

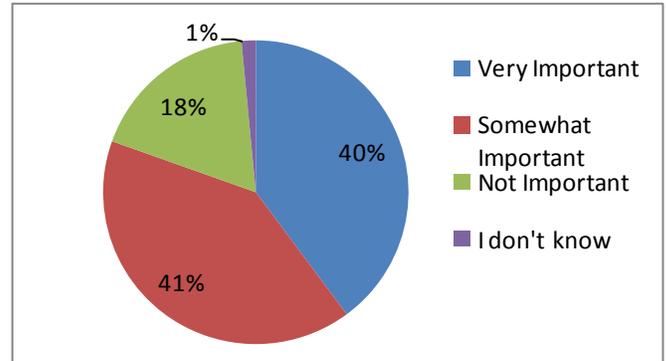
Home energy conservation and green buildings

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: **Greener building practices.** This could include improving home energy efficiency, green building materials and practices, renewable energy and other green measures.

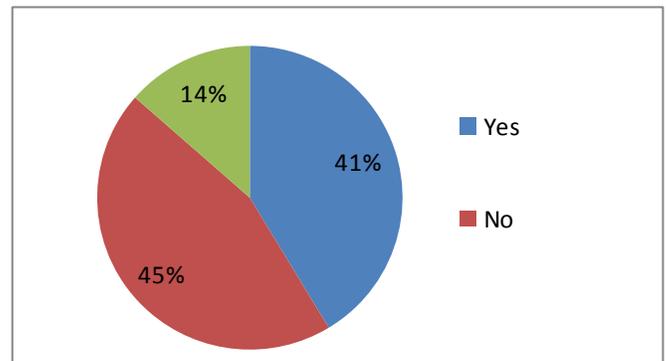
133 respondents



Question #4: Greenhouse Gas survey follow-up questions.

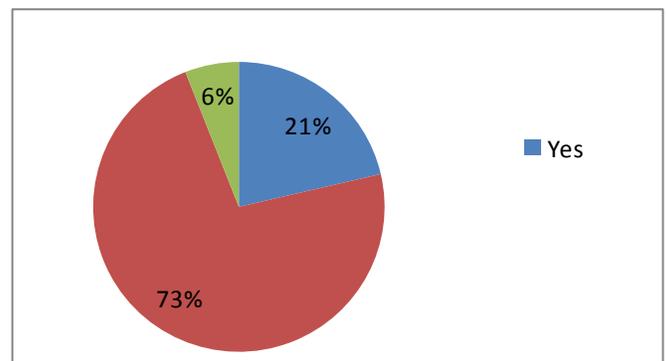
Multiple Choice #1: **Have you had a professional home energy audit?**

133 respondents



Multiple Choice #2: **If yes, did you do any follow-up work recommended in the audit?**

117 respondents



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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. energy efficiency and less chemicals in our drinking water. Perhaps town filtering? Is that possible?
2. Energy use, including by the town and by its residents.
3. ... encouraging energy efficiency/ alternate energy use.
4. Not sure what the most wasteful (lost energy) and most expensive (i.e., energy costs) items are now, but whatever that is would be on the top of my list.
5. ... should continue urging people to do home energy evaluations (we had a thorough tightening-up done by SolarCity and it's made a significant difference to our gas bill). more energy efficiency in homes, public buildings, and town or contractor vehicles
6. Pollution control and encouraging energy efficiency/ alternate energy use.
7. promote environmentally responsible building.
8. greener building

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. offer incentives for reduced energy use,
2. A free energy audit would interest me.
3. Monitor/track consumption/energy use over time for their town--have to be able to show progress, I think. Provide information and frequent reminders on behavioral changes we can all make to reduce consumption.
4. Energy conservation
5. energy efficiency options
6. how to reduce energy usage
7. Better energy management
8. the town should encourage use of green and high efficiency building technologies and renewable energy.
9. Tankless water heaters, CFL and LED lighting, Smart thermostats
10. The town offering free energy audits - costly yet most effective because each resident can learn a variety of solutions to energy savings (I wish I would have taken advantage of that service when it was available;
11. replace some large appliances with more energy efficient ones
12. Energy audits
13. guidance for even greater home energy efficiency
14. meter in house to calculate energy use
15. A panel of experts could be involved in a meet-and-greet to give homeowners tailored advice on energy-efficiency and green building practices.
16. Promote green tech. Lot of new products being put on the market and very little information about them
17. provide a list of greener but effective, readily available cleaning, gardening, and pest control products
18. Promoting group purchasing of green upgrades
19. Greener building practices.
20. greener building
21. I would be glad to do some changes to make our house more 'green', but the cost vs. the amount of time we will stay in the house has not made it possible.
22. town should encourage use of green and high efficiency building technologies and renewable energy.

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. It is pretty absurd to have taxpayers subsidize energy saving programs for owners of mega mansions that have just doubled and tripled physical and environmental footprints.
2. I think encouraging composting would be a great idea, as well as **incentivizing energy audits** and perhaps incentivizing minimizing of trash (perhaps charging a fee for a second trash can pickup.)

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

1. Massive insulation upgrade. Massive Hvac upgrade.
2. changed all our windows and all our light bulbs, bought a high efficiency furnace, added insulation
3. Insulated our home, kept the footprint small, ...replaced with energy efficient appliances, ... keep our thermostat at 66 in winter and minimize cooling in summer. Have Pepco's meter controls on our system. Etc.
4. high insulation, energy efficient doors and windows, geothermal heating/cooling, solar panels, motion-sensor lights, energy-efficient lights, ... programmable thermostats, ...hybrid heat-pump hot water heater, energy star appliances,
5. ... we replaced all our windows and installed a new natural gas boiler when we moved in, we replaced all the old toilets in the house, and we keep our air conditioning at 80 in the summer. We also use a high-efficiency, front-loading washer.
6. During work of addition rewrapped house with Tyvex, then resingled, installed all new windows
7. We installed fans throughout the house. 2 We planted shade trees on the west side of the house to block the afternoon sun in the summer. 3 We have Solar Panels, Tankless Hot Water, upgraded all our appliances to low energy, high efficiency, including our Furnace. 4 Insulated the attic. 5 Placed a sun blocking film on our west side of the house, preventing the rooms from being excessively hot in the summer.
8. ...energy saving bulbs or conventional lighting on dimmers new windows with the highest rating by Consumer Reports for energy savings insulation in all walls affected by new construction and renovation
9. I looked into solar panels. They are extremely expensive. Ditto other suggested ideas in the home energy audit. I cannot afford making those kinds of changes in my 80-year old house (with its fantastic plaster walls, wooden floors, wooden window sills, etc.) that I am supposed to throw into a landfill so that I can purchase new energy efficient materials!
10. We have all energy efficient appliances and use natural gas to the maximum extent possible.
11. Energy audit, installation of insulated siding, fireplace cover, new windows.
12. Improved energy efficiency with addition and renovation 8 years ago.
13. Use as little heat/AC as possible. Installed fluorescent and LED lights, energy efficient appliances. Electric car. Organic gardening.
14. insulation in attic.
15. More efficient appliances and windows (storm windows but kept original glass pane windows), some interior energy savers- lower heat, lights off when not needed, wrap hot water heater, only full laundry loads, more hanging dry of laundry, wind energy, donations, etc.
16. ... changed all our windows and all our light bulbs, bought a high efficiency furnace, added insulation, A lot of these actions were taken as a result of information provided by the town.
17. I suspect that I have spent more time and money on my 1927 house in ChCh that most people in town to improve its energy efficiency [all without the Town's guidance or help - indeed one case ignoring requests by a Town elected official for payoffs] - and as I did the work myself, I suspect I got a better return on my investment than most others doing similar upgrades.
18. I have been switching over to compact fluorescent bulbs and turn lights off when not in room. Conservative use of heating and AC. Only run full loads of dishes and laundry, and have front-loading washer and high-efficiency dishwasher.

19. We really try to implement behavioral changes (avoiding AC (though we did install a high efficiency compressor for when we do use); limiting heating, CFLs, walking, etc).
20. We turn our thermostat to 62 in winter and 78 in summer. No lawn fertilizer, as little water use as possible.
21. I typically commute on two wheels, we replaced all our windows and installed a new natural gas boiler when we moved in, we replaced all the old toilets in the house, and we keep our air conditioning at 80 in the summer. We also use a high-efficiency, front-loading washer.
22. Composting Cloth napkins - daily use Solar hot water
23. Only have one car for two drivers, drive a hybrid car, keep heating and cooling of house low, keep overall water use low,
24. More recycling. Prius owner. No fertilizer. Keep trees and protect them. More efficient appliances and windows (storm windows but kept original glass pane windows), some interior energy savers- lower heat, lights off when not needed, wrap hot water heater, only full laundry loads, more hanging dry of laundry, wind energy, donations, etc.
25. We walk or bike to nearby areas nearly every day to run errands and therefore only use my car a couple of times a week (usually to bring kids to activities that are too far to walk). I am an avid gardener and don't use pesticides in my yard/garden. I try to sign my kids (and myself) up for classes in which we can walk to or take metro. We are part of the town's pilot program with the Compost Crew. We set our thermostat under 70 in the winter and about 80 in the summer and it's programmable so it's adjusted for the times when we are home. I recycle as much as I can and try to reuse things I can't recycle before I throw it away (when possible). I try to donate toys and clothes instead of throwing them out. I buy many food items that are organic and buy local when I can.
26. I prefer biking or walking to driving or metro; Most importantly, i am frugal in general, whether with burning fossil fuels or excessive consumption, i don't need, want, or have a (now) typical oversized chevy chase home.
27. Minimal driving -- I walk places and take Metro whenever possible. I have been switching over to compact fluorescent bulbs and turn lights off when not in room. Conservative use of heating and AC. Only run full loads of dishes and laundry, and have front-loading washer and high-efficiency dishwasher.

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

1. Ways to make my old home more energy efficient.
2. On the issue of green building practices, the Town could help educate residents and perhaps waive permit fees or something to incentive their use, but I would not support a heavy regulatory approach that would add to construction costs.