### Cast Your Vote, Washington! Resource Toolkit



Greetings friend,

Thank you for downloading the Cast Your Vote, Washington! Toolkit from Earth Ministry/Washington Interfaith Power and Light's (Earth Ministry/WA IPL). This resource has been compiled using materials from Earth Ministry/WA IPL, National IPL, and the Washington State Secretary of State's Office (SOS).

Earth Ministry/WA IPL's mission is to transform faith and conscience into action for the well-being of communities and the environment and we hope this resource helps you do just that!

### In this toolkit you will find:

- Clear steps on how you can do civic engagement as a person of faith &/or conscience
- Step 1: Voting Information
- Step 2: Learning What is on the November Ballot
- Step 3: How to "Put Your Faith, Spirituality, and Conscience Into Action"
- Step 4: Resources for Encouraging Others to Join As Well



### Cast Your Vote, Washington! Step One: Voting Information



### **Voting is a Sacred Call**

Voting is a vital part of putting our faith and conscience into action for the health and well-being of communities and the environment. For those of us who have the right to vote, it is important that we not take that privilege for granted. Participating in the democratic process is essential to living into our values of stewardship and justice.

Voting is a way to put our spiritual and faith practices into action, as we work to change the systems that cause harm to our community, including Black, Indigenous, and communities of the Global Majority, the nonhuman world, and all those that are impacted the hardest by climate pollution and systemic racism.

Voting is a faith-rooted and conscience-led choice to care for our neighbor and is an expression of our calls to create a better world for future generations and all of creation.

Voting is an act of conscience, care, faith, and love.





## Cast Your Vote, Washington! Step One: Voting Information



### DID YOU KNOW?!?!

- Postage is not required when dropping off your ballot in a mailbox.
- You have until Election Day, Nov 5th, to register to vote. (In-person registration)
  - Last day to register and still get a mailed ballot: Oct 28th, 2024.
- You can register to vote directly on the Secretary of State's website.
- On January 1st, 2022, if you were convicted of a felony in Washington State, another state, or in federal court, your right to vote will be restored automatically as long as you are not currently serving a DOC sentence of total confinement in prison.

### **Voting Important Information**

Voting is a vital part of putting our faith and conscience into action for the health and well-being of communities and the environment. **Unfortunately voter rolls often get purged** during election cycles so it's important to make sure you, your family, and friends are registered in time.

- Check Your Status
- Register to Vote
- Important Dates for Voting and Registration
- Find A Ballot Box Near You

- Mail-in Voter Registration (English)
- Mail-in Voter Registration (Spanish)
- Washington Voter Pamphlet Guide (available in 4 languages)
- Felony Conviction and Voting Rights



## Cast Your Vote, Washington! Step Two: Learn What Is on the November Ballot





Washington 2024 General Election: Let's Protect WA's Air, Water, and Impacted Communities

Simply put: Washington State's commitment to protecting our communities and the environment is at risk on the 2024 November general election ballot.

In addition to elected officials, **Washington has 2 specific ballot measures (2117 and 2066)** that would eliminate billions of dollars of funding dedicated to improving the health of our communities AND make it harder to transition towards clean, renewable, and affordable energy sources.

### Why Earth Ministry/WA IPL says "No On 2117" and Invites You to Join Us

Initiative 2117 ends current protections against pollution, eliminates investments across the state, and removes incentives for polluters to make a just transition to cleaner energy sources. Overburdened communities would again be subject to deepening health and toxicity burdens by removing dedicated funding to make real changes. Learn more below:



Earth Ministry/WA IPL is proud to be part of a growing coalition of over 450 organizations across WA to oppose 2117.

## Cast Your Vote, Washington! Step Two: Learn What Is on the November Ballot



### No On 2117 Facts and Resources

- "No On 2117" Earth Ministry/WA IPL
   and Faith Action Network's Joint Flyer
- Risk of Repeal Map:
  - Find Out How 2117 Could Defund
     Your Community's Projects
  - County by County Project Lists
- Ballot Measures Fiscal Notes from WA
   Secretary of State's Office

- No On 2117 Fact Sheet
- No On 2117 Campaign Video (English Audio and Subtitles)
- No On 2177 Campaign (Spanish Subtitles and English Audio)
- No On 2117 Campaign Site



I-2117 is misleading – it
would do nothing to lower
energy costs for families
and workers, period.

Vote NO on I-2117 

https://no2117.com/

Part of this toolkit has been created in part due to the generous support of

The Nature Conservancy and "No On 2117."

## Cast Your Vote, Washington! Step Two: Learn What Is on the November Ballot



Why Earth Ministry/WA IPL says "No On 2066" and Invites You to Join Us



Initiative 2066 removes effective guardrails to lower methane (aka "natural" gas) use, associated with lung and cardiovascular health problems and climate risks. I-2066 specifically protects methane gas among energy sources and fuel types, repealing 2024 laws to assist the state's largest utility Puget Sound Energy with planning to meet statewide goals to reduce harmful indoor air pollution and statewide heat risks.

### No On 2066 Facts and Resources

- Earth Ministry/WA IPL No On 2066 Fact Sheet
- Ballot Measures Fiscal Notes from WA Secretary of State's Office
- No On 2066 Campaign
- No On 2066 Fact Sheet

Take the Next Step,
Put Your Values Into Action

# Cast Your Vote, Washington! Step Three: Put Your Faith, Spirituality, and Conscience Into Action





Faith-Rooted, Conscience-Led, Relationship-Centered Advocacy

Grassroots movements for environmental justice are built and sustained when people not only educate themselves but then take action to co-create a world that is just and sustainable for all.

This is why Earth Ministry/WA IPL launched "Cast Your Vote,
Washington!"

We know putting faith into action means ACTIVELY CHOOSING how we will work, live, play, pray, and be in relationship with the land. This extends to our civic engagement participation.



# Cast Your Vote, Washington! Step Three: Put Your Faith, Spirituality, and Conscience Into Action



Resources for Civic Engagement as a Person of Faith and/or Conscience

- Storytelling, a Tool for Change: Learn How to Share Your Story
- Individual Pledge to Protect Our Neighbors and the Environment

### **Video Resources**

- Faithful Voter Reflection
   Video
- <u>Cast Your Vote, Washington!</u>
   <u>Rev. AC Churchill's Reflection</u>
   <u>Video</u>



Take the Next Step, Share With Your Community

## Cast Your Vote, Washington! Step Four: Share with Your Community



### **Building a Movement for Environmental Justice**



As people of faith and conscience, we cherish the beauty of Washington State and are committed to caring for the diversity of people and creatures who live here. Together, we can protect our communities and the environment by voting.

AND we can encourage our family and friends to vote as well as invite our faith/spiritual communities to prioritize talking about how voting is an expression of our morals and values.

## Cast Your Vote, Washington! Step Four: Share with Your Community



### **Resources to Engage Communities**

- Faith and Spiritual Community 501 (c)(3) Compliance in an Election Season
- Community Sign On: Invite Your Sacred Community to Join a Movement
- Printable Window Flyer for Communities

### **Resources from National Interfaith Power and Light**

- A Matter of Faith: Message Starters, Prayers, Litanies, and Other Resources for Considering
   Voting Through the Lens of Faith from National IPL
- Politics in the Pulpit: A Guide to Rules and Regulations on Political Activity by Religious
   Organizations (4-pager)
- Politics in the Pulpit: A Guide to Rules and Regulations on Political Activity by Religious
   Organizations (12-pager)
- A How-to Guide for Faith Community-Based Candidate Forums



## Cast Your Vote, Washington! Step Five: Gratitude



Thank you to everyone who downloaded, shared, and used these materials.

Thank you to everyone who has pledged or will pledge to

"Vote to Protect Our Communities and Our Environment". "

### Thank you for putting your values into action. Together we can co-create a just and sustainable future for all Washingtonians!

Also, this collaborative work would not be possible without the support of so many. Thank you to all of the donors who help fund our grassroot efforts to inspire, equip, and mobilize faith communities and communities of conscience to put their values into action.









Earth Ministry/WAIPL works within the unceded territories of Northwest Native nations. Our office is on the traditional land of the first people of Seattle, the Duwamish People past and present. Land acknowledgement **is one way** to resist erasure of Indigenous histories as well as to honor tribes and the land itself.

### Cast Your Vote, Washington! Resources



The following pages are the most of the resources that have been linked in the main document. The larger National IPL documents are only provided as links so as to make this document easier to download.

### You can access any of these documents by:

- 1. Clicking on the links provided under each step or
- 2. Printing just the resource pages you need/want from this document or
- 3. By accessing the documents individually by going to our website and downloading each document there.

### http://earthministry.org/cast-your-vote-washington-toolkit/



As a quick reminder, Earth Ministry/WA IPL is not able to offer legal advice. However, the links provided can connect you directly with WA's SOS and the IRS. Both of those resources can point you towards guidance for legal questions.

## Washington 2024 General Election

### Important Nates

### Saturday, September 21, 2024

Military and overseas ballots mailed for the November General Election

### Tuesday, September 24, 2024

National Voter Registration Day

### Sunday, October 13, 2024

First day to publish Notice of November General Election

### Monday, October 14, 2024

Columbus Day (post offices and banks closed)

### Thursday, October 17, 2024

 Deadline to file write-in candidacy without paying a filing fee for the November General Election

### Friday, October 18, 2024

November General Election 18-day voting period begins

### Wednesday, October 23, 2024

Last day to publish Notice of November General Election

### Monday, October 28, 2024

 Deadline to receive new registrations and voter updates online and by mail for the November General Election

### **GENERAL ELECTION**

### Tuesday, November 05, 2024

- Deadline for ballot drop off. Ballots must be in ballot boxes by 8pm.
- Deadline for in-person registration and voter updates for the November General Election

For more election dates check out WA SOS (<a href="www.sos.wa.gov/elections/calendar">www.sos.wa.gov/elections/calendar</a>)

### Instructions

### Use this form to register to vote or update your current registration.

Print all information clearly using a black or blue pen. Your signature will be used to verify your ballot. Mail this completed form to your county elections office (address on back).

### Deadline

This registration will be in effect for the next election if received by the elections office at least eight days before election day. If it is within seven days of an election, register in person at a voting center. Locations are listed at

### www.sos.wa.gov/elections/auditors

You must be a United States citizen in order to register to vote.

If you knowingly provide false information on this voter registration form or knowingly make a false declaration about your qualifications for voter registration you will have committed a class C felony that is punishable by imprisonment for up to five years, a fine of up to ten thousand dollars, or both.

### **Future Voters**

If you are at least 16 years old, use this form to sign up as a Future Voter. You'll be automatically registered to vote when you qualify. You may vote if you will be at least 18 years old by the next general election, or are at least 18 years old for special elections.

### **Public Information**

Your registration name, address, gender, and year of birth will be public information when you become eligible to vote.

You will receive your ballot in the mail. Contact your county elections office for accessible voting options.

### **Public Benefits Offices**

If you received this form from a public benefits office, where you received the form will remain confidential. Registering or declining to register will not affect the assistance provided to you by that agency.

If you believe someone interfered with your right to register, or your right to privacy in deciding whether to register, you may file a complaint with the Washington State Elections Division.

### **Contact Information**

If you would like help with this form, contact the Washington State Elections Division.

web www.sos.wa.gov/elections

call 1 (800) 448-4881

email elections@sos.wa.gov

mail PO Box 40229

Olympia, WA 98504-0229

### For official use: English

### **Washington State Voter Registration Form**

egister online at www.VoteWA.	gov.		
Personal Information			
last name	first	middle	suffix (Sr., Jr., etc.)
date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)			gender (optional)
residential address in Washin	gton state (canno	t be a PO Box or PMB)	apt/unit #
city			ZIP
mailing address, if different fr	rom above		apt/unit #
city			state and ZIP
phone number (optional)	email	address (optional)	
Citizenship			
I am a citizen of the United So ○ yes ○ no If you a		not complete this forn	١.
Military or Overseas Status	s		
I am actively serving in the m Includes National Guard or Reser O yes O no I currently live outside the co	ves, and spouses o	r dependents away from I	nome due to service.
○ yes ○ no			
Identification — Washingt	on Driver Licen	se, Permit, or ID; or S	SN 
If you do not have a Washington of permit, or ID, you may use the last your Social Security number to re	st four digits of	x x x - x x -	
Previous Name or Address	S		
This information will be used	to update your re	egistration, if applicable	<b>)</b> .
previous last name	first		middle
previous residential address	city		state and ZIP
Declaration and Signature			
I declare that the facts on this United States, I am a Washing I am not disqualified from vot sentence of total confinement for a Washington felony convi	ton state residen ing due to a court under the jurisdi	t, and I am at least sixto t order, and I am not cu ction of the departmen	een years old. rrently serving a t of corrections

out-of-state felony conviction.

sign here	date here

PO Box 40229 Olympia, WA 98504-0229 first class postage required



Please write your county elections office address below:

**Adams County** 

210 W Broadway, Ste 200 Ritzville, WA 99169 (509) 659-3249

### **Asotin County**

PO Box 129 Asotin, WA 99402 (509) 243-2084

### **Benton County**

PO Box 1000 Richland, WA 99352 (509) 736-3085

### **Chelan County**

350 Orondo Ave, Ste 306 Wenatchee, WA 98801 (509) 667-6808

### **Clallam County**

223 E 4th St, Ste 1 Port Angeles, WA 98362 (360) 417-2221

### **Clark County**

PO Box 8815 Vancouver, WA 98666 (564) 397-2345

### **Columbia County**

341 E Main St, Ste 3 Dayton, WA 99328 (509) 382-4541

### **Cowlitz County**

207 4th Ave N, Rm 205 Kelso, WA 98626 (360) 577-3005

### **Douglas County**

PO Box 853 Waterville, WA 98858 (509) 888-6402

### **Ferry County**

350 E Delaware Ave #2 Republic, WA 99166 (509) 775-5225 ext. 1139

### Franklin County

PO Box 1451 Pasco, WA 99301 (509) 545-3538

### **Garfield County**

PO Box 278 Pomeroy, WA 99347 (509) 843-1411

### **Grant County**

PO Box 37 Ephrata, WA 98823 (509) 754-2011 ext. 2704

### **Grays Harbor County**

100 W Broadway Ave, Ste 2 Montesano, WA 98563 (360) 249-4232

### **Island County**

PO Box 1410 Coupeville, WA 98239 (360) 678-8290

### **Jefferson County**

PO Box 563 Port Townsend, WA 98368 (360) 385-9119

### **King County**

919 SW Grady Way Renton, WA 98057 (206) 296-8683

### **Kitsap County**

614 Division St, MS 31 Port Orchard, WA 98366 (360) 337-7128

### **Kittitas County**

205 W 5th Ave, Ste 105 Ellensburg, WA 98926 (509) 962-7503

### **Klickitat County**

205 S Columbus Ave, Rm 203 Goldendale, WA 98620 (509) 773-4001

### **Lewis County**

PO Box 29 Chehalis, WA 98532 (360) 740-1278

### Lincoln County

PO Box 28 Davenport, WA 99122 (509) 725-4971

### **Mason County**

PO Box 400 Shelton, WA 98584 (360) 427-9670 ext 470

### **Okanogan County**

PO Box 1010 Okanogan, WA 98840 (509) 422-7240

### Pacific County

PO Box 97 South Bend, WA 98586 (360) 875-9317

### **Pend Oreille County**

PO Box 5015 Newport, WA 99156 (509) 447-6472

### Pierce County

2501 S 35th St, Ste C Tacoma, WA 98409 (253) 798-VOTE

### San Juan County

PO Box 638 Friday Harbor, WA 98250 (360) 378-3357

### **Skagit County**

PO Box 1306 Mount Vernon, WA 98273 (360) 416-1702

### Skamania County

PO Box 790, Elections Dept Stevenson, WA 98648 (509) 427-3730

### **Snohomish County**

3000 Rockefeller Ave, MS 505 Everett, WA 98201 (425) 388-3444

### **Spokane County**

1033 W Gardner Ave Spokane, WA 99260 (509) 477-2320

### Stevens County

215 S Oak St, Rm 106 Colville, WA 99114 (509) 684-7514

### **Thurston County**

2000 Lakeridge Dr SW Olympia, WA 98502 (360) 786-5408

### Wahkiakum County

PO Box 543 Cathlamet, WA 98612 (360) 795-3219

### Walla Walla County

PO Box 1856 Walla Walla, WA 99362 (509) 524-2530

### Whatcom County

311 Grand Avenue, Ste 103 Bellingham, WA 98225 (360) 778-5102

### Whitman County

PO Box 191 Colfax, WA 99111 (509) 397-5284

### **Yakima County**

PO Box 12570 Yakima, WA 98909 (509) 574-1340

### **WA State Elections Division**

PO Box 40229 Olympia, WA 98504-0229 1 (800) 448-4881

## doblar a la mitad → ←

### Instrucciones

Use este formulario para inscribirse para votar o actualice su inscripción actual.

Escriba toda la información con letra imprenta y con claridad usando un bolígrafo de tinta negra o azul. Su firma se usará para verificar su boleta. Complete este formulario y envíelo por correo a la oficina de elecciones de su condado (dirección postal al reverso).

### Plazo

Esta inscripción es válida para las próximas elecciones si la oficina de elecciones la recibe al menos ocho días antes del día de las elecciones. Si son siete días antes de las elecciones, debe inscribirse en persona en un centro de votación. Encuentre una lista de ubicaciones en

### www.sos.wa.gov/elections/auditors

### Aviso

Debe ser ciudadano(a) de los Estados Unidos para inscribirse para votar.

Si intencionalmente proporciona información falsa en este formulario de inscripción electoral o si intencionalmente hace una declaración falsa sobre los requisitos que cumple para la inscripción electoral, habrá cometido un delito grave (felonía) de clase C que se castiga con encarcelamiento por hasta cinco años, una multa por hasta diez mil dólares, o ambas.

### **Futuros Votantes**

Si tiene al menos 16 años de edad, use este formulario para inscribirse como Futuro Votante. Será inscrito automáticamente para votar cuando cumpla los requisitos. Podrá votar si, en las próximas elecciones generales, tiene al menos 18 años de edad o si tiene al menos 18 años de edad para las elecciones especiales.

### Información Pública

Su nombre, dirección, género y el año de nacimiento en su inscripción serán información pública cuando sea elegible para votar.

### Votación

Usted recibirá su boleta por correo. Comuniquese con la oficina electoral de su condado para obtener información sobre las opciones de votación accesible.

### Oficinas de Beneficios Públicos

Si recibió este formulario de una oficina de beneficios públicos, esta información será confidencial. Inscribirse o rechazar la inscripción no afectará la ayuda que esa agencia le brinda.

Si cree que alguna persona interfirió con su derecho a inscribirse, o con su derecho a la privacidad sobre su decisión de inscribirse, puede presentar una queja ante la División Electoral del Estado de Washington.

### Información de Contacto

Si le gustaría recibir ayuda con este formulario, comuníquese con la División Electoral del Estado de Washington.

sitio web www.sos.wa.gov/elections llame al 1 (800) 448-4881

correo electrónico elections@sos.wa.gov

correo PO Box 40229

Olympia, WA 98504-0229

### Formulario de Inscripción Electoral del Estado de Washington

Inscríbase en línea en www.VoteWA.gov.

1	Información Personal				
	apellido	nombre	segundo nombre	sufijo (Sr., Jr.,	etc.)
	fecha de nacimiento (mm/d	d/aaaa)		género (opcio	nal)
	domicilio en el estado de W (no se admiten apartados p		MB)	# de apto/unid	lad
	ciudad			código postal	
	dirección postal, si es difere	ente a la ant	rerior	# de apto/unid	lad
	ciudad			estado y códi	go posta
	número de teléfono (opcio	nal)	correo electrónic	o (opcional)	
2	Ciudadanía				
	Soy ciudadano(a) de los Est		os. a fue <i>"no"</i> , no complete	e este formulario.	
3	Estatus Militar o Vive	en el Extr	anjero		
	Estoy en servicio activo en Incluye las Reservas Militaro encuentran lejos de casa de Sí O no	es o la Guar	dia Nacional, así como l	os cónyuges o dependientes	que se
	Actualmente vivo fuera del ○ sí ○ no	país.			
4	Identificación — Licenc	ia de Con	ducir, Permiso, o Ider	ntificación de Washingtor	n; o SSN
	Si no tiene una licencia de c	onducir per	rmiso de		
	conducir o identificación de los últimos cuatro dígitos de Social para inscribirse.	Washington	n, puede usar $\chi \chi \chi$	- x x -	
5	Nombre o Domicilio F	Previo			
	Esta información se utilizar	á para actu	alizar su inscripción, si	corresponde.	
	apellido anterior		nombre	segundo nom	ıbre
	domicilio residencial anterio	r	ciudad	estado y códiç	go postal
6	Declaración y Firma				

Declaro que la información en este formulario de inscripción electoral es verdadera. Soy ciudadano(a) de los Estados Unidos, soy residente del estado de Washington, y tengo al menos dieciséis años de edad. No estoy descalificado(a) para votar debido a una orden judicial, ni estoy cumpliendo una sentencia de confinamiento total bajo la jurisdicción del departamento correccional debido a una condena por delito grave (felonía) en Washington, ni estoy encarcelado(a) actualmente por un delito grave en otro tribunal estatal o federal.

Spariisti	

Firme

aquí

Para uso oficial:



PO Box 40229 Olympia, WA 98504-0229 Es necesario un franqueo postal de primera clase



Escriba el domicilio de la oficina electoral de su condado a continuación:

### **Adams County**

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### **Yakima County**

PO Box 12570 Yakima, WA 98909 (509) 574-1340

### **WA State Elections Division**

PO Box 40229 Olympia, WA 98504-0229 1 (800) 448-4881



Do you have questions or need assistance registering to vote?

### Contact us!

(3)

1 (800) 448-4881



sos.wa.gov/elections



elections@sos.wa.gov

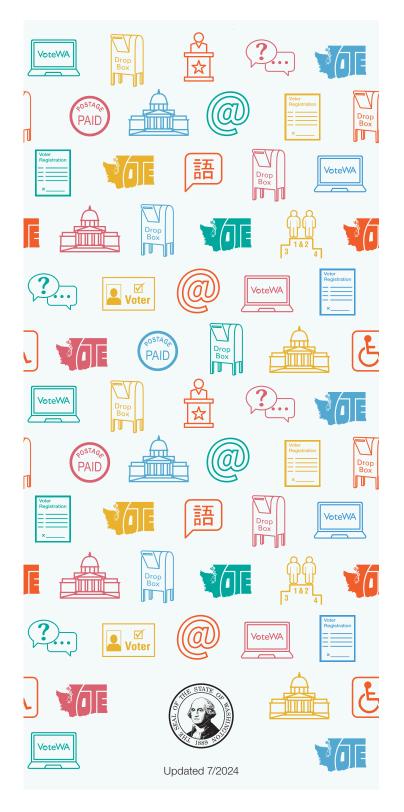




@secstatewa



@WaSecretaryOfState @WashingtonStateElections



English

### **Felony Conviction** and Voting Rights

Accessible, fair, and accurate elections.



Office of the **Secretary of State** 

**Elections Division** 

### **Voter Eligibility Requirements**

1 U.S. Citizen

You must be a citizen of the United States.

2 Washington state resident

Your residential address must be in Washington.

3 At least 18 years old



If you are 16 or 17, you can sign up as a Future Voter and be automatically registered to vote when you qualify.

4 Not disqualified from voting due to a court order

Only a Superior Court Judge can declare you unable to vote due to mental incompetency.

5 Not in total confinement for a felony conviction in Washington state

Your right to vote is restored as long as you are no longer serving a sentence of total confinement in prison with the Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC) or currently incarcerated for a federal or out-of-state felony conviction.

### **Voting Rights Restoration**

### When the right to vote is restored

Washington now restores voting rights to citizens with felony convictions **immediately** upon release from incarceration.

Your right to vote is automatically restored once you're no longer serving a sentence of total confinement in any state or federal prison, including for federal or out-of-state felony convictions.

You can vote while on community supervision, probation, or parole.

You do not lose the right to vote for a misdemeanor conviction or a conviction in juvenile court.

### Past felony conviction?

Get registered to vote. Your voting rights were restored upon release from prison.

### Washington votes by mail every election

Once you are registered to vote, there is no need to request a ballot. Your ballot will be mailed to the residence (or mailing address) that you provide on your registration form.

Voters are sent a ballot at least 18 days before each election and return postage is prepaid.



Accessible voter registration and voting options are available. Call 1 (800) 448-4881 for more information.

### Ways to Register to Vote



Register to vote upon your release from prison. Even if you were previously registered to vote, or voted before your felony conviction, you will need to re-register to receive a ballot.



### Online

You can register to vote online using your Washington State Driver's License or ID Card at **VoteWA.gov**.



### In-Person

You can locate your County Elections Office at **sos.wa.gov/elections**, then register to vote in-person during business hours.



### By Mail

You can request to have a voter registration form mailed to you at **sos.wa.gov/elections** or by calling 1 (800) 448-4881. You can choose to return that form by mail or in-person at your County Elections Office.

### Protect Our Communities and the Environment

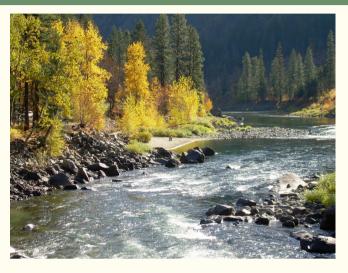
Faith-rooted and conscience-led people say "NO on 2117"



As people of faith and conscience, we cherish the beauty of Washington State and are committed to caring for the diversity of people and creatures who live here.

Together, we can protect our communities and the environment by voting

"No on Initiative 2117" in November.



### NOW IS OUR CHANCE TO AFFIRM OUR VALUES OF JUSTICE, SUSTAINABILITY AND COLLABORATION BY <u>VOTING NO ON 2117.</u>

### Our vote will protect programs that:



Improve the HEALTH of OUR COMMUNITIES, especially in frontline and overburdened communities, by reducing toxic air and water pollution,



Increase the sustainability & RESILIENCE of FORESTS to wildfire by supporting local conservation efforts,



Fund access to high-efficiency home heating appliances for low- and moderate-income households to SAVE MONEY on their monthly energy bills,



Preserve the HEALTH of OUR CHILDREN and environment through zero-emissions school buses, expanded clean public transit service, and no-cost transit for youth,



Develop clean energy projects, like solar and wind, which CREATES JOBS across our economy.





Washington communities thrive when we have clean air to breathe, safe water to drink, and an economy rooted in sustainable local jobs. By investing in solutions like clean energy infrastructure, healthy forests, clean water and air, we can build healthier communities and protect the beauty of the land we call home.

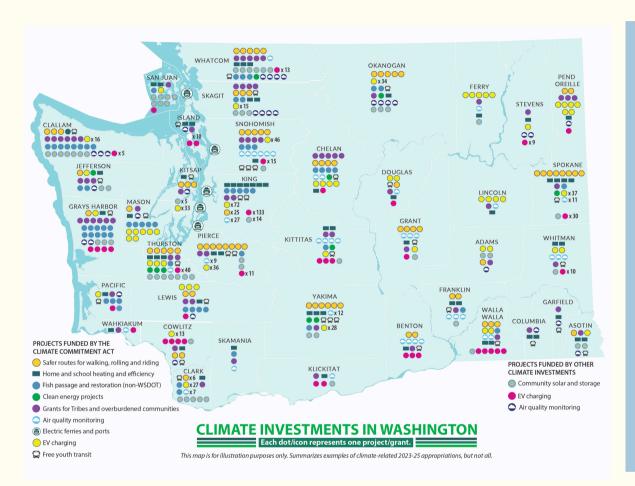
**Vote No on 2117!** 

LEARN MORE
BIT.LY/CASTYOURVOTEWA

### Protect Our Communities and the Environment

Faith-rooted and conscience-led people say "NO on 2117"





All WA
Counties
benefit
from the
CCA.

Scan the QR Code below for interactive map.

Washington communities thrive when we have clean air to breathe, safe water to drink, and an economy rooted in sustainable local jobs. By investing in solutions like clean energy infrastructure, healthy forests, clean water and air, we can build healthier communities and protect the beauty of the land we call home. **Vote No on 2117!** 





**LEARN MORE SCAN** 



### Cast Your Vote, Washington! Short version Why vote NO on I-2117



Initiative 2117 ends current protections against pollution, eliminates investments across the state, and removes incentives for polluters to make a just transition to cleaner energy sources. Overburdened communities would again be subject to deepening health and toxicity burdens by removing dedicated funding to make real changes.



A wide and growing community coalition opposes I-2117, including people of faith and conscience, who share values for environmental justice to protect vulnerable communities and be responsible caretakers for our common home.

### More Details: (bit.ly/CastYourVoteWA)

Initiative 2117 would stop Washington's landmark law (the Climate Commitment Act) to limit harmful emissions and prevent similar laws in the future. In its first year, the cap-and-invest law raised \$2 billion, directed toward transportation, clean air, renewable energy, conservation, and emissions reductions efforts with dollars allocated for every county across Washington state.

### Initiative 2117 is hazardous to our health and goes against faith-rooted and conscience-led priorities to protect the vulnerable because I-2117:

- Shifts the burden of paying for the impacts of pollution to communities, workers, and families,
- Removes the people's ability to call for similarly protective laws in the future,
- Stops investments across the state to improve indoor and outdoor air quality for schools and homes, improve transportation, help fish passage, develop renewable energy, and reduce emissions for cleaner air, and
- It is a misleading initiative that will do nothing to reduce costs. So many working families are struggling with the cost of living in Washington, and this initiative will only lead to costly consequences. Those expecting big changes in their costs by passing 2117 are being misled.

<u>If 2117 is DEFEATED, Washington state would continue to serve Washingtonians with a long-term strategy for community health and safety for our wild and tended living world.</u>

### Voting No on 2117 means:

- Protection of programs to improve the HEALTH OF OUR COMMUNITIES, especially in frontline and overburdened communities, by reducing toxic air and water pollution,
- Increased sustainability and RESILIENCE of forests to wildfire by supporting local conservation efforts.
- Funding access to high-efficiency home heating for low- and moderate-income households to SAVE MONEY on their monthly bills,
- Developing clean energy projects, like solar and wind, which CREATE JOBS across our economy, and MORE!

Earth Ministry/WA IPL is proud to be part of a growing coalition of over 450 organizations across WA to oppose 2117.

### <u>Cast Your Vote, Washington!</u> <u>Why vote NO on I-2066</u>



Initiative 2066 removes effective guardrails to lower methane (aka "natural" gas) use, associated with lung and cardiovascular health problems and climate risks. I-2066 specifically protects methane gas among energy sources and fuel types, repealing 2024 laws to assist the state's largest utility Puget Sound Energy with planning to meet statewide goals to reduce harmful indoor air pollution and statewide heat risks.





### More Details: (bit.ly/CastYourVoteWA)

Initiative 2066 gives preferential treatment to the methane gas industry (pipelines, utilities), contradicting Washington state's bold steps to reduce harmful pollution. Methane is notorious for leakage from extraction to pipelines to household use, and methane gas fireplaces and generators have cropped up as demand for heating, cooking, and household energy uses have ebbed in recent years, in large part due to lowering demand for methane gas.

### Initiative 2066 is hazardous to our health and goes against faith-rooted and conscience-led priorities to protect the vulnerable because:

- Indoor air quality risks and associated health problems,
- Carbon lock-in from policies, which favor high-emitting methane-based energy, and
- In a time of drought, wildfires, and excessive heat, we can't afford to continually invest in increasingly risky and wasteful fuels.

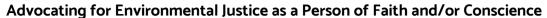
### If Initiative 2066 is DEFEATED, we would celebrate that voters can:

- Prevent efforts to dismantle legal protections for our health against excessive, preventable pollution,
- Protect our most vulnerable community members from health and climate risks associated with methane, and
- Continue to advocate for just transitions away from fossil fuels and provide necessary funding needed in order to make these transitions.

Alternatives to gas are cheaper in the long run, as the costs of building electrification, cleaner energy sources, and smart utility and building standards, when implemented, drive costs down. Our communities deserve policies that support our health and wellbeing now and into the future.

Earth Ministry/WA IPL is proud to be part of a growing coalition across WA to oppose 2066.







A foundation of being a faith-rooted, conscience-led advocate is being able to identify and share why you care. What are the values that inform your call to environmental justice? Who inspires you to live out these values? How does your spirituality and/or values compel you to act?

By reflecting on three questions, i.e. who are you, what do you value, and what do you want, you will be able to effectively share your story on "why" caring for planet and people matters to you.

In this 4 part exercise, we will help you craft the answers to these questions and help you tap into a tradition that is intrinsic to us as people of faith and conscience, storytelling. As people of faith and conscience, storytelling is something we already know how to do and it is practice many of our sacred traditions already use.

This guide will help you to craft your story, the one you are an expert on, so that you can effectively communicate with friends, family, policy-makers, and others why advocating for strong environmental policies as well as a just and sustainable future for all is sacred and communal work.

### 1. Who Are You?

Questions to help you remember/know your "why."

- When did you start loving the earth?
- What life experiences have shaped how you think about caring for the earth or a particular?
- How does your faith and/or conscience relate to environmental justice?
- Do you have a story about how you, your family, your community have been affected by environmental issues?
  - How have you/your community responded?
- Where do you see a call to environmental justice within:
  - Sacred stories or religious teachings?
  - o Spiritual experiences or encounters with the Divine?
  - o Connections with loved ones, neighbors, communities, and the global creaturely family?

### 2. What do you value?

Identifying your values.

**Common Values:** Review over the set of provided common values, which one(s) resonate with you and are connected to the issue you are wanting to advocate on? How are you already living out these values to care for creation? What else might you do to deepen your commitment to environmental justice?

- Justice for all
- Caring for Earth
- Grace
- Treating all with dignity and respect
- Stewardship
- Equity
- Reform
- Collaboration

- Legacy
- People over profit
- Honesty & integrity
- Interconnectedness
- Fairness and Equity
- Responsibility

•	Other:	
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### 3. What Do You Want?

Naming what issues you are working to change, your why, and how the audience you are connecting with can help bring about the change.

As people of faith and conscience, we are often skilled at reflection and are good storytellers! This last step helps to connect the previous ones to action.

### Connecting Values to "Why":

Using the below template draft a personal statement as to which part of your identity is connected to the reason why you feel compelled to work for environmental justice.

l am a		
Ex: person of faith, caring grandparent, working parent, young a	adult, avid hiker, lover of animals, a	
teacher, am part of a sacred community, a fisher, a farmer, a dre	eamer, etc.	
And a member ofininininininin		
(faith/spiritual/conscience community)	(neighborhood or district)	
My values of call me to care for o	creation and work for	
environmental justice by		
Ex: getting out faith-rooted and conscience-led voters, calling r	ny elected officials, talking to my	
community about important environmental issues, encouraging	g my sacred community to talk	
about environmental issues, planting community gardens, etc.		

### 4. Start sharing

Sharing your story, your "why" can be daunting and perhaps even a little scary, it's okay to be nervous. AND here are some helpful things to remember and tips for sharing.

Remember: You don't have to be an expert on environmental issues and/or policies. You are already an expert in your own story and that is worth sharing!

### **Tips**

Start with people you trust.

Lean into your strengths
(e.g. writing, talking,
drawing, etc.)

Invite others to share as well.

Our efforts grow when we

work together!

# 501(c)(3) Compliance for Faith and Spiritual Communities In An Election Season

During election season, faith leaders, communities, and people of faith and conscience might be concerned about engaging in the electoral process because of a faith community or organization's tax-exempt status. While there are important things to consider, there are still plenty of opportunities for faith-rooted and conscience-led communities to put their faith/conscience into action for the wellbeing of their communities and the environment.

Leaders and /religious organizations can legally safeguard the right to vote, educate communities on issues and candidates, and encourage participation in the electoral process without running jeopardizing their 501(c)(3) status.

In accordance with the IRS guidelines, below you'll find a list of activities that are permissible and a list of activities that could risk your communities status.

When in doubt, consult the Internal Revenue Service website for guidelines. To read more about IRS guidelines regarding 501(c)(3) compliance check out their resources <u>here</u>.

# 501(c)(3) Compliance for Faith and Spiritual Communities In An Election Season

### Communities Can

- ·Host voter-registration and
- "get out the vote" events.
- ·Participate in non-partisan voter engagement
- ·Take a position on an issue, bill, ballot measure(s)
- ·Educate others and ask them to vote.
- ·Ask an elected to vote a certain way.
- ·Request an agency to take action.
- ·Welcome candidates for public forums if every candidate is invited to participate.
- ·Serve as a polling site.

When in doubt, consult the Internal Revenue Service website for guidelines. To read more about IRS guidelines regarding 501(c)(3) compliance check out their resources here.

### Communities Cannot

- ·Endorse or oppose any candidate for public office.
- ·Fundraise for or make financial contributions to any candidate or political party.
- ·Provide educational material distributed by candidates or political parties.
- Materials must be unbiased toward all candidates.
- ·Rent space to any candidate for a reduced cost. If offering space, it must be made available to all candidates equally and at the same rate.
- ·Publish advertisements sold below market rate or editorials that favor any candidate.

## Cast Your Vote, Washington!



Let's Protect WA's Air and Water!





## Cast Your Vote, Washington!



Let's Protect WA's Air and Water!



## Cast Your Vote, Washington!



Let's Improve the Health of Our Communities!

