



How Does the League of Women Voters Protect Democracy?

- ★ ***Conducts multiple voter registration events.*** One of the events each year is to encourage new citizens of the United States to become voters at their naturalization ceremony.
- ★ ***Sponsors a public candidates' forum before each general election.***
- ★ ***Communicates with Pennsylvania legislators.*** Interviews PA House representatives and the PA senator in Indiana County to determine their positions on important issues. Communicates to legislators the League of Women Voters' stand on these issues.
- ★ ***Informs the public on the negative effects of gerrymandering and works toward a fair redistricting process.***
- ★ ***Advocates for school safety and fair funding for traditional and charter schools.***
- ★ ***Provides information to the public on important issues that affect our lives.***
Our local League of Women Voters provides resources and research-based information on issues such as climate change and environmental protection, PA public school concerns, government policies and voting issues.
- ★ ***Implements citizen education initiatives.*** Our local League of Women Voters has:
 - Developed educational materials on voting, elections and government for elementary students.
 - Encouraged high school students of age to register to vote and presented them with iPhone-size cards with election information.
 - Provided informational bookmarks to libraries, bookstores and coffee shops in the county.
 - Conducted workshops on voting legislation at the federal and state level and election security in Indiana County.
- ★ ***Maintains an informative website and Facebook page on the local organization's activities.*** <https://lwvindianacounty.org> <https://www.facebook.com/PowertoCitizens>

Other sources of information:

- <https://vote.pa.gov> Pennsylvania Department of State
- <https://www.palwv.org> League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania
- <https://www.vote411.org/pennsylvania> PA specific voter information



How can YOU protect democracy?

★ ***Vote in all elections.*** There is a primary election and general election every year. It is important not only to vote in presidential elections, but also for state and local elections.

★ ***Know election issues and the positions of politicians running for office.*** If they are incumbents, research their voting records.

★ ***Support credible media that report the truth – both national and local.*** Just because a story is on the internet, in the newspaper or on television does not make it accurate. It is important to evaluate the sources of information you consume.

<https://www.propublica.org/> <https://www.factcheck.org/> <https://www.politifact.com/>

★ ***Contact your legislators and community officials to voice your opinion on matters that concern you.*** Call, write, email and attend town halls. It is important to hold government officeholders accountable. <https://www.legis.state.pa.us>

★ ***Attend forums offered by government officials or community service groups.*** Good attendance is a sign that citizens are interested and engaged in their community.

★ ***Sign up to be a poll worker and help in local elections.*** Election workers are essential to ensure that elections are fair and secure. Many poll workers are older and there is a need for younger people to continue this important work.

★ ***Run for office.*** Public service is one of the best ways to give back to your community. Elected officials have a lot of influence over the daily lives of people they serve.

★ ***Participate in non-violent protest when warranted.*** Non-violent protest can be successful in bringing awareness to injustice caused by the government.

★ ***Remember that in a democracy, every citizen has rights AND responsibilities.***

“Let us never forget that government is ourselves and not an alien power over us. The ultimate rulers of our democracy are not a President and senators and congressmen and government officials, but the voters of this country.”

— Franklin D. Roosevelt

“Someone struggled for your right to vote. Use it.”

— Susan B. Anthony