



September, 2023

lwvccpa.org

A Message from the President

The Elections are coming! The Elections are coming!

Before you know it, election day will be here and gone. Those election results will surely impact most of us in one way or another.

I would like to take a moment to focus on the School Board elections. This level of election is highly impactful on the community. School Boards shape our communities in important ways. They also are “some of the most influential government bodies in our day-to-day lives but are also some of the most overlooked in election coverage.”

Consider the following data. 9,000 school districts across 35 states (69% of the nation’s 13,500 public school districts, governed by 83,000 school board members) are holding school board elections this year. The numbers tell many stories!

Do you know the candidates running in your school district? Of most importance do you know Why the candidates are running? Take advantage of every opportunity that presents itself for you, the voter, to meet and interact with the candidates.

Finally, **don’t forget to Vote** but **Vote with Knowledge**. You will be glad that you did!

Encourage your neighbors and friends to vote as well.

Susan Carty, President LWVCC

Notices

Upcoming Dates:

LWVCC Board Meeting, Saturday September 16, 10:00AM, East Goshen Twp. Building, 1580 Paoli Pike, West Chester, PA 19380.
For the near future we will have in-person meetings only.

It's that time again!

2023 DUES REMINDER

League of Women Voters of Chester County

WE ARE ACCEPTING DUES AND DONATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024

We hope you will renew your LWVCC membership. You are welcome to email me to double check on your dues status, mgrothman@verizon.net. Thank you if you are up to date.

CONTINUE TO STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY

(so we can see you in person again at League events and meetings.)

Our new League year (2023-2024) began on July 1, 2023. You are welcome to pay your dues using PayPal or mail a check, made out to LWVCC, to PO Box 62, Exton, PA 19341. As always, your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you. We could not do what we do without members like you.

Annual Membership Dues: \$75.00. For additional household member \$37.50 each.

Student Membership FREE

If you prefer, use PayPal for dues and donation at <https://www.lwvccpa.org/join-us>

Meryle Rothman, membership chair

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Criminal Justice Committee is searching for additional members. Current members are Anton Andrews, Robin Garrett and myself.

We were pleased that Celeste Trusty agreed to be our speaker at the League's Annual Dinner. She is a Director of FAMM – Families Against Mandatory Minimums. We keep in touch with her through the organization.

Currently the Committee is focusing on “compassionate release”; see VOTER newsletters February 2023, May 2023 and June 2023 for articles informing the members about the work of the Committee.

We meet face to face, by telephone and at times by Zoom. The Committee would be happy if you would join us.

If you have questions or are interested in joining us, please contact me at phylliskaysharp@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kay Sharp

Environment Committee

The Dangers of Fracking for our Children

<https://apnews.com/article/fracking-pennsylvania-health-environment-research-79dd7cfb9b3799e628b0c3667f30dcc4?emci=09879631-e13b-ee11-a3f1-00224832eb73&emdi=8fdb6441-283c-ee11-a3f1-00224832eb73&ceid=168624>

Concerned Health Professionals of New York, Physicians for Social Responsibility, and New York Science and Environmental Health Network collection of research on the detrimental effects of fracking. PDF source for information:

<https://psr.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/compendium-8.pdf>

ENDOCRINE DISRUPTORS IN PLASTICS: STATE POLICY OPTIONS

**A FREE EDUCATIONAL WEBINAR
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 7-8 PM ET US**



Pete Myers, Ph.D.
Environmental Health Network



Senator Pete Harckham
New York State Legislature



Megan Wolff, Ph.D., MPH
Beyond Plastics

Sponsored by



<https://bennington.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMpc-GhqzspHtxuRQ-dn5oig6Xt1EWBX9fr>

Voter Services

Val Thomas will be heading up a new committee for Voter Services. Pam Gray and Ellen Richardson are on the committee.

September 17 **Restaurant Festival in West Chester**. Contact Val Thomas, valkentroy@aol.com if you are interested in working a table. A notice has been sent by Mary Lou Dondaro as well.

September 19 is **National Voter Registration Day** at Libraries. Most libraries in the area have voter registration information from LWVCC. If you find your local library does not have at of our Legislative Directories or Vote411 postcards, let Pam Gray know so they can be distributed. pag172@aol.com

Boscov's Day is Wednesday October 18. Contact Pam Gray if interested in purchasing passes for that day. They are \$5.00 each.

Calling All Tableclothes!

If you have any of the following equipment for operating voter registration tables please let Val Thomas know valkentroy@aol.com.

- Navy Blue Tableclothes
- Banners that say League of Women Voters of Chester County
- Plastic boxes with materials such as pens, buttons, paperclips, etc.
- Table/tables
- Canopy

LWVPA is Looking for a Liaison for the Delaware River Basin Monitoring Advisory and Coordination Committee

The Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) is a Federal-interstate compact agency charged with managing the water resources of the Delaware River Basin on a regional basis without regard to political boundaries. We have been a DRBC Monitoring Advisory and Coordination Committee (MACC) member for many years.

MACC monitors water quality and discusses the environmental impacts of projects along the Delaware River Basin. LWVPA needs a liaison between the commission and our leagues in the Delaware River Basin. The liaison would be able to obtain first-hand knowledge of projects within the basin and advocate on behalf of the company and citizens living in the Delaware River Basin. The liaison would be required to attend a two-hour Zoom meeting quarterly and prepare a brief report to share with LWVPA and our Delaware River Basin leagues. We could create a committee from one or several leagues for complete coverage. Redundancy in covering the meeting would be prudent. The next MACC meeting will be on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

If you are interested, please get in touch with Kathy Cook at Kathy.cook@palwv.org.

Counties in the Delaware River Basin: Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Delaware, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Pike, Schuylkill, Wayne and Philadelphia

Microwave + Plastic = Microplastics

WHY YOU SHOULDN'T MICROWAVE YOUR FOOD IN PLASTIC

- When food or beverages are microwaved in plastic containers, chemical additives from inside the plastic migrate into the food and tiny flecks of plastic known as micro- and nanoplastics are also shed into the food. Both of these can present health risks.
- Thousands of chemicals are added to plastics to give them color, texture, softness, or rigidity. Of the 10,500 chemicals known to researchers, 2,300 are considered “substances of concern” because they are known to cause cancer, disrupt neural development, and hijack hormonal signals throughout the human body.
- Even at room temperature, many of the chemicals in plastics migrate into food.
- Micro- and nanoplastics also shed from plastic packaging into food at room temperature.
- The process of chemical migration and the shedding of microplastic both speed up when plastic is heated.
- As early as 2003, investigators published articles demonstrating that the “use of commercial plastic packages for repeated microwaving is associated with the risk of increased migration of volatile substances into food.”
- Researchers testing baby food containers from two mainstream US brands found that polypropylene (#5) labeled as “microwave safe” released 4.2 million and 1.2 billion particles per square centimeter of plastic each, after being heated in a microwave.
- Many of the chemicals that leach out of plastics into food or are consumed as microplastics are endocrine disruptors (EDCs) meaning that they “disrupt” the hormonal signals that regulate vital body processes.
- As with other environmental toxicants, endocrine disruptors pose greater health risks for children than adults. They are particularly dangerous for newborns, toddlers, pregnant people, and the developing fetus.



Beyond Plastics is a project based at Bennington College | www.BeyondPlastics.org