



Durham Women Vote

FAQ Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why do I have to keep entering my email address?

A: By using your email address we eliminate the need to set up passwords while still providing some security for the system.

Q: Why do we have to fill out the campaign finance declaration?

A: The use of your stationery and stamps is regarded by election laws as an in-kind contribution from you to the Durham Democratic Women. In order to record this, and any contribution, we need to record your name, address, occupation, and employer.

Q: Is my donation tax deductible?

A: No. Political donations are not tax deductible according to tax laws.

Q: Why don't you have sample letters to work from?

A: We will post some sample letters for you to get ideas but, because this is a county-wide effort, it would be hard to identify who is the candidate in a specific precinct. This is information that you can include along with voting locations and it is specific to your voter's district. We find it is best if people write about the issues they care about, this way the letters are truly sincere. You will not know what issue is important to your reader. The key is that you think voting is important and are asking your reader to vote too.

Q: What do I do if I have not gotten a reply email once I register?

A: The first email you receive once you have made an application is one with the subject line: **Sign-Up Acknowledged and Help Recruit**. If it has been more than 48 hours since you applied to participate in Durham Women Vote and you have not gotten this email, check your spam and trash for your email account. To prevent future emails from going to spam or trash, it is best to add the email address postmaster@durhamwomenvote.com in your email address book.

Q: Why do I have to wait to get my list of names?

A: Our system is not completely automated. There are some manual housekeeping items that we have to perform in order to complete sign up. Once the sign-up is confirmed and you finish your first list, you can request a second (or third!) list of names by going to durhamwomenvote.com/letters.php and there will be no delay.

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Q: Why can't I get more than 50 names at a time?

A: Lists are generated in order of priority of the voters (i.e., the likelihood that they will vote Democratic). The first lists are our best target voters and we want to be sure that all the letters are written. In order to do that, we will not assign an excessive number of voters to any one volunteer. If you are planning a house party and would like extra lists, please contact us at info@durhamwomenvote.com and we can make special arrangements.

Q: Can I pick the people that I want to write to?

A: No. The contacts are identified by a specifically designed formula to rate voters and prioritize contacts by those most likely to vote Democratic, if they vote, and most in need of encouragement to vote this time.

Q: What happens when a letter is returned (due to bad address)?

A: When a letter is returned, please let us know the person's tracking number (that is the number you included on the envelope). This information is very valuable, and will be used to help us to identify voters that may have moved. This way, valuable time is not wasted in phone banking and canvassing efforts by trying to reach someone who has moved away. See question below for the automated process.

Q: How do I enter the returned letters into the system?

A: Ten days after you acknowledge that you mailed your letters, another email will be sent to you asking if you received any returned letters. In that email there is a link to a status and feedback page. Click that link when you get a returned letter and enter the tracking number for that voter which you recorded by your return address on the envelope. Specific instructions are on the page that appears. That voter will be removed from the database.

Q: What do I do if I received verification that my sign-up was approved, but did not receive a list to write within 24 hours?

A: If signed-up and approved, click on the link in the email notification you received when you are ready to write and an email with a list will be sent. Double check that third email because the names are included in the body of the email, NOT as an attachment, and/or check your spam or junk mail box to make sure the email did not go there.

Q: Who do I contact if I have other questions?

A: info@durhamwomenvote.com