

# STATE VOTER

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## Get Involved, Activate the Vote September 2025

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After a long, hot summer of relaxation and recuperation, it's time to kick it into high gear. As the fall approaches, so does the general election, it is our responsibility as League members to educate and activate voters on our way to the polls.



### State Leaders Message

Nancy Rosenthal, President, [nancyrosenthal9@gmail.com](mailto:nancyrosenthal9@gmail.com)

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The tempo, and the “heat”, from the current administration just seems to keep rising. In the past month, we’ve seen the National Guard deployed to Washington, D.C., with threats of similar actions in other states, including right here in New York.

At the same time, mid-cycle redistricting has stirred up plenty of debate within our own League family. How do we remain nonpartisan while still pushing hard for fair maps? LWV has responded with a new set of standards, [No Harm to Our Communities: Mapping Guidance for Elected Leaders](#), which lays out clear expectations for governors and redistricting bodies, with a strong call to protect historically disenfranchised communities. Want to learn more about redistricting? Join us this Thursday at 6pm, to hear from Jeff Wice, Adjunct Professor and Senior Fellow at the NY Elections, Census & Redistricting Institute, New York Law School. See below for more info or click [here](#) to register today.

And then, of course, we’ve all heard the threat of an executive order banning mail-in ballots and even voting machines. On top of that, you may have seen the United States Citizen and Immigration Services Agency (USCIS) has enacted a policy that will no longer allow non-profit organizations to do voter registration at *administrative* naturalization ceremonies (ex. ceremonies held by USCIS). Read more [here](#). LWVUS has just responded with a statement [here](#) calling for the policy to be overturned and LWVNY has done the same. We are waiting for additional information on the details of the policy and how this may impact our work as an organization.



If there’s one bright light in all of this, it’s the way we’ve leaned on one another like never before, local Leagues, the State League, and LWVUS, all working together to navigate these truly unprecedented times.

Even though it’s been summer, your State League has been busy. We’ve been sending out thousands of Voter Guides to local Leagues across the state, improving local League access to take action in VAN, launching the new Local League Support Committee, and

putting serious thought into how we can make Students Inside Albany the strong and sustainable program we know it can be for years to come.

We are grateful for the work you're all doing and are looking forward to a successful election season!

In League,  
Nancy and Erica

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## Important Dates for the November Election

As the general election approaches it is important that we make sure that all members and voters know these essential deadlines before November is here.

### Registration

Mail-In and Online Registration due  
**October 25, 2025**  
Check status [here](#)

### Ballot Options

Early Mail Ballot (**Oct. 25-Nov. 2**)  
Absentee Ballot (**Oct. 25- Nov. 2**)  
Request Ballot [here](#)

### Early Voting

Early Voting (**Oct. 25-Nov. 2**)  
Find Early Voting Site [here](#)

### Election Day Voting

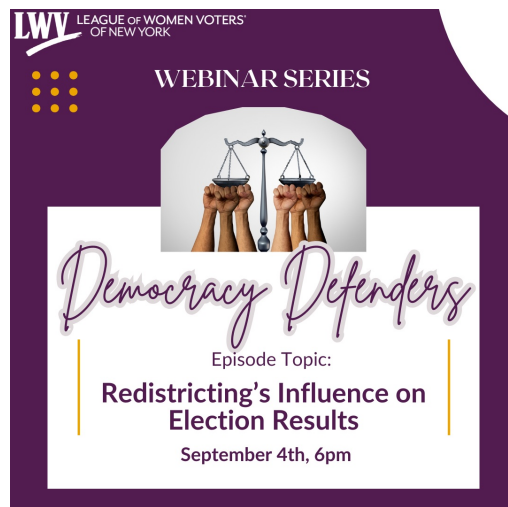
2025 General Election  
**November 4th, 2025**  
Check status and find polling site [here](#)

## Order the 2025 Voters Guide

Keep your community informed with the 2025 Voter Guide Pt. I. The 2025 Voter's Guide is here to answer all of your questions surrounding the upcoming election. You can download a copy [here](#) or ask your local League to place an order via the [Voter's Guide Order Form](#).

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## Updates from the State League



### Join us in becoming a Democracy

**Defender!** The League of Women Voters of New York State thanks all who attended the last episode of our civic education and advocacy webinar series, *Democracy Defenders*. If you missed our recent episode, click [here](#) to view.

For our next episode, we will be joined by Jeffrey M. Wice, Distinguished Adjunct Professor and Senior Fellow at the NY Elections, Census & Redistricting Institute, New York Law School. He'll break down how redistricting shapes election outcomes and explore mid-election redistricting efforts happening across the country—plus what's

ahead for New York State.

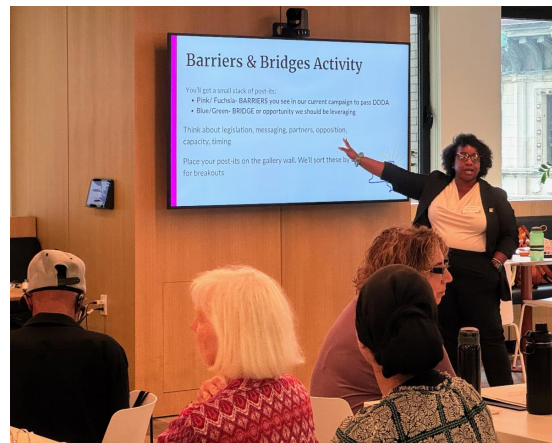
Be sure to join us September 4th at 6 PM as we dive into the key issues leading up to the general election. [Register](#) today.

To view all previous episodes of the Democracy Defenders Webinar series, click [here](#).

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## Building Power to Restore Ballot Access Behind Bars (Democracy During Detention Convening Update)

On Wednesday, August 6, partners from across the state gathered for the Democracy During Detention Act (DDDA) Convening, a strategy session to strengthen the campaign for S440/A2121. The convening focused on aligning messaging, building legislative momentum, and advancing the fight to guarantee voting access for eligible citizens detained in New York jails.



With more than 10,000 people held in local jails across NYS—many of whom remain eligible to vote—the DDDA campaign centers a simple principle: democracy should not stop at the jailhouse door.

This convening was an opportunity to sharpen our focus heading into the next session, build broader coalition engagement, and elevate the urgent need for election officials, not corrections departments, to be responsible for voter access.

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## Check out the new additions to the LWV NYS website!

We've been hard at work to make some necessary updates to our website. Check out the home page at [www.lwvny.org](http://www.lwvny.org) and check out materials for members only (such as previous Democracy Defenders episodes) on our League Management site here: <https://lwvny.org/league-management/>

## Sign up for the State League's Texting Service!

Want updates around election time with need-to-know information like when early voting starts and where your poll site is? Sign up [here](#) to receive texts from the League.

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## Local League Happenings

Check out these updates from our Local Leagues!

**League of Women Voters of the Hamptons Shelter Island** On Tuesday, **September 16**, National Voter Registration Day, LWVHSINF will be having voter information tables spread out all over the East End of Long Island—in Montauk, East Hampton, Springs, Bridgehampton, Sag Harbor, Southampton, Hampton Bays, Westhampton Beach, Shelter Island and Riverhead.

On **Thursday, September 18, 6:30 p.m.** the LWV of Hamptons Shelter Island will be hosting a free forum titled "School Boards, the Training Wheels of Democracy: What You Should Know and How to Get Involved" at East Hampton Town's LTV Studios in Wainscott. Moderated by LWV Board member Andrea Gabor, the panelists will include Robert Vecchio, executive director of the Nassau-Suffolk County School Boards Association; Assemblyman Tommy John Schiavoni, a former Sag Harbor school board trustee; Germain Smith, a Southampton school board trustee and member of the Shinnecock nation; and Kate Rossi-Snook, a recent Shelter Island school board trustee. All area school board members and the new ex-officio student members are being invited. The forum will also be available to Spanish speakers. See it live and later at: <https://youtube.com/c/LTVEastHampton>



**League of Women Voters Broome-Tioga Counties-** Broome-Tioga participated in voter education/registration activities in two recent naturalization ceremonies. In July they were entertained by the Southern Tier Barbershop Chorus's renditions of patriotic songs. LWV's Margaret Goodfellow presented from the floor. A former Student Inside Albany awardee was present in the courtroom observing as a summer intern of the court.

In August, a contact with a ceremony guest led to a referral to the LWV of Tennessee for membership. The LWV of Broome-Tioga also tabled at the 8/23 C.A.R.E.S.(Community Advocates Restoring Educational Standards, Inc.)/City of Binghamton Backpack Giveaway at Recreation Park and tabled on 8/31 at Binghamton Porchfest and at the Unitarian Church of Binghamton's "Veggie Fest".



## U.S. Corner

### Statement on Equitable Mid-Cycle Maps

LWVUS released the following statement in announcing No Harm to Our Communities: Mapping Guidance for Elected Leaders, guidance on drawing mid-cycle maps that protect historically disenfranchised communities. Read more [here](#).

### Unite and Rise 8.5 Campaign

Connect with your local League to take action on the Unite and Rise 8.5 Campaign and check out the toolkit here: [Unite & Rise Power Playbook 2: August 2025 – October 2025 | League of Women Voters](#). Sign the Unite and Rise Commitment Form here: [Join Unite and Rise 8.5 | League of Women Voters](#)

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[Donate to LWNYS Education Foundation](#)

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