

Program Overview

In 2017, Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC) staff developed an electronic poll book system to be used in polling places in Wisconsin on Election Day.

Enabled by Wis. Stat. § 6.79(1m), the Badger Book is the only electronic poll book authorized for use in Wisconsin elections.

Within each polling place, Badger Books are connected securely to communicate to each other, but do not connect to the Internet or any other network outside the polling place.

After municipalities purchase the hardware, access to the free Badger Book application and support from WEC will be provided.

While Badger Books will improve the way municipalities administer elections, they are not mandatory and participation is optional.

If you have any questions about the Badger Book program or would like to learn more, please contact the Wisconsin Elections Commission at:

(608) 261-2028

or

epollbook@wi.gov

For clerks, additional information about Badger Books can be found in The Learning Center.



Badger Book

Wisconsin's Electronic Poll Book



What is a Badger Book?

The Badger Book is an e-poll book. What does that mean?

“e” stands for electronic
“poll book” stands for poll book

A Badger Book is a:

- ✓ Poll book
- ✓ Absentee ballot log
- ✓ Digital voter registration form

What can Badger Books do for you?

- Quicker voter check-ins and registrations
- Process absentees in a snap
- Improve polling place flow
- No more splitting poll books
- Reduce poll worker mistakes
- Improve data quality
- Consolidate polling places
- Require fewer election inspectors
- Streamline post-election data entry and reconciliation
- Voters will be able to view their participation sooner in MyVote

Election Day!

Prior to Election Day, the poll book for your entire municipality is loaded onto the Badger Book.



Badger Books complete three primary tasks on Election Day:

- ✓ Checking in voters
- ✓ Election Day Registrations
- ✓ Processing absentee ballots

After Election Day, participation data is taken from the Badger Book and uploaded into WisVote.

This includes in-person participation, absentee participation, and information from Election Day Registrations.



Are Badger Books safe?

There are multiple layers of security to protect the system and voter information:

- BADGER BOOKS ARE NEVER CONNECTED TO THE INTERNET
- The data loaded onto Badger Books comes from WisVote, the secure statewide voter registration system
- Each Badger Book is password protected and each poll worker has their own user credentials to log in to the application
- Voter and participation data is encrypted and secure
- Badger Books communicate via a wireless router, but only within the polling place
- Like a paper poll book, only the data necessary to run an election is included, so no Personally Identifiable Information (PII) is accessible