

Our Homes Our Votes Webinar 8/8/2022

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Voter Education: Who, What, When, Where, Why and How

Housing Network of Rhode Island - Voter Engagement Homepage

<https://homesri.org/take-action/our-homes-our-votes>

- Our voter resource homepage that centers housing experiences, issues, and resources

Example of #VoteReady weekly email digest

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Plan-Your-Vote-.html?soid=1132855316648&aid=4EJpdF3zWCM>

- Share key information about upcoming deadlines, resources like hyperlinks to download or fill out forms online, and other sources of information, as well as upcoming community events, and information that highlights the housing issue and stories from the community about why we vote

Community Events Calendar

<https://homesri.org/news-and-events/community-events-calendar>

- Public calendar that features all election dates / deadlines, and community events that help folks connect to opportunities to do voter engagement or candidate engagement like debates, forums, and community conversations about housing issues

Vote Pledge Form

<https://actionnetwork.org/forms/be-a-housing-voter-2/>

- #OurHomesOurVotes pledge to be a housing voter utilizes an ActionNetwork form (free to use) to prompt folks to commit to voting; people who take the pledge will receive #VoteReady updates, deadline alerts, resources and highlighting housing information

Making a Plan to Vote

<https://docs.sos.ri.gov/documents/Elections/Guides/Make-Your-Plan-RIPTA-English.pdf>

- Rhode Island's "Plan Your Vote" Infographic (available at vote.ri.gov)

https://homesri.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Plan-Your-Vote-Checklist_fillable.pdf

- Housing Network RI's Plan Your Vote Checklist to help voters make a personal voting plan and think through the steps to prepare to successfully cast their ballot

Rhode Island Voter Information Center

<https://vote.sos.ri.gov/>

- The official state source of voter information and tools developed by the RI Department of State

Why be a voter?

<https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Voter/WhyBeVoter>

- Why is it important to be a voter? How does it impact our democracy when voices are excluded or marginalized in our elections?

Voter Registration (varies by state)

<https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Voter/RegisterToVote>

- Make sure voters know about voter registration rules and deadlines; does your state allow 16+ to pre-register? Can you register or update your information online? Provide the registration form at in-person events. Help raise awareness that voters must update their information when they move, change name, or party affiliation.

Printable posters examples - Highlight the what, when, where, how of being a voter!

- **Voter Registration Deadline:**
<https://docs.sos.ri.gov/documents/Elections/Guides/Be-A-Voter-GE-english.pdf>
- **How to apply for a mail ballot (varies by state)**
<https://docs.sos.ri.gov/documents/Elections/Guides/Mail-Ballot-Application-GE-Deadline-english.pdf>
- **Voting Options (ways to cast your ballot in Rhode Island) - varies from state to state**
<https://docs.sos.ri.gov/documents/Elections/Guides/Ways-To-Vote-Poster-GE-english.pdf>

Voter ID rules (Rhode Island)

https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Forms/elections/Guides/voter_id_information.pdf

- Make sure voters understand the rules for voter ID, and are aware of what counts as acceptable forms of ID in your state, including type and expiration date, and how to acquire a voter ID if needed

Voting While Trans Infographic (Rhode Island)

<https://docs.sos.ri.gov/documents/Elections/guides/TransVoteRI-Voting-While-Trans-english.pdf>

- Support voters with community informed resources / guides

Locate your polling place

<https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Home/PollingPlaces?ActiveFlag=2>

- Polling location may have changed since a person last voted (consider impact of Redistricting, closure or relocation of polling places)
- Helps voters understand whether they will need transportation, childcare, time off, or a voting method that allows them to vote from home

What are the elected offices in your state?

<https://www.sos.ri.gov/divisions/civics-and-education/your-government/offices-you-vote-for-in-rhode-island#mayor>

- Help voters better understand the levels of government and what offices are elected in their jurisdiction (examples: school board, city council / mayor, state legislature, governor, judges etc.)

Levels of Government and what issues / policies are affected by each

<https://www.sos.ri.gov/assets/downloads/documents/Levels-government-Federal-State-City-Town.pdf>

- Consider making an issue specific guide using the levels of government to help voters identify what offices have responsibility over and how important it is to vote a full ballot in every election

View your sample ballot for an upcoming election

<https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Home/PollingPlaces?ActiveFlag=2>

- Highlight where voters can preview their ballot ahead of voting so they can see who is running in their jurisdiction and any ballot questions so voters can research and evaluate what is on their ballot and make a plan for how they want to vote.

Guide to Marking Your Ballot

<https://docs.sos.ri.gov/documents/Elections/Guides/Choose-How-to-Mark-Your-Ballot.pdf>

- Make sure voters know what kind of voting machines they may have available to them in person, how to use the machines, and any accessibility features to support voters with disabilities

Guide to Voting by Mail

<https://docs.sos.ri.gov/documents/Elections/guides/Vote-From-Home-Guide-English.pdf>

Infographic - Steps to Voting By Mail in Rhode Island

<https://docs.sos.ri.gov/documents/Elections/guides/Vote-by-Mail-in-RI-Infographic-English.pdf>

- Make sure voters know how voting by mail works in your state; whether they will need any documentation or witnesses / notarization, process and eligibility to receive a mail ballot, and how to fill out the ballot and return it successfully

Drop Box Locator

<https://ristate.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/nearby/index.html?appid=72c6ecd6bddd44cbbd3f007969fb1c35>

- Make sure voters know what their options for returning a mail ballot, including the location and rules for using dropboxes when available. Voters should be aware of the time it takes to return a mail ballot through the postal service and be encouraged to return their mail ballot via drop box to ensure it is received in time to be counted within the 7 days prior to any return deadline

Tracking Your Mail Ballot

<https://ballottrax.sos.ri.gov/voter/>

- Make sure voters who use a mail ballot understand their options for tracking their ballot from application to return, including confirmation their ballot is received, accepted, and COUNTED

Election Communication Guide & Voter Engagement Toolkit

<https://www.sos.ri.gov/divisions/civics-and-education/your-government/tools-to-engage-your-community>

<https://docs.sos.ri.gov/documents/Elections/guides/Communications-Guide-English.pdf>

- Toolkit and guides including social media graphics and sample language for messages by email with suggested dates for use; highlights election calendar, voting options and procedures, mail ballot application and voter registration forms, and other resources to support public communications efforts in voter education for your community

Videos featuring key voter information in English and Spanish

- <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLuPg4wo53XVbzGIAKbDltxZ7iUc3nRae>

- <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLuPg4wo53XVZhigiAbKyBz-rwvLR5r35U>

Voter Education & Engagement Training Workshops (3 sessions, each explore a different topic)

- https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLuPg4wo53XVa8XTy6v9aho_SOiENQN2vp

Know Your Voting Rights

<https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Voter/VoterRights>

- Make sure voters know and understand their voting rights, including intersectional experiences such as housing insecurity or homelessness / voting without a permanent address, rights for formerly incarcerated or currently incarcerated voters, and for folks experiencing domestic violence. Make sure voters know and understand their right to a provisional ballot, accessibility rights for folks with a disability or who require assistance, and more!

Look up the declared candidates

<https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Candidates/CandidateSearch>

- Help voters know how to find information on their own about candidates

Be a poll worker to support your community

<https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Elections/PollWorkerInfo>