

PRECINCT COMMITTEE PERSONS TRAINING MANUAL

THIRD EDITION – OCTOBER, 2025

CURRY COUNTY DEMOCRATS



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INTRODUCTION

Serving your Party and community as a Precinct Committee Person (PCP) is among the most important roles you can play in the Democratic Party! PCPs are the eyes, ears, and legs for candidates, residents, and the citizenry in their precincts, and serve as leaders of the most basic political unit of government.

PCPs are volunteers who can be elected to a two-year term in each even-year primary election or appointed by the Curry County Democrats' Central Committee (CCD) to fill vacancies for the remainder of the current term. PCPs are qualified to be elected to the Democratic Party of Oregon (DPO) as voting members of the State Central Committee (SCC) or as delegates to Congressional District 4 (CD4).

Our Mission

- Educate the electorate – promoting the Democratic Party messages.
- Maximize our voter turnout and voter loyalty.
- Elect Democratic candidates.
- Gather information from voters to convey to candidates and public servants.
- Assist voters in accessing community resources.
- Serve as ambassadors of the Democratic Party to their precinct residents.
- Represent your precinct at CCD meetings and other events.

As a member of the CCD, an effective PCP will:

- Help recruit new PCPs in your precinct.
- Assist with Democratic campaigns in Curry County.
- Attend CCD meetings.
- Attend events sponsored by the CCD, DPO, and Democratic candidates.

Politics is a long game. Many people play it very well for a short time and then move on to other interests. The term of a PCP sometimes occurs during presidential election years, which are generally the most exciting. If you begin your service when the nuts and bolts of politics become focused on local, county, and state candidates, you might want to consider extending into another term. Thank you for serving as a PCP. Your efforts will help your Party, community, county, state, and country become a place where good politics happen 100% of the time.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND WEBSITES

CCD (Curry County Democratic Central Committee)

The CCD is the governing body of the county party. The CCD consists of the Executive Committee (officers), all elected or duly appointed Democratic PCPs in Curry County, as well as all Democrats legally registered to vote in Curry County.

CD4 (Congressional District #4)

The State of Oregon is comprised of six Federal Congressional Districts. The entirety of Curry County boundaries falls within CD4.

DNC (Democratic National Committee)

The Democratic National Committee is comprised of delegates from each American state and territory. The DNC promotes Democratic messaging on a national scale and provides services to the state parties and presidential campaigns.

DPO (Democratic Party of Oregon)

All Democrats legally registered to vote in Oregon are members of the Democratic Party of Oregon. The State Party organizes to elect Democrats to state and federal office.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee serves its voting members' goals. Members are elected during a Reorganization Meeting, which occurs at least every 25 months.

NAV (Non-Affiliated Voter)

Voters who are not affiliated with a qualified political party (also known as No Party Preference Voters) may vote during primary elections only since Oregon is a closed primary state (i.e., only registered voters of a major political party can vote for candidates of the same party).

PCP (Precinct Committee Person)

A Precinct Committee Person is an elected or appointed representative of a major political party within a precinct. PCPs are responsible for engaging their neighbors in the electoral process.

Precinct

A precinct is generally the lowest level minor civil division in the United States. Precincts are important because they are the smallest political district for which we can break down election results.

SCC (State Central Committee)

The State Central Committee is the governing body of the DPO. The SCC is made up of delegates representing each of Oregon's 36 Counties, a representative from each Special Group Caucus, a representative from each Congressional District, and the Administrative Committee.

VAN (Voter Activation Network)

The VAN database contains the names and specific information of all registered voters in the State. PCPs and other volunteers use this information for the purpose of identifying voters and contacting them for campaigns.

WEBSITES:

CCD Facebook Group

www.facebook.com/groups/CurryCountyDemocrats

CCD Facebook page

www.facebook.com/CurryDems

Curry County Democrats

currydems.or@gmail.com

Curry County Elections Division

www.co.curry.or.us/government/county_clerk/government/elections_division.php

Democratic Party of Oregon

www.dpo.org

Find your legislators

<http://www.gov.oregonlive.com/legislators>

Oregon State Statutes for PCPs

www.oregonlaws.org/ors/248.015

Secretary of State (My Vote Oregon)

www.sos.oregon.gov

PARTY STRUCTURE

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE (DNC)

The DNC is the primary institution responsible for advancing the Democratic Party's national agenda. It was founded in 1848 and is often regarded as the world's oldest political party. Representatives from all states and territories of the United States make up the DNC. The Committee raises funds, recruits people, organizes the Democratic National Convention during presidential election years, and supports candidate campaigns across the country.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF OREGON (DPO)

The DPO represents the state's 36 county parties and provides strategic leadership, financial assistance, technical knowledge, and organizational support to the county parties and Democratic candidates. In even-numbered years, the DPO also organizes coordinated campaigns to help statewide and federal Democratic candidates work together during the November elections. The DPO elects delegates to send to the Democratic National Convention. The DPO's governing body is the State Central Committee (SCC).

CURRY COUNTY DEMOCRATS CENTRAL COMMITTEE (CCD)

At the local level, the CCD includes all Curry County Democratic voters. The CCD voting members are the county PCPs, the elected CCD Executive Committee, Delegates and Alternate CD4, and the SCC. The CCD's mission is to elect Democrats to countywide office and to advocate for progressive public policy. The CCD is controlled by the internal norms established in its Bylaws.

US SENATE AND US HOUSE DISTRICT (US CONGRESSIONAL)

The CCD is represented by two U.S. senators and one U.S. House Representative from Congressional District 4, (CD4).

OREGON STATE SENATE AND STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (SD1 and HD1)

The CCD is represented by one Senator from our State Senate District (SD1) and one Representative from our State House District (HD1)

RESPONSIBILITIES

“You don’t win elections on Election Day. You win them by what you do all year around, by the day-to-day goodwill you generate in each precinct.”

-Jake Avery, Chicago political boss

CONFIDENTIALITY AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

In your role as a PCP, you will be responsible for the protection of personal voter data and other confidential material stored in the Voter Activation Network (VAN). Similarly, DDC strategic plans and papers, as well as candidate campaigns, should be kept strictly confidential. To avoid identity theft and other dangers to citizens’ privacy, PCPs must guarantee that voter and sensitive party information is not lost, stolen, or left unattended.

Before handling any CCD documents, voter information, or other sensitive materials, all PCPs must sign a confidentiality agreement ([Appendix A](#)).

To comply with security measures:

- Do not disclose voter files or sensitive information without approval from the Executive Committee..
- Do not make physical or electronic copies of sensitive material.
- Store sensitive information, including voter data, securely. Be aware of who may have access to electronic files on your computer.
- Report any missing, stolen, or misplaced voter files or sensitive documents right away.

Failure to follow these steps may result in loss of access rights. The State and County may impose sanctions for mishandling or misusing voter data.

KNOW YOUR PRECINCT

Reaching out to and representing the interests of the voters in your precinct is the PCP's biggest duty during the period between election days.

CCD is geographically separated into 27 precincts ([Appendix B](#)). With a few exceptions, all of the people who live in your precinct and are of voting age are considered your constituents. Constituents also include non-registered voters, Democrats, and non-affiliated voters (NAVs). Members of the opposition parties are not your constituency because you do not speak for their interests. However, if you think they may be convinced to support the Democratic Party, you might choose to add some members of minor parties to your database.

You serve your constituents by registering people to vote, persuading people to affiliate, and being an information source.

Your tool kit will include a copy of your precinct map and voter list. You can learn more about your precinct with the aid of these resources. An excellent source of information about your precinct, its residents, and the demographics that influence it is the VAN. Find out your precinct's boundaries, the number of homes and apartments, places of worship, schools, companies, and community resources. Discover the demographics: the number of active-duty personnel, veterans, students of voting age, working families, children, the economic composition, union members, and the overall Democratic Party membership. Recognize and respect your precinct's cultural and economic composition. ([For Useful websites, go to the Glossary](#))

Getting to know your neighbors can be done in a variety of ways. To gather local voters together to talk or increase knowledge of issues and to find out how they feel and what they think about current political concerns, plan a house party, community event, spaghetti dinner, candidates' forum, or political video party.

To remain up to date, visit the Curry County Democrat's website, Facebook page, other social media pages, follow your local news, and be active on social media. Understand the opinions of the majority of individuals in your precinct regarding current events in your local community, state, county, and the country.

CANVASS YOUR PRECINCT

Canvassing is an excellent method to meet your constituents and learn about the demographics of the area, in addition to getting to know your precinct.

Going door-to-door or making phone calls to existing (and prospective) Democratic voters, providing them with the information about forthcoming elections or events, registering new voters, updating voter data, and ---above all--- introducing yourself as their local representative to the Democratic Party is known as canvassing your precinct.

The Power of Personal Contacts

For PCPs, personal contact is crucial because it:

- Connects the voter directly to the political process;
- Offers a sense of intimacy and empathy in an impersonal environment;
- Has been shown to increase voter turnout;
- Shows effort and builds Democratic officials' reputation.

The majority of individuals are keen to learn more about their government and its officials. When you declare you're their "Democratic Precinct Committee Person," folks anticipate you'll have something insightful to contribute. These exchanges offer a chance to build rapport with receptive voters and to educate them about candidates and issues. (Those who would like to obtain their information from opposition parties don't require your time.)

Allowing precinct Democrats to learn about you and your plans to assist them is crucial. Strolling about your precinct and knocking on doors is the BEST approach to accomplish this. Do not forget to identify yourself as a Democrat and provide a brief explanation of your role and how you can help. Don't forget to provide your contact details so that others may reach you!

Curry County's office contact details, such as the mailing address (P.O. Box 146, Brookings, Oregon 97415), email address (currydems.or@gmail.com), and/or office phone number (541-412-3367), can be used instead of your personal phone number and email.

The most crucial thing you can do while canvassing is to introduce yourself, whether you do so over the phone or in person. It all comes down to developing relationships with other people. Spend a few minutes simply talking and listening.

Building friendships and trust between you and your constituents can teach you a lot about their views and help you better reflect our Democratic ideals.

GET OUT THE VOTE (GOTV)

Ensuring that supporters of Democratic candidates and ballot issues ultimately cast ballots is the aim of every election season. Election day itself makes this even more crucial.

In particular, the last few weeks leading up to election day are referred to the term GOTV. This period starts in Curry County a few days before voters receive their ballots, which is fourteen days before an election.

A PCP's responsibilities shift from influencing voters' choices of Democratic candidates to ensuring that recognized supporters cast ballots when they enter the GOTV stage.

PCPs continue to support candidates and significant topics throughout this time, even if voter turnout is the main goal. There will be a greater demand for volunteers to help handle the "slate cards" if the county party chooses to distribute a list of approved candidates and suggested positions before the election. PCPs will help other precincts that don't have enough coverage while concentrating their time and resources on these short-term initiatives in their own precincts.

BE ACTIVE IN YOUR COMMUNITY AND PARTY

A PCP can always find things to do in their precinct!

Being a resource for your neighbors and promoting Democratic candidates and principles in front of voters is the most crucial part of a PCP's job.

Ways to provide community outreach:

- Be visible during community outreach.
- Distribute Party and candidate materials, put up window and yard signs, and help collect petition signatures.
- Acquire knowledge of the DNC, state, and county policy views.
- Participate actively in Facebook and other social media sites to keep others informed.
- Stay up to date on Party activities and lend support to state and county Party initiatives.
- Learn about the platforms of the candidates vying for office in the next elections.
- Collaborate with the Fundraising Committee and solicit donations
- Participate in Party activities and events and urge others to do the same.
- Participate in (and inspire others to participate in) groups that share the values of the Democratic Party.
- If a position opens up, nominate (yourself included) someone to serve on the Executive Committee.
- Offer to serve on an ad hoc or standing committee.
- When required, assist other precincts.
- Run for a nonpartisan office in your community.
- Invite your neighbors to events you host. Include not only Democrats but also Democratic-leaning people and even those who could be convinced to cast a Democratic ballot.

ATTEND AND TAKE PART IN CCD MEETINGS

PCPs are essential volunteers who implement the Democratic Party's policies and procedures. They participate in a practical volunteer experience that might occasionally be thrilling and other times mundane. PCPs can vote in the CCD. In your capacity as a PCP, you will contribute to the successful operation of the Curry County Democratic Party. PCPs are encouraged to participate in as many meetings as they can. Zoom is used to plan meetings to make attendance easier..

MEETING SCHEDULE:

- CCD general meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 5:00.
- Executive Committee meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month at 5:00. PCPs are welcomed AND encouraged to attend, but they have no voting authority in these meetings.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

CURRY COUNTY DEMOCRATS' CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

This document is to be signed by the named member, witnessed by a CCD Party Officer, and kept on file in the official records of the Curry County Democrats before the Party furnishing the named member with any confidential materials.

The Curry County Democratic Party agrees to furnish the individual named below with certain confidential information relating to, but not limited to, certain voters, volunteers, activities, and members of the Curry County Democratic Party.

By signing below, the named individual agrees to review, examine, inspect or utilize such confidential information solely for political work on behalf of a candidate or the Curry County Democratic Party, and to otherwise hold such information secure and confidential pursuant to the terms of the Agreement.

The bylaws of Curry County Central Committee and the State laws of Oregon shall govern this Agreement and its validity, construction, and effect.

Failure to properly maintain and protect confidential or other information may be subject to criminal and/or civil prosecution

AGREED AND ACCEPTED on this date _____ / _____ / _____ BY:

Name (Printed)

Signature

Phone Number

Email Address

Witness Name & Title (Printed)

Signature

APPENDIX B: PRECINCTS

Precinct 1	AGNESS	2 Vacancies
Precinct 2	S. CHETCO	Les Goodrich 2 Vacancies
Precinct 3	FLORES CREEK	2 Vacancies
Precinct 4	SIXES	Bret Cecil 1 Vacancy
Precinct 5	ELK RIVER	4 Vacancies
Precinct 6	PORT ORFORD 1	Bruce Levy 1 Vacancy
Precinct 7	PORT ORFORD 2	Jane Odson 1 Vacancy
Precinct 8	OPHIR	Joy May 2 Vacancies
Precinct 9	WEDDERBURN	4 Vacancies
Precinct 10	N. GOLD BEACH	3 Vacancies
Precinct 11	S. GOLD BEACH	Lynn Turner 3 Vacancies
Precinct 12	HUNTER CREEK	Jerry Turner 1 Vacancy
Precinct 13	PISTOL RIVER	2 Vacancies
Precinct 14	HARRIS CREEK	2 Vacancies
Precinct 15	BROOKINGS 1	2 Vacancies

Precinct 16	BROOKINGS 2	Vicky O'Hara 7 Vacancies
Precinct 17	BROOKINGS 3	Tom Bozak Linda Bozak 6 Vacancies
Precinct 18	N. CHETCO	Vicki Bradley 1 Vacancy
Precinct 19	S. WINCHUCK	Lisa Neher 3 Vacancies
Precinct 20	JERRYS FLAT	2 Vacancies
Precinct 21	BROOKINGS 4	2 Vacancies
Precinct 22	W. HARBOR	3 Vacancies
Precinct 23	LOWER HARBOR	2 Vacancies
Precinct 24	S.W. HARBOR	3 Vacancies
Precinct 25	E. HARBOR	3 Vacancies
Precinct 26	CAPE FERRELO	4 Vacancies
Precinct 27	UPPER CHETCO	2 Vacancies