

II. Values

A. Ten Key Values

The Georgia Green Party holds the following ten key values in common with other Greens:

- Ecological Wisdom
- Grassroots Democracy
- Social Justice
- Peace and Non-Violence
- Decentralization
- Community Based Economics
- Feminism
- Respect for Diversity
- Personal and Global Responsibility
- Future Focus on Sustainability

VIII. Political Practices & Green Etiquette

A. Political Practices

The Georgia Green Party is a confederation of local Green chapters and individual members unaffiliated with local chapters with a structure consistent with the principles of grassroots democracy, including:

1. Accountability to membership base

The Georgia Green Party shall remain structured so that its parts -- the Annual Convention, the Coordinating Council, the Quick Decision Council, committees, working groups and so forth -- are accountable to the membership base as manifested through the Annual Convention.

2. Immediate Recall

Representatives at every level shall always be immediately recallable by the bodies that choose them, as provided in these By-Laws, and policies and procedures of the Georgia Green Party.

3. Imperative Mandate

Imperative Mandate means that representatives must follow the instructions of the bodies they represent. Representatives are free to express their personal views but must vote as instructed. The Georgia Green Party may give their delegates mandates of discretion to act within the framework of local policy, so that compromises may be negotiated, and positions taken on issues not specifically discussed within the local. The use of non-negotiable mandated positions shall be the right of the membership, but should be carefully considered.

4. Freedom to Speak and Caucus around Political Views

Members in the minority on a decision may publicly dissent from that decision, and organize caucuses to promote their views, provided they clearly distinguish their position from that of the majority. To ensure that their views are represented at larger confederated levels of the organization, minorities may call for a procedure of political division in the allocation of mandated proportional votes.

5. Affirmative Action

The Georgia Green Party shall take affirmative action to reach goals of sexual, racial and social diversity and balance in the allocation of responsibilities among members. The Coordinating Council shall be responsible for making participation in the organizing process of the Georgia Green Party open to all interested Greens and people reflective of the social diversity of Georgia. The Georgia Green Party shall communicate and work to develop the broad whole of Green thought and action, and to convey Green ideas to the general public.

6. Rotation of Delegates

The Georgia Green Party is encouraged to rotate their delegates in confederal representative bodies and in any coalitions they enter into on a staggered basis in order to ensure both broad participation in responsibilities and continuity from one meeting to the next.

7. Democratic Decision Rules

The Georgia Green Party and its parts -- the Annual Convention, the Coordinating Council, the Quick Decision Council, committees, working groups and so forth -- while free to set their own democratic decision making processes are encouraged to use agreement-seeking processes in which all points of view are fairly and openly heard. The judgement of whether an adopted process is in fact democratic shall rest with the membership at an Annual Convention.

8. Freedom of information

Meetings and records of finances, membership, minutes and so on shall be open to inspection by any member in good standing. A meeting may be closed by majority vote to consider personnel matters or a lawsuit to which the Georgia Green Party, an affiliated local or a member or elected servant of the Party is a party. The Coordinating Council shall see that the Georgia Green Party complies with all applicable state and federal laws relative to the disclosure of campaign finance information.

9. Strategic Diversity

A full range of non-violent strategies and tactics shall be considered permissible and desirable in pursuing Green social change, this includes but is not limited to rallies, demonstrations, boycotts, citizen's initiatives, civil disobedience, direct action, building alternative institutions, educational outreach, neighborhood organizing and/or electoral politics.