

Dear Canton Voter,

It's that time of year again! You are urged to vote for your candidates for the Boards of Selectmen, Finance, and Education on November 7, 2017.

You may ask, how do these boards affect me? Well, for example, the Board of Selectmen is responsible for hiring the Chief Administrative Officer, the Town Counsel, and others. The CAO reports to the Board of Selectmen.

Of the 10,336 residents that call Canton home, there are 7,514 registered voters. Unfortunately only 164 of those voters turned out to have a say in our town's budget of \$37,767,987 in May 2017. That's only 1.6% of our town's population or 2.2% of registered voters determining how 100% of our hard earned tax dollars are being spent!

Your League of Women Voters of Canton is concerned about the lack of voter engagement, especially in municipal elections and referendums (look on page 4 for statistics on past voting performance. You'll be surprised.)

Inside this tool box, are the following:

- How to find out about the candidates, page 3.
- How to find out how to register, page 3.
- Where to vote, page 3.
- Comparisons of valley towns re voting, page 4.
- Information about each board, pages 5-7.
- And for 2018, information about your state officials, pages 8-10.
- Mail-In Voter Registration Form, Page 11

Your citizenship starts at home. Vote in Canton's local elections November 7, 2017 at Canton High School, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. See you there!!

League of Women Voters of Canton



DEMOCRACY IS NOT A
SPECTATOR SPORT

Canton CT: Population 10,336

Registered voters: 7,514



The League of Women Voters of Canton is concerned about a lack of voter engagement as seen by the percentages of our town residents getting out to vote, especially in municipal elections and referendums.

Each vote counts!

On May 22, 2017, only **164** registered voters voted for a budget of \$37,767,987.00

Percentage of citizens who voted in past 3 municipal elections:

2011 **35.27%**

2013 **19.37%**

2015 **31.45%**

(Connecticut Secretary of the State Website)

WE URGE YOU TO VOTE
THIS NOVEMBER AND TO
FORWARD THIS E-MAIL TO
YOUR CANTON FRIENDS.

**November 7, 2017 Municipal
Election.**

On the following pages:

Where to vote, how to register, learn about candidates and more.

On page four you will find a chart of voting patterns of Farmington Valley towns from 2007–2015..

Registration Form on Page 11.

HowHow do

How do I find out about candidates?



**How do I find out about voting?
(see below)**

Candidates' Night: Held at the Canton High School auditorium, 7 p.m. , Tuesday, October 17, 2017 (provided for you by the LWV of Canton.)

The website for Canton's LWV has a link for its Voters' Guide (available in mid October 2017), www.lwvcanton.org.

Valley Press: Provides Q and A for local candidates prior to the election.

Go to the Town of Canton's Website: www.townofcantonct.org. Click on Departments. Click on Registrars of Voters.

Go to LWV of Connecticut website: www.lwvct.org and click on Voter Services

Q-Notify

Sign up on the homepage of Canton's website and click on "Sign up for Notification", or contact the Town Clerk.

2007-2016: Connecticut Secretary of State
 November Election Voting Records for Farmington Valley Towns
www.sots.ct.gov (Connecticut Secretary of State Website)

Farmington Valley Town	2015 Population*	Presidential Election Turnout** 11.8.16	Municipal Election 11.3.15	General Election 11.4.14	Municipal Election 11.5.13	Presidential Election 11.6.12	Municipal Election 11.8.11	Municipal Election 11.3.09	Municipal Election 11.6.07
Avon	18,904	83.29%	32.41%	67.31%	34.37%	82.46%	25.56%	N/A	30.10%
Burlington	9,618	85.03%	15.84%	64.45%	31.73%	81.24%	36.60%	35.9%	39.4%
Canton	10,846	81.29%	31.45%	63.1%	19.37%	81.48%	35.27%	33.6%	43.3%
Farmington	26,092	79.70%	29.91%	61.23%	30.18%	78.48%	28.57%	36.0%	37.7%
Granby	11,534	86.16%	20.06%	68.0%	39.47%	86.22%	14.22%	21.9%	N/A
New Hartford	7,294	86.56%	47.01%	70.11%	50.54%	85.04%	22.14%	51.7%	42.7%
Simsbury	23,343	82.52%	35.49%	64.91%	39.78%	83.73%	36.68%	42.4%	51.4%

*data.ct.gov: Connecticut Town Population – 2015
 **Connecticut Secretary of State website: ctempublic.pctcg.net/#/; accessed 10/3/2017

Updated 10/3/2017

Referendum Data from the Town Clerk of Canton:

11/8/16 with a presidential election– 80% turnout

11/4/14 with a governor race– 62% turnout

5/20/14 budget referendum only– **5%** turnout

5/22/13 referendum question and budget– **18%** turnout

HowLow.do

This fall you will vote for candidates for the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, and the Board of Education. The following pages will remind you why you need to vote for them.



The Board of Selectmen

What does it have to do with you?

The BOS sets tax policies except for matters for the BOE and policies related to land use boards.

Appoints the Chief Administrative Officer, the Finance Officer/Treasurer, and Town Clerk.

Appoints Tax Collector, Police Chief, Fire Chief and Library Director.

Fills vacancies on the non-elected boards and commissions.

Oversees the administrative and fiscal needs of the town.

The First Selectman receives a stipend for this part time position and serves as a non-voting ex-officio member of all Boards and Commissions. This official is the Chief Executive Officer of the Town, is empowered to declare a temporary state of emergency in the Town, and negotiates all labor agreements with Town employees.

The board consists of a First Selectman and 4 elected selectmen. They all serve 4 year terms that are staggered for consistency on the board.

HowHow do

Municipal Elections November 7, 2017



The Board of Finance

**What does it have
to do with you?**

Sets the mill rate on which your property tax bill is based or your landlord's property tax is based.

Approves appropriations up to \$50,000 for the town.

Approves the acceptance and expenditure of any grant of funds or materials up to \$99,999.99.

The BOF also analyzes and reports on long range financial plans and debt management for our town as well as prepares the final annual town budget after receiving proposed budgets from the Boards of Selectmen and Education. There are 6 members of the BOF with staggering terms.

"It is not necessary that someone have a background in finance or a related area. It is far more important that any candidate for a BOF position be interested in serving the town, be open minded and be willing to listen and learn."

Rick Eickenhorst, BOF Board Member.

HowHow do

Be an informed voter.



**The Board of
Education
What does it have
to do with you?**

Our students are our future, and education is a vehicle of opportunity for them.

Our schools are part of the economic engine that keeps our town healthy and attractive.

A large portion of your tax money goes to the Canton schools.

The BOE is responsible for making public education policy for Canton. Board policies are subject to Connecticut law, regulations of the State Commissioner of Education, and courts' decisions. The Board operates under the guidance of a Strategic Plan which is updated every five years by stakeholders in the community.

Did you know that 67% of the town budget is allotted to the Board of Education?

HowHow do

In 2018 state elections will be held. The next few pages will give you information about your state governor, senator, and representative.



Governor of Connecticut

Why is your vote for Governor important?

He or she is the elected head of the executive branch which includes the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, the Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller, Attorney General, and multiple agencies

He or she is commander-in-chief of the State's military forces, enforcer of State laws, has veto power for bills passed by the General Assembly, and can make legislative proposals.

The Governor has a 4 year term with no term limits.

Dannel P. Malloy , our current Governor, can be reached at 860-566-4840 or 800-406-1527.

HowHow

do

Send this e-mail to your friends



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

The Connecticut Senate

Your Senator:

Confirms or rejects the Governor's appointments for the executive department, boards and commissions.

Debates and votes on the budget.

Proposes legislation, discusses it in committee, and votes on it.

Kevin Witkos is your State Senator who represents 11 towns of the 8th Senate District: Canton, Avon, Hartland, Simsbury, Barkhamsted, Colebrook, New Hartford, Harwinton, Torrington, Granby and Norfolk. He is in the first year of his current two year term. There are no term limits.

Senator Witkos can be reached at 1-800-842-1421 (CT only)

Legislative aide: 860-240-0436

www.ctsenaterepublicans.com/contact-witkos

HowHow do

Vote Tuesday, November 7,
2017
Municipal Elections



**The Connecticut
House of
Representatives**

Your Representative:

Debates and votes on the state budget.

Can propose legislation, discuss it in committee, and vote on it.

The speaker of the House presides over the House and controls the flow of legislation and committee assignments.

Tim LeGeyt is Canton and Avon's Representative (17th House District) and is in the first year of his two year term. The Representative has no term limits.

Representative LeGeyt can be reached as follows:

800-842-1423 or 860-240-8700

www.cthousegop.com/legeyt/newsroom



STATE OF CONNECTICUT MAIL-IN VOTER REGISTRATION

(Disponible en Español)
ED-671
REV. 9/11
(CGS §9-23g)

■ YOU MAY USE THIS EASY FORM TO:

- register to vote in Connecticut
- change your name and/or address on current registration
- enroll in a political party or change party enrollment (Changing parties may result in losing rights in all parties for 3 months)

IMPORTANT! Keep your voter record up to date

■ TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN CONNECTICUT YOU MUST:

- be a United States citizen;
- be a resident of a Connecticut town;
- be at least 17 years old (must turn 18 before election day) 17 year olds, who will turn 18 on or before election day, may participate in general primary; **see section 1b below**
- have completed confinement and parole if previously convicted of a disfranchising felony

■ IF YOU MOVE:
You must fill out a new voter registration card if you have moved to a new town. Also, use this form to change address within town. (See section 1a and section 10 below)

■ QUESTIONS?
Call your local Registrar of Voters or the Secretary of the State at (800) 540-3764 or (860) 509-6100 (TDD, 800-303-3161)

■ REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Fill in *all* boxes that apply to you on this application.
2. Place a first-class stamp on the application card, fold, and mail it to the town hall where you live (or deliver it to your town hall or voter registration agency).
3. **You are not a voter until your application is approved by the Registrar of Voters.**
4. You should receive a confirmation within 3 weeks.
5. If you do not, contact the Registrar in your town hall.

■ IF (1) you submit this form by mail and (2) you are registering for the first time in town, you may wish to submit with this application your driver's license number or if none, the last four digits of your social security number; or (a) a copy of a current and valid photo I.D. or (b) a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or government document that shows your name and address, in order to avoid additional I.D. requirements the first time you vote.

■ REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR NEW VOTERS:
PRIMARY: Your application must be postmarked by the 5th day before a primary (OR received by your Registrar of Voters or a voter registration agency by the 5th day before a primary). You may apply in person to your town clerk or registrar until 12:00 noon on the last business day before a primary.
ELECTION: Your application must be postmarked or received by a voter registration agency by the 14th day before an election (OR you may register in person with your Registrar of Voters by the 7th day before an election).

FOLD ----- PLEASE USE PEN ----- PRINT CLEARLY ----- FOLD

1a Check Boxes that Apply:		<input type="checkbox"/> New Voter Registration (includes move to a new town)	<input type="checkbox"/> Address Change (within the same town)	<input type="checkbox"/> Name Change	<input type="checkbox"/> Party Enrollment Change
1b Are you a U.S. citizen? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		Will you be 18 on or before election day? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		If you checked "NO" to either of these questions, do not complete this form.	
Name of Applicant Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms. Last Name		First Name		Middle Name or Initial Jr. Sr. II III IV	
Date of Birth (Month Day Year)		CT Driver's License Number (if none, last 4 digits of Soc. Sec. No.)		Address Where You Live No., Street, Apt. # Town State Connecticut	
6 If Different, Address Where You Get Your Mail (P.O. Box, etc.)		7 Telephone Number (optional)		8 Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	
9 Do you wish to enroll in a political party? <input type="checkbox"/> YES, Name of party: ___Democratic ___Republican Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NO, I do not wish to enroll in a party at this time. <small>Note: Declaring a party enables you to vote in that party's primary election, which is open only to party members. You may later choose to switch enrollment to or from a political party.</small>		10 NAME or ADDRESS CHANGE. Previous Voting Address (if none, write "NONE") No., Street, Apt. # Town County State Name Under Which Registered (if different from above)			
11 I swear or affirm that: • I am a U.S. Citizen • I live at the address shown in box 5 above • I am at least 17 years old • I have not been convicted of a disfranchising felony, or, if so, I am eligible to register to vote • The information provided here is true Signature _____ Today's Date: ____/____/____		12 Would you like to work at the Polls on Election Day? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			
NOTE: The particular social service office at which you register to vote, or whether you decline to register, remains confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes.		WARNING: If you sign this statement even though you know it is untrue, you can be convicted and imprisoned for up to five years and fined up to \$5,000.			
THIS SECTION COMPLETED ONLY BY AGENCY (OR SPECIAL ASSISTANT REGISTRAR OR TOWN CLERK) (Date Received by Agency)		THIS SECTION COMPLETED ONLY BY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS			
DATE RECEIVED BY REGISTRAR		REGISTRAR INITIAL		APPLICATION IS HEREBY: <input type="checkbox"/> ACCEPTED <input type="checkbox"/> REJECTED <input type="checkbox"/> NOTICE RETURNED UNDELIVERABLE	
DATE ENROLLMENT EFFECTIVE IF CHANGING PARTY		REASON FOR REJECTION		DATE NOTICE MAILED	