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2017 Environmental Candidate Questionnaire
for Capital Region Candidates

Thank you for taking the time to fill out the New York League of Conservation Voters Questionnaire.

The New York League of Conservation Voters is the only non-partisan statewide environmental organization in New York that fights for clean water, clean air, renewable energy and open space through political action. This questionnaire is designed to elicit your views regarding what environmental, public health, clean energy and transit and environmental justice groups consider to be the most important issues of the day. Responses may inform NYLCV’s educational and legislative programs and actions NYLCV takes in the election cycle.

Responses should be considered public. Although NYLCV may choose not to publicize responses to every question, verbatim responses may be reproduced and distributed publicly. If so, your responses may be shortened, if necessary, but will not be edited in substantive ways. If you choose to refer us to a position paper or website, please indicate exactly what text you would like us to cite. For candidates choosing not to respond to the questionnaire, NYLCV will note as much in its public materials.

NYLCV and its partners in the environmental policy arena believe that New York’s voters are determined to make the environment a voting issue this year. Candidate positions on issues such as protecting public health, building a clean energy future, and mitigating climate change will help voters decide how to cast their ballots this election cycle. This questionnaire is one of the primary ways the public will get this information.

After receipt of your completed questionnaire, you will be invited to participate in a formal interview with our Chapter Board. The interview will provide you with an opportunity to present your credentials, elaborate on your questionnaire responses, and respond to questions. Here are a few more guidelines:

* Questionnaires are due **Friday, June 9**
* The completed questionnaire is mandatory for endorsement consideration and must be submitted via e-mail as a Microsoft Word file to: politics@nylcv.org
* To ensure your responses address the issues NYLCV and its partners are most concerned about, please review [NYLCV’s 2016-17 Capital Region Policy Agenda](http://nylcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Capital-Region-Agenda-16-17.pdf)
* Questions or extension requests may be directed to Joshua Klainberg (jklainberg@nylcv.org)

**Campaign Contact Information**

Candidate Name: Peter D. Grimm
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Phone: 518-273-1500
Website: N/A
Facebook Page: Peter Grimm

Twitter handle: N/A
Campaign Manager’s name and email: N/A
Press Secretary’s name and email: N/A
Scheduler’s name and email: N/A

PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Please share your accomplishments or experiences that indicate your commitment to advancing a pro-environment agenda. These experiences may be professional or personal.

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| * **Founder and President of the Friends of Prospect Park – a conservancy dedicated to protect and preserve one of Troy’s large (70+ acres) park**
* **Legislatively active and supportive of the fight against Kinder-Morgan’s proposed pipeline in Rensselaer County**
* **Past two term board member of Babcock Lake Estates – a registered 501C nonprofit dedicated to protect and preserve Babcock Lake and the wooded acreage that surrounds it.**
* **2017 – Professionally, as Director of University events at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, work collaboratively with our food service and student environmental group to produce (for the first time) a totally compostable picnic, following Commencement, for 8,000 attendees.**
* **1996 – Founded the “Clean Alleys” program, a volunteer effort to make Troy’s alleys cleaner and safer**
* **Passed Environmental Committee member for the Rensselaer County Legislature**
* **Friends of Prospect park recently partnered with the State of NY, City of Troy and the Little Italy Neighborhood Association to create a trail in Prospect Park which increases accessibility, awareness and usage of the park**
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 **ISSUES**

Please indicate your level of commitment to, and if applicable your recent personal and professional activity with respect to, the following issues:

(To ensure your responses address the issues NYLCV and its partners are most concerned about, please review [NYLCV’s 2016-17 Capital Region Policy Agenda](http://nylcv.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Capital-Region-Agenda-16-17.pdf))

1. Regional Transit Analysis: Working with the Capital Region Regional Economic Development Council to develop rapid transit options (i.e., bus and light rail) between central business districts

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| The Rensselaer County Legislature continually partners and supports CDTA and rural to urban bus work day commuting initiatives. |

1. Renewable Energy: Streamlining and modernizing the process for obtaining government approval to install renewable energy facilities

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| The Rensselaer County Legislature has but active in changing to and using sources of sustainable energy (solar) |

1. Clean and Safe Water: Working to ensure counties and localities regularly test their drinking water using EPA’s Contaminant Candidate List and Unregulated Drinking Water Contaminants

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| The Rensselaer County Legislature has been increasingly vocal and legislatively active in urging the creation of increased and comprehensive testing of drinking water |

1. Sustainable & Transit-Oriented Development: Creating livable and sustainable communities that permit increased density and diversity in our downtowns and neighborhoods

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| I have been personally, politically and professionally active and involved in my downtown neighborhoods. Annually, through the Friends of Prospect Park, we sponsor and Hidden Garden Tour which draws sometimes over 800 attendees to view and experience the livability of urban areas. In addition to highlighting the hidden gardens of over 30 homes, this event showcases the methods of urban farming and composting  |

1. Transportation: Maximizing environmentally friendly mobility options in and around residential and commercial centers

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| N/A |

1. Open Space Preservation: Planning strategies such as clustering, creating pocket parks in developed areas, and encouraging biotic corridors in less densely populated areas

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| Defined earlier in the work with Prospect Park |

1. Sustainable Public Access Management: Making significant impacts on energy use and the environment simply by deciding to spend money and deploy resources wisely

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| An on-going focus in county government |

1. Natural Resource Protection – Comprehensively managing and protecting regional natural resources (i.e., air, water and land)

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| Predefined in my organizational listings |

1. Farms and Local Food: Managing development and providing access to healthy, fresh foods

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| Was involved in the originally planning of the Troy Farmer’s Market |

1. Energy: Achieving energy efficiency in residential and commercial settings, in existing and new buildings, and with cutting-edge technology and the smarter use of older technology

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| My 1860 downtown brownstone is an example of an ever evolving project of replacing older technology or incorporating smarter use of older technology.  |