

2012 Political Party Caucuses

Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at 7 p.m.



WHAT IS A POLITICAL PARTY PRECINCT CAUCUS?

Precinct caucuses are meetings organized by Minnesota’s political parties. At each caucus the party begins its process of selecting candidates for the 2012 election and policy positions to shape its party platform. Caucuses provide a great opportunity for citizens to engage in Minnesota’s political process at the “grassroots” level. Caucuses are an important way to influence the direction and decisions of our government.

WHAT DO CAUCUS ATTENDEES DO?

- **Discuss public policy issues and pass resolutions**
Caucuses provide a forum for citizens to discuss a wide range of public policy and political issues with their neighbors. Attendees may also offer and vote on resolutions to shape the party's platform.
- **Vote in a straw poll**
Political parties will conduct a straw poll to gauge caucus attendees' presidential candidate preference.
- **Elect precinct officers**
Officers are responsible for organizing political activities within the precinct.
- **Elect delegates**
Delegates influence which candidates and policy positions their party endorses. Caucus attendees elect delegates and alternates to represent their precinct at the political party's county or district convention. District and county convention delegates, in turn, elect delegates to the political party's congressional and state conventions. Congressional and state delegates elect national convention delegates.

WHO CAN ATTEND THE CAUCUSES?

Precinct caucuses are open to the public and participation is encouraged by the political parties. In order to vote, offer resolutions or become a delegate at a precinct caucus, attendees must be eligible to vote in the 2012 general election, live in the precinct and be in general agreement with the principles of the political party.

WHERE IS MY CAUCUS?

The Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State is working with all of Minnesota’s political parties to provide Caucus Finder: a free, online service to assist citizens in locating the caucus meetings in their neighborhood. This on-line service will become available in late January 2012. Prior to then, contact your political party of choice directly for caucus locations.

WHEN IS MY CAUCUS?

- Constitution Party**
Tuesday, February 7, 2012, at 7 p.m.
- Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party**
Tuesday, February 7, 2012, at 7 p.m.
- Green Party**
Tuesday, February 7, 2012, at 7 p.m.
- Independence Party**
Tuesday, February 7, 2012, at 7 p.m.
- Republican Party**
Tuesday, February 7, 2012, at 7 p.m.

NO PRECINCT CAUCUS IN 2012

- Grassroots Party**
- Libertarian Party**

Are caucus meeting locations accessible to individuals with disabilities?

Yes. Most caucuses are held in accessible buildings. Anyone needing interpretive services or caucus materials in alternate formats should write or e-mail their political party’s state office in advance for further assistance.

POLITICAL PARTY CONTACTS

Constitution Party

36235 U.S. Hwy. 71, Redwood Falls, MN 56283
 Phone: 507-644-3183
 E-mail: info@cpmn.org
 Website: www.cpmn.org

Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party

255 E. Plato Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55107
 Phone: 651-293-1200
 Toll free: 1-800-999-7457
 E-mail: caucus@df.org
 Website: www.dfl.org

Green Party

180 East 5th Street, Suite 222
 St. Paul, MN 55101
 Phone: 651-288-2820,
 E-mail: caucus@mngreens.org
 Website: www.mngreens.org

Grassroots Party

6304 Falcon Court, Edina, MN 55436
 Phone: 651-280-7922
 E-mail: tc_wright38@yahoo.com

Independence Party

P.O. Box 40495, St. Paul, MN 55104
 Phone: 651-487-9700
 E-mail: karijohnson.robinsonip@gmail.com
 Website: www.mnip.org

Libertarian Party

1201 42 ½ Ave. NE,
 Columbia Heights, MN 55421
 Phone: 763-561-8038
 E-mail: info@lpmn.org
 Website: www.lpmn.org

Republican Party

525 Park St., Suite #250, St. Paul, MN 55103
 Phone: 651-222-0022
 Toll free: 1-877-467-6466
 E-mail: caucus@mngop.com
 Website: www.mngop.com

BE AN ELECTION JUDGE!

Election judges are paid officials who staff local polling places, administer election procedures, and ensure that the rights of voters are protected on Election Day.

Election judges are essential to our democracy. Serving as an election judge provides an opportunity to learn more about the election process and is a great service to our community.

DUTIES OF AN ELECTION JUDGE

- Set up the polling place
- Operate voting equipment
- Register individuals to vote
- Ensure qualified voters are permitted to vote
- Demonstrate how to vote
- Distribute ballots to voters
- Assist voters
- Close down polling place
- Determine results after polls close
- Certify the polling place results

If you are interested in becoming an election judge, attend your political party's precinct caucus and ask to be placed on a list of potential election judges, or contact your city clerk, township clerk or county auditor.

Further information on becoming an election judge is available at: www.sos.state.mn.us or call 651-215-1440 or 1-877-600-8683 (toll free).

This document is available in alternate formats for individuals with disabilities.