

## **SELECTING AND CUTTING TURF**

A “turf” is a single, walkable section of a precinct that 1-2 volunteers can successfully cover in 2 hours.

### **WHAT YOU NEED TO CUT TURF:**

- Precinct maps
- Walking list of the district, printed by precinct in walking order.
- Scissors, highlighters, tape.
- Someone who KNOWS the district.
- A standard for how much turf one person can cover in 2 hours. This standard may change in different parts of the district, according to density patterns. If you don't know this number, go out and do a test!

In a fairly dense area of single-family homes/duplexes, one person can knock on 60-80 doors in two hours, and will find 50% of the voters at home on a typical Saturday morning.

### **HOW TO CUT TURF:**

- 1) Make 4-6 copies of each precinct map.
- 2) Match a page from the walking list to the map that corresponds to it.
- 3) Count out or approximate the number of households on that page.
- 4) Add the next page, from the opposite side of the street, and then adjoining streets, until you reach 80 households.
- 5) Highlight on a copy of the precinct map only those streets that match the walk lists you have just counted.
- 6) As you work, keep a master precinct map, with subsections marked “A,” “B,” “C,” etc.
- 7) You end up with Pct. 4022-A, 4022-B, 4022-C, etc., with a master map that marks them all.

### **HOW TO PREPARE CLIPBOARDS**

- 1) Make low-cost clipboards from corrugated plastic, cardboard, old lawn signs or lightweight wood if necessary. Buy large alligator clips to hold papers.
- 2) If you're canvassing during a rainy season, buy heavy sheets of plastic and cut rain covers for the top of each clipboard.
- 3) Under the rain cover, place the map of the assigned turf, with the corresponding pages of the walk list beneath it.
- 4) Under that, place a copy of the campaign rap, and any fact sheets that you wish to include.
- 5) Stick a couple of voter registration cards on the bottom, under the clip, if you're still within the period of legal voter registration.

### **HOW TO CHECK OUT TURFS**

- 1) Place all the clipboards and turfs, in priority order, standing up in a box.
- 2) Make a chart or poster with the list of each turf that's ready to be assigned.
- 3) As volunteers come in, have them sign in and give them the next priority turf.
- 4) Record their name and phone number on the chart, so you can check them off when they come back in!
- 5) Hand them a stack of literature with the proper number of pieces of literature (80 pieces of literature, in this example) held together by a rubber band.
- 6) Invite them toward refreshments while they wait for people to gather for the training.