Election security in Wisconsin

Wisconsin League of Women Voters
September 5, 2018

WEC background
- Oversees administration of elections
- Trains and supports municipal and county clerks
- Ensures compliance with state and federal election laws
- Determines ballot eligibility for state and federal candidates
- Certifies election results for state and federal candidates
- Approves election equipment and reviews ongoing certifications
- Audits polling places for accessibility standards

Overview
1. Elections Infrastructure
2. Election Security Training
3. Audits

Elections infrastructure
Securing our systems

WEC Hosts and Maintains WisVote & MyVote Wisconsin websites
Provides information to create poll lists, candidate lists, polling place locations, and reports for clerks and the public
Allows voters to check registration status, ballot and polling place information. They can register online or create an application, which they can then deliver to their municipal clerk. Voters can also use the system to request an absentee ballot
Allows military and permanent overseas voters to request an absentee ballot and access their absentee ballot online

Russia’s US Election Hacks: Worse Than Previously Known
Russian hackers breached voting systems in 39 US states, report claims
Alleged Russian hack reveals a deeply flawed U.S. election system
Elections Infrastructure

Risks of Hacking
- Release of data
- Delete or alter data
- Compromise poll lists
- Create confusion
- Delays at polls
- Discourage voters
- Affect public confidence

Elections infrastructure

- Wisconsin Department of Administration’s Division of Enterprise Technology (DEIT)
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- Wisconsin Emergency Management (WEM)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- State & Local Law Enforcement
- Wisconsin County Clerks Association

Elections infrastructure

- Upgraded hosting infrastructure
- Updated user and confidentiality agreement
- Cyber hygiene video series
- Multi-factor authentication

Election Security Training in Wisconsin

Approach to Developing Wisconsin TTX Training

Step 1: WEC Staff attends D3P
Step 2: Adapt TTX Training and Materials for WI
Step 3: Train TTX Counties
Step 4: Train 1853 Municipalities

Election Security Training in Wisconsin

Step 1: Training WI Elections Staff
- 6 WEC Staff attended
- Attend D3P
- Rehearsal and Event
- Who attended
- Training staff back at office
- Bringing in temps
Election Security Training in Wisconsin

Step 2
Adapt TTX Training and Materials for WI
- Flexible
- Complete Start to Finish Package
- Elements
  - Prep Materials and Take Always
  - Time Clock, injects, folders, TTX checklists
  - Structure of TTX event

Step 3
Training 72 Counties
- Creating Buy-in
- Survey Creating Regions
- Developing and feedback on materials
- In-house rehearsal
- Clerk Rehearsal Event
- Regional County Clerk Training Events

Election Security Training in Wisconsin

Post-election audits
Verifying results and equipment performance

Requirements:
- Conduct an election audit
- Perform a recount
- Confirm accuracy of voting system
- Use the ISL (2019 Edition)
Post-election voting equipment audit

Previous specifications:
- At least 100 reporting units selected for audit
- At least 5 reporting units per piece of equipment
- Conducted prior to or after certification
- Full hand count

Questions for 2018 audit:
- Increase sample size?
- Require one machine from each county?
- Timeline for conducting audits?
- Full hand count or risk-limiting audit?

Post-election audits

August 1, 2018 WEC memo to County Clerks
- Post-election audit as part of the county canvass process
- Voluntary
- Full hand count or ballot-polling RLA
- Several counties conducted audits as part of their canvass
- WEC staff collecting feedback from counties about their experience

Questions?