



IOWA CHAPTER

Environmental Questions You Can Ask at Legislator Coffees, Constituent Meetings and Forums

Below are some issues you can discuss with your legislators. If you are going to a coffee, constituent meeting, or forum, pick a question and hand out others to your family or friends.

Would you support legislation that would create an Agriculture Climate Adaptation Plan that would guide Iowa farmers in how to adapt to the effects of climate change?

Iowa voters gave overwhelming support to a constitutional amendment that would allow increased investment in Iowa's parks, recreation and clean water. All that is left is for the legislature to approve the three-eight cent sales tax. Would you support the sales tax?

Do you support increasing the budget for items that improve public education, public health, parks and recreation, and water quality?

Do you support fully funding REAP (Iowa Resources Enhancement and Protection Fund) at 20 million dollars and extending it beyond 2023, with no changes in the funding formula?

Would you support a moratorium on the construction of new CAFOs or expansion of existing CAFOs? (Note, CAFOs are confined animal feeding operations, where animals are raised in buildings.)

Would you support comprehensively improving the CAFO (confined animal feeding operations) laws so that the neighbors are better protected, water is better protected, and the air emissions are reduced?

Iowa has a nutrient reduction strategy, but has no set targets for the nutrients in each lake, river, and stream. Would you support setting targets for nutrients in Iowa's lakes, rivers, and streams and setting a date for meeting the targets?

Would you work on continuing the bottle deposit law and expanding it to include water bottles, iced tea, sports drinks and juice bottles?

What would you do to increase voter access to the polls and would you abolish the voter-ID requirement?

Do you support legislation that supports the rights of Iowans to peacefully protest without the threat of a Class B felony, 25 years in prison, and a fine of 100 thousand dollars?

Would you support legislation that would require the state treasurer to move taxpayer money out of Wells Fargo and any other banks that have been sanctioned for fraud?

There are competing ideas of government's responsibilities. Do you believe that the primary responsibility of government is to grow the economy and give corporations tax breaks and incentives? Or is the primary responsibility of government to protect the things we all share, such as rivers, clean drinking water, air, public health, bridges, roads, wildlife, and public universities?

Would you work to ensure that people and businesses can install their own solar panels and not be assessed surcharges and penalties by their utility?

In 2018, the Iowa legislature rolled back utility energy efficiency programs by reducing the amount the utilities could spend on the program. Would you overturn that law, and re-instate the state's energy efficiency programs?

Should landowners who have pipeline easements on their property have the right to take the pipeline owner to court if the company has not fully restored the property to full-production and has not paid for crop yield losses?

The Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture has been defunded. Currently the Iowa taxpayers are giving 1 million dollars to the World Food Prize. Would you support transferring that money from the World Food Prize to the Leopold Center?

Would you support creating a state bank in Iowa, similar to the state bank in North Dakota?