



2022 Candidate Survey on the Environment

Devin Carney, Republican
House District 23

OPEN QUESTION

I have been at the forefront of many environmental topics within my caucus and the legislature. I have actively sought solutions to Connecticut's waste issue as the current 'solution' of trucking garbage out-of-state to be buried is highly unacceptable. The governor and the legislature must figure out a solution, ASAP, and I have pushed both - including ideas for composting, more recycling (including supporting 2021's bottle bill update), and anaerobic digestors. I have also taken the lead on clean energy with both wind energy and using clean air act fee dollars exclusively for environmental purposes. I have been a leader in open space preservation, water protection, and protecting our native species. My top priority for the 2023 legislative session will be continuing to find solutions to the food waste issue and also continuing to work on feasible ways to reach our zero carbon energy goals. The environment matters to me because I have always lived along the shoreline and the future of our municipalities, tourism industry, and maritime economy all depend on a clean environment. I want future generations to have the opportunity to enjoy what I have enjoyed and to ensure our quality of life continues to be strong due to our environmental health and environmental stewardship.

1) ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE:

- Uncertain

I have supported legislation regarding strengthening the voices of and support for residents of environmental justice communities. I believe these communities deserve to have a say over whether potentially environmentally hazardous facilities are located near them. I am unsure whether the legislature deserves the final say because it should be up to those within the community; however, I would support requiring additional transparency and public health protections so that residents of these communities can have all the facts.

2) WASTE MANAGEMENT:

- Yes

As indicative in my earlier comments, this is a ticking time bomb and I would support a combination of solutions to reduce waste, including this one.

3) POLYSTYRENE:

- Yes

4) PFAS:

- Yes

5) NEONICOTINOIDS:

- Yes

6) RODENTICIDES:

- Yes

7) DIESEL BACKUP GENERATORS/DATA CENTERS:

Yes

8) BEARS:

- Yes

I have long supported alternative ways to find solutions to wildlife issues other than killing. I think a working group is a fantastic idea.

9) TREE CUTTING PROTOCOLS:

- Yes

I have long supported measures like this.

10) COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY:

- Yes

I would just want to make sure the people are able to have a voice in this discussion and it is not done unilaterally by the Board of Selectman, for instance.

11) RIPARIAN BUFFERS:

- Yes

12) RANKED CHOICE VOTING:

- Uncertain

I agree with the concept of it, but I need to see more on the process. Our election system relies on poll workers and volunteers, so it would have to make sense from a practical standpoint and be workable. I was unhappy with how it turned out in New York City with delays and mistakes, but it is a work-in-progress.