

## VOTER REGISTRATION AND TURNOUT

As of November 2010, Upper Saucon Township had approximately 9,510 registered voters.<sup>23</sup> There were 4,316 registered Republicans (45%); 3,615 registered Democrats (38%), and 1,579 undeclared or other party registered voters (17%). On November 2, 2010, the township supported Republican Governor Tom Corbett and Republican Senator Pat Toomey with 63 and 61 percent support, respectively. In November 2008, the township supported John McCain for president with 53 percent of the vote.

Date	Regist. Voters	Ballots Cast	% Turnout
Nov-10	9,510	5,317	56%
May-10	9,402	2,220	24%
Nov-09	9,489	1,827	19%
May-09	9,398	644	7%
Nov-08	9,505	7,350	77%
Apr-08	9,112	3,014	33%
Nov-07	8,816	2,584	29%
May-07	8,701	2,582	30%

Voter turnout in Nov. 2011 would likely be similar to voter turnout in Nov. 2007 (approximately 30%).

It should be noted to gauge voter support on public finance mechanisms, that in the two most recent elections the 2008 municipal EIT for open space and the statewide \$400 million bonds for water and sewer infrastructure, Upper Saucon's 3<sup>rd</sup> District did not support either measure despite support by the other three districts. A map of Upper Saucon's 3<sup>rd</sup> District is located in Appendix B.

In summary, Upper Saucon Township is fortunate to have multiple viable funding options for land conservation and parks that can generate significant revenues at a reasonable cost to taxpayers. Township voters as a whole strongly supported state and county bond measures to fund land conservation efforts. The 2008 EIT measure only failed narrowly and this may have been due to the relatively high annual cost to the average household, among other factors. The next step is to conduct a public opinion survey to gauge voter preferences and support.

<sup>23</sup> <http://www.lehighcounty.org/Portals/0/PDF/Voter/campaignfinance/2010%20General%20Registration%20figures.pdf>