



2022 Candidate Survey on the Environment

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House , 136

OPEN QUESTION

Lately, I've focused on environmental issues for children. I played a major role in securing significant financing for replacing/upgrading HVAC systems in schools (and I'd like to do the same for nursing homes) and for identifying/treating/remediating the effects of lead poisoning (homes, pipes). But I'm remain committed to PFAS identification/remediation and solving CT's waste management crisis (replacing single stream; plastics, organics).

1) ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE:

- Yes

With the proviso that the definition of community borders and proximity be reasonable.

2) WASTE MANAGEMENT:

- Yes

I'm a fan of EPR and would like to see CT emulate other states. Packaging waste is the big opportunity although it poses challenges as well. Discouraging use of clamshell packaging and other problematic plastics is hard to do on state only basis, but perhaps collaboration with other New England states, as we've tried to do with carbon pricing and plastics (without a lot of success!) might be the path.

3) POLYSTYRENE:

- Yes

We made a start last year but now need to see it through. No excuse for restaurants using poly these days -- there are plenty of affordable options now -- but they can't use coated PFAS instead!

4) PFAS:

- Yes

One of the biggest threats to us all these days. We can't do enough.

5) NEONICOTINOIDS:

- Yes
I've been fighting the use of pesticides long before I got to the Legislature. Unfortunately, federal preemption has frustrated attempts to do the most logical things.

6) RODENTICIDES:

- yes
Let's face it: most pesticides and rodenticides are really ORGANICIDES -- which eventually kill all life. All should be greatly restricted and parks managers trained on alternatives.

7) DIESEL BACKUP GENERATORS/DATA CENTERS:

- Yes
We should be encouraging solar and CHP for these large facilities. Right now, generators are a necessary evil, but clearly not part of the ultimate solution.

8) BEARS:

- yes
Sometimes you get the bear. Sometimes the bear gets you.

9) TREE CUTTING PROTOCOLS:

- Yes
Not just DEEP: policies on tree-cutting by Eversource and DOT also should be examined.

10) COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY:

- Yes
I recognized the burden on small, low-tax communities, so some flexibility may be required.

11) RIPARIAN BUFFERS:

- Yes
I'm a big fan of the State Water Plan and buffers are the key to effective management in many contexts.

12) RANKED CHOICE VOTING:

- Uncertain
- I'm intrigued and would like an analysis of NYC's experience and other states (Maine?).

