

GREENCAPE 2014 QUESTIONNAIRE-CANDIDATE RESPONSES

CANDIDATES						
Name	Office	Party	Q1	Q2	Q3	Additional Comments
Ronald R. Beaty, Jr.	Cape & Islands State Senator	R	Yes	Yes*	No*	<p>Q2: I personally like the process of utilizing goats to eat away the underbrush and foliage.</p> <p>Q3: No, I have NOT accepted campaign contributions from any of the aforementioned sources. No, I would NOT accept campaign contributions, if offered.</p> <p>Comments: First, as far as I have ascertained, NSTAR has NOT been proven to have been anything but a good steward regarding the use of herbicides relative to the spraying of their rights of way and the like. Second, I have yet to see concrete and irrefutable proof that the chemicals they are using causes any serious detrimental effect upon our environment, ground water, and/or the population here on Cape Cod. NSTAR should NOT be painted as a villain on this matter. However, if such evidence is forthcoming then it will of course bolster my support for taking more serious action on this issue. In any case, I still do not see any harm in advocating for non-chemical alternatives instead of the spraying that is currently going on. The requests to NSTAR by GreenCape as outlined appear to be reasonable from my perspective, and that is why I am supporting the GreenCape position. If they were not reasonable, then my viewpoint may be different.</p>
Daniel A. Wolf	Cape & Islands State Senator	D	Yes*	Yes*	No	<p>Q1: Consumers and ratepayers have an affirmative right to state preferences of public utilities, and expect those preferences to be addressed and not ignored.</p> <p>Q2: Planting indigenous, low-growth vegetation, preceded by smart and selective clear cutting, and alternatives like goat grazing and other human effort, can and should make herbicides unnecessary. Towns, schools, county, and entities like AmeriCorps all have resources that can be marshaled for such an effort.</p> <p>Comments: Of immediate concern is NStar/Northeast Utilities' use of chemicals above our watershed. The company has ignored repeated efforts by public and elected officials to stop this practice of keeping power lines clear. My office will continue to press for alternative means of safeguarding the delivery of electricity without using herbicides. Our efforts will include everything from legislation to persuasion to ongoing discussions with state officials to insist that spraying the powerlines end.</p> <p>Longer term, this issue points to the strong need to look at the ownership of our utilities. A publicly owned, publicly managed utility would be, by definition, much more responsive and responsible to the people it serves rather than to shareholders and short-term profit. I am committed to looking for ways to return to the model of municipal utilities, including initiating a serious conversation as to whether our county could create and manage our own utility.</p>
Vinny M. deMacedo	Plymouth & Barnstable State Senator	R	Yes	Yes	*	<p>Q3: After reviewing my campaign finance records I found one \$100 donation from an NStar employee.</p>
Heather M. Mullins	Plymouth & Barnstable State Senator	Lib.	Yes*	Yes*	*	<p>Q 1: Absolutely. Many health & safety hazards come with the use of herbicides. With so many environmentally friendly alternatives, there is no need for utility companies to be using them against the will of those in the respective towns.</p> <p>Q2: If elected, I would definitely promote the use of non-chemical alternatives for rights-of-way vegetation control in all areas. I would certainly sponsor, cosponsor, vote for, request, sign, and testify in</p>

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Matthew C. Patrick	Plymouth & Barnstable State Senator	D	Yes	Yes*	No	<p>Q2: goats</p> <p>Comments: I think if you look at my past record and what I'm proposing for my platform this campaign, you'll see that I am the best candidate for Green Cape.</p>
Timothy R. Whelan	1st Barnstable District	R				No Response from candidate
Elisa Zawadzkas	1st Barnstable District	D	Yes	Yes	No	
Adam G. Chaprales, Sr.	2nd Barnstable District	R				No Response from candidate
Brian R. Mannal	2nd Barnstable District	D	Yes*	Yes*	No*	<p>Q1: My view on this issue has been clear. When NSTAR lifted their self-imposed moratorium on herbicide use, they held a closed press conference. No elected officials were invited to this event, but when I found out about it, I dropped what I was doing and went straight away to voice my constituents' opposition to this change in policy. At first they prohibited my entry, but when I made it clear that I would not be deterred from expressing the interests of the people of my district, I changed their minds. I did so by telling them I was willing to wait for the press to come out after their closed press conference, and I would hold a separate one outside their facility.</p> <p>Q2: This session I have been very supportive of the types of legislation outlined above. My office has worked very hard in an effort to legislate funding for two different water testing programs on the Cape, as well as attended or, in some cases, set up meetings between the Cape Delegation and different governing bodies and organizations which monitor groundwater, pesticide use, emerging contaminants and other environmentally hazardous practices in an effort to bring together ideas, forge laws and create a path forward that is less toxic to the Cape's existence.</p> <p>Q3: I have not knowingly, nor would I knowingly accept campaign contributions from NSTAR, Northeast Utilities, nor any of its affiliates.</p> <p>Comments: My commitment to preserving and protecting Cape Cod's environment is unwavering and</p>

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Randy Hunt	5th Barnstable District	R	Yes*	*	*	<p>Q1: All 15 towns voted to stop ROW spraying at town meeting. As a representative, I will follow the lead of my constituents.</p> <p>Q2: Question 2 implies that pesticide spraying on the ROW affects our groundwater, tourism, fishing and overall health. I have heard a lot of scientific evidence to the contrary, backed up by studies of pesticide migration in the same soil types we have here on Cape Cod. The much, much bigger issue is unabated use of fertilizers and pesticides by private citizens. ROW spraying involves well less than 5% of the chemicals laid down on our plants and ground. Are we ready to tackle the bigger issue? That's the question.</p> <p>Q3: I have received no money from any utility or lobbying/interest group tied to any utility.</p> <p>Comments: Hunt included the following. [This email was in response to a request to co-sign a letter that the Cape delegation was preparing to send to NSTAR registering our disappointment that they were planning to move ahead with their ROW spraying.] After further thought, I have a few broader questions regarding this issue. It is documented that over 80% of pesticides used in Barnstable County are applied by homeowners. Some argue that the chemicals used by NSTAR are far more powerful. I would argue that homeowners overuse herbicides and insecticides. If one loop around the perimeter of the house with Home Defense is good, then two or three loops must be better. One shot of Roundup will kill a weed in a week, but five shots will down it in a day. Part of NSTAR's argument is that they want to kill the fast-growing and tall plants so that the slower growing groundcover plants will be able to take over and eventually lessen the requirement for herbicides. Mowing does not accomplish this. Picking the weeds individually would, though the labor cost of this is probably impractical. My point here is this: Is everyone ready to support a complete ban on pesticide use (which includes herbicides and insecticides) in Barnstable County? If not, how do we reduce the 80%+ of these chemicals that are used by homeowners and the nearly 20% used by commercial entities (NSTAR's portion is quite small out of this 20%, by the way)? Don't rely on consumer education. We know from experience that it will get you 10% of the way to your goal, but that's about it. By taking this public stance against NSTAR without attacking 97% of the problem, we score political points but not much else. I haven't forgotten about your bill, Cleon. It, however, doesn't address the broader use of these chemicals either. Rather, it pushes authority down to the town level when we probably should be talking about Barnstable County as a whole and developing an aquifer-wide plan. So, if everyone agrees to sign on to this letter, I'll do so as well in order not to be singled out as an NSTAR spraying supporter, which I am not. But we'd better have the bigger conversation at some point</p>

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						and either grab this bull by the horns or let it go its merry way.
Matthew M. Terry	5th Barnstable District	R	Yes*	Yes	No	Q1:I believe this is a critical issue facing Cape Cod given our fragile environment and sole source aquifer. NSTAR's actions are particularly egregious given that alternate methods are available for keeping their easement areas clear.
Leo G. Cakounes	Barnstable County Commissioner	R	No*	*	No*	Q 1: I was on the County Committee that reviewed the 5 year plan and voted to support It. Q 2: Not Enough Information. I would not support the grinding by heavy equipment as has been done in the past, The devastation to the environment and wildlife is to costly. However I have participated in the use of goats in clearing land, in Wellfleet and other private sites. And I do support the land owners seeking other methods to clear land they own under the power lines. Q 3: The seat of County Commissioner will be dealing with this issue for some time to come, I would not accept any contribution from any large company that may be seeking support for a Commissioners vote. I do not think this seat should be a Partisan seat (democrat-republican) , and should be elected by the people of Barnstable County on merits alone. Comments: I known your members take this issue very seriously and have strong feelings. Please note, even though I supported the 5 year plan that Nstar has filed, I did so because it meet the requirements in the present law. I have worked for many years on agricultural Beast Management Practices laws for the State of Mass. and Cape Cod. I have served on Fertilizer application boards, Manure Management Boards, and countless committee's to promote the reduction and control of pesticides use and manure management. I have 64 acres in Harwich which I operate as a Organic Farm, a exercise that is not easy, however I will continue to operate as such even though it has not been profitable. We have currently converted 19 acres to a indigenou grass project, my hope is to promote Municipalities and golf courses and some home owner to plant a species of grass that GOD intended to live here (in cape cod soil) without the need of fertilizers and irrigation and soil amendmets. I hope to work with your organization more on this project.
Mark R. Forest	Barnstable County Commissioner	D	Yes	Yes	*	Q 3: <i>I HAVE NOT ACCEPTED ANY CONTRIBUTIONS.</i> Comments: The protection of Cape Cod's water supplies has been a top priority of mine throughout my career. I have worked with local officials, water districts and a number of citizens groups on a whole range of groundwater pollution issues -- from the contamination threatening Provincetown's water supplies to the pollution emanating from the Mass Military Reservation, which impacted water supplies in every Upper Cape town. If there is only one lesson we have learned from these disasters - its that we need to do all we can to protect the zone II areas around our public water supplies, as well as the those areas that contribute to our private wells. People across Cape Cod have spoken loudly and clearly on this particular issue. Their voices ought to be heard. Municipalities and private property owners who want to opt out of the chemical spraying program, should have that option. NSTAR and other utilities should be good corporate citizens and work with local communities to protect our environment. This is an approach in other states, and it should be available to Cape Cod, given its sole source aquifer.
John C. Chapman	U.S. Representative 9 th District	R				No Response from candidate

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William R. Keating	U.S. Representative 9 th District	D				No Response from candidate
Charles D. Baker	Governor	R				No Response from candidate
Martha M. Coakley	Governor	D	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	<p>Q 1: With Cape Cod's reliance on a sole source aquifer, protection of groundwater is paramount to protecting the public health and safety of Cape Cod residents. I believe we need more information about the long-term effects of these chemicals before moving forward with even limited usage.</p> <p>Q2: I believe, where possible, we should always seek to use non-toxic, environmentally friendly methods to protect critical infrastructure, and I will work with residents and the electric utilities to find solutions that will protect infrastructure without placing people or the environment at risk.</p> <p>Q3: During my career, I have received \$5,800 from individuals listing themselves as associated with NSTAR, and \$3,500 from individuals listing themselves as associated with Northeast Utilities. However, political contributions have never and will never affect my decision making as a public servant.</p> <p>Comments: I have spoken throughout my campaign about the importance of preserving a healthy environment; not only is it critical to quality of life, especially in unique environmental areas like Cape Cod, which is a national treasure, but it is a critical element of protecting public health. By reducing exposure to potentially dangerous toxins, we can help improve long-term health outcomes and drive down health care costs, which currently consume 40% of our state budget. While addressing the safety of vegetation control on Cape Cod is only one piece of that effort, it is an important one, and I will be committed to it as Governor.</p>
Evan Falchuk	Governor	UIP	Yes	Yes	No	<p>Comments: Reducing the prevalence of toxic chemicals in our homes and businesses will be an important piece of my Administration's public health agenda. The health of our environment and our citizens depend on it. For this reason, I believe the state should be doing all it can to build on the success of the Toxics Use Reduction Act (TURA), by taking into account what we know today – 25 years later – and using that knowledge to update related state policies and regulations in order to mitigate, and when possible eliminate, some of the harmful health effects we now know to be caused by these toxins.</p> <p>As Governor, I will work to support the passage of legislation like the An Act for Healthy Families and Businesses, which helps with the critical work of aiding businesses in the transition away from dangerous chemicals and towards safer alternatives.</p> <p>Additional, detailed information on my positions related to this issue and many others having to do with clean drinking water, the environment, toxins, energy and greenhouse gas emissions can be found by reading my submitted questionnaire to the Clean Water Action fund. I've attached that to this email for this purpose.</p>
Scott D. Lively	Governor	Ind.	Yes*	Yes*	*	<p>Q 1: Chemical poisons harm the environment.</p> <p>Q 2: I am against the use of chemical poisons, period.</p> <p>Q 3: I have not received any campaign donations from NSTAR or its affiliates. I would be happy to receive any donations they may wish to offer, but my positions on these issues would remain unchanged.</p>

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Jeffrey S. McCormick	Governor	Ind.	Yes*	Yes*	No	<p>Q 1: We need to protect drinking water from contaminated run-off and I believe there are more environmentally friendly ways to clean vegetation from transmission lines. There are companies that use goats to clear brush as a way of avoiding using herbicides in a much more environmentally friendly manner. We need out of the box solutions that protect the environment and get the job done.</p> <p>Q2: My running mate Tracy Post is a member of the Board of Selectmen in Yarmouth and she has reiterated to me how important clean water is to the Cape. We need to protect our water supply to make sure we have clean beaches, streams, ponds, and drinking water. The economy of the Cape and Islands depends on it.</p> <p>Comments: I believe that we need to look for environmentally friendly solutions to our everyday needs to make sure we are protecting public health. Too often, the most cost effective solution does not take into account the unintended consequences to the rest of the community. We need to be vigilant in protecting our natural resources because once they are gone, it will be too late.</p>
Maura Healey	Attorney General					No Response from candidate
John Miller	Attorney General					No Response from candidate

- 'D' = Democrat
- 'R' = Republican
- 'Ind' = 'Independent'
- 'Lib.' = 'Libertarian'
- 'UIP' = 'United Independent Party'
- * =See "Additional comments" in last column