38-Election Day

Polling Places

Polling Places-located in individual **precincts**

Usually in schools, town halls, fire department, other public places

Open early and close late to allow more people to vote (6:30 AM-7:30 PM)

General Elections

Elections are controlled by the local Board of Elections
General Election is held on the 1st Tuesday in November after the 1st Monday

Plurality-winning the most votes of anyone (usually that is enough to win)
Majority-winning more than half the votes

Presidential election requires a majority of electoral votes

Direct Democracy to Vote on Laws in NC

Initiatives-method where citizens propose a bill through a petition and place it on the ballot for a vote during a general election

Referendums-method where a bill passed by the General Assembly is put up for a vote of approval (or disapproval) by the people of North Carolina during the general election

Casting Your Vote

Go to polling place for your precinct
Check to see if you are on list of registered voters

Cast vote (usually done by touch screen)

Exit poll-media asks who you voted for after you've voted, you don't have to answer, used to predict winners

Types of Votes

Straight ticket-when a voter votes for only one political party on a ballot

Split ticket-when a voter votes for candidates from different parties on a ballot

Absentee ballot-a ballot filled out by someone who is unable to make it to the polling place (ex. A deployed U.S. marine)

Early voting-voting that is allowed before election day

Special Kinds of Elections

Recounts-when the election is so close that the losing candidate calls for the votes to be counted again to check for any errors

Runoffs-when more than two candidates are involved and no candidate receives a majority of the votes, some states hold runoff elections between the top two vote-getters

Recalls-a special election to vote an official who is performing very poorly is voted out of office