

AN INTRODUCTION TO



EMPOWERING VOTERS DEFENDING DEMOCRACY

VISION STATEMENT: We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate

HOW THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS BEGAN Source: <https://lwvwa.org/our-history>

- 1854:** Arthur Denny, founder of Seattle, **proposed woman suffrage in the first legislative meeting** in Olympia. Failed eight to nine vote.
- 1871:** The **Washington Territory Woman Suffrage Association** was formed in Olympia.
- 1883:** The territorial legislature **gave women the vote**.
- 1887:** Women **lost their vote** when the Territorial Supreme Court ruled that Congress did not intend to give territories the power to enfranchise women.
- 1889:** Women were unable to vote for delegates to the State Constitutional Convention.
- 1895:** The **first convention of Washington State's Equal Suffrage Association** was held.
- 1897:** **Woman suffrage was submitted to the voters** as a separate amendment to ratification of the constitution. Failed.
- 1910:** The **amendment to the Washington State Constitution allowing women to vote carried by nearly two to one**. The fifth state to give women the right to vote - nine years before 19th Amendment extended the vote to all the nation's women.
- 1920:** **The League of Women Voters of Washington was organized**. Seattle and Tacoma were the first two local Leagues in the state. The National League was founded in Chicago six months before the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified on August 18, 1920.

- The **League of Women Voters** is a **nonpartisan political organization**
- We encourage the **informed and active participation** of citizens in government
- The League **acts** in support of, or in opposition to, selected governmental issues that its members have studied
- It **does not support or oppose** candidates, factions, or political parties

MEMBERSHIP IN LWV

League of Women Voters of the US

1,000 Local Leagues

League of Women
Voters of Washington

21 Local Leagues in WA
State

League of Women
Voters of Kitsap

Four Units: SK,
B/CK, NK, BI

LWVWA and LWV-KITSAP

- The **League of Women Voters of Washington** is a **501(c)(4)** and
- The **League of Women Voters of Washington Education Fund** is a **501(c)(3) non-profit organization**
LWVWA Education Fund contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law
- The **LWV-Kitsap Education Fund** is a **501(c)(4)**
- The League invites people of **all genders who are 16 years or older to join**
- **Dues are \$60/year.** (Breakdown: \$9 Kitsap League, State \$19, National \$32—registered students are exempt from paying dues)
- In fulfilling our mission we
 - **Register Voters**
 - **Conduct Candidate Forums**
 - **Present Community Education Programs**
 - **Offer Advocacy Committees**

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF KITSAP BOARD

The board meets on the 1st Saturday of the month
at 10:00 a.m., at the Pearl on Oyster Bay, 550 Russell Road, Bremerton

President

Director Position 1

1st Vice President

Director Position 2

2nd Vice President

Director Position 3

Secretary

Director Position 4

Treasurer

Director Position 5

Director position 6

LWV-KITSAP UNITS

SOUTH KITSAP

Meet on 2nd Tuesday of the Month

Remotely 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

BREMERTON/CK

Meet on the 3rd Saturday of the Month

Hybrid 10 a.m. to noon

In-Person at Kitsap United Way Conference Room 645 4th Street, Bremerton

NORTH KITSAP

Meet on 4th Wednesday of the Month

Hybrid—10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

In-person at the Poulsbo Kitsap Regional Library

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

Meet Once a Quarter

Remotely—7 p.m.

ALL-LEAGUE CALENDAR

Fiscal year July 1 to June 30

December—**Meet-and-Greet** with Kitsap local officials

January—**Program Planning Meeting**

- Members suggest local programs/actions for the coming year
- Members give guidance to the state/national

Winter—**Action Workshops**

February—**Legislative Week**—meet with representatives

May—**Kitsap League Annual Business Meeting**, luncheon, and keynote speaker

- Install officers
- Program Adoption
- Guidance to the Board

May—**State Convention**

LWV-Kitsap **ACTION/PROJECT for 2023-2024**

Elisabeth Bondy Civics Scholarship Program

- Establish a yearly civics scholarship fund
- Begin developing procedures for approval and distribution
- Develop ways to promote donations to the fund

**GOAL: develop an ongoing and sustainable
scholarship program**

LWVWA ACTION WORKSHOPS

The focus is on the **UPCOMING LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

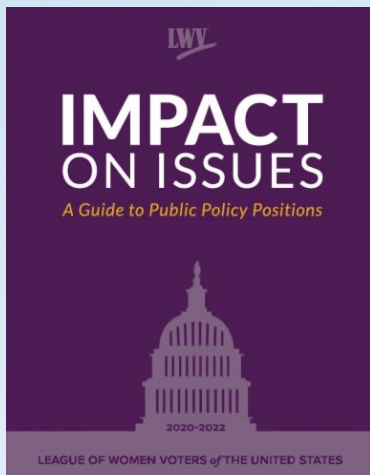
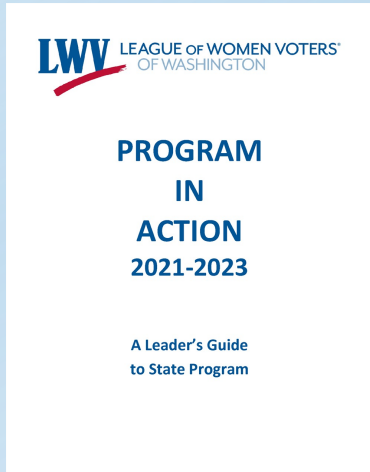
- **Panel discussion** with elected state legislators regarding the League's key issues
- Attend **breakout groups** with LWVWA Committees:
 - Democracy
 - Natural Resources
 - Housing and Homelessness
 - Redistricting
 - Climate Change
 - Children's Issues and Education
 - Criminal Justice
 - Health and Behavior Health Care
 - Revenue

STATE & NATIONAL LEAGUE POSITION STATEMENTS

[Washington State: Program in Action 2021-2023 \(PDF\)](#)

PROGRAM IN ACTION (PIA) is designed to help League Leaders make effective use of LWVWA policy positions. It is a brief summary of studies, consensus and action taken by the League of Women Voters of Washington since the 1920s. League positions are included in their entirety. PIA is updated every two years with additional background material and any new positions statements.

UPDATE: On April 10, 2023 the [Local News](#) [?] and [Shoreline Management](#) [?] positions were approved by the LWVWA board. They will be included in future editions of *Program in Action*.



[National League: Impact On Issues 2022-2024 \(PDF\)](#)

The 2022-2024 edition of the guide to the National League's public policy positions. These positions are updated every two years.



Shoreline Management Act at 50+ Years

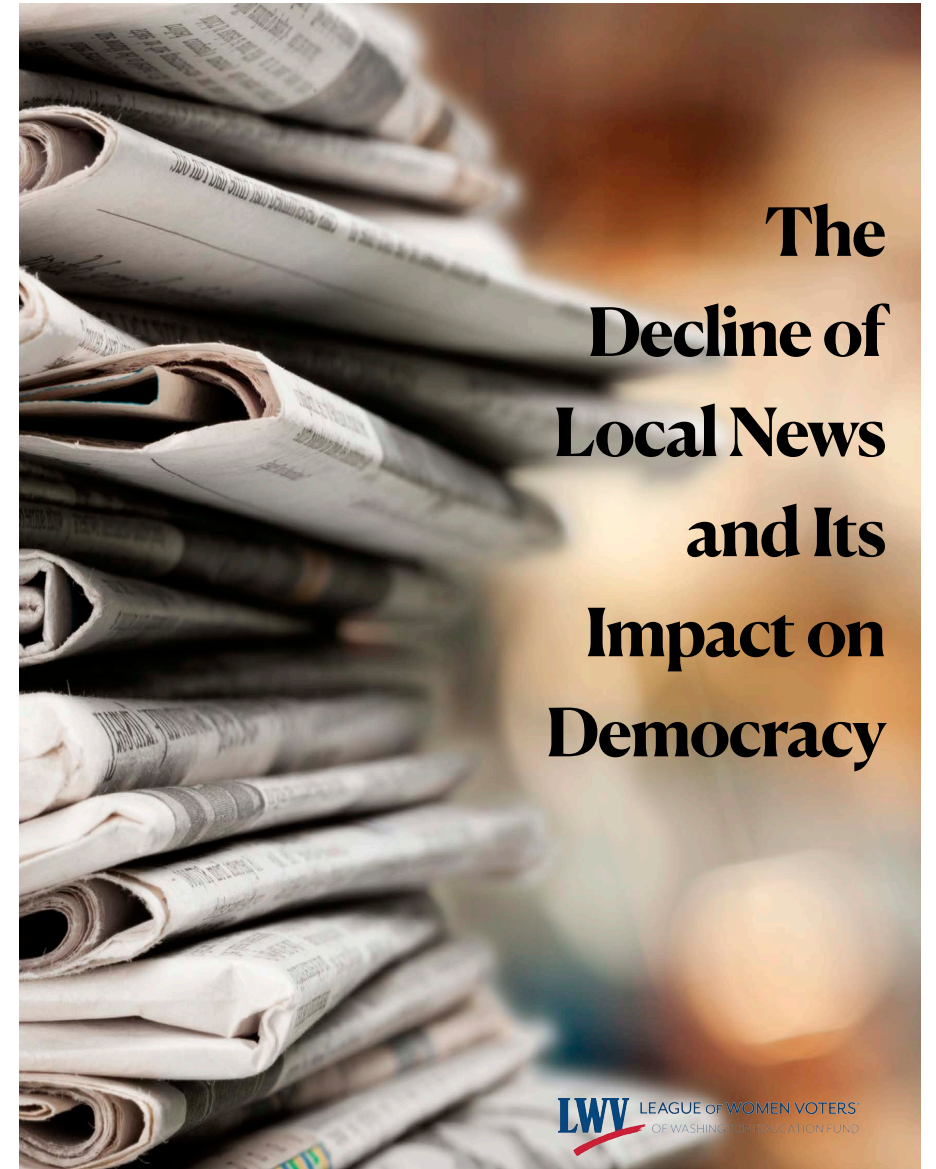
Shorelines Study

2022



LWVWA POSITIONS

After careful study, the League develops a position which is accepted by the membership through a consensus process



LWV KITSAP POSITIONS 2022-2023

Updated May 2023

- Natural Resources
- Open Space, Parks and Recreation
- Water Resources
- Government: County Government Structure
- Bainbridge Island, Poulsbo, Bremerton, and Port Orchard Municipal Government
- Sustainability

LWV KITSAP POSITIONS 2022-2023

Updated May 2023

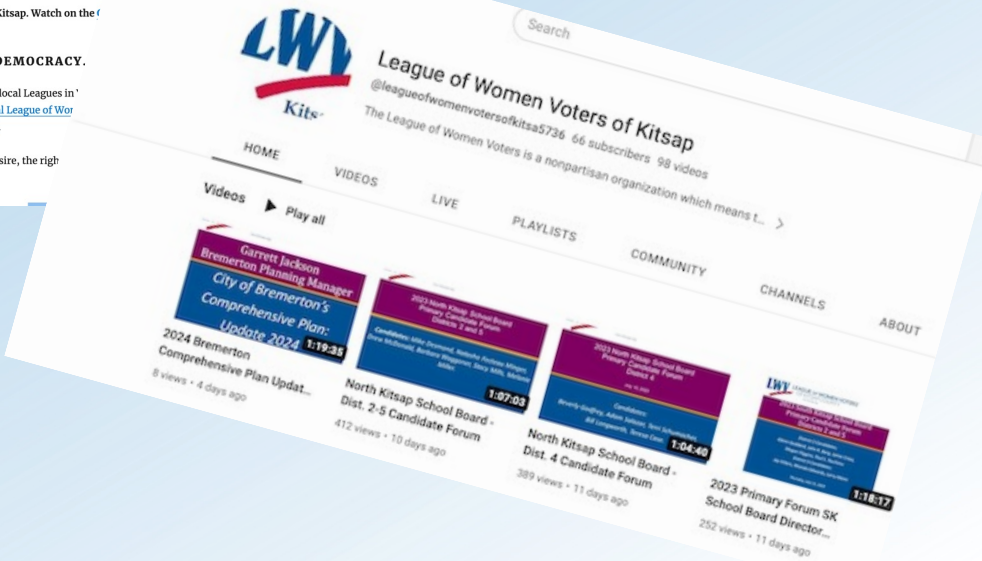
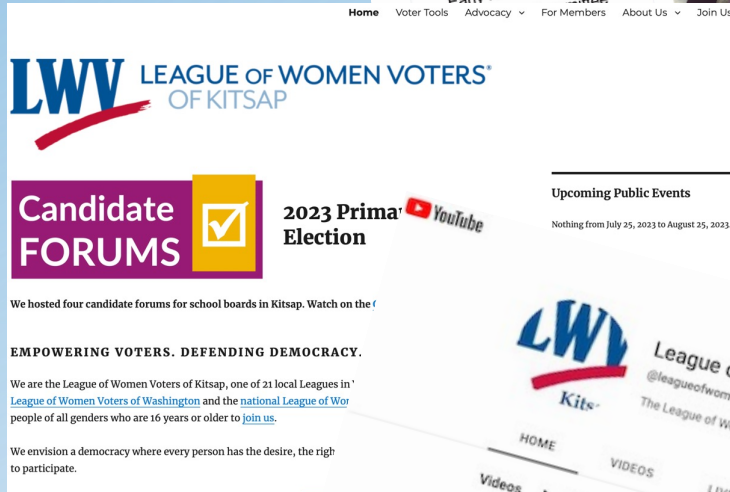
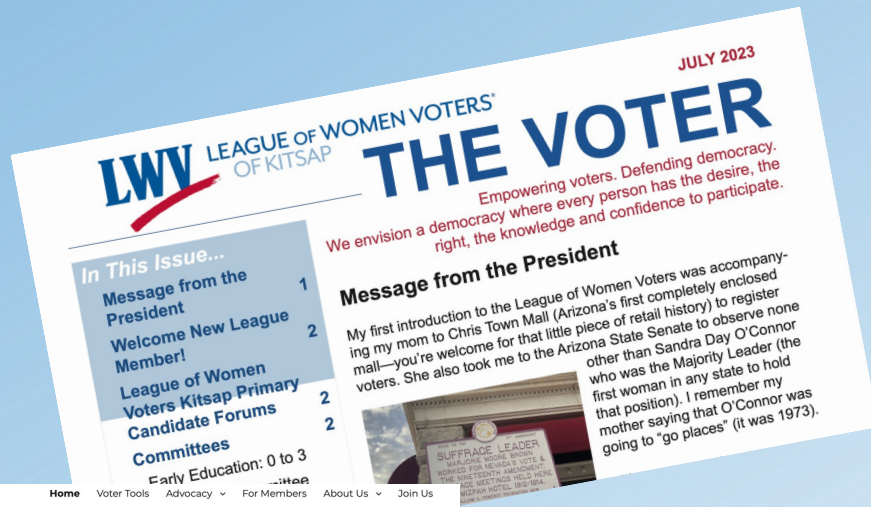
Position in Brief: Support measures to ensure adequate and safe water supplies for county residents

A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO KITSAP WATER

League of Women Voters Kitsap April
2018



Education and Outreach



- The Voter
- Webpage
<http://www.lwv-kitsap.org/>
- YouTube Videos

KITSAP LEAGUE COMMITTEES

- Community Education Program Planning
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Early Childhood Education
- Health Care
- Know Your County
- Observer Corps
- Voter Services—Focus on General Election Forums

COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAM PLANNING

Several times a year, the Planning Committee organizes public education events for topics of interest to the community

The Rule of Law & The History of the Electoral College

Vital elements of our democracy as discussed
by experts. Free Zoom webinar.

April 27, 2023 at 7pm

This live Zoom webinar will feature panelists:



Chad Enright
Kitsap County
Prosecuting Attorney



Thomas Weaver
Attorney and author of "The Electoral College: A
Biography of America's Peculiar Creation
Through the Eyes of the People Who Shaped It"

Moderated by Cindy Black, Executive Director of Fix Democracy First.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Focuses on using the filter of a DEI lens in all LWVK activities



0 - 3 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Our vision is that parents and other caregivers in Kitsap County
provide the best care possible,
based on research supporting children's development



during the very **critical time**
period of birth to three years,
and that children's parents have
access to
appropriate materials, services
and support programs

HEALTH CARE COMMITTEE

Focuses on

- **Staying informed** on key health and health care trends and concerns in our county, Washington State, and the U.S.
- **Keeping up-to-date** on League positions on health care issues
- **Organizing educational events** on timely health care topics



HOUSING COMMITTEE

Advocates for people who are without shelter
or at risk of homelessness by

ADVOCATING for the increased supply of affordable housing options

TRACKING state legislation that will impact local housing

COLLABORATING with local government and nonprofits to support the
development of emergency shelters and supportive housing



KNOW YOUR COUNTY COMMITTEE

The **Phase One** report

Know Your County: Kitsap

is an overview of the Kitsap County Elected Officials and their Departments.

Phase Two

will look at county history, municipalities, tribal governments, special districts, coalitions, and agencies.



KNOW YOUR COUNTY

League of Women Voters of
Kitsap County, Washington

LWV KITSAP POSITION 2022-2023

Updated May 2023

GOVERNMENT

COUNTY GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

Position in Brief: The League of Women Voters of Kitsap

- support measures that improve county government responsiveness to the people
- provide for a greater separation of powers
- promote administrative efficiency
- increase the size of the legislative body to reflect population growth
- promote intergovernmental coordination

THE OBSERVER CORPS

goal is to keep track
of what happens
in the various Kitsap County
committees and commissions
and report back to the League



VOTER SERVICES: Registration

BREMERTON
FARMERS MARKET



VoteWA.gov



Be sure your ballot
arrives on time

Returning ballot by USPS?



Mail by
October 31

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF KITSAP

Using a ballot drop box?



Ballots due
November 3
by 8pm
Nearest ballot drop b

For complete list of drop boxes, contact Kitsap
360-337-7128 or [kcowa.us/elections](https://www.kcowa.us/elections)

VOTER SERVICES
Get Out the Vote

League of Women Voters of Kitsap
YOUR VOICE COUNTS
VOTE NOW
Exercise Your Right



VOTER SERVICES:

Focus on Candidate Forums for Primary and General Elections



VOTER SERVICES: Informed Voters

Browser address bar: <https://contacts.google.com/?hl=en> | vote411.org




Navigation links: Google Calendar, Google Contacts, Gmail, Chase Online, Outlook--Dorothy Cervinsky, The New York ...plica Edition, The New York Times, The Washington Post, Kitsap Sun, The Seattle Times, The Economis...ss & Finance, The New Yorker, The Atlantic, Vanity Fair, WIRED

VOTE 411

MENU | **VOTE 411** SM English **Register to Vote** **Donate**

ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED

Brought to you by the League of Women Voters Education Fund

-  Register to Vote
-  Verify Voter Registration
-  Find What's on Your Ballot

! HAVE YOUR CANDIDATES ANSWERED OUR QUESTIONS? If not, see how you can help! [Find out](#)

PERSONALIZED VOTING INFORMATION

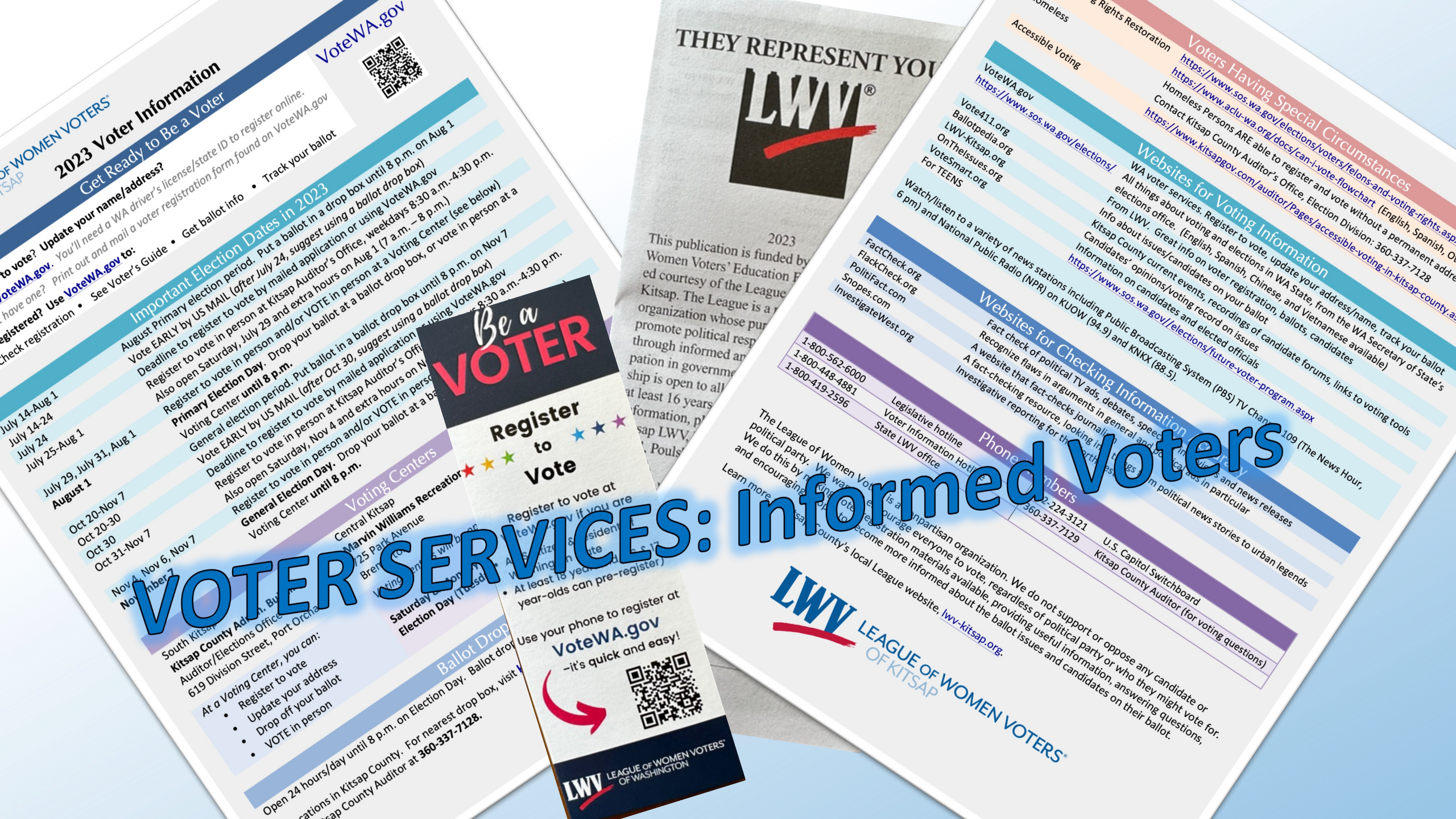
[See What's On Your Ballot](#)

Enter Your Address to Get Started:

Street Address

City

Select a state



OF WOMEN VOTERS' LEAGUE OF WASHINGTON

2023 Voter Information

Get Ready to Be a Voter

How to vote? Update your name/address?
VoteWA.gov. You'll need a WA driver's license/state ID to register online.
Have one? Print out and mail a voter registration form found on VoteWA.gov
Registered? Use VoteWA.gov to:
• See Voter's Guide • Get ballot info • Track your ballot

VoteWA.gov



Important Election Dates in 2023

- July 14-Aug 1
- July 14-24
- July 24
- July 25-Aug 1
- July 29, July 31, Aug 1
- August 1
- Oct 20-Nov 7
- Oct 20-30
- Oct 30
- Oct 31-Nov 7
- Nov 4, Nov 6, Nov 7
- November 7

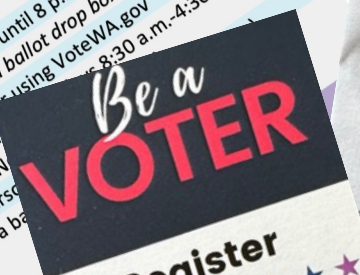
At a Voting Center, you can:
• Register to vote
• Update your address
• Drop off your ballot
• VOTE in person

Voting Centers

- Central Kitsap
- Marvin Williams Recreation
- 25 Park Avenue
- Brentwood

Ballot Drop

Open 24 hours/day until 8 p.m. on Election Day. Ballot drop boxes are available at the Kitsap County Auditor's Office, 619 Division Street, Port Orchard, WA 98366. For nearest drop box, visit www.kitsapgov.com/auditor/Pages/accessible-voting-in-kitsap-county.aspx



Register to Vote

Register to vote at VoteWA.gov if you are:
• At least 18 years old
• A U.S. citizen
• A resident of Kitsap County
• Not currently in the military
• Not currently in the U.S. Coast Guard
• Not currently in the U.S. Navy
• Not currently in the U.S. Marine Corps
• Not currently in the U.S. Air Force
• Not currently in the U.S. Army
• Not currently in the U.S. Navy Reserve
• Not currently in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve
• Not currently in the U.S. Air Force Reserve
• Not currently in the U.S. Army Reserve

Use your phone to register at VoteWA.gov -it's quick and easy!



LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WASHINGTON

THEY REPRESENT YOU



This publication is funded by the Women Voters' Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is to promote political participation in government through informed citizenship. Information is open to all. Kitsap LWV, P.O. Box 100, Poulsbo, WA 98369

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF KITSAP

Homeless
Rights Restoration
Voters Having Special Circumstances
<https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/felons-and-voting-rights.aspx>
<https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/felons-and-voting-rights.aspx>
Homeless Persons ARE able to register and vote without a permanent address
Contact Kitsap County Auditor's Office, Election Division: 360-337-7128
<https://www.kitsapgov.com/auditor/Pages/accessible-voting-in-kitsap-county.aspx>

Websites for Voting Information

- VoteWA.gov
- Ballotpedia.org
- LWV-Kitsap.org
- OnTheIssues.org
- VoteSmart.org
- For TEENS

Websites for Checking Information

- FactCheck.org
- FlackCheck.org
- PolitiFact.com
- Snopes.com
- InvestigateWest.org

Phone Numbers

- 1-800-562-6000
- 1-800-448-4881
- 1-800-419-2596

Legislative hotline
Voter Information Hotline
State LWV office

Fact check of political TV ads, debates, speeches, and news releases
Recognize flaws in arguments in general and local news stories in particular
A fact-checking resource, looking for the truth in news stories in particular
Investigative reporting for the public

U.S. Capitol Switchboard
Kitsap County Auditor (for voting questions)

This PowerPoint was created by Maureen Cervinsky
For the League of Women Voters of Kitsap 2023
Graphic Design Assistance by Rande Gjerstad
Editing Assistance by Candy Rankin
LWV-Kitsap Webmaster, Alicia Vause



We believe in the power of women to create a more perfect democracy

AD ENDUM

League of Women Voters of the US

League of Women Voters of Washington State

League of Women Voters of Kitsap

Washington State: Program in Action 2021-2023

National League: Impact On Issues 2022-2024

League of Women Voters of Washington Positions

League of Women Voters of Kitsap Positions

LWVK *The Voter*

LWVK Candidate Forums

LWVK YouTube Channel

LWVK Recordings

LWVK Committees: Community Education Programs

LWVK Committees: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

LWVK Committees: Early Childhood Education

LWVK Committees: Health Care

LWVK Committees: Housing

LWVK Committees: Know Your County

LWVK Committees: Observer Corps

LWVK Committees: Voter Services

Informed Voters: <http://www.vote411.org/Tools>