



## 2024 Candidate Survey on the Environment

Susan Johnson, Democrat  
House District 49

### 1) Open Question:

More geothermal heating and cooling opportunities in my district. Also more recycling of organic waste. Plus the expansion of fuel cells using green hydrogen.

### 2) Climate:

**Will you support paying for increased investments in clean energy and our electric grid infrastructure to ensure a healthy environment that will reduce reliance on fossil fuel and nuclear energy (and ultimately reduce costs to ratepayers)?**

- Unsure

I support paying the investments as a state budgetary matter. That way the taxes will be assessed according to income. If on the Eversource bill everyone pays the same according to their usage no matter the income of the person/household or business.

### 3) Nature-Based Solutions:

**Will you support a stand-alone bill that authorizes and prioritizes the use of nature-based solutions (forests, trees, wetlands, riparian buffers, healthy organic soils, and other natural ecosystems) as the preferred alternative, where appropriate, across all agencies?**

- Yes

Please include geothermal and fuel cells that use green energy.

### 4) Clean Cars and Trucks Emissions Standards:

**Do you support Connecticut's adoption of the latest California emissions standards for cars and trucks?**

- Yes

I have had a hybrid care since 2017. I now have a EV hybrid car too.

### 5) Environmental Rights Amendment:

**Will you support an Environmental Rights Amendment to our State Constitution?**

- No

As a practicing attorney, I disagree with your idea to put everything in the state constitution. The constitution must be used for general authority so the legislature can write statutes accordingly and change them as needed. This is obvious when reviewing our voting rights. We have been trying for early voting for almost 20 years. CT is still trying for the "no excuse absentee ballots."

**6) Food Waste Diversion:**

**Will you support designating food scraps as a "recyclable" item and requiring large-scale food generators to create plans to donate edible food?**

- Yes

I'm working on that now in Windham. Can you work to find a less expensive waste digester for the home.

**7) Neonicotinoids:**

**Will you help push for legislation to ban the sale and use of neonics for non-agricultural use in Connecticut?**

- Yes

**8) Rodenticides:**

**Will you support banning the use of certain rodenticides, with a few well-defined exceptions, to help prevent the deaths of its unintended victims?**

- Yes

**9) Environmental Justice:**

**Will you support a legislative fix to Connecticut's Environmental Justice statutes to include all polluting facilities?**

- Yes

We must recycle organic waste and recycle the things that are recyclable. The rest must have a surcharge to balance the cost of disposal like we did with tires and mattresses.

**10) Bears:**

**Will you support legislation that requires humane responses to conflicts with wildlife such as providing better support for the public seeking help, removing attractants, minimizing shooting incidents, and strengthening programs to deal with orphaned wildlife?**

- Unsure

**11) Tree Cutting Protocols:**

**Will you support legislation to require stronger science-based tree cutting protocols based on conservation values?**

- Unsure  
We must cut the dead trees along side the roads. They are a danger to drivers. We also must review roadside tree cutting practices and protocols.

**12) Ranked Choice Voting:**

**Should Connecticut pursue Ranked Choice Voting?**

- Unsure  
Only if the state pays for the cost. Putting more economic burdens on our distressed towns is not a good way to go forward.

**CANDIDATE COMMITMENT TO WORK ON ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION**

If you support any or all of our top priority legislation during the 2025 session, will you add your name as a legislative co-sponsor?

- Yes

Will you plan to attend our annual Environmental Summit in January?

- Unsure

If requested, will you meet with CTLCV at least once during the legislative session to review priority legislation?

- Yes