

## Precincts — The Grassroots of the Democratic Party

A precinct is a geographically defined area with a specific polling place such as a school, church or other designated facility. The precinct is made up of all the voters within its boundaries and provides the most direct connection between the voter and the ballot box. Some people will vote at the precinct polling place, others will go to early voting locations or vote by absentee ballot. No matter how or where they vote, they are still precinct members and very important to the Democratic Party.

Precincts are the grassroots of the Democratic Party. Local volunteers talking neighbor to neighbor, encouraging fellow Democrats and others to register and vote results in higher voter turnout and more elections won. In fact it's one of the most effective tools we can use. Precinct volunteers are key to identifying inactive and/or unregistered Democrats in the neighborhood and encouraging them to vote in upcoming elections. Below are examples of precinct volunteer opportunities, some of which can be done from home.

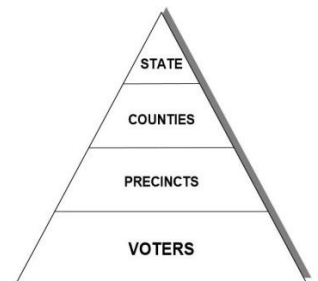
### Get Out The Vote (GOTV)

- Door to door canvassing and phone calling to identify likely support for Democratic candidates
- Educate on candidates and issues, and new NC voter ID requirements
- Explain registration procedures
- Encourage people to take advantage of early voting
- Identify potential volunteers
- Hold voter registration events in the precinct

### Voting and Election Day

- Hand out literature and lists of Democratic candidates at early voting polling places and at the precinct polling place on Election Day
- Provide transportation to voters who need a ride to the polls
- Make phone calls to remind voters to vote
- Put out signs at polling place

In the North Carolina Democratic Party, the precinct has traditionally been the key to political victory. It is the cornerstone of all plans for the Party. Participating at the precinct level offers opportunities for greater involvement at county, district and state levels. Precinct leaders serve as delegates to the county convention and are eligible to vote for the leadership of the party. For more information, refer to the NCDP Plan of Organization. <http://www.ncdp.org/sites/ncdems/files/PlanOfOrganization2014.pdf>



### Important Information for Your Precinct:

- Precinct number and map
- Location of polling place
- List of active Democrats in your precinct
- List of County Democratic Party officers
- List of current elected officials – city, county, state and federal
- Dates of upcoming elections (including primaries)
- NC State Board of Elections website to see if someone is registered to vote:  
[https://www.ncsbe.gov/webapps/voter\\_search/](https://www.ncsbe.gov/webapps/voter_search/)

Durham County is very important to Democrats in the 2015 and 2016 elections and important in the effort to turn NC Blue!

**“The most important job I ever had was Precinct Captain.”  
Harry S. Truman**