

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

Candidate Name: Aldon Hynes

Running for: House Senate District No: 114 Party: Democrat

Candidate/Campaign Mailing Address: 10 Barberry Ln, Woodbridge, CT 06525

Phone: 203 217 6712 Website: _____ Email: Aldon.hynes@gmail.com

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

Do you have a primary? Yes _____ No

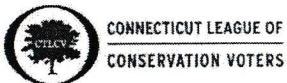
Are you an incumbent? Yes _____ No

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.

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Question</i>	<i>Support</i>	<i>Uncertain</i>	<i>Oppose</i>
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: I have a particular focus on health equity, and recognize parks and forests as essential for people's health. We need to find ways to make parks and forests more accessible to those who need them most.				
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: I am a strong supporter of public transportation. I think it is more important to focus on how we get people out of cars and into mass transit than it is to focus on who is paying for what.				
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?	X		
Comments:				

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Question</i>	<i>Support</i>	<i>Uncertain</i>	<i>Oppose</i>
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?	X		
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?		X	
Comments: I'm concerned that this cuts both ways and could imagine it resulting in increased pesticides in some municipalities.				
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?	X		
Comments: I am a strong proponent of transparency, accountability and evidence based research. Our climate is changing and that effects stormwater management. Our data must be updated and made easily available to all.				

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?	X		
Comments: I would like to receive more information about how prevalent the microbead problem is and best ways to address it.				
Conservation Lands	Would you support passing a state Constitutional Amendment to better protect state conservation lands from being given away for non-conservation purposes?		X	
Comments: We need to protect state conservation lands, but is a state Constitutional Amendment the best approach? Are there faster and better ways to do this?				
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?	X		
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: STRONGLY SUPPORT!				
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?	X		
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?

As I mentioned above, one of my biggest concerns is health equity. Everyone Connecticut deserves the opportunity to live in a healthy environment. I am particularly concerned about asthma caused by poor air quality in our cities, as well as opportunities for healthy exercise.

Another concern is transportation. We need better public transportation to make it easier for people to get to health care facilities. We need better public transportation to reduce the need of people to

drive, causing more pollution and climate change.

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

In Woodbridge, there is a lot of focus on conserving open space. It seems like we are in good shape on open space, but we need to use the space that we have better particularly around promoting walking and biking. I don't have a good sense of the environmental priorities in Orange. Probably simply raising awareness is the biggest issue there. In Derby, I'm particularly concerned with the health of the Naugatuck river. I applaud the efforts of Mayor Dugatto to move forward with the clean up in Derby and I look forward to the improvements along the whole Naugatuck river.

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
- 1 Energy
- ___ Toxins
- ___ Property Tax Reform
- ___ Other (please explain)

Comments:

Unless we make serious changes in the way we use energy, through conservation and use of renewable resources, climate change is likely to make all the other issue moot. Transportation is an important part of how we address this.

The third issue is a hard choice. We need to find ways to help people live healthier lives. This includes better access to nicer parks as well as addressing toxins, pesticides and other threats to our environment.