

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: <u>Christine Rosati</u>		
Running for: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> House <input type="checkbox"/> Senate	District No: <u>44</u>	Party: <u>Democrat</u>
Candidate/Campaign Mailing Address: <u>19 Welsh St. Danielson, CT 06239</u>		
Phone: <u>860-774-4699</u>	Website: _____	Email: <u>cgrosati@msn.com</u>
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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No _____ *I won the primary on August 12th		
Are you an incumbent? Yes _____ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

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?	✓		
Comments: Yes, our parks are underfunded and serve as a resource to the community.				
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?		✓	

Comments: I would need more information to make an informed decision on this question. I do feel we need to allocate more funding to repair our roads and bridges and maintain our infrastructure. I support increased green public transportation options.			
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?	✓	
Comments: Yes, as a property owner in rural CT, I understand the burden on our small towns and its taxpayers.			

<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?	✓		
Comments: Yes, public safety, particularly when it comes to our children, is of the utmost importance.				
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?	✓		
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?	✓		
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?	✓		
Comments: Microbeads are an unnecessary ingredient. Discontinued use of this type of product would result in a positive impact for our environment.				
Conservation Lands	Would you support passing a state Constitutional Amendment to better protect state conservation lands from being given away for non-conservation purposes?		✓	
Comments: I am in support of improved legislation that would provide safeguards to better protect our conservation lands.				

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?	✓		
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?	✓		
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?	✓		
Comments: Yes, I would support such measures. The health and safety of our children is among my top priorities.				



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

Although there were small increases this year, additional funding for our state parks is still needed. We also need to increased public transportation options and affordable, accessible alternative fuel and energy sources. There are hazardous waste sites that are not remediated in a timely manner due to clearly defined accountability and oversight. As a legislator, I will work support programs, policies and incentives to address the above-mentioned issues.

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

Currently, in Killingly, preservation of five local ponds and their ecosystems is the top priority. The owners of the ponds no longer wish to incur the costs and responsibility of maintaining the dams. They have stated their willingness to donate the property and also their intention to breach the dams if the land could not be transferred to another owner. Previous negotiations to donate the ponds to the state failed due to alleged problems with communication. A small group has formed to renew negotiations at both the state and local levels, not ruling out non-profit conservation groups as an option for ownership.

Also in Killingly, is the need to upgrade the sewer plant to meet outflow permit limits established by the state. The upgrade would ensure that our rivers stay clean. The town would like to take advantage of Clean Water funds which will provide 20% of the costs and the remainder through a low-interest loan. The town is holding a referendum on Sept. 9th to appropriate funds for the project.

Greater public access to recreation areas, biking and walking trails. We want to increase accessibility and utilization of our natural resources. This past legislative session, our current state representative, Mae Flexer successfully worked to get increased funding for our state parks.

**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:**

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

Comments:

I am also very concerned about toxins in our environment. The state of CT needs to exercise due diligence where the health and safety of the public is concerned. I am a current member of the Last Green Valley and have participated in meetings and events sponsored by Killingly's Conservation Commission.