



# **Celebrate Democracy**

## **GO VOTE**

Election day is approaching and we want to help your organization Celebrate Democracy. Here are a few ideas on how to engage employees in voting and recognizing the importance of voting.

- Send CEO Communication to employees with information about voting and stress company support for GOTV(Get Out The Vote).
- Prior to the primary and general elections, display voter fact sheets in elevators, cafeterias, break rooms and reception areas. Use the information provided in our Celebrate Democracy Toolkit.
- Make the League of Women Voters Nonpartisan Voters' Guide available in lunch and break rooms.
- Consider hosting a candidate forum or invite a policymaker to address an issue at a meeting for all employees. **IF YOU HOST A FORUM**, according to federal law you must invite opposing sides to participate. Providing food can be an added incentive to encourage attendance by employees.
- Promote the use of the Early Voting Application. Provide time off to vote, if possible

### **FUN IDEAS TO HELP CELEBRATE**

- Dress for celebration – prizes encouraged!
  - Best use of red, white and blue in business or casual attire
  - Best use of red, white and blue in accessories
  - Most patriotic tie and/or ugliest patriotic sweater contest
- Make it a treat day – with prizes!
  - Best decorated cake, cupcakes or cookies
  - Best use of red, white and blue in snacks
- Decorate and have some fun! Another opportunity for prizes!
  - Decorate public and private areas—most creative use of red, white and blue or voting art can win prizes
  - Post bright signs with election dates and time polls are open a week in advance
  - Hide the little flags and give prizes to those who find the most
- Have drawings for prizes!
  - Team with the most 'I voted today' stickers or selfies at polling place
  - Team with the best decorated area
  - Team with the most people who can tell you their polling place instantly
  - Employees who requested an Early Voting Application (picture of their application form).
- Post photos of your celebrations on the League of Women Voters of Greater Omaha Facebook page!



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## **Voter Registration**

### **New Voters & Voter Updates**

- Register on-line – [www.nebraska.gov/apps-sos-voter-registration/](http://www.nebraska.gov/apps-sos-voter-registration/)
  - NE driver's license or state ID required
- In person or by mailing a registration form to:

#### **Douglas County Election Commission**

225 N. 115<sup>th</sup> St., Omaha, NE 68154

Hours: 8:30am – 5pm, Mon - Fri

402-444-8683

#### **Sarpy County Election Commission**

501 Olson Dr. Suite 4, Papillion, NE 68046

Hours: 8:00am – 4:45pm, Mon - Fri

402-593-2167

- To vote on Election Day, the completed voter registration application must be submitted on or before the 3rd Friday before the election



## **Celebrate Democracy GO VOTE**

### **When to update your voter registration record?**

- Change of address
- Change of name
- Change of political party affiliation

After you have registered to vote, you should receive a Permanent Voter Information Postcard in the mail.

This postcard will list your polling place and tell you in which voting districts your residence is located. This helps you identify the candidates that will be on your ballot.



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## **Can I vote early? Yes, no reason needed**

- Vote early in person at your county election commission office
- Request an Early Voting Application in person from your county election commission office
- Complete the Early Voting Application that can be downloaded from your county election commission website and mail to your county election commission office
  - [www.votedouglascounty.com/early\\_voting.aspx](http://www.votedouglascounty.com/early_voting.aspx)
  - [www.sarpy.com/election/](http://www.sarpy.com/election/)
- You can also have someone pick up an early voting ballot for you prior to the election. Contact your county election commission for more information.
- Early voting ballots must be returned the election commission office or any drop box location by 8:00pm on May 10, 2016. Contact your county election commission for drop box locations.

## **Deadlines for requesting an early ballot for the Primary Election on May 10, 2016**

- Request by mail – May 4, 2016 by 4:00pm
- Request in person – May 9, 2016 by 4:45pm
- Request by agent – May 10, 2016 by 7:00pm



# **Celebrate Democracy GO VOTE**

## **Be an informed voter**

The League of Women Voters Non-Partisan Voters' Guides are available at:

- [www.vote411.org/](http://www.vote411.org/)
  - Information about candidates in your district
  - In their own words, candidates provide information about their backgrounds and their positions on specific issues
  - Locates your polling place
  - Print a sample ballot that you can complete and take with you into the voting booth
  
- Local Omaha city libraries

Contact the League of Women Voters of Greater Omaha for a paper copy of the Voters' Guide

- 402-344-3701
- [celebratedemocracy@omahalwv.org](mailto:celebratedemocracy@omahalwv.org)



## **Celebrate Democracy GO VOTE**

# **Where is my polling place?**

- **Douglas County:**
  - [www.votedouglascounty.com/](http://www.votedouglascounty.com/)
  - Contact the Election Commission at 402-444-8683
  
- **Sarpy County:**
  - <http://www.sarpy.com/election/>
  - Contact the Election Commission at 402-593-2167

Your Voter Information Postcard also lists the location of your polling place.

**Polling places are open from 8:00am – 8:00pm**



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### What are my election day rights?

- **NO** photo ID is required to vote
  - The only time voters are asked for an ID is if they are a first time Nebraska voter who mailed in their registration application and didn't provide ID at that time. For those first time voters, accepted documents include a copy of a current and valid photo ID or a copy of a utility bill, bank statement or paycheck that shows the same name and residence address on the voter registration application.
- If your name is not in the registered voters book, you may be directed to another polling place or be given a provisional ballot
  - Your provisional ballot will be kept separate until your registration can be verified.
- Equal treatment regardless of race, religion, national origin, gender or disability
- Signs should be posted to assist you with the voting machines/ballot, voters' rights and how to file a complaint
- You can request assistance from poll workers if you need it
  - The AutoMARK system is available for the visually impaired or those who have difficulty marking a ballot.
- Privacy – you cannot be forced to show how you voted
- You may bring a sample ballot, the League of Women Voters' Guide, or any information that will help you in your voting process
- You may bring your children or grandchildren with you into the voting booth