



# Voter Information Guide and Sample Ballot

**Town of Apple Valley  
Special Election  
Tuesday, June 6, 2017**

Elections Office of the Registrar of Voters  
777 E. Rialto Avenue, San Bernardino, CA 92415  
[www.SBCountyElections.com](http://www.SBCountyElections.com)

*Guía de información para el votante  
en español en el interior*

# VOTE BY MAIL

It's not too late to have your ballot mailed to you.

- **Vote at Home**
- **Vote When You Want**
- **Save Time, Gas, and Taxpayer Dollars**



**To apply:**

- **Visit [SBCountyElections.com](http://SBCountyElections.com) and login to My Elections Gateway; or**
- **Complete the application on the back of this guide**

## What's in this Guide?

In this *Voter Information Guide* you will find:

- Letter from Town Clerk La Vonda M-Pearson
- Information about the Town of Apple Valley Special Election
- Three Ways to Vote
- Voting Instructions
- Your Sample Ballot
- Information about Measure F
- Information for Voters with Disabilities
- Voter Bill of Rights
- My Elections Gateway
- Mail Ballot Application (Back Cover)
- Your Assigned Polling Place (Back Cover)



A Better Way of Life

# Town of Apple Valley

14955 Dale Evans Parkway • Apple Valley, California 92307

Dear Voter,

On June 6, 2017, a Special Election will be held to submit Measure "F" to the voters within the Town of Apple Valley. Voters will decide whether to finance the acquisition of the Apple Valley water system, currently owned and operated by Liberty Utilities by incurring debt in the maximum amount of \$150,000,000, provided that the debt is repaid from revenues generated by the water system, and not from taxes. There is only one Measure on the ballot.

On the following pages, you will find helpful information about the Special Election. I recommend that you review all the information included in order for you to be fully prepared to participate in this election. Also, I encourage you to:

- **Sign up to Vote by Mail** by filling out the application on the back of this guide. The Apple Valley Town Clerk's Office is also a mail ballot drop-off location if you prefer not to pay postage.
- **Know where to vote on Election Day.** The Elections Office has consolidated underused polling places to save taxpayer dollars and your polling place may have changed for this election. Please look up your assigned polling place on the back of this Voter Information Guide or look it up and map it on the Elections Office website at [www.sbcountyelections.com](http://www.sbcountyelections.com).

**REMEMBER: YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT AND ONE VOTE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!** Thank you for participating in this election.

If you have any questions regarding this election, please feel free to call me at (760) 240-7000 x7800.

Sincerely,

**TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY  
OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK**

La Vonda M-Pearson, CMC  
Town Clerk

## Important Election Dates

Monday, May 8	Early voting begins
Wednesday, May 10	Mail Ballots delivered to U.S. Post Office
Monday, May 22	Voter registration deadline
Tuesday, May 30	Deadline to apply for a Mail Ballot
Tuesday, June 6	Election Day

## Voter Registration



You received this *Voter Information Guide* because you are a registered voter in the Town of Apple Valley.

You should re-register to vote when you move to a new residence, change your mailing address, change your name, or change your party preference.



To register or re-register:

- Online - Go to **registertovote.ca.gov**.
- In Person - Pick up a Voter Registration Application at various locations throughout the County. Visit **SBCountyElections.com**.
- By Mail - Request a Voter Registration Application to be mailed to you. Call **(800) 881-VOTE** or email **voterregistrations@sbccountyelections.com**.



**NEW:** If you miss the May 22 voter registration deadline, you can go to the Town of Apple Valley Town Clerk's Office or the San Bernardino County Elections Office to register and vote a provisional ballot. Call **(800) 881-VOTE** for more information.

# Three Ways to Vote



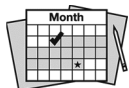
## Vote by Mail:

To vote by mail, you must be a permanent Mail Ballot voter, or request a Mail Ballot by May 30.

- Apply ONLINE to receive a Mail Ballot by visiting [SBCountyElections.com](http://SBCountyElections.com) or by completing the application on the back of this guide.

Return your voted Mail Ballot:

- Mail via the U.S. Postal Service
- Drop off at:
  - San Bernardino County Elections Office
    - 777 E. Rialto Avenue, San Bernardino
    - Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
  - Apple Valley Town Hall
    - 14955 Dale Evans Parkway, Apple Valley
    - Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; every other Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
  - Apple Valley Branch Library
    - 14901 Dale Evans Parkway, Apple Valley
    - Monday through Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Thursday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
  - Any polling place on Election Day
    - Visit [SBCountyElections.com](http://SBCountyElections.com) for locations



## Vote Early at:

- San Bernardino County Elections Office
  - 777 E. Rialto Avenue, San Bernardino
  - May 8 through June 5  
Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Apple Valley Town Hall
  - 14955 Dale Evans Parkway, Apple Valley
  - May 8 through June 5  
Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; every other Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**All sites are open for voting on Election Day, June 6, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.**




## Vote on Election Day at:

- Your assigned polling place from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. For your assigned polling place, refer to the back of this guide, visit [SBCountyElections.com](http://SBCountyElections.com) or call (800) 881-VOTE.

# Voting Instructions

## Marking your official ballot

1. Use a BLACK or BLUE pen or a #2 pencil.
2. To vote, connect the arrow ← ■ pointing to either **YES** or **NO** with a single line like this:  

3. If you make a mistake or damage your ballot, request a replacement ballot.

## Marking your sample ballot

1. On the following pages, you will find your sample ballot.
2. For your convenience, you may pre-mark your sample ballot and take it with you to your polling place to assist you in marking your official ballot.

**SAMPLE BALLOT**  
Town of Apple Valley  
Special Election  
June 6, 2017

**Measures Submitted to the Voters**

**Town of Apple Valley - Measure F**

Shall the Town of Apple Valley be authorized to finance the acquisition of the Apple Valley water system, currently owned and operated by Liberty Utilities, including related expenses, by incurring debt in the maximum amount of \$150,000,000, provided that the debt is repaid from revenues generated by the water system, and not from taxes, and further that the Town conducts an annual independent audit?

YES ←

NO ←



## Information about Measure F

The following pages include:

- Impartial analysis of the measure
- Argument in favor of the measure
- Rebuttal to the argument in favor of the measure
- Argument against the measure
- Rebuttal to the argument against the measure

## MEASURE F

### IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE F

*This Impartial Analysis of Measure F has been prepared by the Town Attorney pursuant to Section 9280 of the California Elections Code.*

On March 9, 2017, the Town Council voted unanimously to place Measure "F" on the June 6, 2017, ballot.

If approved by the voters, Measure "F" will allow the Town to finance the acquisition of the Apple Valley Water System (currently owned and operated by Liberty Utilities (Apple Valley Ranchos Water) Corp., a subsidiary of Liberty Utilities, Co., which is in turn owned by Canadian power company Algonquin Power & Utilities Corp.) by issuing debt up to a maximum amount of \$150 million. The debt would be repaid from revenues generated by the water system and not from taxes, and the Town would be required to conduct an annual independent audit.

The Town began exploring the potential acquisition of the Apple Valley Water System in response to a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the following: public concern about water rates, which are higher for customers of the Apple Valley Water System as compared to neighboring jurisdictions; lack of local control over water rates, service, expenditures, and policy; lack of responsiveness to ratepayer concerns; and lack of transparency in the operation of the Apple Valley Water System.

Under State law, the Town may issue some forms of public debt for the acquisition, construction, improving, or financing of an enterprise without calling an election. However, Measure V, which was adopted by the voters in November 2016, requires the Town to seek voter approval before it may issue any form of public debt over \$10 million to provide funds for the acquisition, construction, improving, or financing of an enterprise, including the Apple Valley Water System.

Consistent with Measure V, Measure F provides voters the opportunity to approve the Town's decision to acquire the Apple Valley Water System by issuing debt. Although the Town believes the value of the water system is significantly less than \$150 million, it seeks approval for a maximum of \$150 million because Town finance staff have indicated that is the level of debt for which the Town can pay the debt service through the elimination of profits, taxes, and other avoidable expenses, such as executive compensation, without having to increase rates for water system customers. If the Town is able to acquire the water system for less than \$150 million, it expects that it would be able to reduce rates for customers of the Apple Valley Water System.

Measure "F" requires simple majority approval to pass.

A "Yes" vote will approve Measure "F."

A "No" vote will not approve Measure "F."

**The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure "F." If you desire a copy of the Measure, please call the elections official's office at 760-240-7000, ext 7800 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.**

s/ JOHN E. BROWN  
Town Attorney

## ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE F

*This Argument in Favor of Measure F was submitted pursuant to Section 9282 of the California Elections Code. It is the opinion of the author(s), and has been printed exactly as submitted.*

A **Yes Vote** on **Measure F** will finally put **Apple Valley Residents** in control of their **Water** and **Future**. Water is the lifeblood of any community, and for too long Apple Valley's water rates and future have been dictated by a global, for-profit company.

A Yes Vote on **Measure F** will:

- Protect Taxpayers – **No Tax Dollars** will be spent on financing.
- Bring **Local Control** to your Water System and the future of Apple Valley.
- Take our Water System out of the hands of a **Foreign Based Company**.
- Keep the money you pay for our water in our Town.
- Put safeguards in place, including an **Annual Independent Audit**.

A **Yes Vote** authorizes financing to purchase the water system **Without Raising Taxes**. Financing will be paid through current water system revenues. Why should we pay so much more for water than our neighboring communities pay?

Your Town Council Voted Unanimously to put this Measure on the ballot for your consideration. This is **Your Opportunity** to control your water rates and economic future for you, your family, and Apple Valley's "Better Way of Life."

Please Join Us, And **Vote Yes On Measure F**.

s/ Scott Nassif, Mayor, Town of Apple Valley

s/ Art Bishop, Mayor Pro-Tem, Town of Apple Valley

## REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE F

*This Rebuttal to Argument in Favor of Measure F was submitted pursuant to Section 9285 of the California Elections Code. It is the opinion of the author(s), and has been printed exactly as submitted.*

Why won't politicians tell you how much Measure F really costs? Because **Measure F repayment fees could cost every Apple Valley water customer between \$15,000 and \$28,000** depending on interest rates.

Read Measure F. You'll find that there's a lot they aren't sharing.

- **Measure F lets government borrow up to \$150 million.** Bonds would be repaid, plus interest, by ratepayers, through a **new debt service fee added to your water bill.**
- **Measure F lets government force you to pay 12 percent interest on the \$150 million,** "daily, weekly, monthly or semi-annually." The debt's total cost can exceed \$558 million. **Not a penny would go to provide drinking water service.**
- **Measure F will eliminate low-income water discounts** that help seniors and working families. People on fixed incomes **would lose the discount, plus have to pay the new debt service fee.**
- **Measure F lets politicians raid public funds, unrelated to water,** to repay principal and interest. Apple Valley documents state **they're planning to charge expensive new water connection fees,** increasing new home prices by tens of thousands of dollars.
- **Measure F would eliminate the independent state water ratepayer watchdog,** removing transparency and accountability.

"As taxpayer advocates, we're concerned whenever government attempts to takeover a private business, using the power of eminent domain. **The promises are rarely kept, and costs invariably exceed projections.** Taxpayers need to be fully informed and extremely cautious."

**Jon Coupal – President, Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association**

**Say no to higher water bills.** Join your neighbors and Vote NO on Measure F.

s/ Lawrence McCarthy, Member, Town of Apple Valley Blue Ribbon Water Committee

s/ Peter Allan, Former Mayor, Town of Apple Valley

s/ Chris Mann, President, Inland Empire Taxpayers Association

## ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE F

*This Argument Against Measure F was submitted pursuant to Section 9282 of the California Elections Code. It is the opinion of the author(s), and has been printed exactly as submitted.*

If Measure F passes, politicians can add costly new debt service fees to your water bill to repay up to **\$150 MILLION IN DEBT, PLUS HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS MORE IN INTEREST**. What politicians aren't telling you is that Measure F will cost you hundreds of dollars a year for decades.

**APPLE VALLEY SHOULD LEARN FROM SIMILAR SITUATIONS** in California.

In Felton, government took over the local water system, **RESULTING IN A 67% WATER RATE INCREASE** for residents. In Claremont, a judge rejected the city's eminent domain takeover and **TAXPAYERS ARE NOW OBLIGATED TO PAY NEARLY \$14 MILLION** to pay both sides' legal fees.

Apple Valley's private lawyers are the same ones who just **LOST** the similar lawsuit in Claremont. Superior Court Judge Richard Fruin studied the evidence. He ruled **THE GOVERNMENT WATER TAKEOVER WOULDN'T LOWER WATER BILLS** and **DRINKING WATER QUALITY COULD BE COMPROMISED**.

"Your Apple Valley lawyers made promises they couldn't prove. Now, taxpayers are liable for \$14 million in legal fees with nothing to show for it," Claremont resident Donna Lowe said. "Apple Valley, don't make the same mistake. Vote NO on F."

**MEASURE F COULD SADDLE OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN WITH MASSIVE DEBT FOR 30 YEARS**. We get **HIGHER BILLS**, and drinking water safety could be compromised. **IN FACT NOT A PENNY** of Measure F's \$150 million debt **GOES TO PROVIDE SAFER DRINKING WATER**.

Independent expert studies provide important facts: "Advocates of government takeovers typically identify the elimination of 'profits' and taxes as two sources of financial benefits from a change in ownership. **THERE IS NO SOUND BASIS IN ACCOUNTING OR ECONOMICS TO SUPPORT THE EXPECTATION OF REAL BENEFITS TO RATEPAYERS, IN THE FORM OF LOWER BILLS**, from the elimination of these sources." (Source: 2017 Analysis Group Study)

Read the full study at [www.NoOnMeasureF.org](http://www.NoOnMeasureF.org)

Join us. Vote "NO" to \$150 million in new debt. **VOTE "NO" ON MEASURE F**.

s/ Peter Allan, Former Mayor, Town of Apple Valley

s/ Diana Carloni-O'Malley, Apple Valley Citizens for Government Accountability

s/ Bryen Wright, Apple Valley Realtor®

s/ Pat Hanson, Proponent, Apple Valley Citizens for the Right to Vote on Debt Act

## REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE F

*This Rebuttal to Argument Against Measure F was submitted pursuant to Section 9285 of the California Elections Code. It is the opinion of the author(s), and has been printed exactly as submitted.*

When you vote **YES ON MEASURE F** you will enable the control of water prices and future development in Apple Valley to return to residents, **NOT A GLOBAL ENERGY COMPANY**. Opponents use words like can, could and may because they understand **MEASURE F DOES NOT RAISE TAXES, WATER RATES OR FEES** on Apple Valley rate payers.

The only comparable case to review is from Missoula, Montana where that city prevailed and gained control of the water company at a **COURT APPROVED FAIR PRICE**. Opponents no longer claim Apple Valley residents will face increased property taxes. Opponents now turn to market tested claims about lawyers, purported future water safety and references to negative "studies" written by Liberty consultants.

It is an undeniable fact that payments on any bond to pay for this water company can be made from the income generated by the existing rate base. Further it has been shown that **WHEN YOU REMOVE THE PROFIT, EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION** and other for-profit expenses from operating the water company, **CURRENT WATER RATES CAN BE REDUCED, AND WE ARE FREED FROM THE CONSTANT SURCHARGES AND RATE INCREASES APPROVED BY THE C.P.U.C.**

**WE ASK FOR A YES VOTE ON MEASURE F** to guarantee our future water **FREEDOM** and "Better Way of Life" in Apple Valley.

On Facebook: Citizens for Water Freedom Supporting Measure F

Website: [www.yesonF.us](http://www.yesonF.us)

- s/ Rick Piercy, Retired Educator
- s/ Bill McDaniel, Capt. U.S. Air Force, Retired
- s/ Cecil Volsch, Real Estate Broker
- s/ Lance Arnt, Educator
- s/ Kathy Green, Retired, Resident

# Assistance for Voters with Disabilities

The Elections Office provides a number of services to increase access and encourage participation by voters with disabilities.



## At the polling place

San Bernardino County polling places have an accessible path of travel and accessible parking. Polling places also include the following resources:

- Assistance by poll workers
- Curbside voting
- Page magnifiers
- Wheelchair accessible voting booths



## Electronic touch screen voting machine

Each polling place has an electronic touch screen voting machine offering:

- English and Spanish audio ballots
- A large text option



## Website accessibility

We work diligently to provide screen reader accessible information on the Elections Office website, including the San Bernardino County Voter Information Guide.



## Additional voting information

Registration and voting information are available by calling the Elections Office's TTY/TDD at (909) 387-2788 or the California Secretary of State's TTY/TDD at (800) 833-VOTE (8683).



# Voter Bill of Rights

## You have the following rights:

1. **The right to vote if you are a registered voter.** You are eligible to vote if you are:
  - a U.S. citizen living in California
  - at least 18 years old
  - registered where you currently live
  - not in prison or on parole for a felony
2. **The right to vote if you are a registered voter even if your name is not on the list.** You will vote using a provisional ballot. Your vote will be counted if elections officials determine that you are eligible to vote.
3. **The right to vote if you are still in line when the polls close.**
4. **The right to cast a secret ballot** without anyone bothering you or telling you how to vote.
5. **The right to get a new ballot if you have made a mistake,** if you have not already cast your ballot. You can:
  - **Ask an elections official at a polling place** for a new ballot; or
  - **Exchange your vote-by-mail ballot** for a new one at an elections office, or at your polling place; or
  - **Vote using a provisional ballot,** if you do not have your original vote-by-mail ballot.
6. **The right to get help casting your ballot** from anyone you choose, except from your employer or union representative.
7. **The right to drop off your completed vote-by-mail ballot at any polling place** in the county where you are registered to vote.
8. **The right to get election materials in a language other than English** if enough people in your voting precinct speak that language.
9. **The right to ask questions to elections officials about election procedures** and watch the election process. If the person you ask cannot answer your questions, they must send you to the right person for an answer. If you are disruptive, they can stop answering you.
10. **The right to report any illegal or fraudulent election activity** to an elections official or the Secretary of State's office.
  - On the web at **[www.sos.ca.gov](http://www.sos.ca.gov)**
  - By phone at **(800) 345-VOTE (8683)**
  - By email at **[elections@sos.ca.gov](mailto:elections@sos.ca.gov)**

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**If you believe you have been denied any of these rights,** call the San Bernardino County Elections Office at **(800) 881-VOTE (8683)** or the Secretary of State's office at **(800) 345-VOTE (8683)**.

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## Want More Information?

**Access personalized election information from a mobile device or computer using:**



**Use M.E. Gateway, the Elections Office's award-winning gateway to:**

- ◆ *MY REGISTRATION STATUS*
- ◆ *MY POLLING PLACE*
- ◆ *MY MAIL BALLOT DROP-OFF MAP*
- ◆ *MY ELECTION RESULTS*
- ◆ *MY ELECTED OFFICIALS*
- ◆ *AND MUCH MORE...*



To access your personalized election information, go to:

**SBCountyElections.com**

Click on the M.E. Gateway link

**FROM: / REMITENTE:**

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**DID YOU SIGN YOUR APPLICATION?**

*¿FIRMÓ SU SOLICITUD?*



FIRST  
CLASS  
POSTAGE

PLACE STAMP HERE  
PEGUE LA ESTAMPILLA  
AQUÍ

# REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

777 E. RIALTO AVENUE

SAN BERNARDINO CA 92415-1005





**Elections Office of the Registrar of Voters**  
777 E. Rialto Avenue  
San Bernardino, CA 92415



Non Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Registrar of Voters

**To vote by mail - Fill out and return this application by May 30, 2017**  
**Do not return this application if you are already a permanent Mail Ballot voter - Your Mail Ballot will arrive soon**  
**Para votar por correo - complete y devuelva esta solicitud antes del 30 de mayo de 2017**  
**No devuelva esta solicitud si usted ya es votante de boleta por correo permanente - su boleta por correo llegará pronto**

**STEP 1**  I want to be a permanent Mail Ballot voter and receive a Mail Ballot for all elections.  
*Quiero ser votante de boleta por correo permanente y recibir una boleta por correo para todas las elecciones.*

I want a Mail Ballot for this election only.  
*Quiero una boleta por correo sólo para estas elecciones.*

**STEP 2**

**Last Name / Apellido** \_\_\_\_\_ **First Name / Nombre** \_\_\_\_\_ **Middle Name / Segundo nombre** \_\_\_\_\_

**Residence Address / Domicilio residencial** \_\_\_\_\_ **City / Ciudad** \_\_\_\_\_ **State / Estado** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip / Código postal** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address (if different) / Envíe mi boleta a (si es diferente)** \_\_\_\_\_ **City / Ciudad** \_\_\_\_\_ **State / Estado** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip / Código postal** \_\_\_\_\_



**Applicant's Signature / Firma del solicitante** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date / Fecha** \_\_\_\_\_

**To vote in person or drop off your Mail Ballot on Election Day - Go to your assigned polling place listed below**  
**Para votar personalmente o entregar su boleta por correo el Día de las Elecciones - acuda a su casilla electoral asignada, que se indica a continuación**