

Visions of Environmental Literacy

At the Environmental Literacy for Vermont Public Dialogues, participants were asked, "What do you see when you picture an environmentally literate community? What's happening? What are individuals, schools, businesses, organizations, etc. doing in your future vision?" And they responded with...

"Membrane between school and community more permeable."

"There is a commitment to healthy employees."

"Incorporation of nature in all aspects of life – town planning, education, recreation, etc."

"We are more connected to one another."

"There's less fretting about children's free exploration in nature."

"Composting is as common as any other form of recycling."

"Religious institutions disseminate 'green' knowledge."

"Clustered development to conserve wildlife habitat."

"Deliberate land use that includes built, sustainably managed and wild spaces."

"Everyone sees themselves as educators."

"New and old neighborhoods collectively plant bird habitats in their yards."

"ENVIRONMENTALLY APPROPRIATE CHOICES ARE LESS EXPENSIVE THAN CONVENTIONAL ONES."

"There is no litter on the ground."

"We do long term planning/ have longer visions."

"Greater connection between business, communities and schools."

"Transportation – bike paths, pedestrian friendly, car pools, car share, etc."

"It's a given that people grow most of their own food, know where their food comes from."

"ALL public buildings must be renewable educational centers."

"Long term costs (health affects, pollution clean-up, etc.) in the initial accounting."

"No-trash society – everything is recycled."

"Town and municipal buildings have to use renewable energy."

"Public transportation would be available and convenient."

"There are networks that share best practices."

"Volunteerism is the norm."