Voters in Portage County will use new optical scan paper ballots to cast their votes. The optical scan paper ballots are easy to use. Simply fill in the oval located next to your selection for a candidate or choice on an issue.

Common ballot problems occur when people vote for too many candidates in one race or when they vote in the wrong precinct.

Make sure you are at the correct precinct in your voting location.

Make sure you read your ballot carefully and understand how many candidates you may vote for. If you are unsure, ask an election official. If you make an error on your ballot, return it to an election official and request a new one. You can request up to two replacement ballots.

Double check your ballot for accuracy. Improperly marked ballots will not be counted. You will then cast your ballot by putting it in the optical scanner. Once you cast your ballot, your vote is final.

Voters with a disability may choose to use the ExpressVote voting machines. The ExpressVote is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act and will be available at each polling location.

**STEP 1**

You will be given a paper ballot. Make sure it is for the correct party affiliation (if voting in a Partisan Primary Election) and precinct.

**STEP 2**

Fill in the oval completely to indicate how you wish to vote. Use a black pen to complete your ballot.

**STEP 3**

Make sure your ballot is marked correctly.

Choose the correct number of candidates for each race. Do not vote for more candidates than your ballot indicates.

**STEP 4**

If you make an error on your ballot, take it to an election official and request a new ballot.

**STEP 5**

Insert your ballot into the entry slot of the scanner, mounted on top of the ballot box. The scanner will notify you if there are problems with your ballot. You may then choose to have your ballot returned, or you may tell the scanner to accept your ballot. If you have questions, please ask an election official.

**DO NOT mark your ballot in the following ways:**

- NO! George Washington
- NO! George Washington
- NO! George Washington

**DO mark your ballot this way:**

- YES! George Washington

If you have questions, please call the Board of Elections at: 330-297-3511