



CIVIL Everett

Connecting and engaging together in Everett.

WHAT IS CIVIL DISCOURSE?

A dialogue of mutual respect and listening where people are open to learn, constructively articulate a point of view, explore areas of agreement and disagree respectfully.

WHY IS CIVIL DISCOURSE IMPORTANT?

Civil discourse helps people engage in productive and respectful dialogue, even if they disagree with each other.

Differences can pull people apart and dialogue can become strained or disrespectful. Instead, when people use civil discourse, we benefit from multiple perspectives and solutions that contribute to better decisions, improved public policy and better quality of life.

WHAT ARE THE BASICS OF CIVIL DISCOURSE?



Show mutual respect. Use words that are not mean and be kind, even when you disagree.



Listen and respond with an open mind. Listen to understand and allow for the possibility that someone else has a good idea. Clarify when needed and don't assume.



Look for areas of common ground. Identify shared goals or problems and acknowledge what you agree on or see similarly.



Use evidence and know your subject when you discuss. Share the facts that support your point of view, ideas or proposal.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
everettwa.gov/civil

