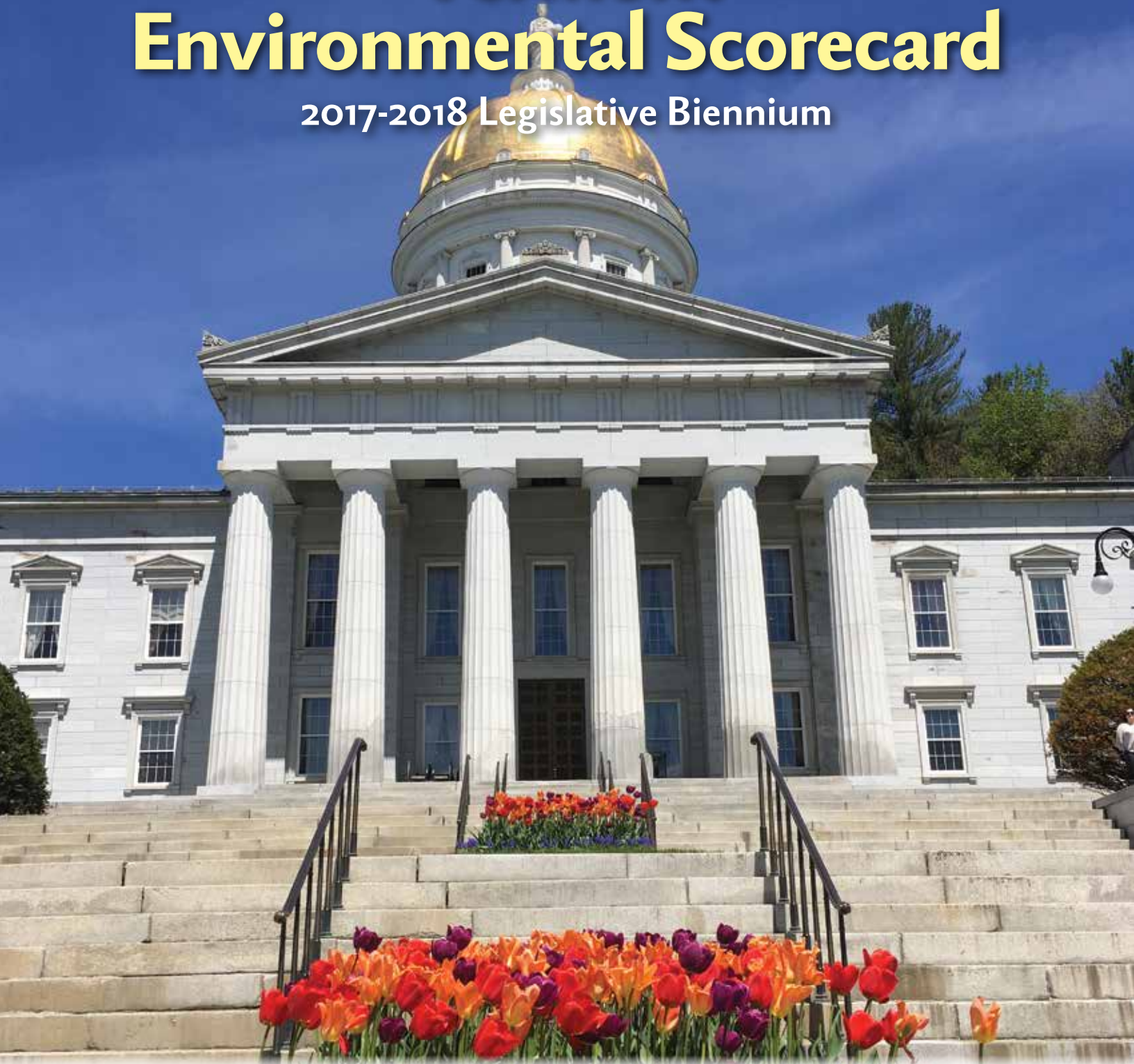


# Vermont Environmental Scorecard

2017-2018 Legislative Biennium





**Vermont Conservation Voters**

(VCV) is the non-partisan political action arm of Vermont’s environmental community.

Since 1982, our mission has been to defend and strengthen the laws that safeguard our environment. We work to elect environmentally responsible candidates. We then hold lawmakers accountable for the decisions they make affecting our air, water, communities, land, and wildlife.

**Staff**

Lauren Hierl, *Executive Director*

**Board of Directors**

Kinny Perot, *Chair*

Warner Shedd, *Vice Chair*

Linda Gray, *Secretary-Treasurer*

Michael Fisher

Jacob Perkinson

Sue Minter

Lindsay DesLauriers

Shap Smith

Vermont Conservation Voters  
9 Bailey Avenue  
Montpelier, VT 05602  
802-224-9090

[www.VermontConservationVoters.org](http://www.VermontConservationVoters.org)

Dear Vermonter,

We have prepared the *Environmental Scorecard* to let you know how your state legislators voted on top environmental priorities in the 2017-2018 legislative session. The legislative process can be complicated, and our objective with the Scorecard is to distill the results so you, as a voter, can see which lawmakers are representing your environmental values – and which are not.

Each year, Vermont Conservation Voters (VCV) publishes the *Environmental Common Agenda* of legislative priorities – a list of top-tier policy goals we develop in collaboration with the state’s leading environmental groups. The major priorities this biennium included: long-term funding for clean water; holding polluters accountable and protecting Vermonters from toxic chemicals; maintaining intact, healthy forests; and making progress on climate change. VCV also supports policies that advance a healthy democracy.

Overall, progress on environmental priorities was meager in the 2017-2018 legislative session. Governor Scott threatened to veto clean water funding and key climate policies, effectively stalling progress on those important issues. Scott vetoed two priority bills, one that aimed to reduce Vermont children’s exposure to toxic chemicals in kids’ products, and a bill to make polluters – rather than affected Vermonters or taxpayers – foot the bill for medical expenses due to toxic contamination.

The Legislature passed bills to protect Vermonters from toxic chemicals, promote energy efficiency, and included funding in the budget for a study of economy-wide climate policies that will be needed to meet our state goals. However, the overall outcome of the session was disappointing, largely due to Governor Scott’s threatened and executed vetoes, which stymied progress on numerous priorities.

Votes included in this *Environmental Scorecard* focus on VCV’s policy priorities. The specific votes scored are those that were substantive, rather than procedural, and that had the greatest effect on the outcome of the legislation. We count absences as a negative vote because that’s the impact they have on the outcome of the vote.

Please note several limitations of the Scorecard. We can only score “roll call” votes where individual lawmakers go on the record as voting yes or no on a given bill – which doesn’t happen for every key vote. Further, many decisions – both good and bad for the environment – are made in committee before a bill ever reaches the floor. Nonetheless, the Scorecard provides a helpful snapshot of whether or not lawmakers are voting to support important environmental legislation.

With this tool we provide you with your lawmakers’ scores, but the rest is up to you. It’s crucial that your legislators hear from you, with your appreciation or disappointment in their environmental record, so please take a moment to contact your elected officials to share your views. You can find their contact information at [vermontconservationvoters.org](http://vermontconservationvoters.org).

Thanks for making your voice heard,



Lauren Hierl  
*Executive Director*

## House Bill Descriptions

### **H.233 – Maintaining Intact, Healthy Forests** (House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish & Wildlife amendment)

*Pro-environment vote: YES*

This bill would have added new criteria requiring that projects going through Act 250 be designed to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts related to forest fragmentation, habitat connectivity and wildlife corridors. This bill would have helped Vermont to maintain intact, healthy forest blocks.

*Status: Passed the House, but stalled out in the Senate; House vote 85-61.*

### **S.260 – Clean Water Funding Bill** (House Committee on Ways & Means amendment)

*Pro-environment vote: YES*

This amendment would have established a long-term funding source for clean water projects across the state by increasing the “rooms and meals tax” - the tax paid when renting a room or on restaurant and bar bills - by 0.25%. This would have raised millions of additional dollars to help meet our legal obligation to invest in cleaning up and protecting state waters.

*Status: Amendment passed the House but was stripped from the Senate version of the bill; House vote 84-55.*

### **H.576 – Bill to Improve Stormwater Regulations** (3rd reading)

*Pro-environment vote: YES*

This legislation increases jurisdiction over projects that require stormwater permits in Vermont: jurisdiction was expanded from projects that create 1-acre of impervious surface (paved area) to projects that create 0.5-acre of impervious surface. This requirement will allow the State of Vermont to address stormwater pollution from a wider array of sources and better protect water quality in Vermont’s streams, rivers, lakes and ponds.

*Status: Enacted; House vote 125-12.*

### **H.R.15 – Resolution Affirming Vermont’s Commitment to Meeting Our Climate and Clean Energy Goals**

*Pro-environment vote: YES*

This resolution expressed concern for the U.S.’s withdrawal from the Paris Climate Accord. It affirmed Vermont’s commitment to meeting our climate and clean energy goals, as well as our enrollment in the U.S. Climate Alliance of states committing to remaining on track to achieve the emissions reductions targets in the Paris Climate Accord.

*Status: Resolution passed; House vote 105-31.*



## H.410 – Improving Energy Efficiency Standards for Appliances (3rd reading)

*Pro-environment vote: YES*

This bill established new energy efficiency standards for 16 appliances including computers and monitors, commercial dishwashers, portable air conditioners, and others. These improved energy efficiency standards will save energy and save Vermonters money.

*Status: Enacted; House vote 137-4.*

## S.197 – Holding Toxic Polluters Accountable for Medical Monitoring Expenses (House Committee on Judiciary Amendment)

*Pro-environment vote: YES*

This bill would have ensured that a corporation that releases a toxic contaminant that results in elevated levels of that harmful chemical in a Vermonter's body would be responsible for paying the cost of medical visits and testing to address the potential harm these chemicals can cause.

Currently these costs are borne by Vermonters who are victims of toxic pollution, who cannot sue for damages until a disease linked to the chemical manifests. In some cases, taxpayers foot the bill.

*Status: Enacted by Legislature, but VETOED by Gov. Scott; House vote 92-45.*

## S.103 – Protecting Vermont Children from Toxic Chemicals (Veto Override)

*Pro-environment vote: YES*

This legislation would have updated the Chemicals of High Concern in Children's Products program, to make it easier for the state's Commissioner of Health to propose rules to identify harmful chemicals posing a risk to children's health, and restrict the use of dangerous chemicals in children's products sold in Vermont.

*Status: Enacted by Legislature, but VETOED by Gov. Scott; House vote 94-53 (three-quarters vote required to override a veto).*



# Vermont House of Representatives Scorecard

- ✓ Pro-environment vote
- ✗ Anti-environment vote
- A Absent (counts as a negative)
- P Presiding
- NIO Not in Office

1. H.233: Maintaining Intact, Healthy Forests
2. S.260: Clean Water Funding
3. H.576: Improving Stormwater Regulations
4. H.R.15: Resolution Affirming Commitment to Climate Action
5. H. 410: Improving Energy Efficiency Standards
6. S.197: Holding Toxic Polluters Accountable
7. S.103: Improving Protections for Children from Toxic Chemicals

Representative	Town	Party	2018 Score		Lifetime Score (2001 to present)						
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
Ainsworth, David	Royalton	R	14%	21%	X	X	A	✓	A	A	X
Ancel, Janet	Calais	D	100%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bancroft, Robert	Westford	R	29%	40%	X	X	A	✓	✓	X	X
Bartholomew, John	Hartland	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Baser, Fred	Bristol	R	71%	71%	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Batchelor, Lynn	Derby	R	29%	39%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Beck, Scott	St. Johnsbury	R	43%	52%	X	X	✓	✓	✓	A	X
Belaski, Paul	Windsor	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Beyor, Steve	Highgate	R	14%	36%	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X
Bissonnette, Clement	Winooski	D	86%	96%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Bock, Thomas	Chester	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Botzow, William	Pownal	D	100%	94%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Brennan, Patrick	Colchester	R	29%	23%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Briglin, Timothy	Thetford	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Browning, Cynthia	Arlington	D	71%	70%	A	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Brumsted, Jessica	Shelburne	D	86%	86%	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Buckholz, Susan	Hartford	D	71%	71%	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	A	✓
Burditt, Thomas	West Rutland	R	29%	24%	X	X	✓	A	✓	X	X
Burke, Mollie	Brattleboro	P	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Canfield, William	Fair Haven	R	29%	47%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Carr, Stephen	Brandon	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chesnut-Tangerman, Robin	Middletown Springs	P	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Christensen, Annmarie	Weathersfield	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Christie, Kevin "Coach"	Hartford	D	100%	90%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cina, Brian	Burlington	P	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Colburn, Selene	Burlington	P	86%	86%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
Condon, James	Colchester	D	0%	47%	X	A	X	A	A	A	A
Conlon, Peter	Cornwall	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Connor, Daniel	Fairfield	D	86%	81%	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Conquest, Charles "Chip"	Newbury	D	100%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Copeland Hanzas, Sarah	Bradford	D	86%	88%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Corcoran, Timothy	Bennington	D	86%	81%	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cupoli, Lawrence	Rutland City	R	29%	40%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X

Vermont Environmental Scorecard

- ✓ Pro-environment vote
- ✗ Anti-environment vote
- A Absent (counts as a negative)
- P Presiding
- NIO Not in Office

1. H.233: Maintaining Intact, Healthy Forests
2. S.260: Clean Water Funding
3. H.576: Improving Stormwater Regulations
4. H.R.15: Resolution Affirming Commitment to Climate Action
5. H. 410: Improving Energy Efficiency Standards
6. S.197: Holding Toxic Polluters Accountable
7. S.103: Improving Protections for Children from Toxic Chemicals

Representative	Town	Party	2018 Score		Lifetime Score (2001 to present)						
			2018 Score	2018 Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Dakin, Maureen	Colchester	D	86%	83%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
Deen, David	Westminster	D	100%	94%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Devereux, Dennis	Mount Holly	R	29%	40%	X	X	✓	A	✓	X	X
Dickinson, Lynn	St. Albans Town	R	29%	24%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Donahue, Anne	Northfield	R	71%	61%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Donovan, Johannah	Burlington	D	86%	95%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dunn, Elizabeth "Betsy"	Essex	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Emmons, Alice	Springfield	D	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fagan, Peter	Rutland City	R	29%	47%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Feltus, Martha	Lyndon	R	43%	69%	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Fields, Rachael	Bennington	D	86%	83%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Forguites, Robert	Springfield	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Frenier, Robert	Chelsea	R	14%	14%	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X
Gage, Douglas	Rutland City	R	0%	28%	X	Abstain	X	X	X	X	X
Gamache, Marianna	Swanton	R	29%	45%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Gannon, John	Wilmington	D	71%	71%	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gardner, Marcia	Richmond	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Giambatista, Dylan	Essex	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gonzalez, Diana	Winooski	P	100%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grad, Maxine	Moretown	D	100%	80%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Graham, Rodney	Williamstown	R	29%	30%	X	X	A	X	✓	✓	X
Greshin, Adam	Warren	I	100%	91%	✓	NIO	NIO	✓	NIO	NIO	NIO
Haas, Sandy	Rochester	P	100%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Harrison, James	Chittenden	R	43%	43%	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Head, Helen	South Burlington	D	100%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hebert, Michael	Vernon	R	14%	48%	X	A	✓	X	A	X	X
Helm, Robert	Fair Haven	R	29%	29%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Higley, Mark	Lowell	R	14%	31%	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X
Hill, Matthew	Wolcott	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hooper, Jay	Brookfield	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hooper, Mary	Montpelier	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Houghton, Lori	Essex	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Howard, Mary	Rutland City	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hubert, Ronald	Milton	R	0%	13%	X	NIO	NIO	X	NIO	NIO	NIO
Jessup, Kimberly	Middlesex	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

## Vermont Environmental Scorecard

✓ Pro-environment vote  
 ✗ Anti-environment vote  
 A Absent (counts as a negative)  
 P Presiding  
 NIO Not in Office

1. H.233: Maintaining Intact, Healthy Forests
2. S.260: Clean Water Funding
3. H.576: Improving Stormwater Regulations
4. H.R.15: Resolution Affirming Commitment to Climate Action
5. H. 410: Improving Energy Efficiency Standards
6. S.197: Holding Toxic Polluters Accountable
7. S.103: Improving Protections for Children from Toxic Chemicals

Representative	Town	Party	2018 Score		Lifetime Score (2001 to present)						
					1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Jickling, Benjamin	Brookfield	I	71%	71%	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Johnson, Mitzi	South Hero	D	100%	93%	P	P	P	P	P	P	✓
Joseph, Ben	North Hero	D	86%	86%	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Juskiewicz, Bernard	Cambridge	R	29%	59%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Keefe, Brian	Manchester	R	43%	43%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓
Keenan, Kathleen	St. Albans City	D	86%	78%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kimbell, Charles	Woodstock	D	71%	71%	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	X	✓
Kitzmiller, Warren	Montpelier	D	100%	84%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Krowinski, Jill	Burlington	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LaClair, Robert	Barre Town	R	14%	27%	X	X	X	A	✓	X	X
LaLonde, Martin	South Burlington	D	86%	93%	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓
Lanpher, Diane	Vergennes	D	86%	90%	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lawrence, Richard	Lyndon	R	14%	33%	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X
Lefebvre, Paul	Newark	R	71%	66%	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Lewis, Patti	Berlin	R	29%	45%	X	X	✓	A	✓	X	X
Lippert, William	Hinesburg	D	100%	87%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Long, Emily	Newfane	D	100%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lucke, Gabrielle	Hartford	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Macaig, Terence	Williston	D	86%	97%	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓
Marcotte, Michael	Coventry	R	43%	40%	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Martel, Marcia	Waterford	R	14%	22%	X	X	X	A	✓	X	X
Masland, James	Thetford	D	100%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mattos, Christopher	Milton	R	20%	20%	NIO	X	X	NIO	✓	X	X
McCormack, Curtis	Burlington	D	100%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
McCoy, Patricia	Poultney	R	43%	42%	X	X	✓	✓	✓	A	X
McCullough, James	Williston	D	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
McFaun, Francis	Barre Town	R	29%	54%	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	X
Miller, Alice	Shaftsbury	D	100%	90%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Morris, Kiah	Bennington	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Morrissey, Mary	Bennington	R	57%	31%	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓
Mrowicki, Michael	Putney	D	100%	96%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Murphy, Barbara	Fairfax	I	86%	73%	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Myers, Linda	Essex	R	43%	44%	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Nolan, Gary	Morristown	R	29%	29%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Norris, Terry	Shoreham	I	43%	43%	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X

## Vermont Environmental Scorecard

1. H.233: Maintaining Intact, Healthy Forests
2. S.260: Clean Water Funding
3. H.576: Improving Stormwater Regulations
4. H.R.15: Resolution Affirming Commitment to Climate Action
5. H. 410: Improving Energy Efficiency Standards
6. S.197: Holding Toxic Polluters Accountable
7. S.103: Improving Protections for Children from Toxic Chemicals

- ✓ Pro-environment vote
- ✗ Anti-environment vote
- A Absent (counts as a negative)
- P Presiding
- NIO Not in Office

Representative	Town	Party	2018 Score		Lifetime Score (2001 to present)						
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
Noyes, Daniel	Wolcott	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
O'Sullivan, Jean	Burlington	D	57%	73%	✓	A	A	✓	✓	A	✓
Ode, Carol	Burlington	D	86%	86%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Olsen, Oliver	Londonderry	I	50%	67%	X	NIO	NIO	✓	NIO	NIO	NIO
Pajala, Kelly	South Londonderry	I	80%	80%	NIO	X	✓	NIO	✓	✓	✓
Parent, Corey	St. Albans Town	R	43%	42%	X	X	✓	✓	✓	Abstain	X
Partridge, Carolyn	Windham	D	71%	86%	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	A	✓
Pearce, Albert	Richford	R	29%	45%	X	A	✓	X	✓	A	A
Poirier, Paul	Barre City	I	29%	64%	X	X	A	A	✓	✓	X
Potter, David	Clarendon	D	100%	90%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pugh, Ann	South Burlington	D	100%	89%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Quimby, Constance	Concord	R	0%	20%	X	X	X	X	A	X	X
Rachelson, Barbara	Burlington	D	100%	90%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Read, Edward	Fayston	I	40%	40%	NIO	A	✓	NIO	✓	X	X
Rosenquist, Carl	Georgia	R	14%	14%	X	X	A	X	✓	X	X
Savage, Brian	Swanton	R	29%	32%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Scheu, Robin	Middlebury	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Scheuermann, Heidi	Stowe	R	43%	46%	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Sharpe, David	Bristol	D	100%	96%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Shaw, Butch	Pittsford	R	29%	48%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Sheldon, Amy	Middlebury	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sibilia, Laura	Dover	I	57%	74%	X	X	✓	✓	✓	A	✓
Smith, Brian	Derby	R	29%	29%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Smith, Harvey	New Haven	R	29%	29%	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	X
Squirrell, Trevor	Underhill	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stevens, Thomas	Waterbury	D	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Strong, Vicki	Albany	R	29%	27%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Stuart, Valerie	Brattleboro	D	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sullivan, Mary	Burlington	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sullivan, Linda Joy	Dorset	D	71%	71%	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓
Taylor, Curt	Colchester	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Terenzini, Thomas	Rutland Town	R	14%	22%	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X
Till, George	Jericho	D	100%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Toleno, Tristan	Brattleboro	D	100%	94%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Toll, Kitty	Danville	D	86%	89%	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



Vermont Environmental Scorecard

✓ Pro-environment vote  
 ✗ Anti-environment vote  
 A Absent (counts as a negative)  
 P Presiding  
 NIO Not in Office

1. H.233: Maintaining Intact, Healthy Forests
2. S.260: Clean Water Funding
3. H.576: Improving Stormwater Regulations
4. H.R.15: Resolution Affirming Commitment to Climate Action
5. H. 410: Improving Energy Efficiency Standards
6. S.197: Holding Toxic Polluters Accountable
7. S.103: Improving Protections for Children from Toxic Chemicals

Representative	Town	Party	2018 Score		Lifetime Score (2001 to present)						
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
Townsend, Maida	South Burlington	D	86%	90%	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓
Trieber, Matthew	Rockingham	D	86%	87%	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Troiano, Chip	Stannard	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Turner, Donald	Milton	R	29%	19%	X	X	A	✓	✓	A	X
Van Wyck, Warren	Ferrisburgh	R	14%	15%	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X
Viens, Gary	Newport City	R	29%	25%	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Walz, Tommy	Barre City	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Webb, Kathryn	Shelburne	D	100%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Weed, Cynthia	Enosburgh	P	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Willhoit, Janssen	St. Johnsbury	R	43%	47%	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Wood, Theresa	Waterbury	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wright, Kurt	Burlington	R	43%	50%	X	X	✓	✓	✓	A	X
Yacovone, David	Morristown	D	86%	86%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
Yantacka, Michael	Charlotte	D	86%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Young, Samuel	Glover	D	86%	82%	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓



## Senate Bill Descriptions

### H.904 – Amendment to Support Intact, Healthy Forests

(Vote to suspend the rules to reinsert bill language)

*Pro-environment vote: YES*

H.904 would have added new criteria to require that projects going through Act 250 be designed to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the fragmentation of the state's highest priority forest blocks and habitat connectivity areas. Senator Starr moved to strip the fragmentation language. This vote was for a suspension of the rules to allow the Act 250 and fragmentation language to remain in the bill, but the vote to suspend the rules was defeated and the language was pulled from the bill.

*Status: Amendment failed, so the forest fragmentation language was stripped from the bill; Senate vote 15-12 (rules suspension requires support from three-quarters of members present).*

### H.559 – Amendment to Strip Citizen Rights of Action to Help Enforce Clean Water Laws

*Pro-environment vote: NO*

This amendment would have stripped a provision to allow Vermont citizens to bring lawsuits if the state is not enforcing clean water laws. The provision would have required that the state be notified, and given the state time to respond and enforce clean water laws. If enforcement didn't happen, a lawsuit could proceed. Citizen rights of action are a key tool used to enforce federal environmental laws, and many states have these provisions. Unfortunately, this language was ultimately pulled from the clean water legislation that was enacted.

*Status: Amendment was defeated in the Senate, but the citizen suit provision was later stripped from the bill before it was enacted; Senate vote 11-18.*

### S.285 – Amendment to Allow State to Collect Unclaimed Bottle Deposits

*Pro-environment vote: YES*

This amendment updated the state's bottle deposit law to authorize the state to collect any unclaimed deposits. With this provision, Vermont joined the majority of states with bottle bill programs in collecting this unclaimed property,

rather than allowing it to go to beverage corporations. Ultimately the legislature adopted language to send this money — estimated at \$1.5 to 4 million per year — to the state's Clean Water Fund.

*Status: Enacted by Legislature; Senate vote 19-11.*

### S.120 – Banning Corporate Campaign Contributions (2nd reading)

*Pro-environment vote: YES*

This bill would have banned corporations from donating directly to candidates in Vermont for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Auditor of Accounts, Attorney General, State Representative or State Senator. Only individuals, political committees, or political parties could directly donate to campaigns. While corporations can still donate to political action committees, including SuperPACs, this would have been a positive step forward in limiting the amount of corporate money in campaigns for public office in Vermont.

*Status: Passed the Senate, stalled in the House; Senate vote 23-7.*

### S.52 – Amendment Undermining Enhanced Energy Planning Law

*Pro-environment vote: NO*

This amendment would have undermined the enhanced energy planning and siting law, Act 174, a program which aims to ensure that municipal and regional energy plans will, collectively, put us on track to meet our state's goal of 90% renewable energy by 2050. Under existing law, towns and regions with approved energy plans would be given substantial deference in energy siting decisions before the Public Utilities Commission. This amendment would have stripped the requirement that plans be in compliance before granting this "substantial deference," fundamentally undercutting the balance the program seeks to create. Without ensuring that towns and regions are all doing their part towards our renewable energy goals, we will not be able to make the progress we need to achieve them.

*Status: Amendment failed; Senate vote 10-20.*

## H.410 – Improving Energy Efficiency Standards for Appliances

(Concurrence with House amendment)

*Pro-environment vote: YES*

This bill established new energy efficiency standards for 16 appliances including computers and monitors, commercial dishwashers, and portable air conditioners, among others. These improved energy efficiency standards will save energy and save Vermonters money.

*Status: Enacted; Senate vote 25-4.*

## S.197 – Holding Toxic Polluters Accountable (3rd reading)

*Pro-environment vote: YES*

This bill would have ensured that polluters, rather than impacted Vermonters or taxpayers, would pay the costs for harms such as property damage, medical monitoring expenses, or health care costs associated with an illness due to toxic chemical contamination caused by the user of a toxic substance. The Senate version of the bill included a 'strict liability' provision to allow the state and Vermonters to hold polluters accountable for harm without having to

prove negligence in how toxic chemicals were handled, just that the company was responsible for releasing the chemical and is therefore responsible for any harm they caused. The 'strict liability' provision was stripped by the House, but they did pass a provision to hold polluters accountable for medical monitoring expenses.

*Status: Enacted by Legislature, but VETOED by Gov. Scott; Senate vote 17-13.*

## S.103 – Protecting Vermont Children from Toxic Chemicals (Veto Override)

*Pro-environment vote: YES*

This legislation would have updated the Chemicals of High Concern in Children's Products program run by the Vermont Department of Health, to make it easier for the Commissioner of Health to propose rules to identify harmful chemicals posing a risk to children's health, and restrict the use of dangerous chemicals in children's products sold in Vermont.

*Status: Enacted by Legislature, but VETOED by Gov. Scott; Senate vote 22-8.*



*Speaker of the House Mitzi Johnson speaking in the State House on Clean Water Day.*

# Vermont Senate Scorecard

- ✓ Pro-environment vote
- ✗ Anti-environment vote
- A Absent (counts as a negative)
- P Presiding
- NIO Not in Office

1. H. 904 - Amendment to Support Intact, Healthy Forests
2. H.559 - Amendment to Strip Citizen Rights of Action to Help Enforce Clean Water Laws
3. S.285 - Amendment to Allow State to Collect Unclaimed Bottle Deposits
4. S.120 - Banning Corporate Campaign Contributions
5. S.52 - Amendment Undermining Enhanced Energy Planning Law
6. H.410 - Improving Energy Efficiency Standards
7. S. 197 - Holding Toxic Polluters Accountable
8. S. 103 - Improving Protections for Children from Toxic Chemicals

Senator	District	Party	2018 Score	Lifetime Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Ashe, Tim	Chittenden	D/P	86%	91%	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	P	✓	✓
Ayer, Claire	Addison	D	100%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Balint, Becca	Windham	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Baruth, Philip	Chittenden	D/P	100%	90%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Benning, Joe	Caledonia	R	13%	46%	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X
Branagan, Carolyn Whitney	Franklin	R	25%	43%	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Bray, Christopher	Addison	D	100%	96%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Brock, Randy	Franklin	R	0%	43%	X	X	X	X	NIO	X	X	X
Brooks, Francis	Washington	D	63%	63%	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓
Campion, Brian	Bennington	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Clarkson, Alison	Windsor	D	100%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Collamore, Brian	Rutland	R	0%	11%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cummings, Ann	Washington	D	100%	96%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Degree, Dustin	Franklin	R	0%	11%	NIO	NIO	NIO	NIO	X	NIO	NIO	NIO
Flory, Peg	Rutland	R	0%	24%	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ingram, Debbie	Chittenden	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kitchel, Jane	Caledonia	D	50%	66%	A	A	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓
Lyons, Ginny	Chittenden	D	100%	99%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MacDonald, Mark	Orange	D	100%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mazza, Dick	Grand Isle	D	50%	74%	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X
McCormack, Dick	Windsor	D	100%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mullin, Kevin	Rutland	R	0%	46%	NIO	NIO	NIO	NIO	X	NIO	NIO	NIO
Nitka, Alice	Windsor	D	38%	69%	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓
Pearson, Christopher	Chittenden	P/D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pollina, Anthony	Washington	P/D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rodgers, John	Essex-Orleans	D	25%	40%	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	✓
Sears, Dick	Bennington	D	75%	74%	A	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sirotkin, Michael	Chittenden	D	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Soucy, David	Rutland	R	0%	0%	X	X	X	X	NIO	X	X	X
Starr, Robert	Essex-Orleans	D	38%	41%	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓
Westman, Richard	Lamoille	R	38%	49%	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X
White, Jeanette	Windham	D	100%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

# Beyond the Roll Call – Leaders and Laggards

## House Average Environmental Scores by Party:

Progressives .....98%  
 Democrats.....93%  
 Independents .....62%  
 Republicans.....30%

## Senate Average Environmental Scores by Party:

Progressive/  
 Democrats.....96%  
 Democrats..... 81%  
 Republicans.....9%



## Environmental Laggards

2017-2018 Environmental Scores of 25% or Less

### Senators

Benning, Joe  
 Branagan, Carolyn  
 Brock, Randy  
 Collamore, Brian  
 Degree, Dustin  
 Flory, Peg  
 Mullin, Kevin  
 Rodgers, John  
 Soucy, David

Frenier, Robert  
 Gage, Douglas  
 Hebert, Michael  
 Higley, Mark  
 Hubert, Ronald  
 LaClair, Robert  
 Lawrence, Richard  
 Martel, Marcia  
 Mattos, Christopher  
 Quimby, Constance  
 Rosenquist, Carl  
 Terenzini, Thomas  
 Van Wyck, Warren

### Representatives

Ainsworth, David  
 Beyor, Steve

## Vermont Conservation Voters thanks legislators with 100% Environmental Scores in the 2017-2018 Legislative Session

### Representatives

Ancel, Janet  
 Bartholomew, John  
 Belaski, Paul  
 Bock, Thomas  
 Botzow, William  
 Briglin, Timothy  
 Burke, Mollie  
 Carr, Stephen  
 Chesnut-Tangerman, Robin  
 Christensen, Annmarie  
 Christie, Kevin “Coach”  
 Cina, Brian  
 Conlon, Peter  
 Conquest, Chip  
 Deen, David  
 Dunn, Elizabeth “Betsy”  
 Emmons, Alice  
 Forguites, Robert  
 Gardner, Marcia  
 Giambatista, Dylan

Gonzalez, Diana  
 Grad, Maxine  
 Greshin, Adam  
 Haas, Sandy  
 Head, Helen  
 Hill, Matthew  
 Hooper, Jay  
 Hooper, Mary  
 Houghton, Lori  
 Howard, Mary  
 Jessup, Kimberly  
 Johnson, Mitzi  
 Kitzmiller, Warren  
 Krowinski, Jill  
 Lippert, William  
 Long, Emily  
 Lucke, Gabrielle  
 Masland, James  
 McCormack, Curtis  
 McCullough, James  
 Miller, Alice  
 Morris, Kiah

Mrowicki, Michael  
 Noyes, Daniel  
 Potter, David  
 Pugh, Ann  
 Rachelson, Barbara  
 Scheu, Robin  
 Sharpe, David  
 Sheldon, Amy  
 Squirrell, Trevor  
 Stevens, Thomas  
 Stuart, Valerie  
 Sullivan, Mary  
 Taylor, Curt  
 Till, George  
 Toleno, Tristan  
 Troiano, Chip  
 Walz, Tommy  
 Webb, Kathryn  
 Weed, Cynthia  
 Wood, Theresa

### Senators

Ayer, Claire  
 Balint, Becca  
 Baruth, Philip  
 Bray, Christopher  
 Champion, Brian  
 Clarkson, Alison  
 Cummings, Ann  
 Ingram, Debbie  
 Lyons, Ginny  
 MacDonald, Mark  
 McCormack, Dick  
 Pearson, Christopher  
 Pollina, Anthony  
 Sirotkin, Michael  
 White, Jeanette

## 2018 Environmental Rising Stars

Each legislative biennium, Vermont Conservation Voters awards a first-term Senator and first-term Representative with our Environmental Rising Star Award. This year's award winners were Senator Christopher Pearson and Representative Trevor Squirrell.

**Senator Christopher Pearson** serves on the Senate Natural Resources & Energy Committee, and was a strong champion for legislation on climate change, clean water, and healthy forests. Pearson served his first term in the senate this biennium, after serving for eight years as a State Representative. Pearson is a founding member of the legislative Climate Caucus, which brings lawmakers together throughout the legislative session to develop and advocate for bold climate policies. He is also serving on the Act



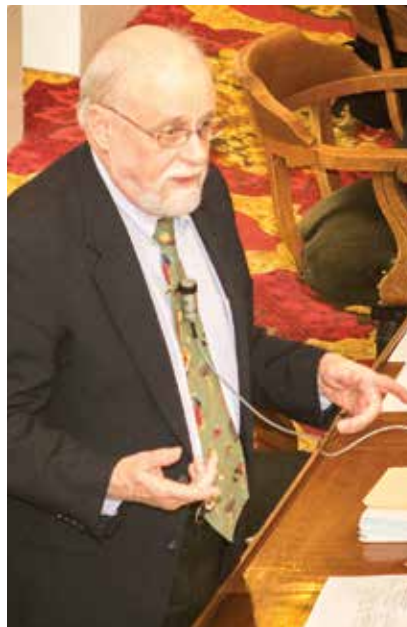
250 Commission, looking at how we can improve this landmark state land use policy to help maintain Vermont's unique character, thriving downtowns and villages, and healthy working lands.

**Representative Trevor Squirrell** serves on the House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish, and Wildlife, and has been a strong advocate for clean water, forest health, climate action, and improved toxic chemical regulations. In addition to serving in the legislature, Rep. Squirrell has been a member and Chair of the Underhill Planning Commission and the Underhill Conservation Commission. He was also a member of the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission and a Trustee of the Jericho Underhill Land Trust.



## Notable Retirements

Vermont Conservation Voters would like to acknowledge environmental champions who are retiring from the legislature this year. We are grateful for the invaluable leadership of **Representative David Deen**, the long-time Chair of the House Committee on Natural Resources, Fish & Wildlife. Rep Deen was a staunch champion for clean water, and was critical in enacting the groundbreaking Vermont Clean Water Act. He fought tirelessly for policies on a range of environmental issues, including climate change, healthy forests, and toxic chemical reforms. Other Representatives with



impressive environmental voting records who retired this year include **Representatives Stephen Carr, David Sharpe, Helen Head, and Bill Botzow**. **Rep. Kiah Morris's** leadership in the State House will be missed on issues ranging from racial justice to holding toxic polluters accountable.

On the Senate side, VCV wants to acknowledge **Senator Claire Ayer**, who served as Chair of the Senate Committee on Health & Welfare, and was a strong advocate for policies to protect Vermonters' health, including crucial leadership on bills to reduce Vermonters' exposure to toxic chemicals.

## Vermont Conservation Voters In Action



*Above and left: Vermonters from across the state came together for Clean Water Day, to call on lawmakers for long-term funding for cleaning up and protecting our waters.*



*Middle right and bottom: Local energy leaders met with Lt. Governor David Zuckerman and House and Senate leaders, calling for bold action on climate change.*



Vermont Conservation Voters  
P.O. Box 744  
Montpelier, VT 05601

## Vermont Environmental Scorecard

### Now that you know the score, *take action!*

**1. Tell your legislators you know the score.**

One of the best ways to influence your elected officials is through regular communication with them. If your legislators scored well, thank them. If they scored poorly, let them know you are disappointed and that you value Vermont's environment. You can find your legislators' contact information on our website: **[VermontConservationVoters.org](http://VermontConservationVoters.org)**.

**2. Get out and vote on or before Election Day.**

Your vote is your voice, so make sure you head to the polls to vote for the candidates representing your values. In 2018, Election Day is Tuesday, November 6th. You can also vote early at your Town Clerk's office in the weeks leading up to Election Day. **NEW THIS YEAR:** If you're not yet registered to vote, you can register to vote right at the polls when you go to cast your ballot!

**3. Contribute to Vermont Conservation Voters.**

Vermont Conservation Voters is working hard to ensure pro-environment candidates are elected, and to bring your environmental values to the tough fights at the State House. Please join other Vermonters by becoming a supporter today. Find out more on our website: **[VermontConservationVoters.org](http://VermontConservationVoters.org)**.

---