

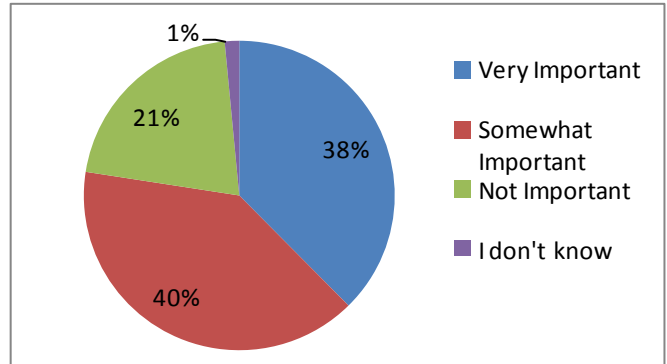
# Green Government

## Multiple Choice Responses

Question #1: **How important do you believe it is for the Town to address each of the following issues?**

Multiple Choice #7: **Increasing the Town's use of fuel efficient or alternative fuel vehicles** (hybrids, electric, biodiesel, compressed natural gas, etc.) in our municipal and contractor's fleets.

133 respondents



# Green Government

## Open-Text Responses

**Question #2: In your opinion, what is the most important issue that the Town should address in order to improve the environment and long-term livability of this community?**

1. more energy efficiency in homes, public buildings, and town or contractor vehicles;
2. Energy use, including by the town and by its residents
3. ... have a show-and-tell about electric vehicles and consider converting some of the town vehicles to newer technology.
4. reducing the town offices' climate imprint

**Question #3: Being realistic, what do you think are the three most important things the Town might do to help you and your family reduce your negative impacts on the environment?**

1. reduce run off from black top surfaces on driveways - Town should be a model by changing its parking area which is a heat island and offers little or no onsite absorption
2. use renewable energy (solar panels) to offset electric use in town offices
3. go solar! on the municipal buildings
4. i think that our money would be better invested in expanding our individual recycling efforts before spending money on alternate fuel vehicles (cutting back on the Town's 'fleet' of vehicles might also be considered if necessary).
5. could do a lot more to promote solar panels (hold a seminar with testimonials from us believers, let people have a yard sign that says it's a solar house, put panels on the Leland Center).
6. Town use of alternative fuel vehicles with public charge or fuel stations for Natural Gas or/and electric: so as homeowners, we can invest in that technology and have convenient fueling options in town
7. reduce run off from black top surfaces on driveways - Town should be a model by changing its parking area which is a heat island and offers little or no onsite absorption.
8. I guess I'd ask TOCC to be realistic on what it can do to persuade me to reduce my carbon footprint. TOCC has limited powers, talents, and capabilities. Cajoling and peer pressure only go so far in changing the high consumption engrained in our lifestyles and large homes. TOCC should lead by example and report out on how its making decisions to reduce the town governments footprint (reducing its fleet consumption, hiring locally, reducing environmental impacts from town lights, reducing impact from its roads, sidewalk, operations, investing in sustainable energy itself, partnering with other local entities to (Bethesda UP, local building owners) to be part of a meaningful project.

**Bottom of Question #1: Feel free to provide comments on the topics above or suggestions for additional environmental issues you feel the town might address”**

1. The TOCC government should practice what it is considering preaching and focus only on the BIG, meaningful initiatives. Forget the litter, bike sharing, healthy lifestyle initiatives, and less complex, less impactful trinkets - let a local volunteer group tackle. Global warming emissions and water runoff are the real culprits. Focus on reducing the town's public buildings, utility, and transportation energy consumption and emissions. Encourage residents to do the same with tax credit or other incentives.

Bottom of Question #4: **Feel free to tell us other actions you have taken to reduce your environmental impact.**

1. Form a neighborhood collective to allow residents to collectively invest in a solar panel farm on both the Lawton Center and CCES.

Final Question: **Please briefly describe any issues you would be interested in discussing further.**

1. In general, I think it is very important for the Town government to examine its own practices and make sure they are as environmentally sensitive as possible, but it is not at all important -- and may be quite harmful -- for the Town government to try to control the environmental impact of what individual residents do. People don't always agree on what course of action is more environmentally friendly, e.g., CFL bulbs with mercury versus incandescent bulbs that use more energy. Nor are residents similarly situated in all relevant respects, e.g., some may be more cost-conscious than others. Green up the Town's activities, but leave individuals alone.
2. Use the Town's buying power to set an example with greener purchases of what the Town already buys. Collect before and after information, and share with residents so they can tell which practices make the most difference in places they can recognize as similar to their own. Make results and high-performing produce samples easily accessible -- 4th of July picnic, annual meeting, etc.
3. The TOCC government should practice what it is considering preaching and focus only on the BIG, meaningful initiatives. Forget the litter, bike sharing, healthy lifestyle initiatives, and less complex, less impactful trinkets - let a local volunteer group tackle. Global warming emissions and water runoff are the real culprits. Focus on reducing the town's public buildings, utility, and transportation energy consumption and emissions. Encourage residents to do the same with tax credit or other incentives.
4. I think the Town should set a better of example. We were required to have 100% onsite absorption on our new driveway but the Town resurfaced its parking lot with an impenetrable material on a huge area. In addition, the Town created a heat island adjacent to the playground and courts.