A Voting Plan for Greening and Growing the Vote

Since election procedures vary from state to state, we offer these basic guidelines to assist you in formulating a plan of action in this critical election year.

Help people validate that they are registered to vote.

Several websites allow people to search state rolls to see if they are already registered to vote. These websites also offer comprehensive information on election rules state by state.

- **USA.gov (Official site of the Federal Government)**
  Visit Can I Vote and select" voter registration status ".Then, choose your state. You'll be taken to a page on your state's website where you can check to see if you're registered. Check your registration information before your state's deadline to register to vote. That could be up to 30 days before the election. This gives you time if you need to re-register or make changes.

- **EAC.gov (US Elections Assistance Commission)**
  Choose your state. You'll be taken to a page on your state's official election site.

- **VOTE. Org**
  It takes less than 30 seconds to check your registration status with their free 50-state tool. And if you're not registered, they may be able to help.

- **NASS.org (National Association of Secretaries of State)**
  This nonpartisan website was created by state election officials to help eligible voters figure out how and where to go vote. This includes a link to the status of absentee voting in all 50 states.

Set up ways to help people register to vote in your state.

- Find out what is required for voter registration in your state by contacting your Election Commission, the League of Women Voters, or other voter advocacy group. Here is a list of others:
  - **Vote.org**
  - **USA.gov**
  - **Rockthevote.org**
  - **https://marchforourlives.com/host-your-own-voter-registration-toolkits/**
  - **https://rac.org/nitzavim-standing-voter-protection-and-participation**
  - **https://www.nonprofitvote.org/**
  - **https://www.nonprofitvote.org/engaging_new_voters/**

- ○ **https://movement.vote/**
- ○ **http://www.vote411.org/**

- Identify members of your community who are voter registrars and set up drive-thru voter registrations in the parking lot of your organization.
- Reach young voters by contacting local college campuses. The student activities office can direct you to student groups that are already working on voting issues this year. See how you can help their efforts.
- Have a notary public (or two) at your event if your state requires notarized signatures.
- Provide information for both County and State Board of Elections including address, telephone numbers, election official names, emails and websites.
- "Retail" voter registration (i.e., you in front of the local market with a clipboard and forms) is time-consuming and not that productive. You might focus on "wholesale" strategies such as fully and effectively implementing the Motor Voter Act, working with social service agencies to register their clients as promoted by Nonprofit Vote, and engaging youth-oriented groups to register new voters.

Determine voting procedures for your state during the pandemic.

Help people decide whether they want to vote in person or by mail-in vote.

Mail in Balloting

Some states are conducting the General Election primarily by mail this year, automatically sending Vote by Mail ballots. Other states require a Vote by Mail application in order to receive a ballot. There are often strict deadlines for submitting an application to vote by mail. Contact your local Election Commission to find out procedures and deadlines in your area, and broadcast these dates widely through your website, social media, newsletters, email blasts, etc.

- If there are secure drop boxes, determine their locations and make these known to your community members—along with deadlines!

- If ballots can be dropped off at a local Board of Elections office, provide the address and as much information as possible to make this easy, including directions to get there, where to hand deliver ballots, and if a valid ID is required. Determine the procedure if someone is delivering a ballot for another person. Not following proper procedure may invalidate a ballot.

- If ballots must be delivered by the US Postal Service, encourage your community members to vote early. Find out if ballots need to be received by Election Day in order to be valid. Let

your community members know if postage is necessary and if it requires more than one stamp.

- Some states will not allow someone who has received a mail-in ballot to vote in person. Find out the procedure in your state and make sure your community members are informed ahead of time.

- Determine if voters can bring mail-in ballots to their assigned polling location in-person on Election Day. Most states are limiting the number of polling places open on November 3. Provide information for locating polling places. Find out if it is possible to deliver a ballot for someone other than yourself and let your constituents know the proper procedure.

- Offer on-line tutorials on registering and voting in your locality.

- Provide information for both County and State Board of Elections including address, telephone numbers, election official names, emails and websites.

In person voting

- Most states are limiting the number of polling places open on November 3. Provide information for locating polling places.

- Remind people to bring ID when they go to vote, and to wear comfortable shoes and water in case the wait is longer than usual.

- Offer safe ways for people to get to polling places if they need a ride (ie riding in the backseat and wearing a mask)

- Offer on-line tutorials on registering and voting in your locality.

- Provide information for both County and State Board of Elections including address, telephone numbers, election official names, emails and websites.

Remind people why voting matters when it comes to economic, racial and environmental justice.

Our website and Share Sukkot-Green and Grow the Vote offer a wealth of information and conversations starters!