

## 2012 ELECTION CYCLE BEGINS

Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> officially marks the beginning of the 2012 Illinois election season. The 6<sup>th</sup> will be the first day that the Republican and Democratic candidates for nomination in the March 20<sup>th</sup> Primary can begin to circulate nominating petitions.

In Illinois, the Green Party, under State law, is no longer an established party since it failed to attract enough votes in the past two General elections.

Interested parties may pick up nominating petition forms, statements of candidacy and loyalty oath forms as well as various guides and instructions for filing in the office of Douglas County Clerk Jim Ingram, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Courthouse, 401 South Center Street, Tuscola, Illinois.

In Douglas County the county offices for which nominations will be made at the Primary election are; Circuit Clerk, State's Attorney and Coroner. Ending a 10 year cycle all of the 7 County Board seats will be available for nomination. In addition, both the Republican and Democratic parties will be electing Precinct Committeemen at the Primary.

The minimum number of signatures required for County offices for both the Republicans and Democrats will be 30. Under a new State law the County Board candidates will need at least 25 valid signatures and Precinct Committeemen will need at least 10 signatures.

First day for filing Statements of Candidacy is November 28, 2011 and last day for filing is December 5, 2011.

The Douglas County Clerk's office does not accept petitions for Congress and Legislature candidates. These candidates file their petitions with the State Board of Elections.

For information concerning the upcoming elections, petition requirements and district maps, please call the County Clerk's office at 217-253-2442.