



The Democratic Party

DVD Presentation FAQs

Q: How do we manage rural neighborhoods that are not always easily walk-able?

A: Ride a bike, drive your car... get there if you can. Remember, you're only talking to about 25 neighbors at least three times between now and Election Day. It's important that you make the effort to go to their doors and introduce yourself and explain what you're doing. Voters in rural areas deserve to hear us make our case in person too. Because you're their neighbor, it'll be a more meaningful and substantive conversation.

Q: If it takes so many phone calls just to get one additional vote, does that mean we are going to stop phone banking?

A: No. Personal contact is the most effective method of voter contact. However, if it is too dark out, or the weather makes it impossible to go door-to-door, a phone call will suffice. A personal call from a neighbor is more effective and significant than an impersonal call from a phone center.

Q: I'm already working for a candidate or campaign. Can I still be a Neighborhood Leader?

A: Of course! We encourage you to get involved in working not only for your candidate or campaign, but for the Party as a whole.

Q: What if I'm supporting a candidate in a Democratic primary - then can I be a Neighborhood Leader?

A: Yes, but you're a Neighborhood Leader working for the whole Party. You are talking to voters on behalf of all Democrats, not your primary candidate. It is most important to keep in mind that we're contacting our neighbors to share the values of our Party and hold the Republicans accountable for their mistakes, mismanagement, and failures.

Q: Are the 25 voters I'm contacting today the same ones I'll be talking to for the next year?

A: No. Today is your chance to get your feet wet by being a part of an effort happening all over the country, and your opportunity to let us know that you are committed to electing Democrats.

Once you pledge to be a Neighborhood Leader and submit the results of your voter contact work from today, you will become an official Neighborhood Leader for the Democratic Party. You'll be given a list of targeted voters in your neighborhood to talk to at least 3 times before Election Day.

Q: How will this work with the new national voter file (VoteBuilder/VAN)?

A: The neighborhood activist tool and the national voter file will be separate but linked. Activists will only get access to a small list of voters in their neighborhood.

Q: If I am talking to 25 voters today, and will receive the tool that will help me contact my neighbors in March, what can I do in these next four months?

A: After your initial efforts today, we need you to help us find at least two more Neighborhood Leaders like yourself who'd be willing to participate in our mission. We're going to do another "House Party" like this one in January for all the new Neighborhood Leaders. Please remember to consider any good friends of yours that are strong Democrats, but may not be here today and might be willing to sign up and help in their neighborhoods.

Q: Can there only be one Neighborhood Leader per neighborhood?

A: No. All Neighborhood Leaders are welcome. We'll keep accepting Neighborhood Leaders as long as we still have voters to contact.

Q: I'm an elected leader of our local party (County Chair, Precinct Chair, Club officer, convention delegate, etc.). How do I fit into the Neighborhood Leader project? Will I be notified of the Neighborhood Leaders in my district who sign-up? Should I be in charge of them?

A: That's a great question. As a leader in the Party, your participation and leadership will lend credibility to the program. We'd really appreciate it if you would participate as a Neighborhood Leader, work to recruit other leaders, and commit to spreading the word that contacting other voters is both critical and imperative. Check with your State Party to see how these new efforts complement your official duties as a Party leader.