

Protect Our Elections & VOTE SMART



Ways to Protect Our Vote

- **Poll Observing**
apply through DPVA
- **Voter Hotline shifts**
apply through DPVA
- **Ballot Curing & Chase**
apply through DPVA
- **Outside Poll Observer**
Apply through DNC
- **Election Officer**
apply through local Electoral Board or VA Dept of Elections
- **Poll Greeting**
apply through local Dem Party
- **Rides to the Polls**
apply through your local Dem Party

Protect Our Elections.... by Being in the Room Where it Happens....

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apply through DPVA
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SIGN UP HERE!



vademocrats.org

Poll Observers - Eyes & Ears

- **Must complete Authorized Representative training (generally an online training video)**
- **Can request locations other than your locality**
- **Split Shifts (in some places - Full Shift Volunteers will be prioritized)**
- **Keep an eye out for issues that could delay voting - such as running out of ballots, long lines, malfunctioning equipment, or any other problems that may prevent voters from casting their ballots promptly.**
- **Call in voting numbers to local Dem party and keeping notes**
- **Stay in contact with outside Poll Greeters**
- **Contact and record on the LBJ system if there are issues**

GOALS OF THE VIRGINIA VOTER HOTLINE

- Make sure the voting process is as smooth as possible for our callers.
- Lower the barriers to vote by using the best tools to quickly inform voters on the most up-to-date information.
- Report all voting incidents to LBJ, and provide *as much* background information as possible in the comments.
- Document information related to provisional and absentee ballots cast, so we can have data on voting issues across the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- Training Provided

Sign up to be a Hotline Operator



Ballot Chaser/Curer

- **Call voters across Virginia whose mail-in ballot may have been rejected and needs to be cured for their vote to count. Time is tight for these likely Democratic voters to fix their ballots!**
- **Canvass voters (at their doors) whose mail-in ballot may have been rejected and needs to be cured for their vote to count. Time is tight for these likely Democratic voters to fix their ballots!**



vademocrats.org

Constitutional Observer

(Outside Poll Observer)



[https://ak.democrats.org/signup/voter-protection-volunteer-survey/](https://ak democrats.org/signup/voter-protection-volunteer-survey/)

Election Officer Facts

- **Apply via VA Department of Elections or Local Electoral Board**
- **Paid!!!**
- **Arrive before 5:00 am; leave by 9:30 pm (*some positions allow ½ days- determined by locality*)**
- **Must be certified/trained - start the process now!**
- **You will move through most all of the tasks during the day**
- **Most employers must give employees day off (without using unpaid sick leave, etc.)**

Election Officer - Did you know?

Any person who serves as an officer of election as defined in § 24.2-101 shall neither be discharged from employment, nor have any adverse personnel action taken against him, nor shall he be required to use sick leave or vacation time, as a result of his absence from employment due to such service, provided he gave reasonable notice to his employer of such service. No person who serves for four or more hours, including travel time, on his day of service shall be required to start any work shift that begins on or after 5:00 p.m. on the day of his service or begins before 3:00 a.m. on the day following the day of his service. Any employer violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. § 24.2-119.1

Be an Officer of the Election in Virginia!



elections.virginia.gov/officer-of-elections/

Be an Election Officer Anywhere in the U.S.



<https://workelections.org/states/>

Be an Outdoor Poll Greeter!

- Sign up through your local Democratic Party.
- Poll greeters are vital to the success of our down-ballot local candidates - because many arriving voters have little or no awareness of the local candidates on their official ballot, which also does not display the party affiliation of any local candidate.
- Poll Greeters can alert Inside Poll Observers to any problems outside.

Rides to the Polls

- Making phone calls to potential riders
- Driving Voters to the Polls
- Must go through local Dem Party - contact info

Contact Your Local Dem Committee **HERE**



VOTE SMART

Voting Basics to Remind Family, Friends and Neighbors

Check Your Voter Registration and Polling Location

- Address Change? (even if you have moved within an apartment building!)
- Name Change
- Encourage others to do the same!

Vote Early In-Person (starting September 18, 2026 in VA)

- check your local Board of Elections for times/locations
- Bring friends and family - post on social media

Election Day

- confirm polling place
- bring ID

Provisional Ballot/Same Day Voter Registration

- On Election Day you **must cast your vote at your assigned polling place or YOUR VOTE MAY NOT COUNT!**

Check Your Ballot Status **HERE**



Mail-In Ballot - 2 Options

- Bring ballot to your polling place and request to have it “spoiled,” then vote a regular ballot
or
- Complete ballot - drop at designated Ballot Drop Box or mail it immediately

Keep in Mind:

- USPS delivery standards changed - now First Class delivery went from 1-3 days to 2-5 days and Standard delivery is now 2-9 days.
- If you are returning your ballot by mail, it must be postmarked on or before election day and received by your general registrar’s office by noon on the third day following the election (In the vent that the day is a holiday, the deadline is moved to the following business day).
- Bring the envelope to a staffed retail window during open lobby hours.
Ask the clerk to hand-cancel the envelope with a physical date stamp if you already placed an adhesive stamp on it.

Should Someone Vote Via Mail-In Ballot?

- People who find it hard to travel to a polling place, on Election Day or during early voting, may prefer to vote using a mail-in ballot.
- In Virginia, one may request a mail-in ballot for the Nov. 3rd general election until October 18th.
- Make sure to sign the outer envelope.
- Include Privacy Envelope!
- It's important to return the ballot as soon as possible, either in the polling place dropbox or in the U.S. Mail.
- Stay up-to-date on any attempts to thwart mail-in voting, and reassure people about the process if you can.
- Track your ballot online

Officer of Election Basics



Voter Information & Registration Pamphlet (printable)



Track Your Ballot



Poll Observer Description & Training *(VA Dept Elections)*



viriniagrassroots.org

**Progressive Grassroots
Organization representing 50+
grassroots organizations
throughout Virginia and beyond.
Focus: Virginia Elections, Calls to
Action and more**



***VoteYES.US* phone
banks, canvassing, info on
candidates, 3 Amendments**

