

2014 Candidate Survey



CONNECTICUT LEAGUE OF
CONSERVATION VOTERS

- BEFORE YOU COMPLETE THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, PLEASE SAVE IT TO YOUR COMPUTER AND USE THAT FILE TO RETURN TO US.
- Please complete this survey by August 1, 2014.
- Email your completed survey to: ctlcvc@ctlcvc.org

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|---|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Candidate Name: <u>Toni Boucher</u> | | |
| Running for: <input type="checkbox"/> House <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Senate | District No: <u>26</u> | Party <u>Republican</u> |
| Candidate/Campaign Mailing Address: _____ | | |
| Phone: _____ | Website: _____ | Email: _____ |
| Are you enrolled in the Citizen's Election Fund for public campaign financing? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No _____ | | |
| Do you have a primary? Yes _____ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Are you an incumbent? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No _____ | | |

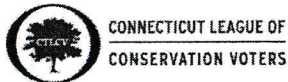
Part 1: If elected, what position do you expect to take on the following environmental issues?
Please mark boxes named "Support," "Uncertain," and "Oppose" with an x.

| Topic | Question | Support | Uncertain | Oppose |
|-----------------------|--|---------|-----------|--------|
| Parks | Would you support state park and forest revenues going to park and forest operations and maintenance rather than to the General Fund? | Yes | | |
| Comments: | | | | |
| Transportation | CT is one of the 10 states most dependent on federal funds as a percentage of their transportation expenditures. More than half of the states and localities have moved forward on increasing their funding share. Do you favor this and how might we do it in CT? | Yes | | |

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--|-----|--|
| Comments: | | | |
| Property Tax Reform | CT's property tax burdens small towns, strangles cities, undermines mass transit and drives sprawl. Would you be an advocate on behalf of the environment in the tax reform debate, especially with regards to property tax? | Yes | |
| Comments: | | | |

| <i>Topic</i> | <i>Question</i> | Support | Uncertain | Oppose |
|--------------------------------|---|---------|-----------|--------|
| Pesticides | The American Academy of Pediatrics and many other science and medical institutions have warned that pesticides (including herbicides) are harmful to human and ecological health. CT has a ban on use of lawn care pesticides on grounds of elementary and middle schools. Would you support legislation to extend this ban to high schools and public parks where children play? | Yes | | |
| Comments: | | | | |
| Pesticides | Should towns have more authority to limit or guide pesticide applications within their borders, including roadside spraying and applications of pesticides in wetlands and surface water? | Yes | | |
| Comments: | | | | |
| Water Source Protection | CT normally uses decades old data for setting standards and guidance for stormwater management. Would you support requiring the state to upgrade its standards using scientifically validated, up-to-date statistics on volumes of water associated with extreme storms and annual precipitation? | Yes | | |
| Comments: | | | | |
| Microbeads | Many personal care products such as shampoos and toothpaste are being manufactured using tiny plastic microbeads. Once microbeads are washed down the drain, they can enter lakes, rivers, and eventually the ocean through sewage overflows or pass through sewage treatment plants. Microbeads, like other plastics, can absorb toxic chemicals. They can be mistaken for food by aquatic life and can be passed up the food chain to larger fish, wildlife, and humans. Would you support legislation to protect our waterways from this new environmental threat? | Yes | | |
| Comments: | | | | |
| Conservation Lands | Would you support passing a state Constitutional Amendment to better protect state conservation lands from being given away for non-conservation purposes? | Yes | | |
| Comments: | | | | |

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|---------------|--|-----|---|--|
| Energy | Would you support policies or legislation to protect and expand the state's cost-effective energy efficiency programs opposing any attempts to raid the CT Energy Efficiency Fund for state budgetary needs? | Yes | | |
| Comments: | | | | |
| Energy | While other states promote shared net metering and sub metering for solar, fuel cell and other distributed renewable sources, CT imposes regulatory barriers that effectively prevent development of these projects in our state. Would you support legislation that removes these barriers and enable clean renewable distributed generation to move forward? | | X | |
| Comments: | | | | |
| Toxins | Would you support legislation that requires the Department of Public Health to identify chemicals of high concern to children, manufacturer disclosure of those chemicals and a process for recommendations to reduce exposure? | Yes | | |
| Comments: | | | | |



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Part 2: What environmental issue has lacked the attention in Connecticut that it deserves? As a legislator, what will you do to change that? Water Quality,

**Part 3: What are the environmental priorities in your district?
Mass transit, land conservation, water quality, energy alternatives**

Part 4: If you are elected, what would be your top environmental priorities for the 2014 legislative session? Please identify up to three and rank the three in order 1, 2, or 3:

- ___ Parks
- 1 Transportation
- ___ Pesticides
- 3 Water Source Protection
- ___ Microbeads
- 2 Conservation Lands
- 4 Energy

Toxins

Property Tax Reform

____ Other (please explain)

Comments:

Although we live in a very high cost state, one of the aspects that still attract people is CT's beautiful landscapes and natural resources. Its parks system, whether it is our woodlands, rives and camps grounds or shore line parks are breathtaking. Cost can sometimes keep families from taking advantage of these gorgeous parks right in our own back yard. We must do all that we can to keep costs down while our parks are properly maintained. We also need to preserve our open space as once lost it can rarely be reclaimed. . I also have serious concerns of new GMO products and their impact on our food supply. Air and water quality are center to public health. Mass transit improvements would go a long way toward improving these vital societal needs and I have been a longtime advocate for our rail lines, securing funds to upgrade signals, add new rail cars and reorganize Metro North. I will continue to advocate strongly to protecting our natural environment and protecting public health through sound public policy efforts that CT League of Conversation Voters works on.