

Culpeper County Democratic Committee
2024 Election Debrief Session
Culpeper Police Department Community Room
Saturday, December 7, 2024
Facilitator: Jan Fitts

Election data overview - Dan Else

An analysis of 40 years of Virginia and Culpeper election data shows Culpeper's citizens voting for Republican candidates remains as strong as ever.

Overview and discussion of the collaboration between the Presidential Coordinated Campaign and Democratic Party of Virginia (DPVA) – Matt Borja

The four Piedmont counties worked well among themselves within the Coordinated Campaign but often felt the leadership teams at the Coordinated and Congressional Campaigns were unresponsive to their input and requests. Responsiveness at the State level was even lower as the DPVA tends to pay little attention to rural issues. Matt pointed out that the Democratic National Committee (DNC) controls the Coordinated Campaign, and the Democratic Party of Virginia (DPVA) has limited power in national elections.

Door knocking

- Is it effective when so few doors are opened? Many feel it is not.
- Labor intensive
- If there is a Ring system, the door is almost certain to be unanswered
- If answered, a 15-second "elevator speech" is the max that may be listened to
- A community presence; such as the farmers' market and CulpeperFest, provides greater citizen interaction

Virginia is actually gerrymandered slightly in favor of Democrats.

What should 2025's focus be?

- Work just as hard as in 2024; push just as hard to get out the vote. A LOT is at stake.
- Invest in putting up more large signs around the town and county
- Continue to build community by continuing to be a positive presence; including non-political ways such as the food closet, warming shelter, etc.
- During early voting, strive for a daily CCDC presence outside the Registrar's office

Ideas for increasing younger generations' involvement in 2025:

- Develop strategies to increase the younger generations' vote for Democratic candidates
- Build the CCDC's relationship with the Young Democrats
- Increase the CCDC's social media presence in a manner geared toward younger citizens