

May 5th special election, August 4th primary, and November 3rd general election

Date	Deadline or Time Frame	Local League Coordinator Activities
January 2026	VOTE411 account setup. Can do this anytime.	<input type="checkbox"/> Request VOTE411 guide for your league if you don't already have access, by emailing LWVMI (vote411@lwvmi.org). <input type="checkbox"/> Assign responsibility for VOTE411 management. <input type="checkbox"/> Inform LWVMI of any new VOTE411 personnel.
Before 1/26/2026	ONLY IF APPLICABLE - Prepare VOTE411 for May 5 election	<input type="checkbox"/> Begin VOTE411 setup tasks (email templates, bio fields, questions, etc.). <input type="checkbox"/> Request VOTE411 training as needed.
1/26/2026	Candidate filing deadline for most offices for May election	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact county/local clerks to obtain race information and candidate contact information. <input type="checkbox"/> Input or review races and candidates. Track down any missing email addresses.
2/10/2026	Proposal language approval date for May election.	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact county/local clerks to obtain proposal text. <input type="checkbox"/> Create measure(s) and input proposal text. <input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Enter pros/cons for proposals.
~First week of March*	Send invitations 2-3 weeks prior to absentee ballot distribution.	<input type="checkbox"/> Send invitations to candidates. *LWVUS recommends sending invitations 2 weeks before publishing. You may want to give yourself extra time to troubleshoot bounced emails.
Invitation date until May 5	Candidates enter responses.	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor responses. If necessary, send email reminders and make follow-up calls/texts to unresponsive candidates.
3/21/2026	Absentee ballot distribution date. PUBLISH DATE for May 5 election.	<input type="checkbox"/> Submit guide to LWVUS >24 hours prior to publish date. LWVUS doesn't work weekends. <input type="checkbox"/> Publish VOTE411.
Anytime prior to 4/27/2026	Prepare VOTE411 for August 4 primary election	<input type="checkbox"/> Begin VOTE411 setup tasks (email templates, bio fields, questions, etc.) for August races. <input type="checkbox"/> Request VOTE411 training as needed.
5/6/2026	Wrap-up after May 5 election	<input type="checkbox"/> Export guide for record-keeping. <input type="checkbox"/> Archive candidates. <input type="checkbox"/> Unpublish completed races/ballot measures. <input type="checkbox"/> Delete ballot measures.

5/12/2026	Proposal language approval date for August election.	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact county/local clerks to obtain proposal text. <input type="checkbox"/> Create measure(s) and input proposal text. <input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Enter pros/cons for proposals.
~First week of June*	Send invitations 2-3 weeks prior to absentee ballot distribution.	<input type="checkbox"/> Send invitations to candidates. *LWVUS recommends sending invitations 2 weeks before publishing. You may want to give yourself extra time to troubleshoot bounced emails.
Invitation until primary	Candidates enter responses.	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor responses. If necessary, send email reminders and make follow-up calls/texts to unresponsive candidates.
6/20/2026	Absentee ballot distribution date. PUBLISH DATE for August 4 primary.	<input type="checkbox"/> Submit guide to LWVUS >24 hours prior to publish date. LWVUS doesn't work weekends. <input type="checkbox"/> Publish VOTE411.
8/5/2026 - 8/11/2026	Archive and wrap up after the primary election and prepare for the general election.	<input type="checkbox"/> Export published guide for record-keeping. Archive only the losing candidates. Unpublish completed races and measures. Delete measures. <input type="checkbox"/> Create or update email templates as needed. <input type="checkbox"/> Create or review other setup (questions, bio fields, etc.) Check format of races imported from previous guides.
8/11/2026	Candidate filing deadline for most offices for general election.	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact clerks for updated race and new candidate lists. <input type="checkbox"/> Obtain email addresses for candidates who have not provided them.
8/11/2026	Proposal language approval date for general election.	<input type="checkbox"/> Contact county/local clerks to obtain proposal text. <input type="checkbox"/> Create measure(s) and input proposal text. <input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Enter pros/cons for proposals.
~ Mid-August (if printing) or ~first week of September	Send invitations 2-3 weeks prior to absentee ballot distribution or your deadline to allow for printing, which will be earlier.	<input type="checkbox"/> Send invitations to <i>NEW</i> candidates. *LWVUS recommends sending invitations 2 weeks before publishing. You may want to give yourself extra time to troubleshoot bounced emails.
Invitation date until November 5	Candidates enter responses.	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor responses. If necessary, send email reminders and make follow-up calls/texts to unresponsive candidates.
Your deadline to allow for printing	If you are creating a printed guide, export VOTE411 data	<input type="checkbox"/> Export races and measures for your printed guide. <input type="checkbox"/> Edit your printed guide, send to printer, etc.

9/19/2026	Absentee ballot distribution date for general election. PUBLISH DATE for November 5 election.	<input type="checkbox"/> Submit guide to LWVUS >24 hours prior to publish date. LWVUS doesn't work weekends. <input type="checkbox"/> Publish VOTE411.
After 11/3/2026	Archive and wrap up this election year.	<input type="checkbox"/> Export published races and measures for record-keeping. <input type="checkbox"/> Archive candidates. <input type="checkbox"/> Unpublish completed races/ballot measures. <input type="checkbox"/> Delete ballot measures.