# Pickens County voters to receive new card

BY GREG OLIVER
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PICKENS — Every registered voter in Pickens County will soon be receiving a new voter registration card as a result of recent precinct changes.

Rodney Allen, director of registration and elections for Pickens County, said late Wednesday that the new cards also mean citizens may be voting at a different location in the Nov. 6 general election than they have in previous elections.

"It is extremely important that all registered voters look at their new card to see which precinct they are assigned to and where their voting location is," Allen said on the Registration and Elections Commission website. "All voters must vote in their assigned precincts."

Allen added that the commission expects a turnout of between 70 to 80 percent for this year's general election and that the precinct changes are designed to lower the number of registered voters at each precinct to below 1,500.

"During the last presidential election in 2008, voters at some of our precincts experienced wait times of several hours," Allen said. "These precinct changes will reduce lines on Election Day, as well as minimize the number of ballot styles any precinct would have to deal with, therefore reducing the possibility of poll managers providing voters with incorrect ballot styles."

Allen pointed out that no precincts are split by County Council or school board districts and that only one precinct is split by Senate districts while only eight precincts are split by House districts.

Voters must vote at the precinct they are registered in on Election Day. Registered voters who have not received a new voter registration card should call the Office of the Pickens County Registration and Elections Commission at (864) 898-5948 or (864) 898-5949 to request a new card be sent. Requests for replacement cards can also be sent to elections@co.pickens.sc.us.

Information regarding voting location and districts is also available online at www.pickenselections.org.

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