



*League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County
Established in Livonia in 1960*

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County is a non-partisan, political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influence public policy through education and advocacy.

With 35 members in 1960, the League of Women Voters of Livonia was chartered by the League of Women Voters of the United States. In 2001, the League was re-named as the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County to more correctly identify the communities that it serves: Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Redford, Wayne, Garden City, Westland and Northville Township.

The Northwest Wayne County League includes approximately 50 members in 2010. Members are also part of the League of Women Voters of Michigan (about 1,700 members) and the League of Women Voters of the United States (about 7,000 members). Both the National League and the State League originated in 1920. The League is a volunteer organization for women and men, and members are its most valuable asset.

For 50 years, the League of Women Voters has provided non-partisan election information to the citizens of its communities. One of the League's principal goals is to build citizen participation in the democratic process. Some of the activities that promote this goal include:

- Non-partisan, public candidate forums
- Non-partisan Voter Guides that are available in libraries and on-line
- Voter registration drives
- Educational forums for ballot proposals and other current issues
- Bi-annual publication of "They Represent You" - a listing of contact information for the area's elected officials
- College scholarships to area students given as a result of member fundraising
- Educational meetings on public policy issues, assisting people in seeking positive solutions

The work of the League is financed by the dues of members, contributions from citizens in the community, and League fundraisers.

The League works on many 'good government' issues, including: convenient voting, transparency in elections and policy-making, campaign finance reform, raising ethical standard for candidates, elected officials and top administration officials, and restoring confidence in the election process.

As the League celebrates 50 years of being a trusted, non-partisan source of election information, its members are dedicated to continuing the work of being directly involved in shaping the important issues that keep its communities safe, strong and vibrant. The League is where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.