the federal Help America Vote Act, Election Officials are required to purge certain voters from the county's voter rolls every two years. The purge sometimes has a negative connotation. It shouldn't. It's basically a county-wide voter address confirmation mailing. The Voter Registration purge is a way for counties to keep their voter databases as updated as possible. This is done by mailing every active voter in Ford County a new voter ID card. Think of this as it relates to your home office or business filing cabinet. You only have so much room. You know there are files there for business contacts or personal contacts who are no longer in business, have moved, and sadly have even died. Every two years you tell yourself you MUST clean out all your old files or you will simply run out of room in your house. Thus, Election Officials do the “purge” every two years.

If you have moved without notifying us, the Voter ID card will be sent back to our office by the Post Office as this type of mail cannot be forwarded. If there is a forwarding address on the returned card that is within our jurisdiction, we will send an R-26 to this new address. Please fill out and return the R-26 with the correct information and if your new address is in Ford County, we will update your information and send you a new Voter ID.

If there is a forwarding address on the returned card that is out of our jurisdiction, we will also send an R-26 to your new address. Please fill out your new address and return the R-26 to us or register in your new jurisdiction and that jurisdiction will notify and we will cancel your voter registration in our system and send you a cancellation letter. If you do not reply to the R-26, do not update your address within our jurisdiction, and do not vote for two General Elections, you will be canceled in our system.

We have about 9,000 registered voters in Ford County so this is a very necessary project to keep our voter registration database accurate and up to date!

If you are a registered voter anywhere in Ford County and live at the current address we have on file, you can expect to receive a new Voter ID card from us very soon!