The Hatch Act governs political activity (any activity directed toward the success or failure of a partisan candidate, political party or partisan political group). It does not apply to nonpartisan issues or events. This Hatch Act chart describes how the rules apply to you, depending on your type of appointment.

- All employees may:
  - Express their opinions privately and publicly on political subjects;
  - Be politically active in connection with a question that is not specifically identified with a political party, such as a constitutional amendment, referendum, approval of a municipal ordinance or any other question or issue of a similar character;
  - Participate in the nonpartisan activities of a civic, community, social, labor, or professional organization, or of a similar organization; and
  - Participate fully in public affairs, except as prohibited by other federal law, in a manner that does not compromise their efficiency or integrity as employees or the neutrality, efficiency, or integrity of EPA. See 5 C.F.R. § 734.203, available at 5 C.F.R. Part 734.

- The Office of Special Counsel oversees implementation (and prosecution of) the Hatch Act. It has a general FAQ on the Hatch Act (most of us are lesser restricted employees), as well as an FAQ specific to the Hatch Act and social media.

For more information on social media and the Hatch Act, visit the OGC/Ethics website.