

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: ctlcv@ctlcv.org

Candidate Name: Vickie Orsini Nardello

Running for: House • Senate District No: 89 Party: Democratic

Candidate/Campaign Mailing Address: 8 Laurel Lane, Prospect, CT 06712

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Are you enrolled in the Citizen's Election Fund for public campaign financing? Yes No

Do you have a primary? Yes No

Are you an incumbent? Yes No

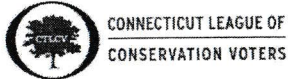
Part 1: If elected, what position do you expect to take on the following environmental issues?
 Please mark boxes named "Support," "Uncertain," and "Oppose" with an x.

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?	X		
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?	X		
Comments: We need to do a thorough examination of the state's transportation fund to determine the best use of the fund and how to maximize revenues into the fund.				

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	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:				
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: In my 18 years serving in the legislature, I fought all efforts to take money from this fund and did so early on in my career.			
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: I write uncertain here because I support the net metering efforts, and my record shows this, but would want to make sure that costs are not passed on utility customers who may not be able to avail themselves of these programs and that the costs of transmission and delivery are fairly allocated and not cost shifted to those with the least ability to pay.			
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:			



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

I would like to see support for encouraging organic farming in Connecticut and the development of local farming to encourage farm to table. I would also like to promote mass transportation with special attention to the improvement of our rail system. The major problem as a legislator is that you must convince people that monies spent in these areas are necessary investments and not looked upon solely as spending. When we invest in infrastructure that promotes environmental goals we improve the quality of life and ultimately strengthen our economy as well.

Part 3: What are the environmental priorities in your district?

Preservation of open land, the use of pesticides, and the promotion of distributed generation are concerns here.

**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
- 2 Transportation
- Pesticides
- Water Source Protection
- Microbeads
- 3 Conservation Lands
- 1 Energy
- Toxins
- Property Tax Reform
- Other (please explain)

Comments:

I've has the pleasure of working with your organization while serving in the legislature. My lifetime score over 18 years is 100% Environmental issues have always been a priority for me and I have been willing to be a legislative advocate for important issues over the years. I am seeking my seat back again because I believe we need people who will take strong stands, ask the hard questions and take political risks. Environmental issues can be controversial and are subject to campaigns that distort science that must be met head on.

I welcome your endorsement and the ability to work together again.