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2021 Environmental Questionnaire for Long Island Candidates

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

To ensure your responses address the issues NYLCV and its partners are most concerned about, please consult [NYLCV's 2021 Long Island Policy Agenda](#) when answering the questions.

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 the 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.

Here are a few guidelines:

- Questionnaires are due **Friday, April 30, 2021**
- The completed questionnaire is mandatory for endorsement consideration and must be submitted via e-mail as a Microsoft Word file to: politics@nylcv.org
- Questions or extension requests may be directed to Joshua Klainberg (jklainberg@nylcv.org)
- After receipt of the completed questionnaire, candidates will be invited to participate in a

formal interview with a local Chapter Board.

General election endorsements will be made by the NYLCV State Board on July 29, 2021.

CAMPAIGN CONTACT INFORMATION

Candidate name: Wayne H. Wink, Jr.

Office sought (& district number if applicable): Town Supervisor, Town of North Hempstead

Campaign e-mail: WeWantWayneWinkSM@gmail.com

Campaign phone: 516-816-6528

Website: n/a

Facebook page: Wayne Wink (Public Figure)

Twitter handle: @waynewink127

Campaign manager's name and email: Nicholas Guariglia nickguariglia10@gmail.com

Press Secretary's name and email:

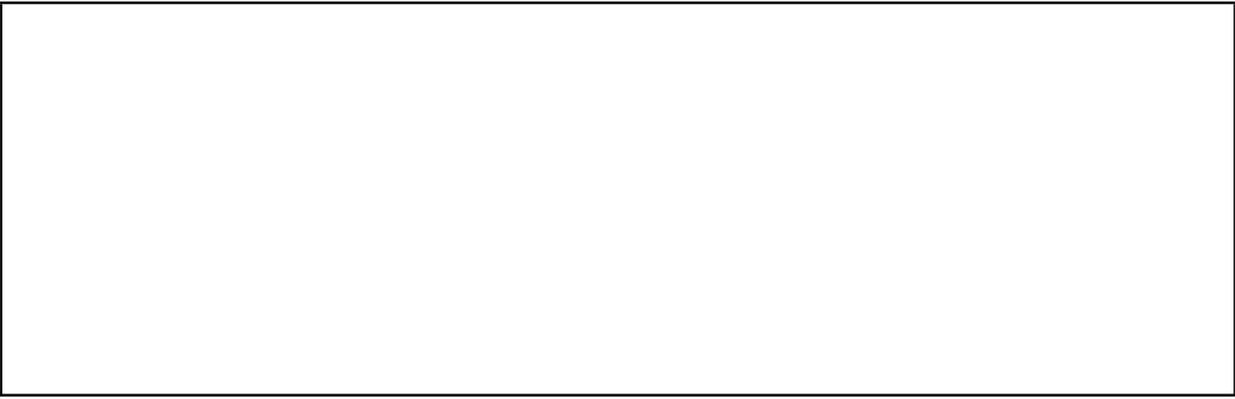
Scheduler's name and email: Brandon Gimpelman bgimpelman8@gmail.com

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.

I have sponsored and supported numerous environmental initiatives during my career in public service. This includes the period while I was on the North Hempstead Town Council, Nassau County Legislature, as well as during my tenure as Town Clerk. I have served as Co-Chair of the Town's Ecological Commission, which has researched and advocated for environmental protections to be implemented by the Town.





ISSUES

Each year, NYLCV works closely with New York’s leading environmental, public health, conservation, energy, environmental justice, and transportation organizations to identify the most pressing priorities on fighting climate change, conserving land and water, and protecting public health. These issues drive NYLCV’s advocacy work throughout the legislative session, influence the bills we select for NYLCV’s Environmental Scorecards, and informs the decision on the candidates we choose to endorse. To ensure your responses are in alignment with the issues NYLCV and its partners are most concerned about, please review [NYLCV’s 2021 Long Island Policy Agenda](#) when formulating your responses.

Please indicate your level of commitment to, and if applicable your recent personal and professional activity concerning, all the policy priorities of our partners per the following issues:

Combating Climate Change

The time to act on climate is now. We must make radical changes in short order to avoid catastrophic climate change. New York’s Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act will require action at all levels of government to achieve its ambitious goal of reducing economy wide emissions 85% by 2050 and achieving 70% renewable energy by 2030. By allocating resources wisely, local governments can have a significant impact on energy use and the environment. Localities must also adapt to a changing climate and include resiliency planning in all aspects of future governance.

2. Energy (p. 5)

I continue to support and advocate for the Town’s code amendments to encourage the construction of solar and geothermal systems in residential areas throughout the Town and, where appropriate, in commercial areas as well. Additionally, the Town has partnered with a number of solar panel installers as part of the Solarize North Hempstead program, funded by a grant from NYSERDA. The Town also continues to retrofit neighborhoods throughout the Town with more energy efficient LED lighting.

I also support the Town's efforts to become a Climate Smart Community, having just created a CSC Task Force to begin this process.



The Yes We Can Community Center in New Cassel is an excellent example of how the Town exhibits our commitment to cutting edge technology. It is one of the first municipal LEEDS Platinum buildings in the country. Additionally, the town has amended its Code to prevent light pollution and promote solar and geothermal development on private property.

3. Transportation (p. 6)

I am very pleased with the completion of the LIRR Third Track project. The expansion project in Floral Park to Hicksville has already improved the mass transit experience by reducing traffic congestion in this heavily traveled line. Additionally, I continue to support the Town's effort to develop an east-west corridor for electric vehicle charging stations along the Long Island Expressway. The Town received a grant from the New York State Regional Economic Development Council to further assist with this initiative, while we partner with seven other Towns across Long Island.

As Supervisor, I would like to encourage walkable communities and seek ways to improve the Nassau Inter County Express (NICE) bus system for our residents. Walkable communities based around our downtowns with easy access to mass transit will be one of the ways we build a future for many generations. This means we must properly fund Nassau's bus system as I have been an advocate in the past and we must base our downtown housing options around the LIRR system.

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4. Resiliency (p. 6 - 7)

I, along with my colleagues in the Town of North Hempstead, am dedicated to the preservation and resiliency of our shorelines. We are committed to not only providing for the recreational needs of our constituents, but also determining how to best redevelop existing Town properties along the shorelines while anticipating future storm surges and sea level rising. We continue to seek sustainable practices to best care for our natural areas of upland forest and wetland areas to support the large range of wildlife and geologically significant features.

5. Solid Waste (p. 7)



I love that our Town has a robust Office of Sustainability which offers information to our local residents. We hold informational seminars regarding the Town's Composting Cooperative, Recycling Rainwater, Native Gardening, and Sustainable Yard Care. Newly added this year, due to the pandemic and restrictions on gathering in person, the Town has started virtual classes that include sustainable yard care, creating rain gardens, and native plant gardening.

We also offer Composters and Rain Barrels for sale to our constituents at deep discounts to encourage residents to reap the many benefits including the reduced amount of waste that ends up in landfills, as well as the natural nutrients provided to plants and soil structures. Additionally, rain barrels that collect rainwater leads to money savings as well as a significant reduction of stormwater pollution.

I will also continue to work to encourage recycling initiatives in the Town, as well as working with municipalities throughout the Town to create waste reduction plans. One of my first initiatives will be to hire a Chief Sustainability Officer.

Protecting People and Natural Resources

All New Yorkers deserve indoor and outdoor environments that are free of contamination and pollution.

6. Clean Water (p. 8 - 9)

Clean water is vital and I believe that water which is free of contamination and pollution is of utmost importance. I have been an advocate of updating and replacing Septic systems wherever possible. Just recently, I had the distinction of being part of a press conference to discuss the Nassau County S.E.P.T.I.C. Program (Septic Environment Program to Improve Cleanliness) which will help provide funding for homeowners to replace conventional or failing cesspool or septic systems with an innovative and alternative onsite wastewater treatment system. These initiatives are especially encouraging since we must provide alternatives to those who cannot access sewer systems.

Additionally, I support the areas of the Town to switch from septic to sewer systems wherever possible. I have had countless meetings with local leaders, local municipalities, and key shareholders to bring projects such as these to fruition. Major projects such as sewerage our downtowns and residential areas must be supported since our drinking water is directly affected by septic systems.

Additionally, I am committed to clean water in our Town ponds as well as the Long Island Sound. I have been part of meetings where we have done extensive studies on bacteria



monitoring. I am committed to continue working with organizations such as ctenvironment.org to save our local waters from contamination of pollutants. One of the ways I plan on continuing the efforts started by Supervisor Bosworth, is to continue the dredging work on the tidal ponds throughout the Town. We also must remove pollutants from our bays such as Manhasset Bay. Dredging around the shoreline will help clean around waterways and make it more sustainable for all types of sea life.

I will also continue to oppose the reopening of Jamaica Water wells until the USGS sustainability assessment is completed.

7. Sustainable Development (p. 9)

Transit-oriented development in our communities is one way to foster a livable and sustainable diversity in our downtowns. The Town has also been committed to the zoning and development of some water-front properties. I support and encourage mixed-use development and the continued redevelopment of brownfields. I believe this will foster more sustainable communities.

The Town has also continued to extend and increase the length of trail in the Hempstead Harbor Shoreline. This not only allows for beautiful scenery, but gives our residents the opportunity to access the water's edge to observe wildlife, marine life and nature life in its habitat.

The Town also encourages landbanking of parking and the use of permeable paved surfaces where possible through effective site plan review to preserve open space and watershed access. We have banned non-native plant species, notably bamboo, to prevent native plants from being choked out of our ecosystem.

A recent initiative that I am excited to see is the use of goats to help naturally remove poison ivy from Town Property. This pilot program is one of many ways that our Town sees to be innovative in protecting and preserving our environment. The use of goats will allow us the means necessary to remove invasive plants like poison ivy without the use of pesticides. I am eager to see the results of this new initiative so that we can expand on this program.

8. Parks and Open Spaces (p.11)

I supported the Town's efforts to dedicate new parkland (Alvan Petrus Park) in Port Washington in the middle of low-income housing in an effort to maintain green space in a densely



populated area. The Town has made significant efforts to preserve and improve wetland areas, in part by banning the use of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) from operating on Town land.

We hold a significant number of events, activities, and programming in our parks for children, adults and senior citizens. Although we were forced to close some of the playgrounds in the height of the pandemic, we still found ways to keep the parks relevant and vibrant during the pandemic. Last summer, when indoor dining was not a possibility, our Town set up picnic tables at many of our local parks to afford residents the ability to eat outdoors while restaurants were unable to accommodate their guests. It was a wonderful initiative and the picnic tables are still out there for residents to enjoy.

As Supervisor, maintaining the Town's current parks and open spaces will be a high priority of mine. I also plan to look for ways to create new open space to preserve and dedicate as protected lands. This includes much of the unprotected lands on the Port Washington peninsula that are near North Hempstead Beach Park and should be dedicated as wetlands.

9. Farms and Local Food (p. 11)

In addition to hosting organic farmers markets at Town facilities, the Town seeks vendors at our parks and other facilities to provide healthy alternatives to the usual food offered at our facilities.

I am also proud to support Clark Family Community Gardens where residents can "rent" a garden bed to grow their own organic vegetables, fruits, herbs and flowers. There is an emphasis on using integrated pest management practices, so pesticides are not allowed. I feel this is a wonderful way for our community residents to take part in growing their own foods.

