



# Saint Louis County

County Auditor-Treasurer • 100 North 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Room 214 - Duluth, MN 55802  
Phone: (218) 726-2380 Phone – Virginia: (218) 749-7104 Fax: (218) 725-5060  
www.stlouiscountymn.gov

**Donald Dicklich**  
St. Louis County Auditor-Treasurer

## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 25, 2014

**CONTACT:** Phil Chapman, Clerk of County  
Board and Elections Supervisor  
(218) 726-2385

### **New voting options offered to for voter convenience, election accuracy**

With a U.S. Senate and House seat, Governor, numerous state offices, state representatives, four of seven County Commissioner seats, as well as County Attorney, Auditor and Sheriff all on the ballot this election year; St. Louis County voters will have many decisions to make. Two new options or tools for voters to cast an absentee ballot will make the process more convenient, efficient and accurate.

Beginning this Friday, June 27, absentee ballots will be available for anyone wishing to vote in the August 12 primary. Voters can cast their ballot in person or request to have one sent to them to vote by mail. Voters no longer need to provide an excuse – such as being ill or out of their precinct and unable to go to their polling place on Election Day – in order to request an absentee ballot.

“The goal of this new option is to make it easier for voters to participate, resulting in increased voter turnout,” said Don Dicklich, St. Louis County Auditor.

In 2010, the most recent election year with comparable positions on the ballot, more than 4,500 absentee ballots were filed in St. Louis County, approximately 5.4 percent of all votes that were cast.

To request an absentee ballot, voters in the following areas should go to their city or township clerk: City of Duluth, Babbitt, Balkan Township, City of Biwabik, Buhl, Chisholm, Cook, Ely, Eveleth, Gilbert, Greenwood Township, Hermantown, Hibbing, Hoyt Lakes, Mt. Iron, Rice Lake Township, Tower, Virginia and White Township/Aurora. All other St. Louis

County residents can request an absentee ballot from the County Auditor's Office in Duluth or Virginia.

Another new option for voters this year is to request an absentee ballot online. Voters can fill out an application to have an absentee ballot sent to them by visiting the Secretary of State's website at [mnvotes.org](http://mnvotes.org). A similar tool was introduced in 2013 for military and overseas voters. By requesting an absentee ballot online, voters save the work of printing and scanning forms and returning by mail. It also minimizes the processing work and chance for error in the Auditor's Office.

For more information about voting and elections, visit [stlouiscountymn.gov/auditor](http://stlouiscountymn.gov/auditor) or [mnvotes.org](http://mnvotes.org), or call the St. Louis County Auditor's Office at (218) 726-2385.

###