

Help doc for tx-dem's Mobilize map utility

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This introduces **users and hosts** of Mobilize.us mapping app to a utility available specifically for Texas. The first half of this is for the **users trying to find events of interest**. Good hosts should be proficient users of it as well. The next section is for **hosts discussing tips on tags and other plans for their event**. Thanks in advance for your attention to this matter! <- DJT ;-)

Tips and warnings

Tip1: Table of contents – Clicking on each line of the TOC takes you to the section on all platforms. Your phone may drop you into the middle of the page, where you may have to scroll up or down to find the topic you clicked on.

Tip2: Optimal traversing – Google up “how to show bookmarks on YOUR_DEVICE/BROWSER” e.g. Chrome, iPad, Mac, Safari . . When found/used it usually starts with the top line: “> **Help doc for tx-dem's Mobilize map utility**”.. When you see that, keep clicking all of the “>” to expand the entire TOC. With that you may click to anywhere you want to go in the doc.

Tip3: On phone – Turn horizontal and turn off the page(s) preview for best readability.

Tip4: Hyperlink usage – When viewing this doc on browsers on a desktop or equivalent, it is usually best to right mouse click on the hyperlink and select: “**Open link in a new tab**”. Have not had success on iPhone, as it goes to the link, and cannot return.

Warning: *All pictures here are from about Aug 20 to Labor Day Sept 1 2025– events, tags, and the app change. The concept/mechanisms remain the same.*

Users help section

Location: Your hub for Democratic Engagement in Texas. Updated Daily

<https://tx-dems.org/>

See Figure 1: tx-dems home page



Figure 1. This site is a great source for keeping north Texans informed of what's going on locally, always up to date. The logo is in the red circle. Note- the admins like to change the front picture, always timely and in great taste!

The menu items (comma separated):

Home, Tarrant County, Dallas County, Denton County, Collin County,
National Organizations, Voter Registration, Calendar of Events, **Maps**

Select menu item - **Maps**:

<https://maps.tx-dems.org/>

See Figure 2: The mapping tool

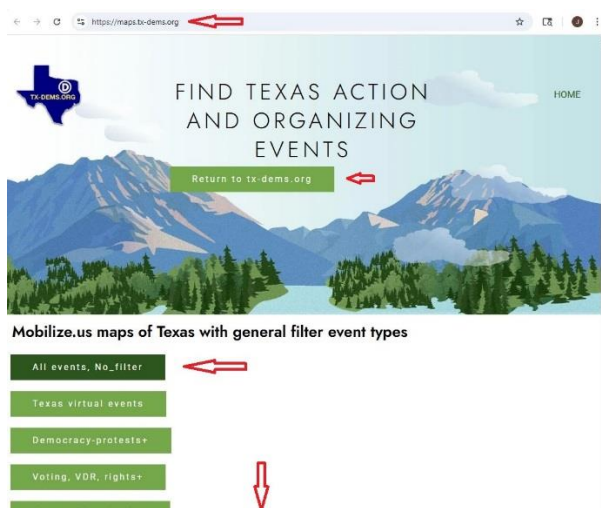


Figure 2. Top of the maps utility that assists users to find events they are interested in. It is all one long page (downward arrow) with filter buttons followed by **Button descriptions** (Figure 6). Return to tx-dems.org button (two of them) does what it says, returns to main.

All events – no filter tags

For the first look at the tool choose to use the "**All events, No filter**" where fortunately there are plenty of events/activities to get involved in. All events tagged or not will be shown here. Many might say it's way too much to dive into, and that's where tag filtering may help.

See Figure 3: All events, No_filter button selected

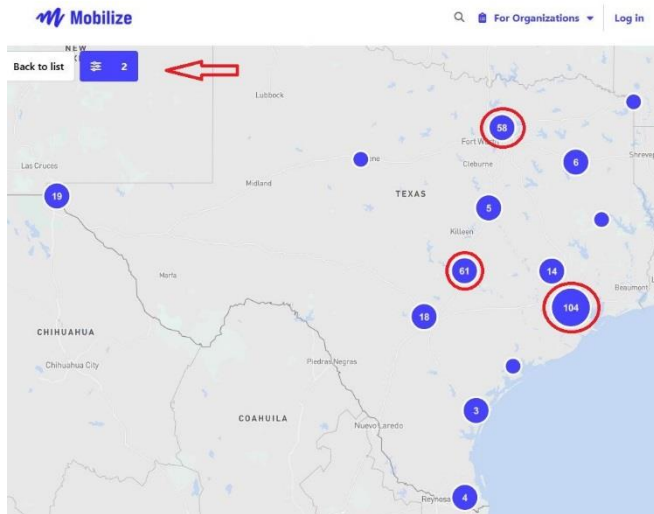


Figure 3. Shows all the events statewide for the next few weeks. The top arrow is pointing to the filter count (3) – no tags used. There are many events (maybe too many) to choose from... Dallas **58**, Austin **61**, and Houston **104**! One could say "*Houston, we have a problem*" ... Tag filtering **will** help!

Event preview to full details

So, on the map, zoom into a location/event, then:

Click on a location - the blue circle and the banner box previews the event. The banner usually tells you a general idea of the event. Well-funded groups are great with banners/more, smaller groups do the best we can ;-)

See Figure 4: Event preview example

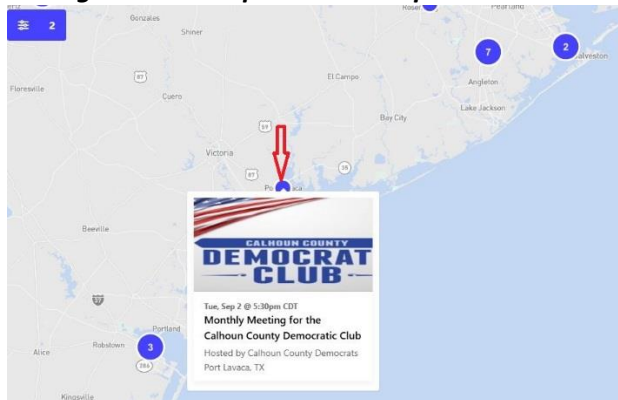


Figure 4. What events are happening near the Gulf of Mexico? Here is one at the Calhoun County Library, Port Lavaca, TX. Zooming in and clicking on a blue location button (downward arrow) provided this preview briefing page. Looks interesting. To learn more of the event, **click on the preview banner for details.** . .

Click on the preview box for details of: Time, Location, About this event, Accessibility, and Tags

See Figure 5: This event's details

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying an event page on <https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/457242/>. The page is titled "Time" and "Location". The "Time" section indicates the event is on "Tuesdays" from "5:30 – 7:30pm CDT". The "Location" section lists "Calhoun County Library" at "200 W Mahan St, Port Lavaca, TX 77979", with a "Map" link. The "About this event" section describes the "Monthly Meeting for the Calhoun County Democratic Club" and provides contact information. The "Accessibility" section lists features like "ADA standards", "Accessible restrooms", and "Mainly flat ground". The "Tags" section includes "County Party, Democratic Meeting, Texas Democrats". A red arrow points to the URL in the browser address bar.

Time
Tuesdays
5:30 – 7:30pm CDT

Location
Calhoun County Library
200 W Mahan St
Port Lavaca, TX 77979
[Map](#)

About this event
Our Monthly Meeting for the Calhoun County Democratic Club is the first Tuesday of the month (except on election days) at the public library in Port Lavaca.
The meeting starts at 6pm but the social/potluck starts at 5:30pm.
This an in-person only event.
For more information on the club: <https://www.calhountxdemocrats.org/>
If you need to contact us: info@calhountxdemocrats.org

Accessibility
ⓘ This event meets ADA standards
✓ Accessible restrooms
Wheelchair ramp
Mainly flat ground
COVID-19 safety protocols
📄 Notes from the organizer: It's at the public library so a lot of what you would expect. We have masks and hand sanitizer as well.
🔔 Have accessibility questions? Reply to your registration email to confirm your requirements or request more information.

Tags
County Party, Democratic Meeting, Texas Democrats

Figure 5. This shows the details with the contents of: **Time, Location, About this event, Accessibility, Tags.** This one matches the **About this event** and **Tags** reasonably well, i.e. what you see is what you get! **You can copy/paste the URL (top arrow pointing left) to share this particular event with others.**

Presence of tags rules:

1- none - This event will only be found on the "**All events, No filter**" and potentially on the "**Texas virtual events**" selection.

2- are misspelled/unique/new - behaves like rule #1.

3- found in the tag-list (near end of this doc) - likely to be in one or more of the nine general category filter buttons

Button descriptions . .

Now would be a great time to scroll down the app just past the buttons to the section starting with: "**Button descriptions . . .**" This section describes the current filter tags utilized for the button's category.

See Figure 6: Button descriptions . . .



Button descriptions . . .

All events, No filter – All Mobilize.us events of Texas no filter for tags.

Texas virtual events – All Mobilize.us virtual events of Texas no filter for tags.

Democracy-protests+ – filter tags: #teslatakedown, Beto, Bridge Brigade, Democratic Meeting, In Person, Nonviolence, Protest, Rally, Rally For Democracy!, Resistance, Voting rights

Voting, VDR, rights+ – filter tags: Beto, Get out the Vote, GOTV, Voter Empowerment, Voter registration, Voting rights

Canvas-Phonebanks+ – filter tags: Candidate Event, Canvass, Fundraising, Get out the Caucus, Networking, Organizing, Phonebank, Training, Volunteer

Labor, unions, jobs + – filter tags: #laborday, Labor, Jobs and the economy, Union

Ethnic related topics – filter tags: Black Democrats, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, Black Community, Black Women, Latinx Community, Muslim Americans, South Asian Americans

Education, students+ – filter tags: Community Event, Community Engagement, Education, Student event, Training

Social food & drink + – filter tags: Community building, Happy Hour, Networking, Open House, Social Event

Note: The following buttons scope all of the US – due to very little Texas activity recently

Women rights, plus + – filter tags: Black Women, Reproductive Rights, Women

Climate, Environment+ -filter tags: Climate Action, Climate Justice, Environmental Justice

Don't see your event(s) in the proper category above? Be part of the solution -> Inform the mobilize host to utilize tags. Helpful for more attendees to your events and interested users looking for them.



Figure 6. (Top upward arrow) Above the Women rights, plus + button would be Social food & drink + button and upward. **Button descriptions** will always show the current button's name and the tags it is using. Use the button (bottom arrow pointing left) to go back to **tx-dems.org** main base. This is at the bottom of the app.

Filter selected e.g. Voting, VDR, rights+ and custom searches

After your review, click on a few of the nine filter buttons. Here's an example:

See Figure 7: Voting, VDR, rights+ button selected

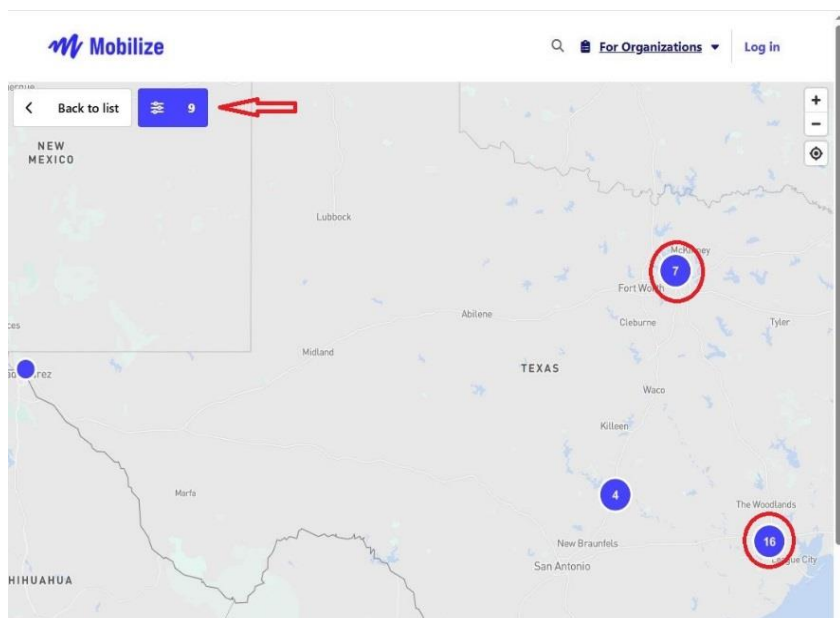


Figure 7. Look back to **Figure 3** - Now we have 7 Dallas events, Houston 16. Now that is manageable! "*Houston thanks for fixing the air filter problem*" ... **Hit that #9** filter button (left arrow) for details about these filters. See **Figure 8**

First and foremost, notice there are far less events to choose from. Now repeat drilling into the details of an event, and note, there will be at least one of the tags this button/category advertised.

Power user, nerdy? -> Make your custom searches. Perhaps the filter closest to what you are looking for is the **Voting, VDR, rights+** - Click that button, then click on the left arrow at the top of **Figure 7**.

Follow instructions from:

See Figure 8: Select your own search criteria

Figure 8. The radio buttons can select for one day or a beginning and ending date (two top arrows). To delete a filter (top downward arrow) hit the upper right x of the tag. Add them by using the downward arrow of the Tags box (left pointing arrow) Mobilize shows a list, though it a mere subset in most cases. **Apply filters** will renew to your own custom search criteria.

Educating your host

One other activity where the end user might have to help themselves and others, is the very last line of the page: "Don't see your event(s) in the proper category above? **Be part of the solution -> Inform the mobilize host to utilize tags.** This will be helpful to get more attendees at your events and interested users looking for them."

And now, speaking of those hosts. . .

Tips for Mobilize hosts

First and foremost - thanks for all you do, just have a couple more tasks for you here ;-)

Hopefully, after viewing and running what an end user has to deal with to search for your event(s), you will see the need to use the tags. It is mutually beneficial: easier for the interested user to find your event(s) AND you may get more attendees to your event(s) as a bonus!

General rules of tags usage are:

- 1- The tags need to be verbatim** - spelling, caps, special characters, etc. See the "Tag list -" section below. These tags are currently being utilized, and you may copy/paste appropriate tags to your event creation/updating forms.
- 2- Please** keep the "About this event" and the "Tags" sections compliant, matching the spirit of their definitions with each other. Mismatches on this would already cost the end user at least a minute or more of their life to look up your event. General rule - use appropriate tags, don't undersell OR oversell your event. Your credibility is at stake, and our nation waits till we organize better, i.e. **no big thing!** @
- 3- Tags are evolving**, depending on the popularity of usage. The admins are constantly searching for the newest and retired ones. They will be updating the app when they find enough usages (or not) to add or delete them.
- 4- At this time**, the mapping tools tags listed are what admins feel belong in their category (button name) as appropriate... Button names and tags may be **renamed/categorized** on future updates.
>> **Concerning tag rules 3 & 4:** You may always look at the app's help section (**Button description . . .**) to see the category (Button name) and filter tags **utilized on this version**.

Plans for major events, e.g. No Kings Day, John Lewis, Labor Day

We all have the best intentions for the betterment of our country/democracy. Big days like the above examples and certainly more to come, the hosts might take a few extra steps in their planning process. The major goal of protests/demonstrations is to have large gatherings where the media cannot ignore. The general rule might be: Don't compete and thus deplete attendees from established scheduled events. Let's cooperate and consolidate. (sing) The more we get together, the **stronger we'll be!**


Before posting a new event for an epic day this tool might be employed for checking for similar events in your area. A couple of example figures will follow this checklist with the filter tag: **#laborday**

- 1- Have your** - "About this event" and the "Tags" established – at least in your mind of what your event is about / focusing on.
- 2- Utilize** – The "custom searches" method first described with **Figures 7 & 8** filter for **#laborday**
- 3- Study the closeness** - for both distance in mileage AND how your **About this event** and the **Tags** contents align. Your event and theirs not close at all for location and themes? ... **great!**

See Figure 9: Custom filter for Texas labor day events 2025

See Figure 10: Check for similar events - Dallas & Fort Worth

Date

09/01/2025 

☒ Date ☐ Date range

Campaign or organization

Any

Tags

Jobs and the economy x Labor x

Union x #laborday x


Accessibility level

☐ Show ADA accessible events only

Accessibility features

Any

Events that have all of your selected features appear in search results



Apply filters Clear filters

Figure 9. <-LEFT With the **Labor, unions, jobs +** button selected proceed to make a custom filter. Use single date choice with top two arrows to select **09/01/2025** (epic day) – Note the filter tags used, then use the (bottom down arrow) **“Apply Filters”**.

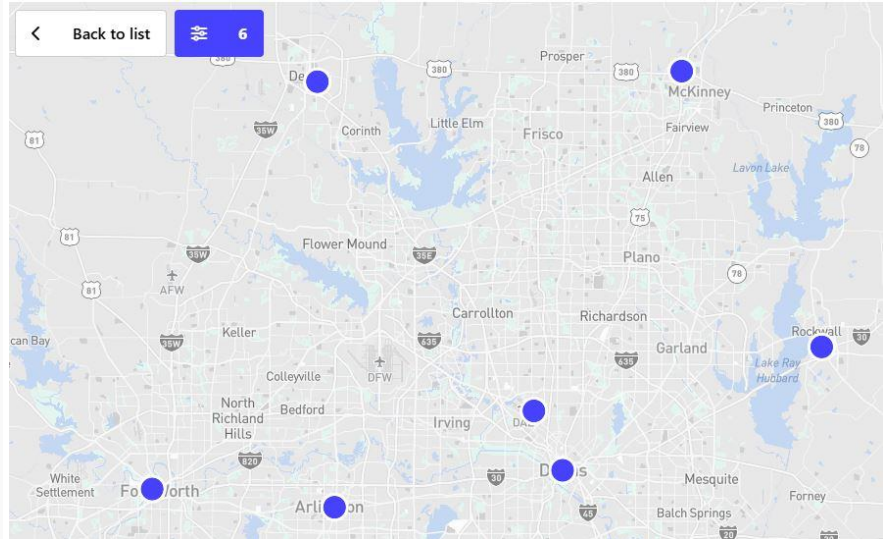


Figure 10. ^ UP ^ For example, an Irving Texas Mobilize host is planning a Labor Day event . It would be appropriate to look at the two Dallas events and one Arlington event to compare **"About this event"** and the **"Tags"**.

“Book it dannoo” - On review if **check 3 above: “Study the closeness”** - is all clear – **book it now, the sooner the better!**

Otherwise

Consider having all your peeps attend the well-established event. Maybe gen up an email to all your attendees – we are teaming up with a group “XYZ”, and share their Mobilize event URL e.g. <https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/123456/> <- not a real hyperlink. Many times there are ways to contact the host via email if/when some coordination would be in order. Even double booking same location (or very close by) and start and end times is possible! With that, in your **“About This Event”** explain the plan of teaming up with our friends and comrades of group XYZ.

If the above approaches don’t work for you, and you still want to host – think about choosing different non-conflicting times of the epic day. If you consider travel time for possible attendees for your start and/or your end times, chances are good attendees from one event might join in at the other. Remember: (sing) The more we get together, the **stronger we’ll be!**

Example of organizations that are 'doing it right'

There are many groups that are "doing it right" - here are a couple of them:

<https://resistaustin.us/>

See Figure 11: ResistAustin - home page

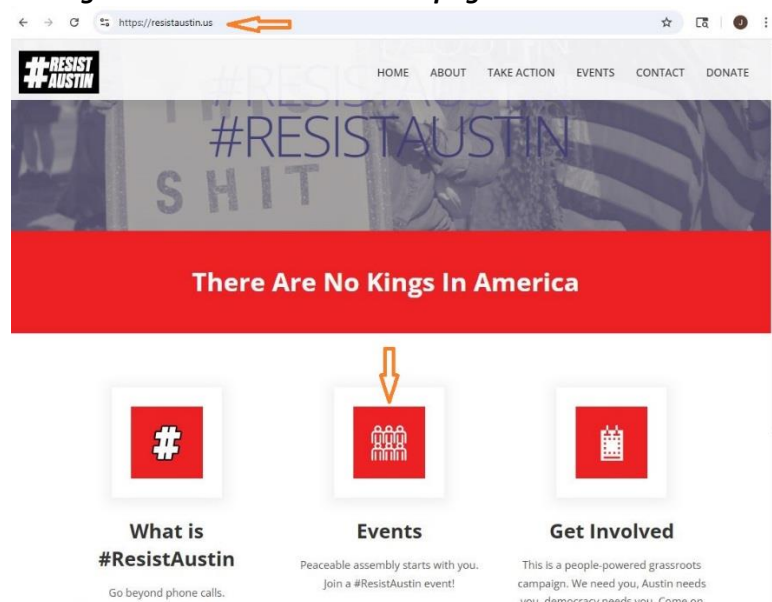


Figure 11. This is an active group in Austin. They seem to know how to do it right! Click on their current events (downward arrow) .

Click on the middle button: Events

Click on an event that interests you, click on "See details & more times" (arrow).

See Figure 12: ResistAustin - list of events

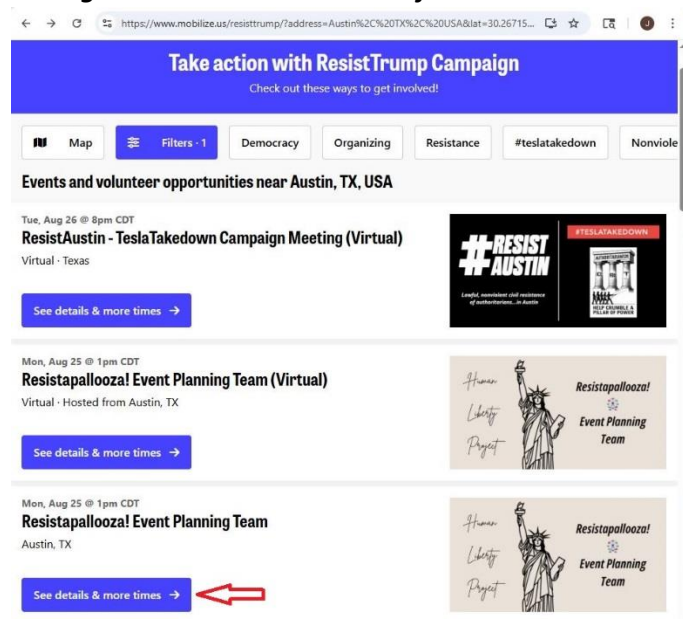


Figure 12. The first two events are virtual. Let's look at the first *in person* event. We want to know more (arrow pointing left) will show details of this preview.

Scroll down past the header and banner for these headings
Time, Location, About this event, Accessibility, Tags
See Figure 13: Match > About this event and Tags

About this event

Join us for our weekly event planning team meeting as we co-create Resistapalooza!—a bold, imaginative festival of resistance celebrating art, action, and community power. Whether you're a visual designer, organizer, logistics whiz, or just creatively curious, this is the space to shape an experience that's equal parts protest and party.

Let's build something unforgettable.

Figure 13. This one matches the **About this event** and **Tags** reasonably well. Didn't undersell OR oversell the event (nice) and *what you see is what you get!*

Tags

Resistance, Democracy, Organizing

Another. .

<https://www.battlegroundtexas.com/>

See Figure 14: Battleground Texas home page (top)

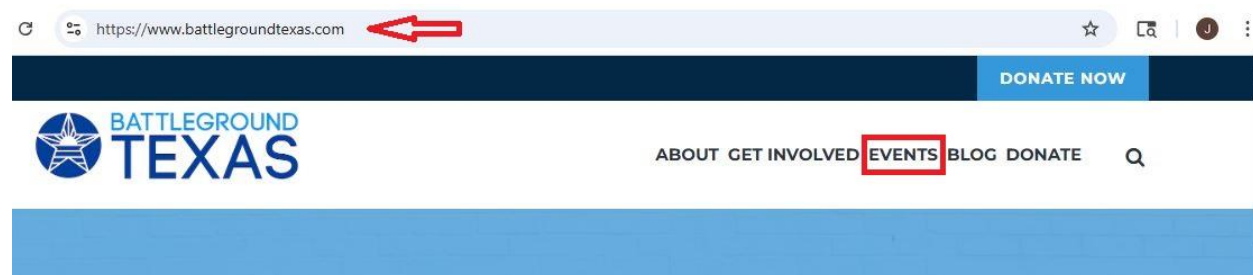


Figure 14. Battleground Texas is another great organization to work with. The upper arrow points to their URL – easy to find via Google. Check their upcoming events by selecting: Menu->EVENTS (red box). The following texts tells their tag usage example

Go to "Events" menu item and drill into their usage; they are generally spot on. e.g. A recent Labor Day event had this event spelled out -

About this event: "Join BGTX this Labor Day to help ensure folks are registered to vote and equipped to use their voice in upcoming elections!"

Tags: "Voter registration, Dallas, Volunteer"

Become a talented user of the app, and you can find many others that do it right, e.g. League of Women's Voters (LWV)

Tag list – alphabetic, verbatim and comma separated

#laborday, #teslataakedown, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, Beto, Black Community, Black Democrats, Black Women, Bridge Brigade, Candidate Event, Canvass, Climate Action, Climate Justice, Community building, Community Engagement, Community Event, Democratic Meeting, Education, Environmental Justice, Fundraising, Get out the Caucus, Get out the Vote, GOTV, Happy Hour, Healthcare, In Person, Jobs and the economy, Labor, Latinx Community, LGBTQ+, Muslim Americans, Networking, Nonviolence, Open House, Organizing, Phonebank, Protest, Rally, Rally For Democracy!, Reproductive Rights, Resistance, Social Event, South Asian Americans, Student event, Training, Union, Volunteer, Voter Empowerment, Voter registration, Voting rights, Women

Closing Time

Closing time, open all the doors and let you out into the world...

Thanks – and ... tx-dems.org appreciates your time, patience and concentrating effort to get acquainted and thus deploying your own **About this event** and **Tags** usage strategies for event planning hosting and attending. We are all attempting to get better organized. .. **we have a state and country to save!** So thanks for **'tagging'** along!
.. get it? .. that's 'punny' stuff..right there!

Closing time, every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end.