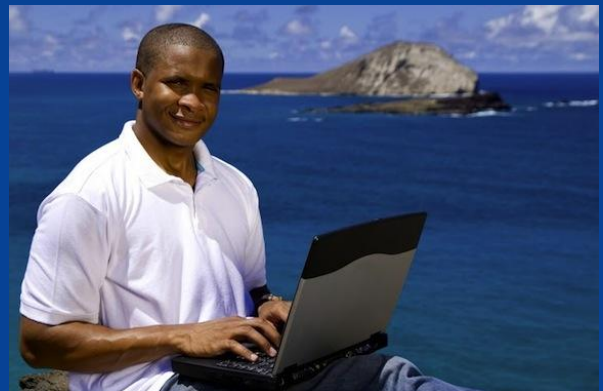
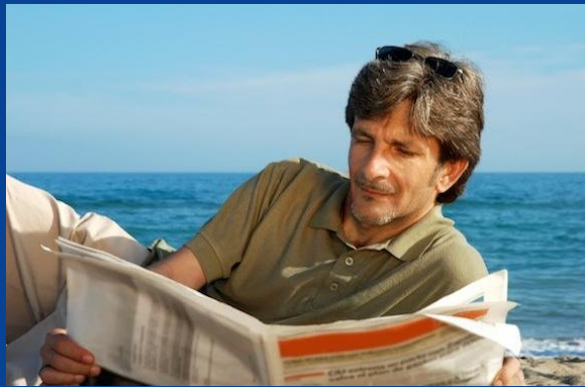




**WATER WORDS
THAT WORK**



2022 National Waterways Literacy Survey
October, 2022

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Overview

Our 2022 survey finds that most Americans still care about clean water and a healthy environment — but they are needing an extra serving of encouragement that these goals can still be achieved.

This year's National Waterways Literacy Survey finds that Americans' knowledge, opinions, and priorities about water issues are largely stable since 2015. But it also finds that Americans report they are doing less to solve the problems than they used to.

The environmental community should continue to stress the water pollution/flood/drought angles of the issues they work on. These are the most resonant aspects of the climate crisis, land protection, and infrastructure investments.

But more importantly, the environmental community should greatly increase its efforts to tell encouraging stories leading towards satisfying outcomes. It is crucial to highlight victories — no matter how small — and to make the case that all is not already lost.

Research Methodology

We developed a 24-question survey instrument that explored Americans' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors on topics that are relevant to our steering committee. A steering committee of conservation organizations guided the development of the questionnaire.

Many thanks to:

- Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
- California State Water Resources Control Board
- National Estuarine Research Reserve Association
- Land Trust Alliance
- Waterkeeper Alliance

Through an online survey platform, we recruited a sample of 1,000 Americans to answer the questions in March of 2022. We ordered a sample that closely matches the U.S. population as a whole. Participants were compensated for their time.

To eliminate "self selection bias," the survey takers did not know the topic beforehand — or why they were selected to answer this set of questions. To further ensure quality results, the order of answers were randomized in most questions. Once the results were in, we compared the survey takers' responses with U.S. Census and other high quality sources to confirm the sample quality.

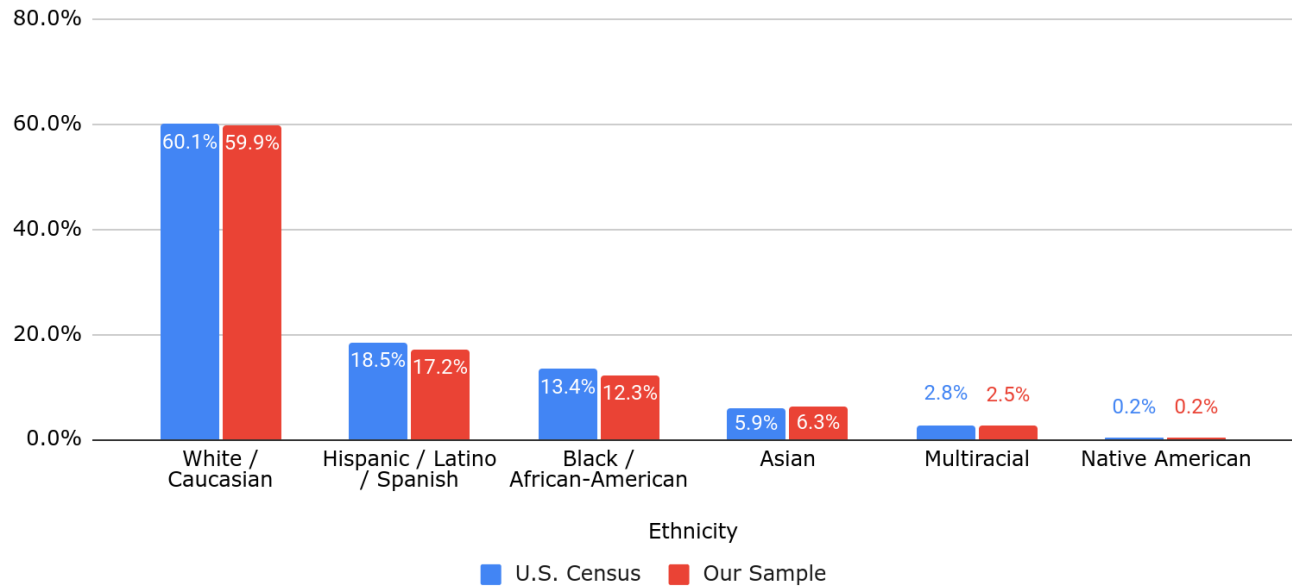
This survey has a margin of error of +/- 3.1% at the 95% confidence interval.

We used the same methodology in a 2015 version of this survey. So we can compare the results when the questions match.

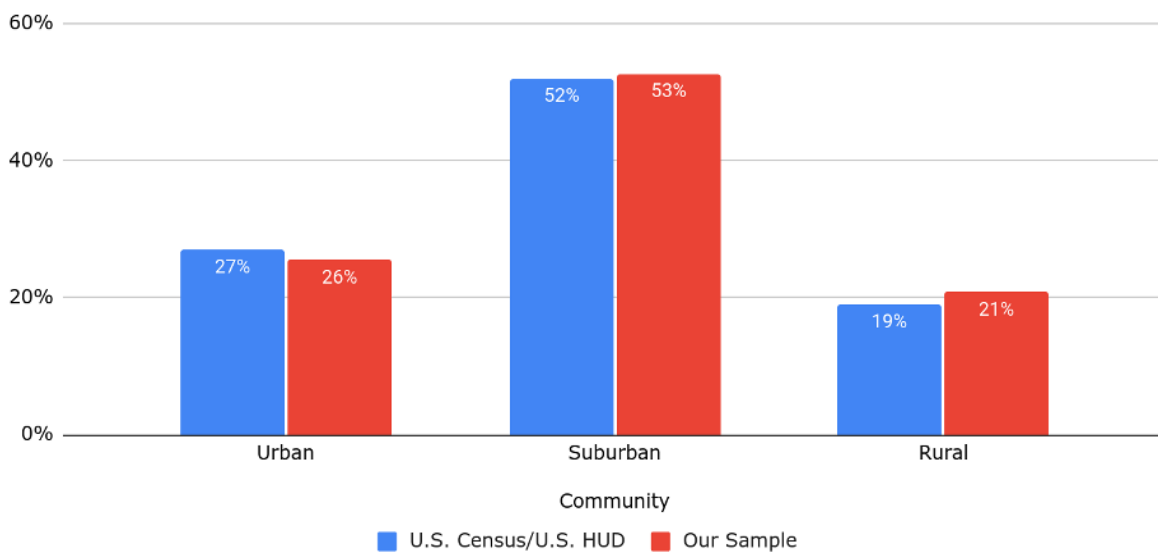
Top Findings

#1: The Sample is Highly Representative of the U.S. Population

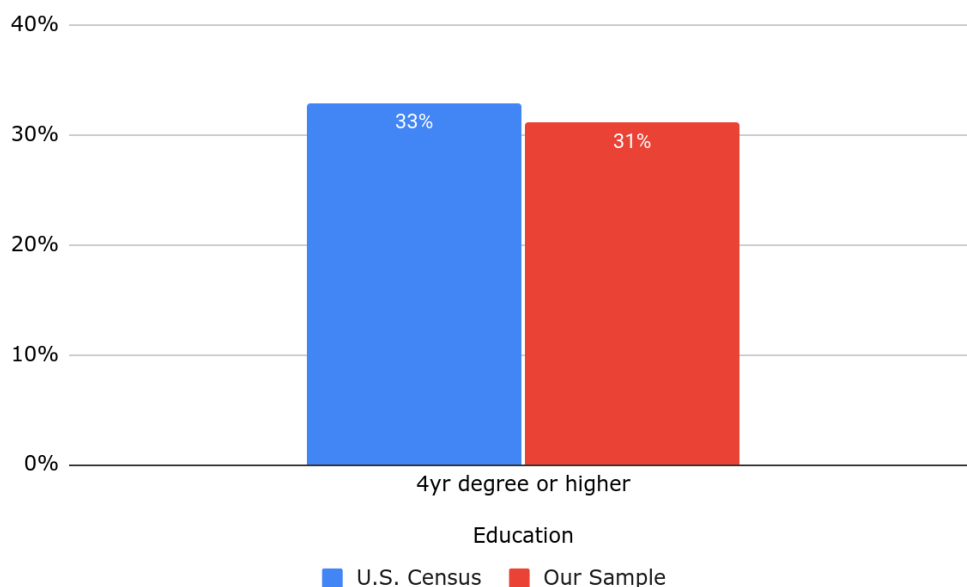
We successfully secured a high-quality survey sample that looks like America. Our sample has a mix of ethnicities that are very close to U.S. Census figures:



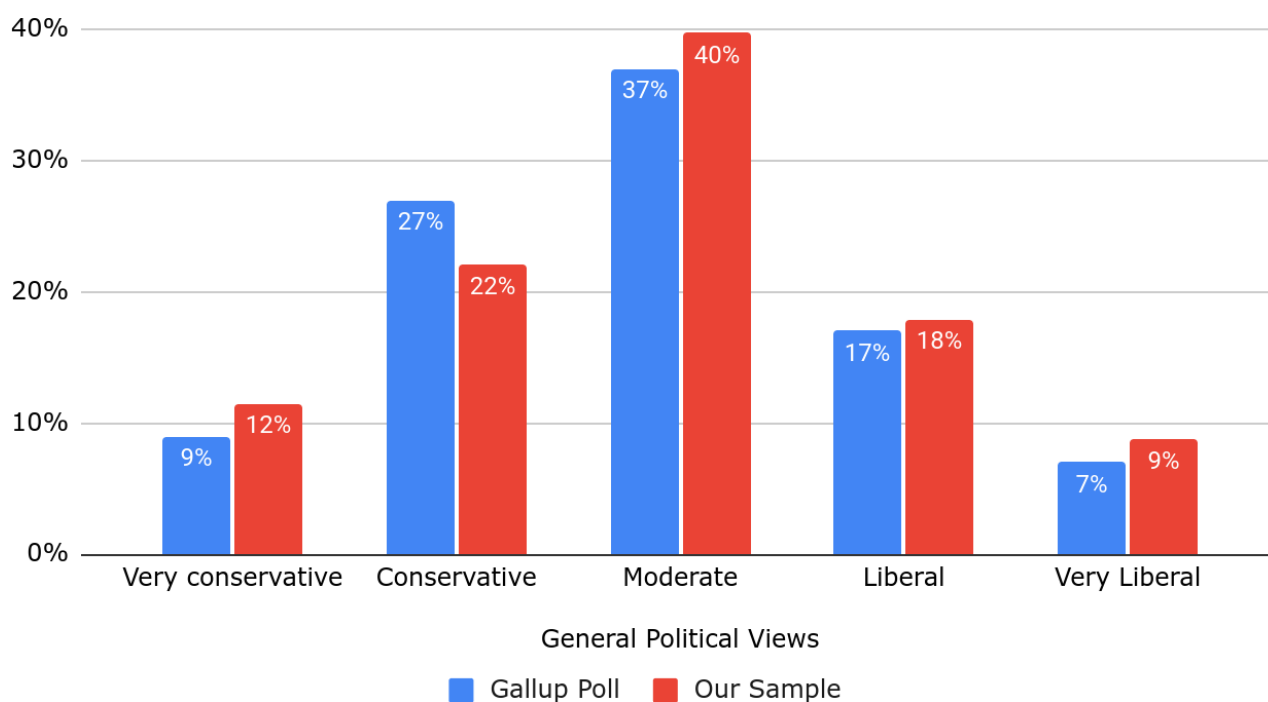
Our sample lives in communities that are very close to U.S. Census/HUD figures:



Our sample's education level is a close match to U.S. Census figures:



The Gallup Poll tracks Americans' political viewpoints. Our sample is a close match to their findings:



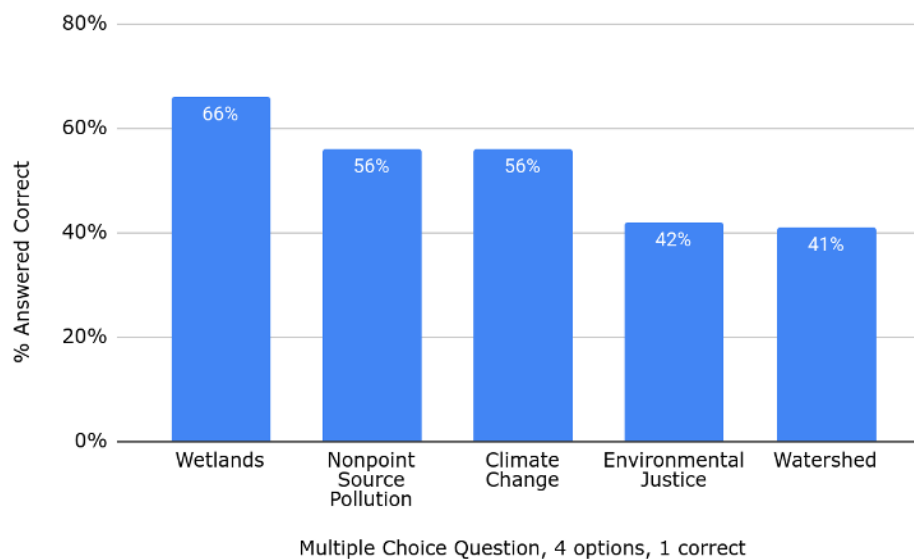
Finally, the Yale Climate Change Communication program estimates that 57% of Americans believe "global warming is mostly caused by human activity."¹ The closely corroborates our survey, which found that 56% of Americans recognize "pollution from power plants, cars, and other human sources" as the primary cause of climate change.

¹ Retrieved from <https://climatecommunication.yale.edu/visualizations-data/ycom-us/>

#2: Americans' Water Knowledge Holds Steady

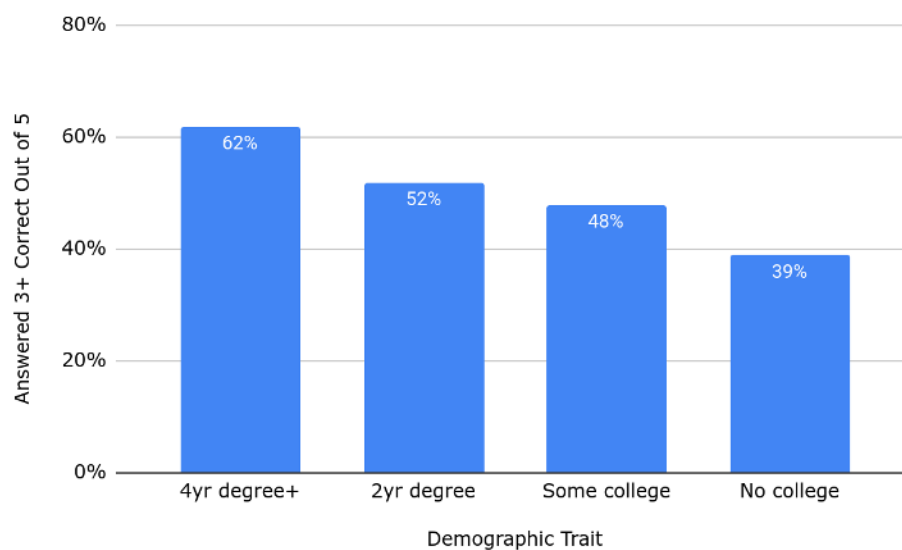
We gave the 1,000 Americans a five question “pop quiz” of basic environmental terms and concepts. Just over half of them passed with three or more questions correct. We got a similar result in 2015, with a slightly different pop quiz.

Americans were most likely to understand the basic benefits of wetlands, and least likely to answer our “watershed” question correctly.

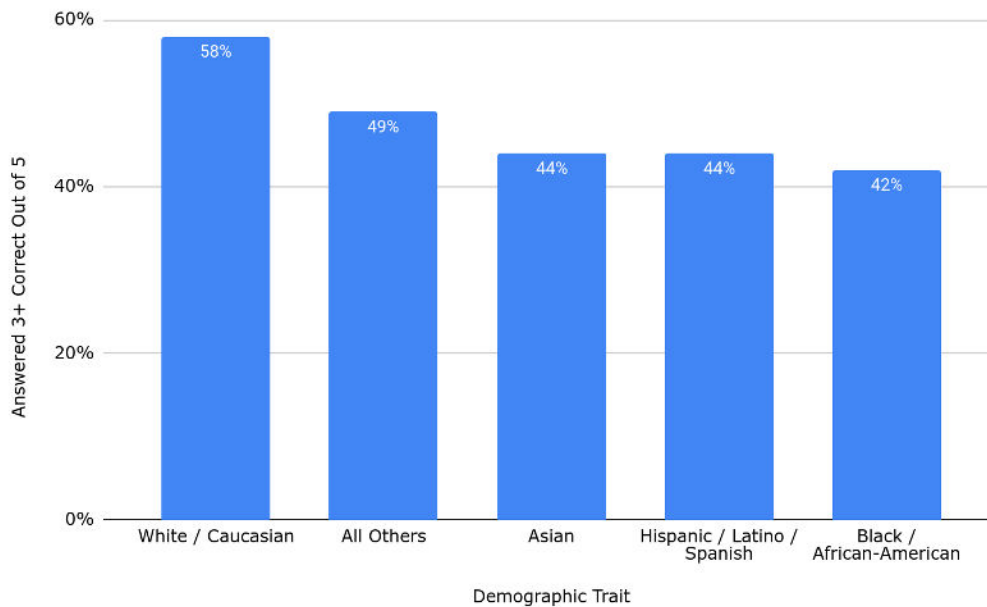


When it comes to environmental literacy, there are two demographic correlations that stand out:

Education. We see a very strong correlation between overall educational attainment and basic environmental literacy. This pattern is basically unchanged from 2015.



Ethnicity. This is closely related to education, because of discrepancies in educational opportunity by race in the United States. "White/Caucasians" were more likely than other ethnic groups to pass the pop quiz. This pattern also remains unchanged from 2015.



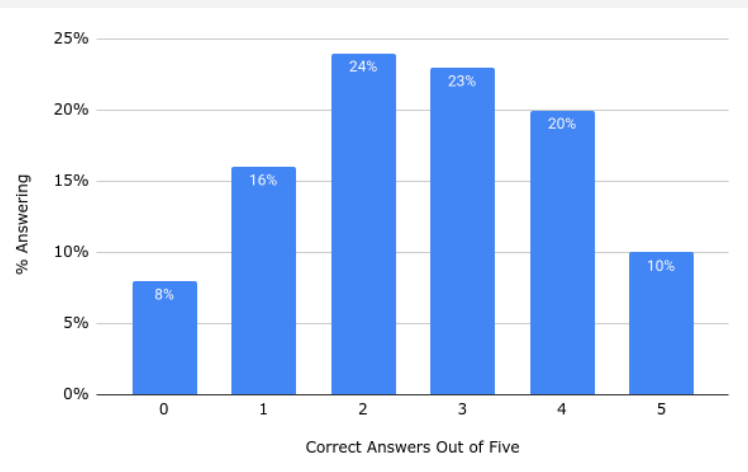
All other demographic factors are much smaller. For example:

- **Community Type:** Suburbanites (54%) were most likely to pass the pop quiz, and urbanites (49%) the least. This is a small but statistically significant difference.
- **Region of the Country:** Southerners (54%) were most likely to pass the pop quiz, Northeasteners (50%) the least. This is a small but statistically significant difference.
- **Gender:** Men and women were at the margin of error of each other. Men (54%) were slightly more likely than women (51%) to answer three or more questions correctly. Less than 1% of our sample identified themselves as "Non-binary/gender non-conforming" and we cannot draw any conclusions about this small group.

The “Pop Quiz”

If survey takers answered three or more of the following questions correctly, they “passed.” Slightly over half — 53% — were able to do this. This figure is within the margin of error of the 2015 survey, although the questions were slightly different.

Note: In the survey, answer options were presented in random order to participants.



Which of the following is the best definition for “nonpoint source pollution?” Is it:

- (Correct) Pollution running into water off the land: 56%
- Low priority pollution
- Pollution that enters the water from a pipe
- Pollution that won’t get through your skin if you are in the water

Which of the following is the best definition for a “watershed?” Is it:

- (CORRECT) The land area that drains into a body of water: 41%
- An area that retains water like a swamp or marsh
- A building at a water treatment facility
- A measurement of an area’s flood risk

What are the primary benefits of wetland habitats to the surrounding area?

- (CORRECT) Wetlands help filter pollution from water and reduce floods: 66%
- Wetlands prevent forest fires
- Wetlands are good sites for landfills
- Wetlands are cheap land for development

Which of the following is the best definition for “environmental justice” Is it:

- (CORRECT) Ensuring disadvantaged people enjoy a healthy environment: 42%
- Stiff penalties for criminal polluters
- Fair trials for accused criminal polluters
- A judge who specializes in environmental law

Which of the following is the leading cause of climate change, also known as global warming?

- (CORRECT) Pollution from power plants, cars, and other human sources: 56%
- Natural changes to weather patterns over time
- Thinning of the ozone layer
- Sunspots and other solar activity

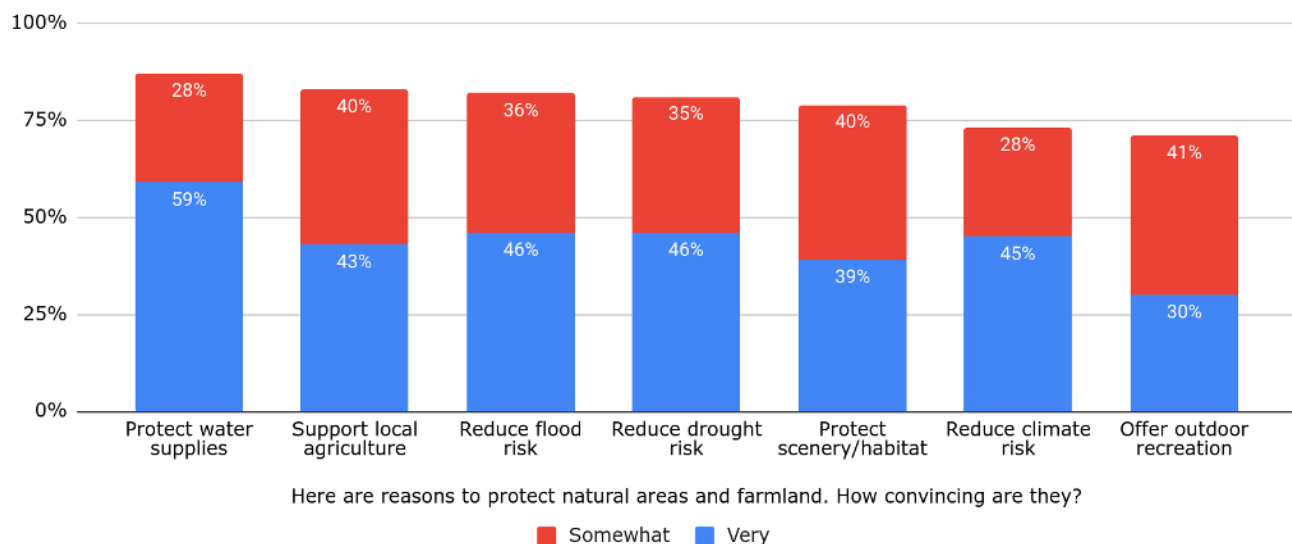
#3: Americans' Concerns and Priorities About Water Hold Steady

Water outpolled all other environmental issues in this survey, which is consistent with our 2015 survey.

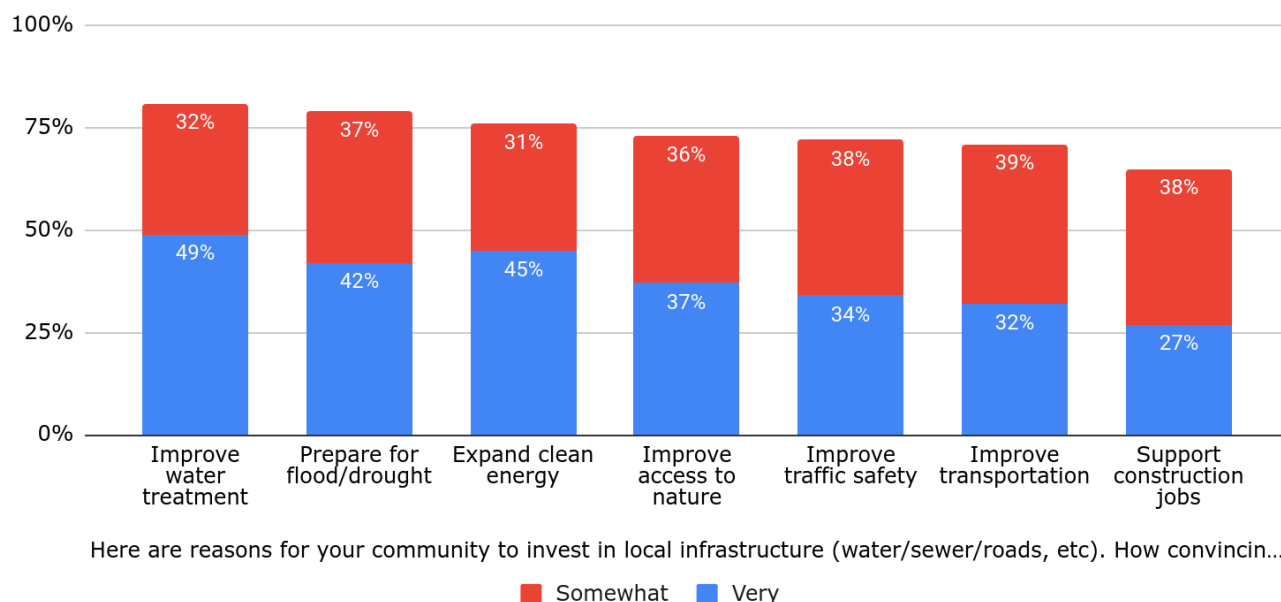
"Here are environmental topics your community leaders deal with. Please rank from most important to least:"

2022 Ranking	2015 Ranking
Water Pollution	Water Pollution
Exposure to Toxic Chemicals	Exposure to Toxic Chemicals
Climate Change/Global Warming	Climate Change/Global Warming
Wildlife Conservation	Air Pollution
Protecting Wetland/Marshes/Swamps	Runaway Development/Loss of Natural Areas
Conserving Undeveloped Land and Farmland	Waste Disposal/Recycling
Environmental Justice and Equity	Hazardous Waste Sites

Digging deeper into the findings, survey takers also rated "protecting water supplies" as the top reason to conserve land — well ahead of "reduce climate risk." Panelists also rated two other water issues — floods and droughts — as more compelling reasons to protect land than "reducing climate risk." The margins are small but statistically significant on this point:

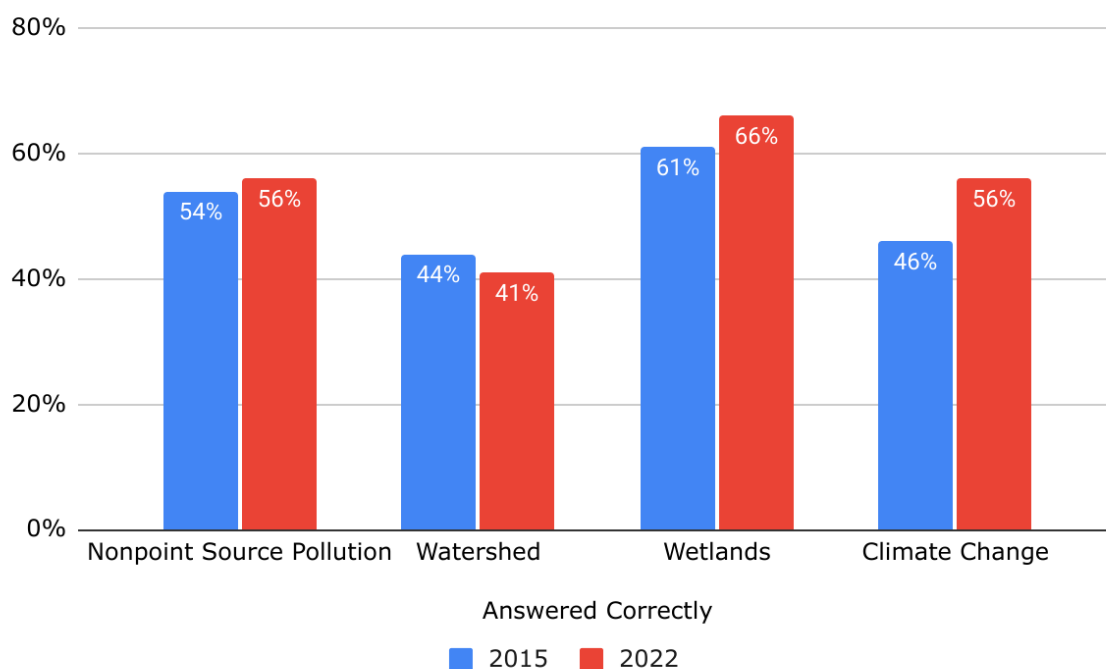


Further corroboration: Our sample rated “improve water treatment” and “prepare for flood/drought” as the top two reasons to make infrastructure investments:



Observation #1: The Term “Watershed” is Highly Problematic

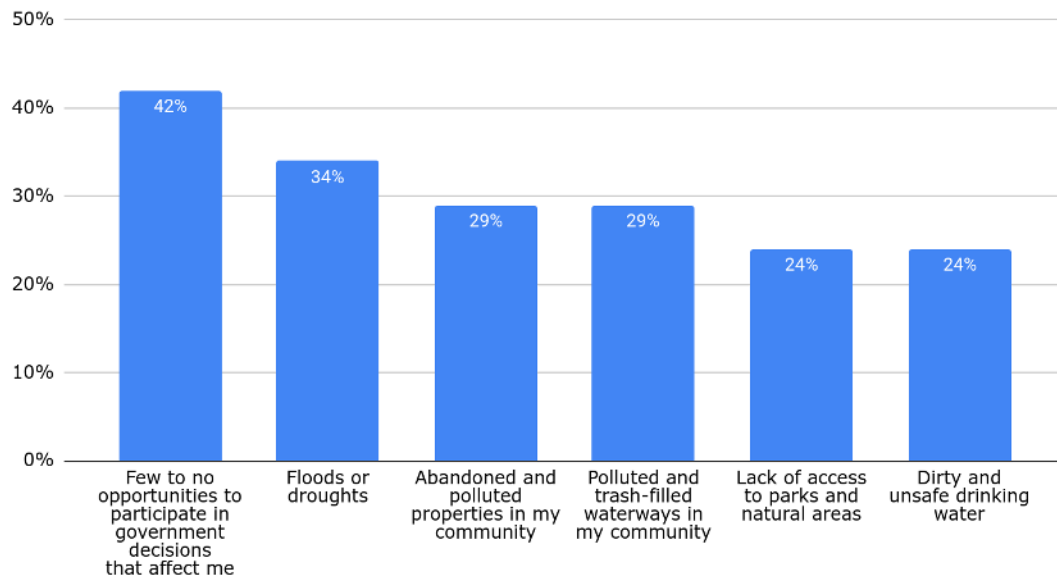
Even though Americans support conserving land to protect water, the word “watershed” polls terribly. *Americans were most likely to answer this question wrong in our pop quiz.* Even worse, the number who answered correctly *fell* by 3% from 2015 to 2022, an amount right at the margin of error for this survey. This decline comes as Americans’ familiarity with other terms ticked up incrementally:



Observation #2: Many Americans Believe Unsafe Drinking Water is Someone Else's Problem

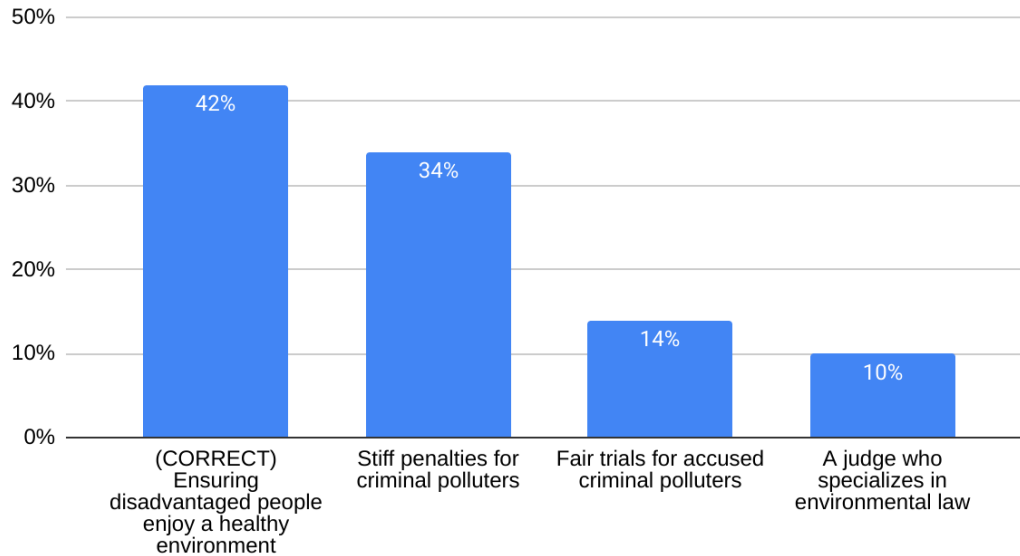
Americans clearly recognize that dirty and unsafe drinking water is a serious problem — but few report they are experiencing that personally at this time.

When asked about six environmental problems they “personally experience,” poor drinking water was at the bottom of the list. By a 10 point margin, they were more likely to report personally experiencing floods and droughts.



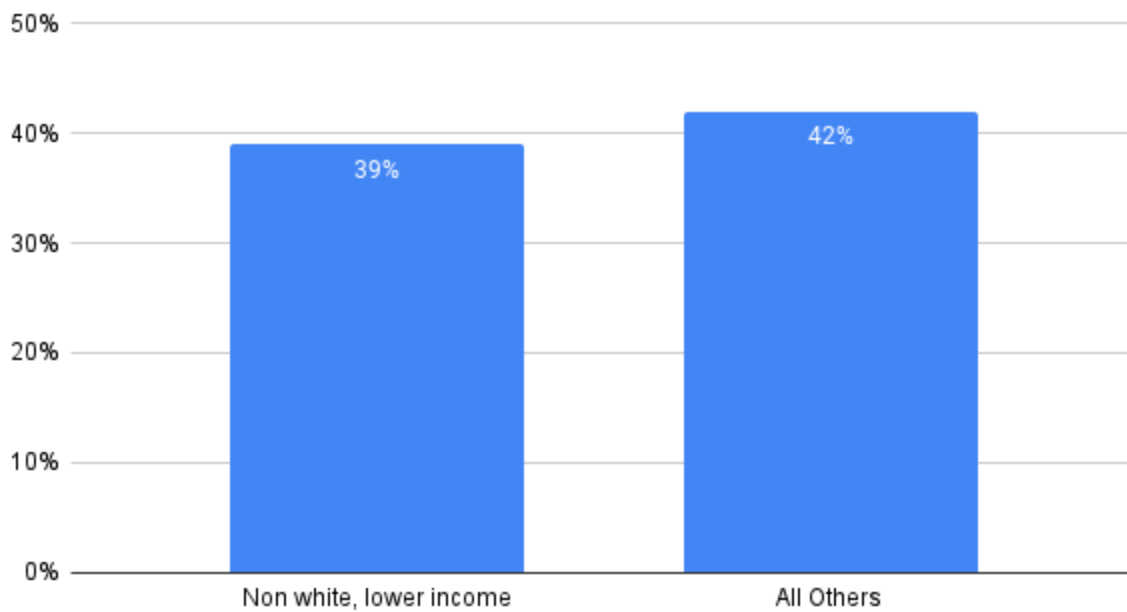
#4: Non-White Lower Income Communities Are Receptive — but the Term “Environmental Justice” Polls Poorly

The term “environmental justice” just does not mean much to most Americans. In our pop quiz, almost 60% of them could *not* match this term to the correct definition:



Which of the following is the best definition for “environmental justice?”

About 18% of our survey takers were from communities of color (Hispanic, African-American, Asian, Native American, or multi-racial individuals) and reported household incomes of <\$50,000 per year (The U.S. Census reports that the median U.S. household income is \$64,994). This group *was less likely than the others* to recognize the term “environmental justice,” although the difference was right at the margin of error:



Chose correct answer for "Which of the following is the correct definition of 'environmental justice and equity'"

Given widespread lack of familiarity with this term, it's no surprise that survey takers rated "environmental justice and equity" as a low priority. They didn't know what it was — so they put it at the bottom:

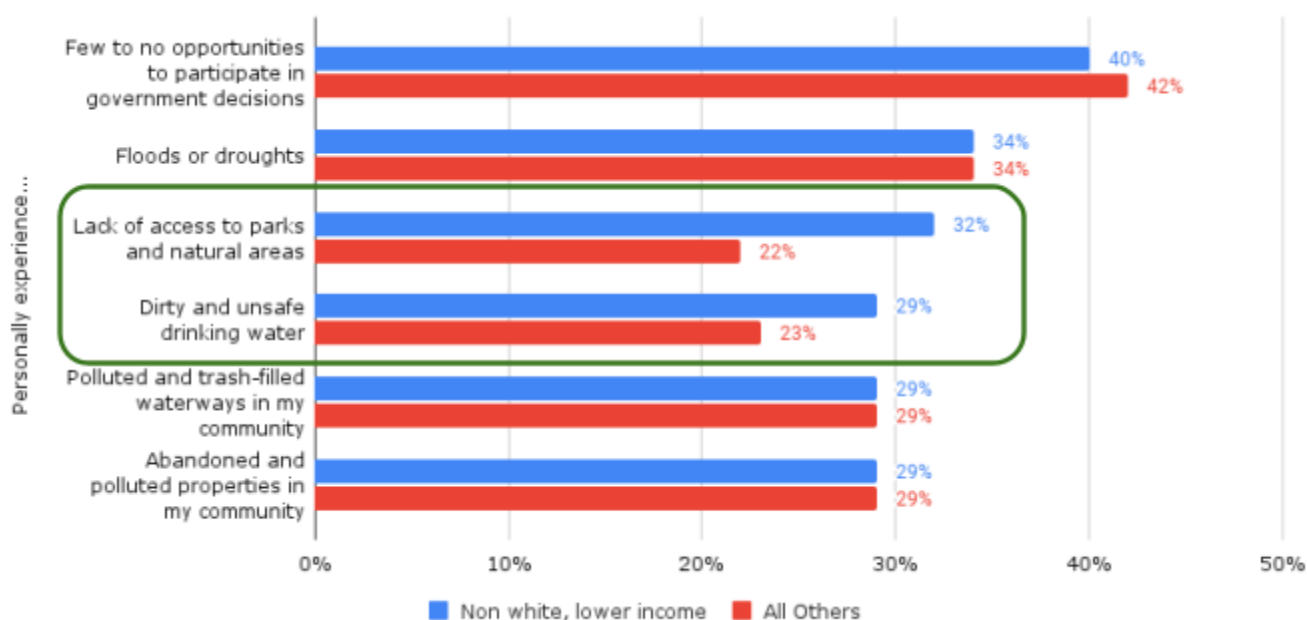
Environmental Issue	Relative Rank
Water pollution	3
Exposure to toxic chemicals	3.6
Climate change/global warming	3.6
Wildlife conservation	3.9
Protecting wetlands/marshes/swamps	4.5
Conserving undeveloped land and farmland	4.5
Environmental justice and equity	4.8

In our sample, non-white lower income survey takers reported the same top three environmental priorities as others, although environmental justice was a higher priority for them.

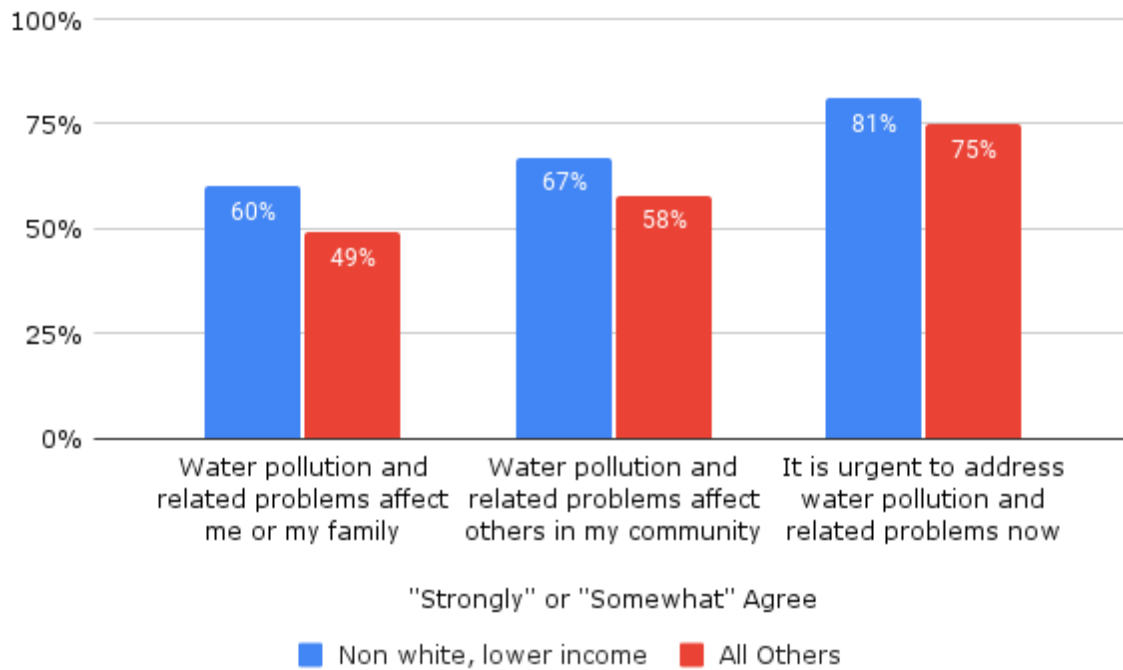
Issue	Non-White, Lower Income Survey Takers	Issue	All Others
Water pollution	2.8	Water pollution	3.1
Climate change/global warming	3.5	Climate change/global warming	3.6
Exposure to toxic chemicals	3.6	Exposure to toxic chemicals	3.6
Environmental justice and equity	4.5	Wildlife conservation	3.8
Wildlife conservation	4.7	Protecting wetlands/marshes/swamps	4.5
Protecting wetlands/marshes/swamps	4.7	Conserving undeveloped land and farmland	4.5
Conserving undeveloped land and farmland	4.2	Environmental justice and equity	5

Note: Lower average scores represent higher relative priority (closer to #1)

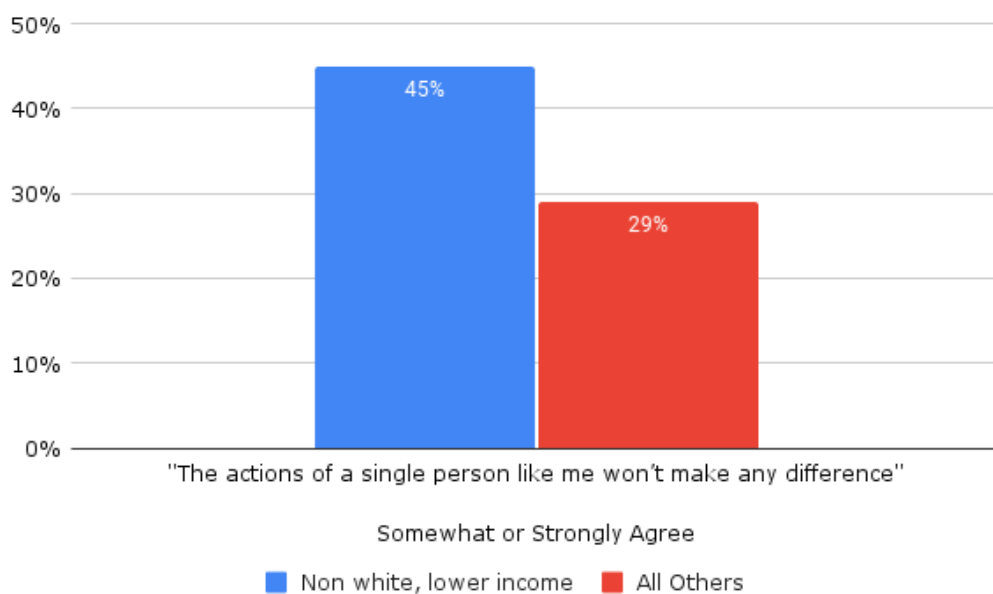
In the survey, there are some other noteworthy differences between lower income non-white survey takers and others. When asked about environmental issues they “personally experience,” they were significantly more likely to indicate that dirty water is a concern:



Lower-income non-white survey takers expressed higher urgency around water resource problems than others, no matter how the questions were phrased:

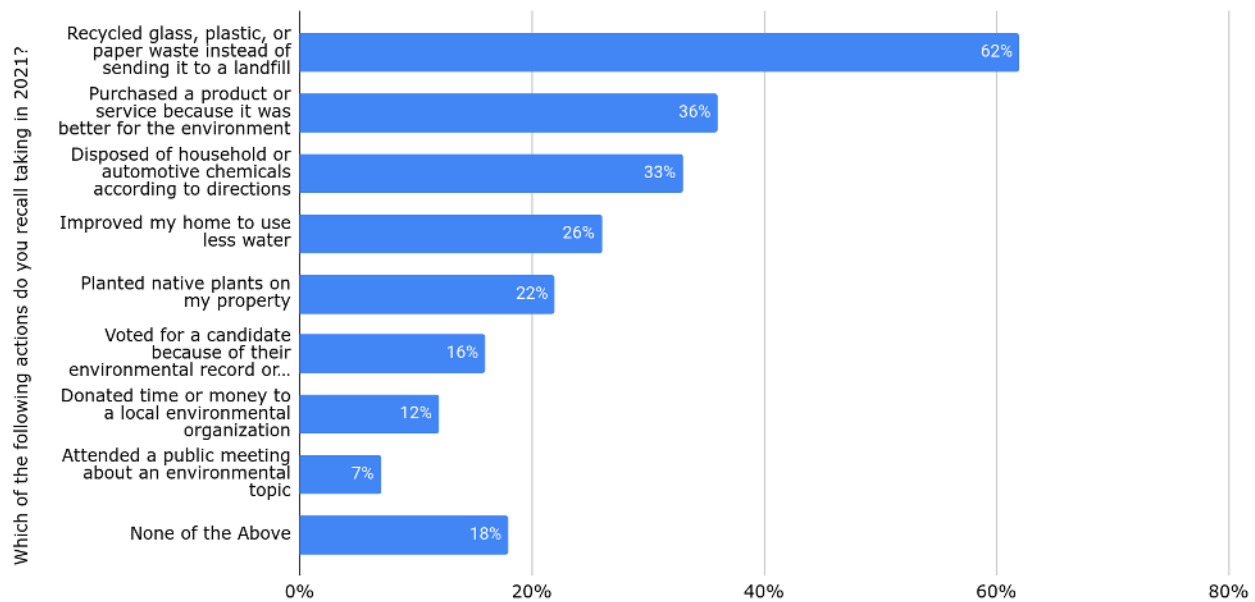


These findings suggest that lower-income communities of color are receptive to messages from the conservation community — but these individuals also report a greater sense of disempowerment than others:

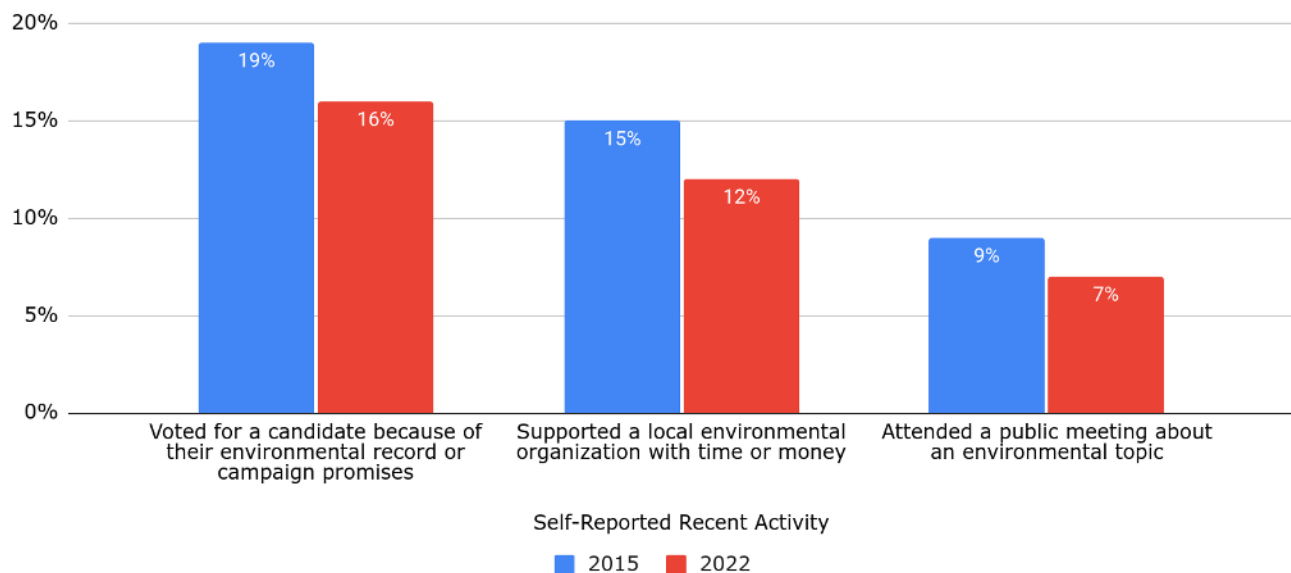


#5: Americans Report Less Action on Behalf of Waterways

In the 2022 survey, Americans reported taking an average of 2.15 individual actions that benefit waterways.



This number is down from 3.1 in the 2015 survey, although the list of options was slightly different. For several areas of critical importance to the conservation community, we note slight — but concerning — drops:



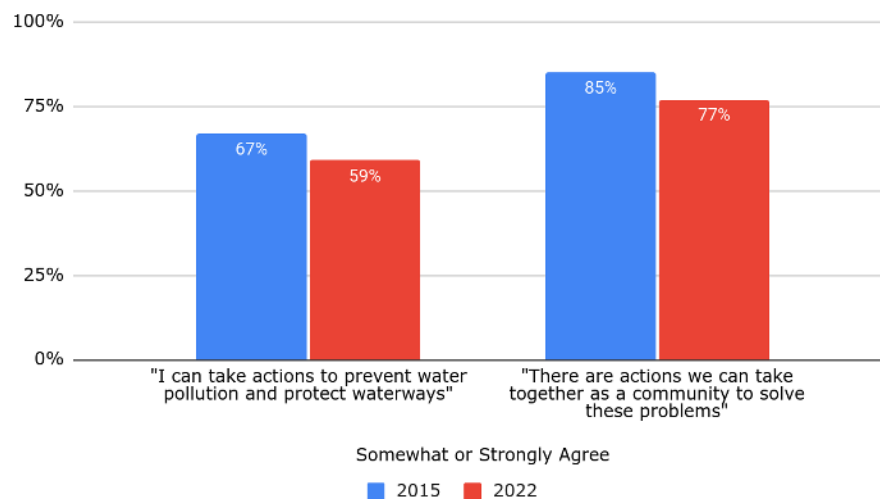
#6: Americans Report Waning Faith, Rising Doubts About Solutions

Empowered individuals — with a strong “can do” attitude — report doing the most that benefits water. But fewer people display this attitude than in 2015.

In this survey, we identify empowered individuals as those who strongly agree with statements like “I can take actions to prevent water pollution and protect waterways” and “there are actions we can take together as a community to solve these problems.”

In their own words, these empowered “can do” individuals say things like “I believe that if we all come together and stay united, we can solve anything.”

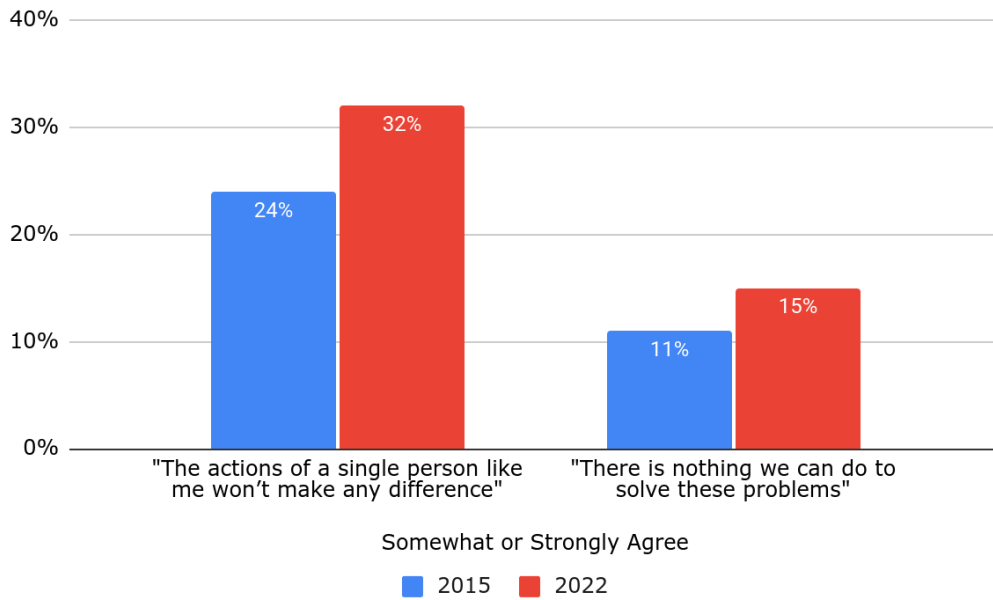
Unfortunately, we see substantial slippage — well outside the margin of error — in the number of Americans who express those views:



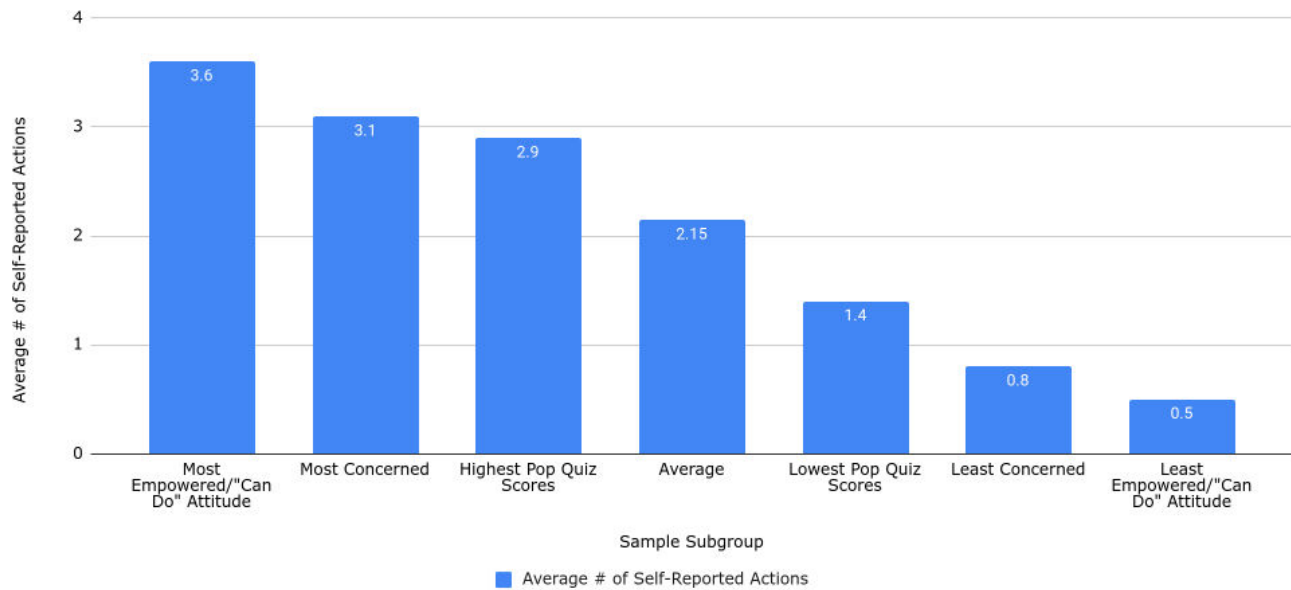
Disempowered individuals, with little “can do” attitude, report doing the least for the water. More people display this attitude than in 2015.

Those with the lowest “can do” scores reported doing almost nothing for the environment. In this survey, we identify these people as those who strongly agree with statements like “the actions of a single person like me won’t make any difference” and “there is nothing we can do to solve these problems.”

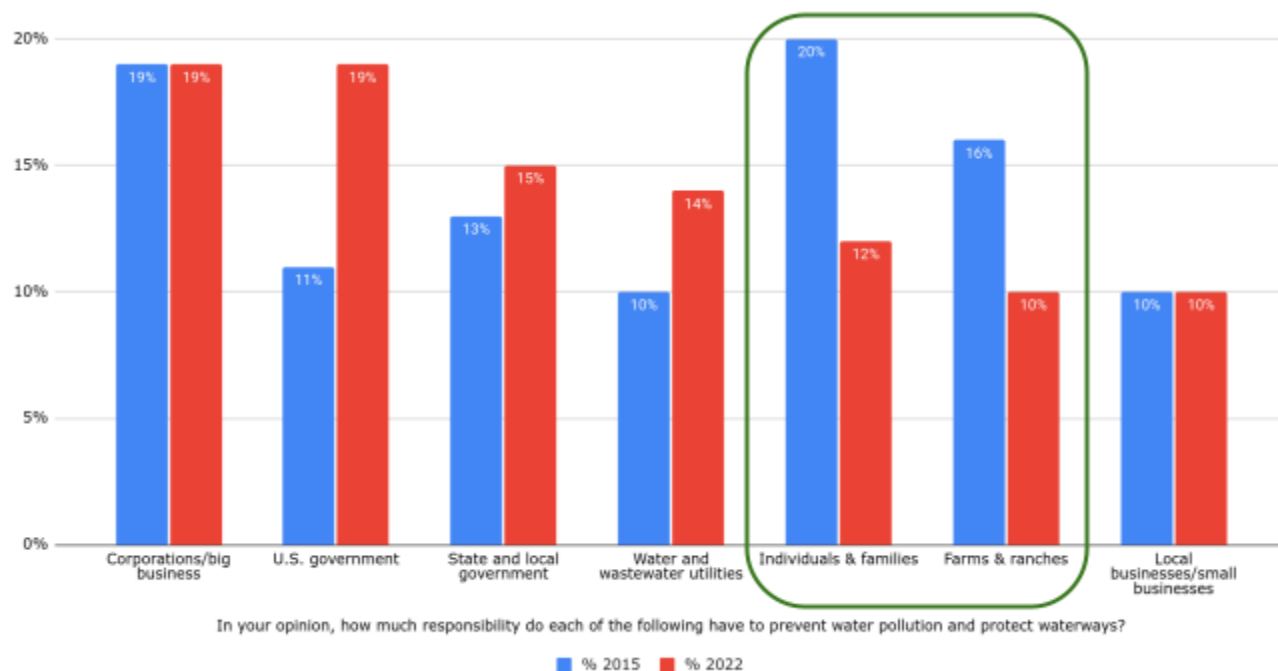
In their own words, they say things like “insurmountable problem...we are all doomed.”



The difference between these two groups is on stark display in this chart of the average number of water-friendly actions they reported taking in 2022:



We see corroboration elsewhere in the results. Americans assign a growing share of the job of “preventing pollution and protecting waterways” to governments, big business, and water utilities. They see a smaller role for themselves and their farming neighbors than they did in 2015:



Topline Survey Results

Warm Up/Overview

In rank order, how important are these social issues to you?

Social Issue	Relative Rank
Economy	2.9
Public Health	3.6
Crime	3.6
Housing	3.9
Education	4.2
Environment & Conservation	4.4
Transportation	5.4

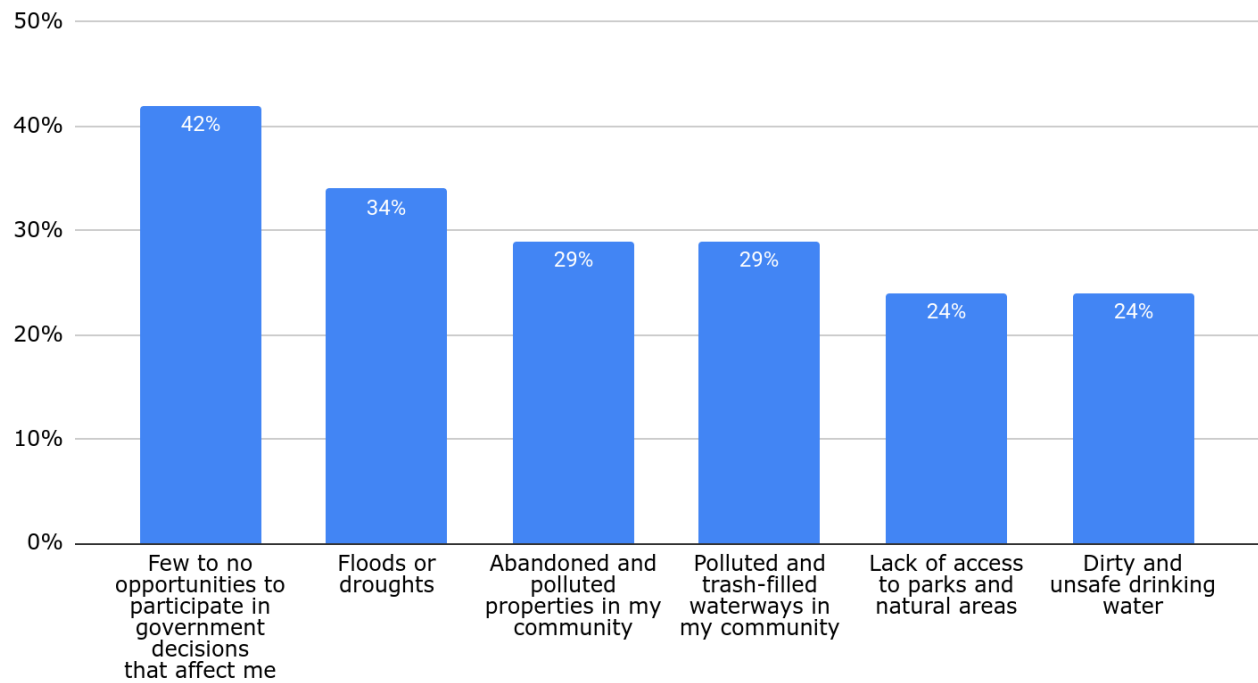
Note: The lower the relative rank, the higher the priority (closer to #1).

In rank order, how important are these *environmental* issues to you?

Environmental Issue	Relative Rank
Water pollution	3
Exposure to toxic chemicals	3.6
Climate change/global warming	3.6
Wildlife conservation	3.9
Protecting wetlands/marshes/swamps	4.5
Conserving undeveloped land and farmland	4.5
Environmental justice and equity	4.8

Note: The lower the relative rank, the higher the priority (closer to #1).

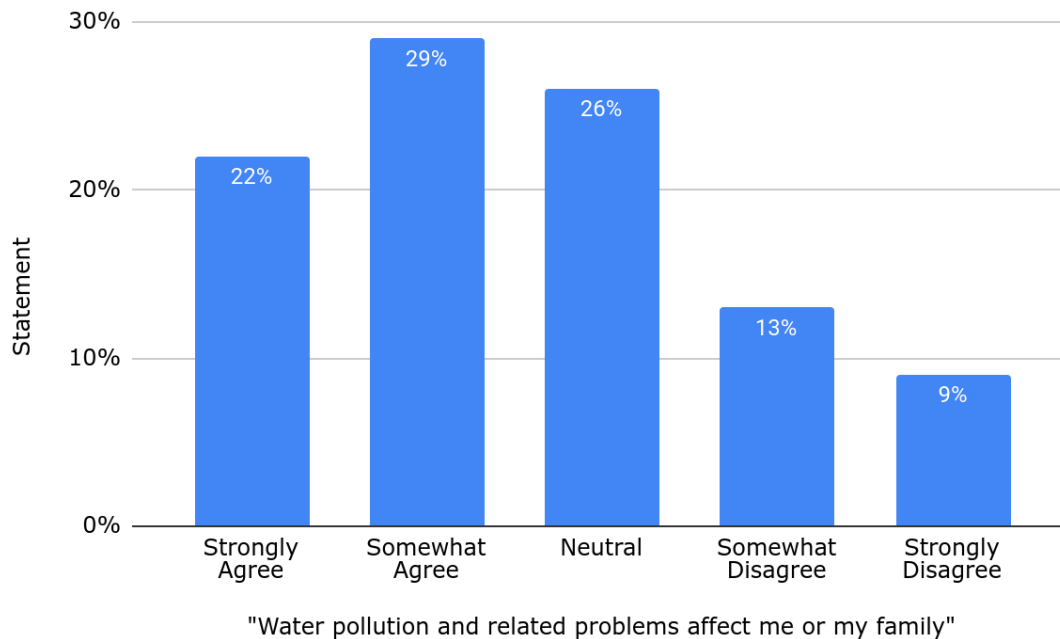
Which of these environmental problems do you personally experience?



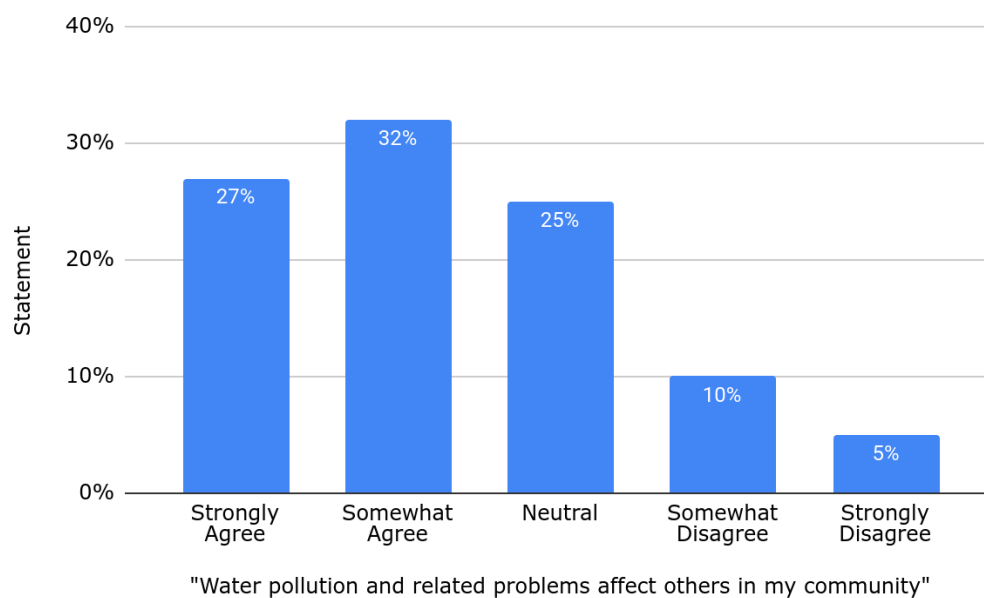
Attitude

Here are some statements about water pollution and related threats to waterways. How do you feel about them?

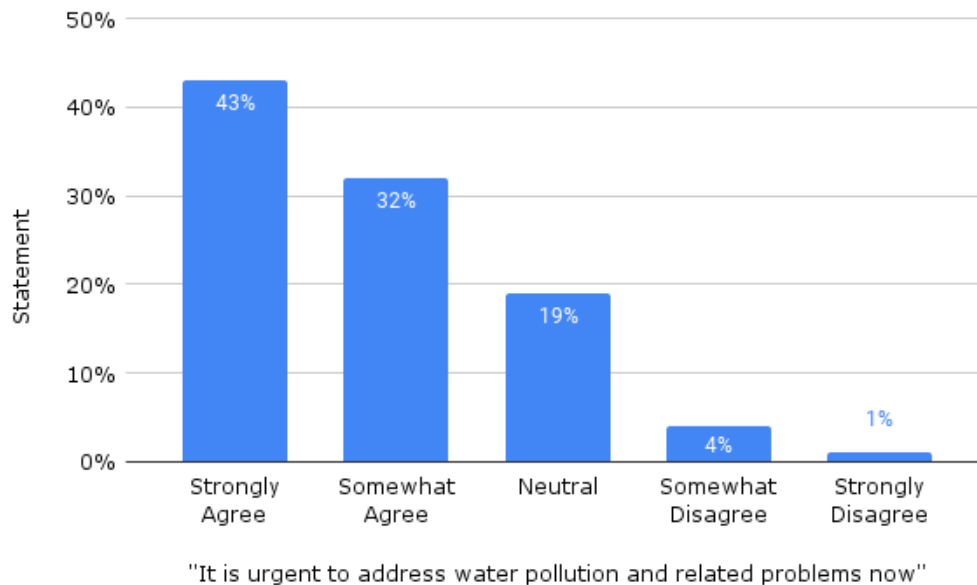
Water pollution and related problems affect me or my family



Water pollution and related problems affect others in my community

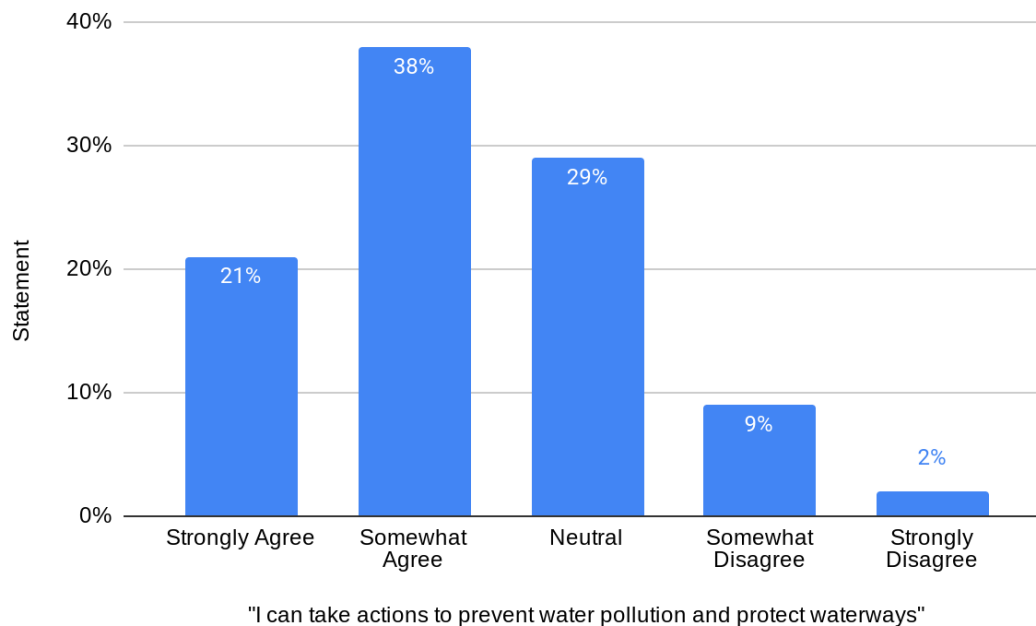


It is urgent to address water pollution and related problems now

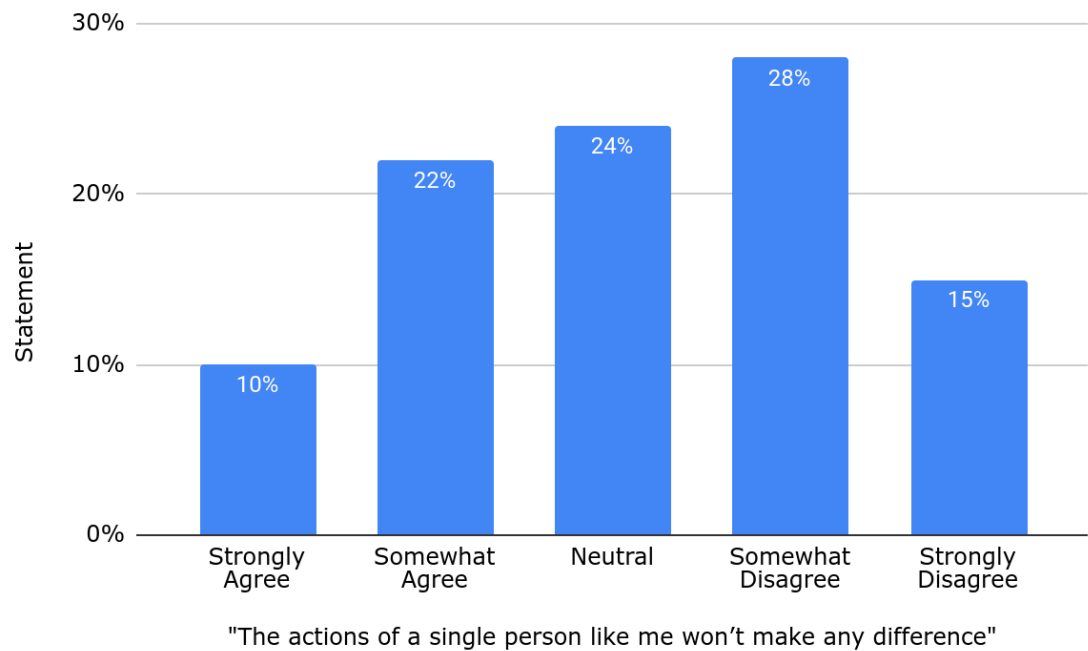


Here are other statements about water pollution and related threats to waterways. How do you feel about these?

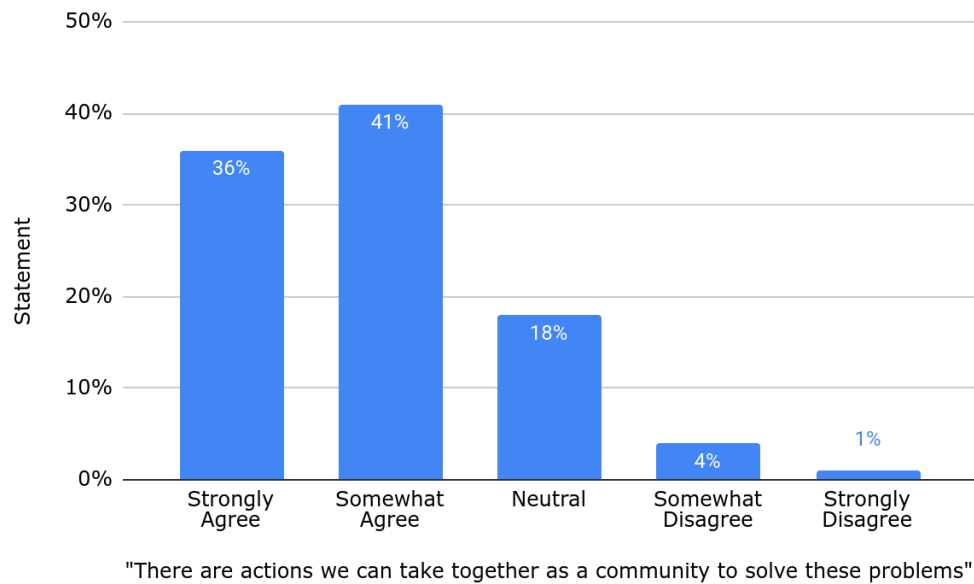
I can take actions to prevent water pollution and protect waterways



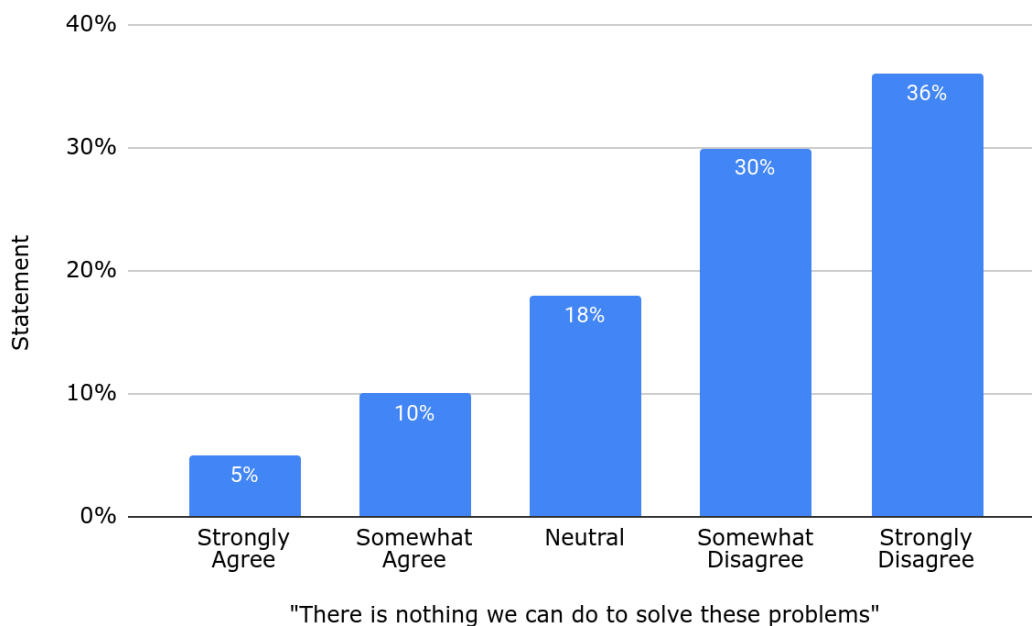
The actions of a single person like me won't make any difference



There are actions we can take together as a community to solve these problems



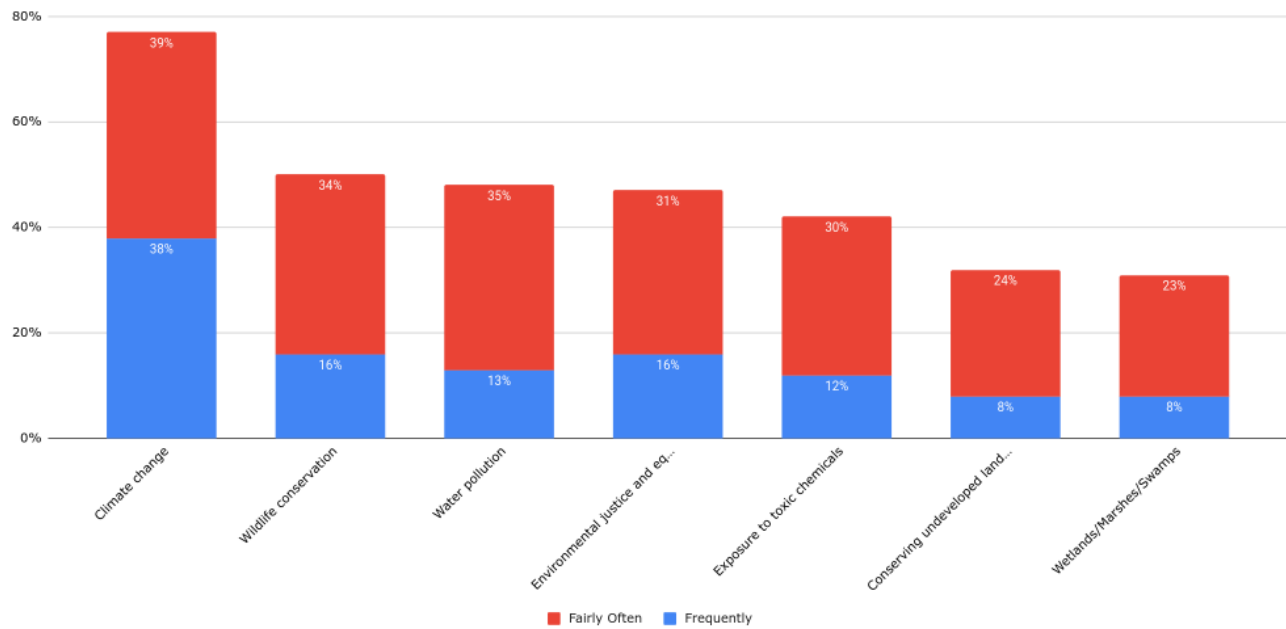
There is nothing we can do to solve these problems



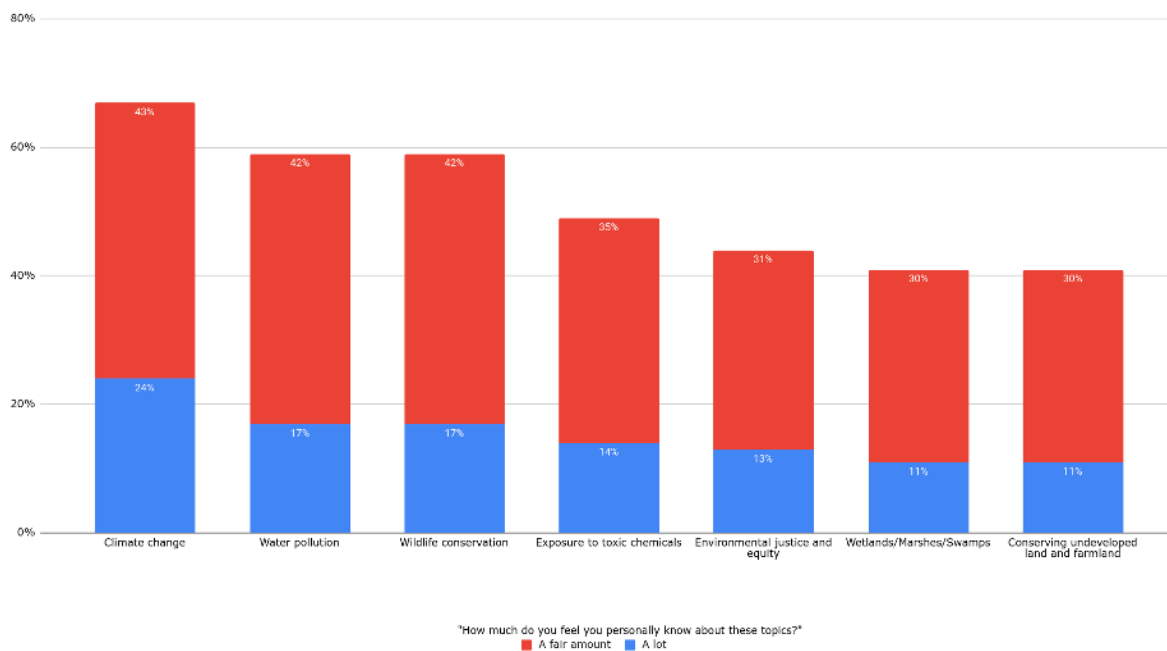
Imagine tomorrow you will do something to prevent water pollution or protect waterways.
What would it be?

Exposure to Our Issues

How often do you encounter these topics online, in the news, or in personal conversation?

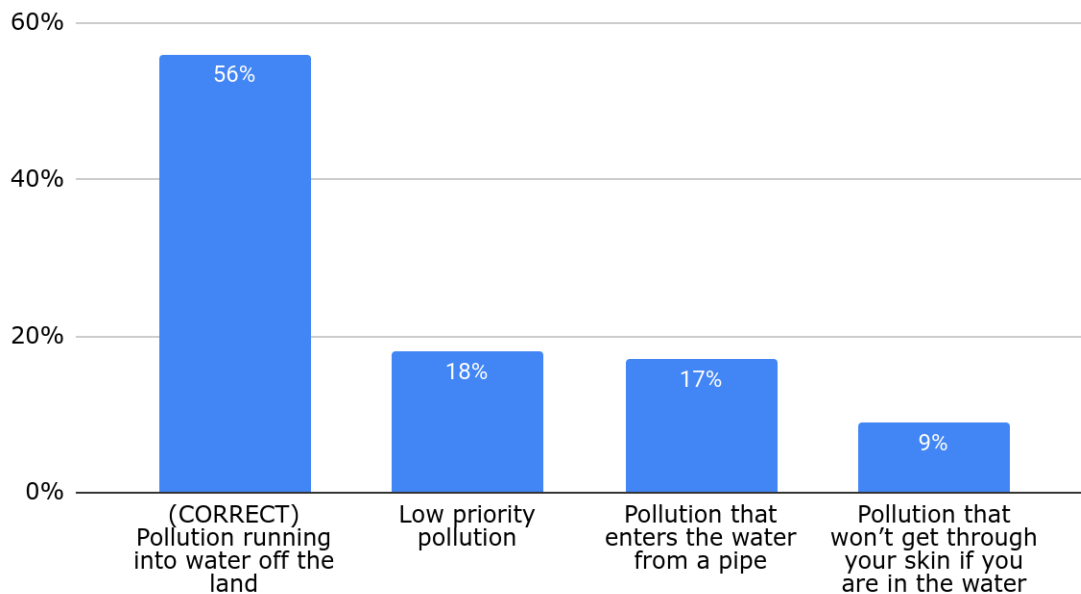


How much do you feel you personally know about these topics?



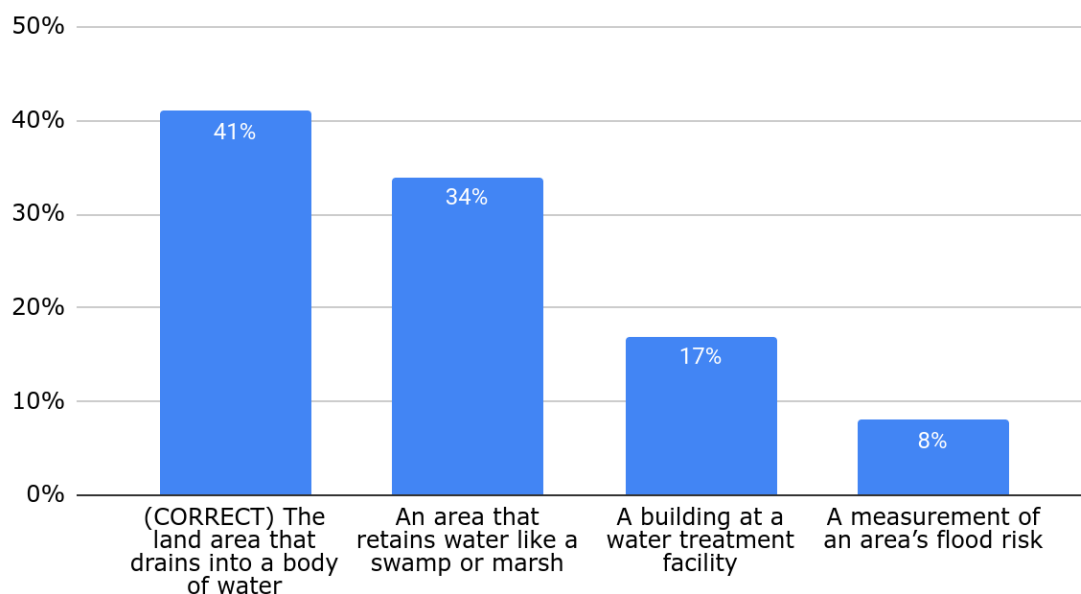
The “Pop Quiz”

Which of the following is the best definition for “nonpoint source pollution?”



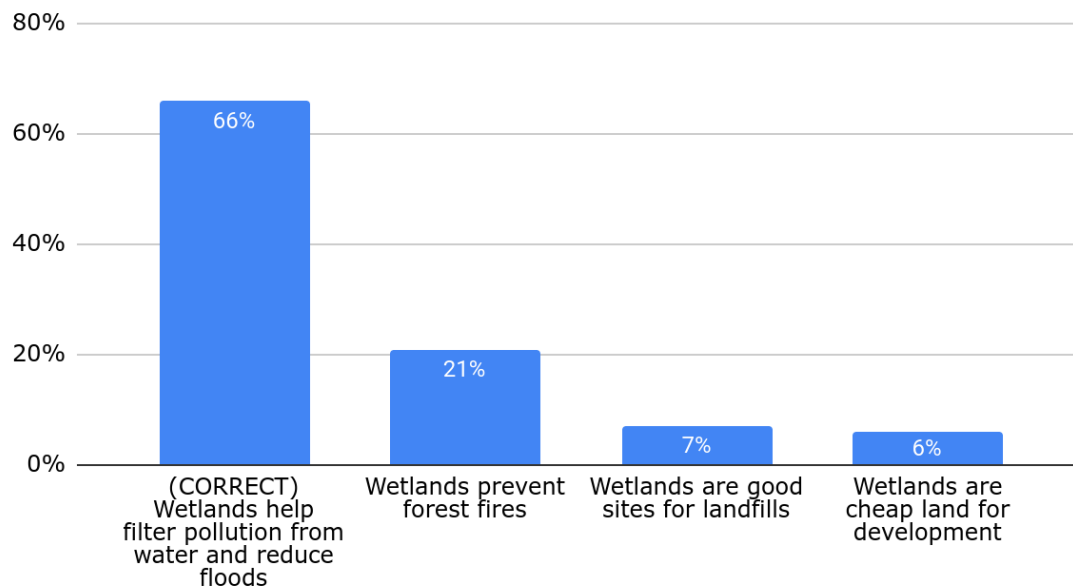
Which of the following is the best definition for “nonpoint source pollution?”

Which of the following is the best definition for a “watershed?”



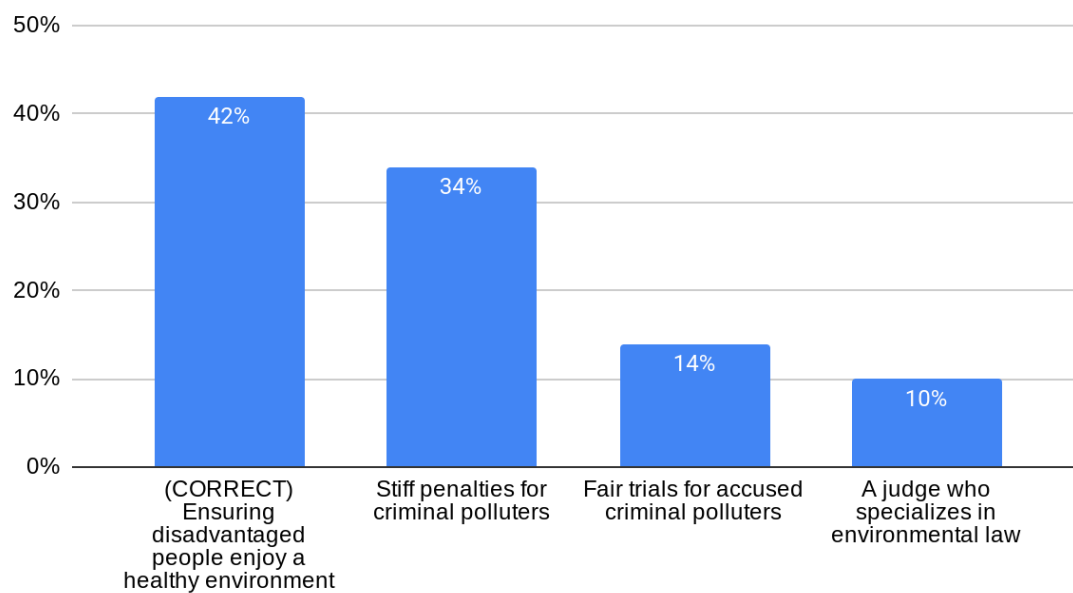
Which of the following is the best definition for “nonpoint source pollution?”

What are the primary benefits of wetland habitats to the surrounding area?



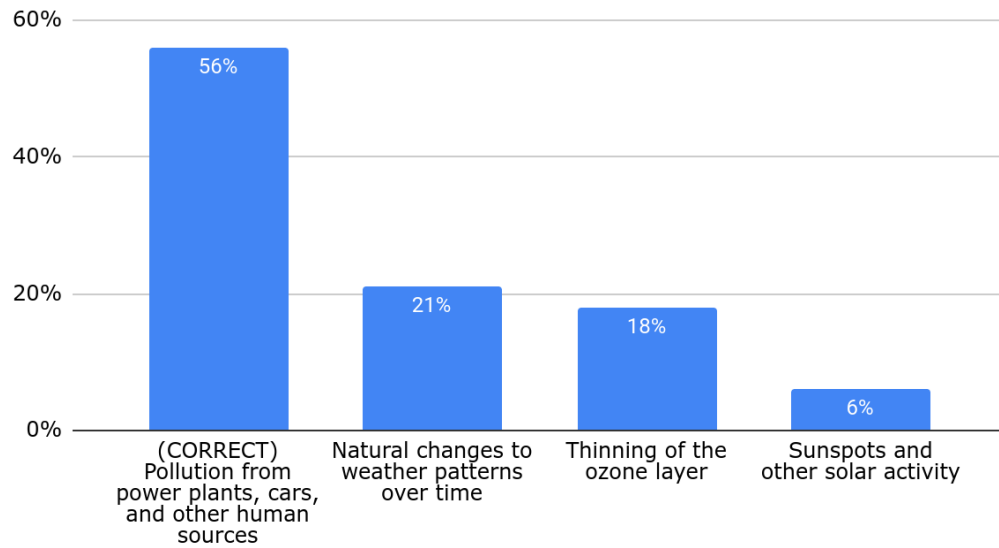
What are the primary benefits of wetland habitats to the surrounding area?

Which of the following is the best definition for “environmental justice?”



Which of the following is the best definition for “environmental justice?”

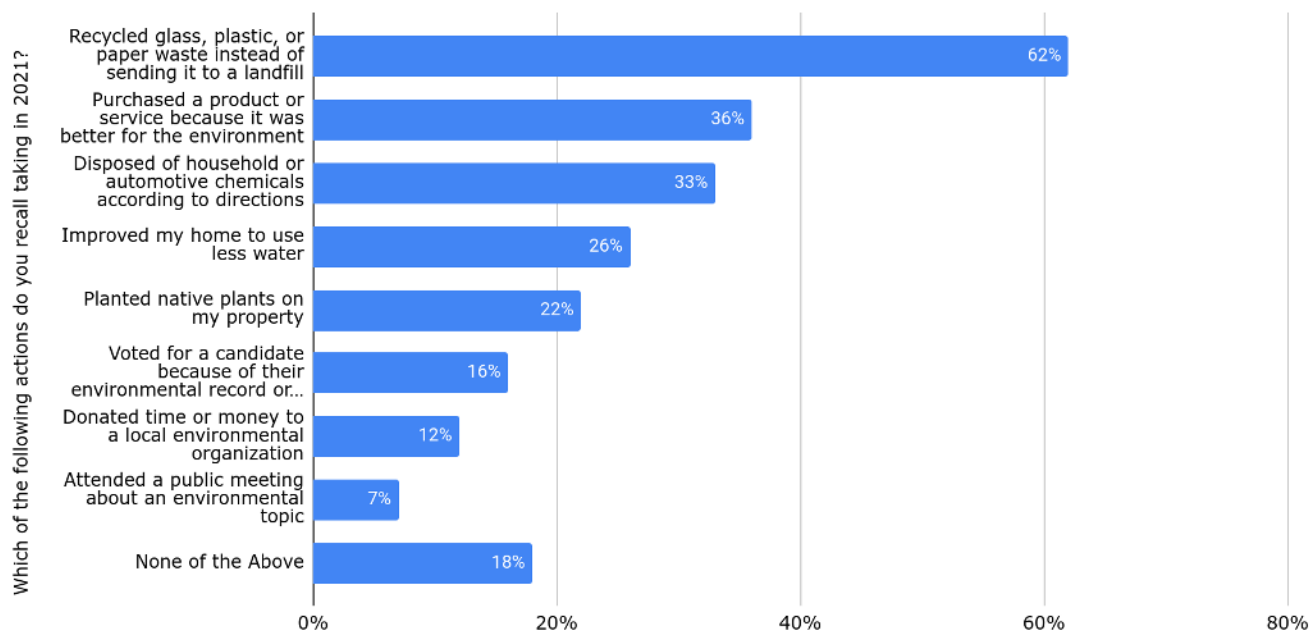
Which of the following is the leading cause of climate change, also known as global warming?



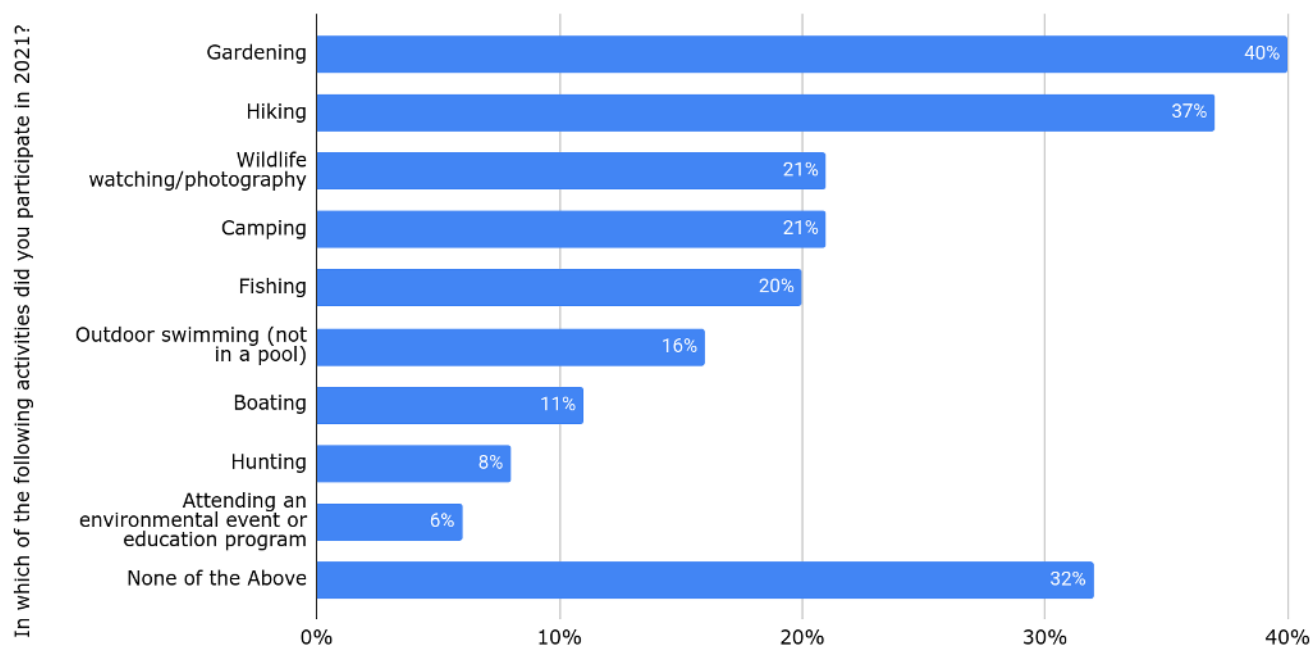
Which of the following is the leading cause of climate change, also known as global w...

Personal Habits

Which of the following actions do you recall taking in 2021? (Check all that apply)

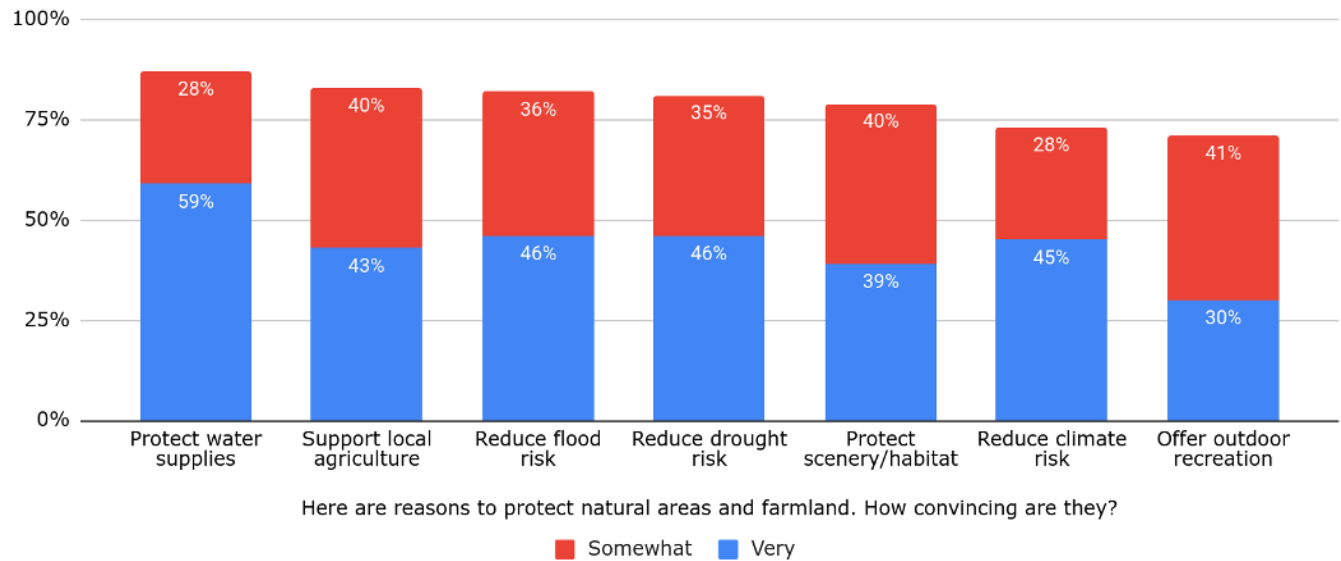


In which of the following activities did you participate in 2021?

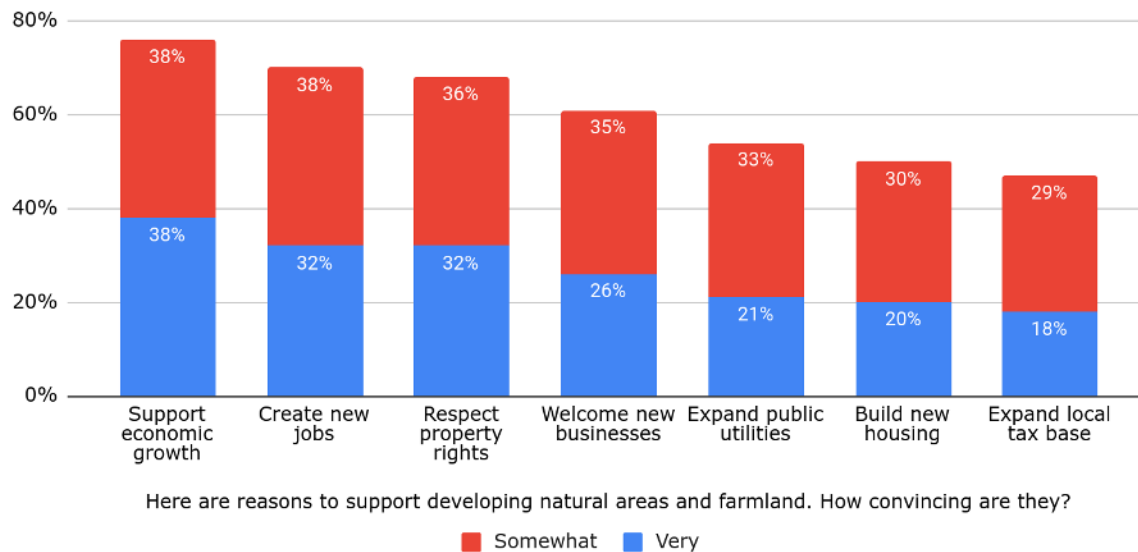


Message Test Results

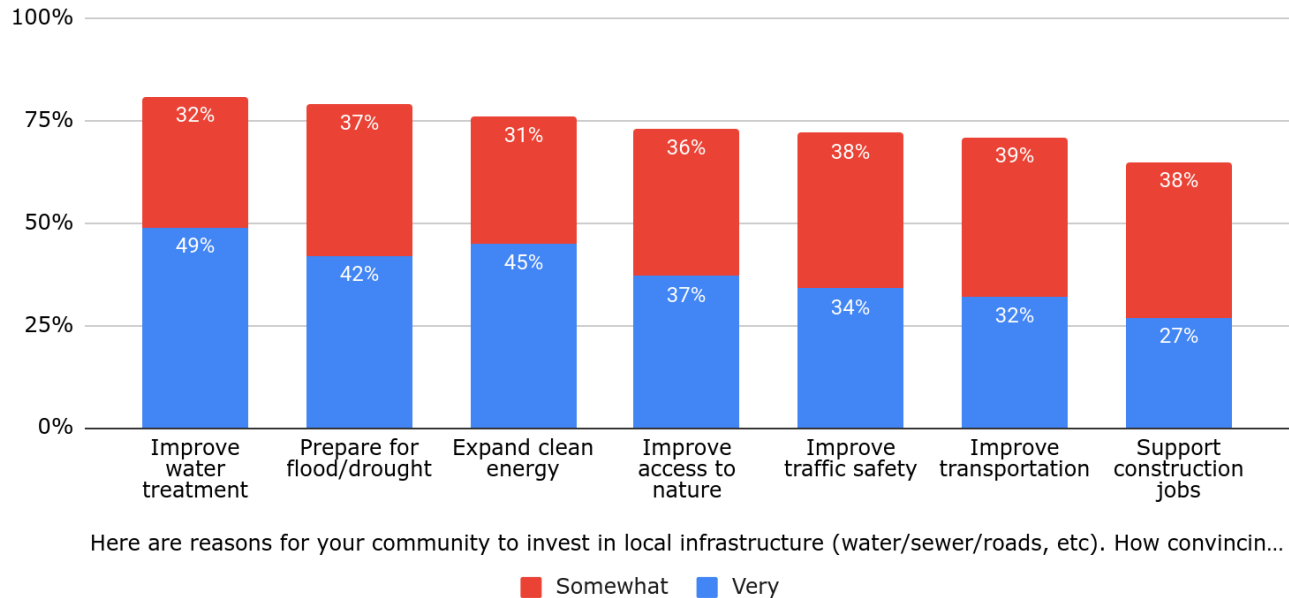
Here are reasons to protect natural areas and farmland. How convincing are they?



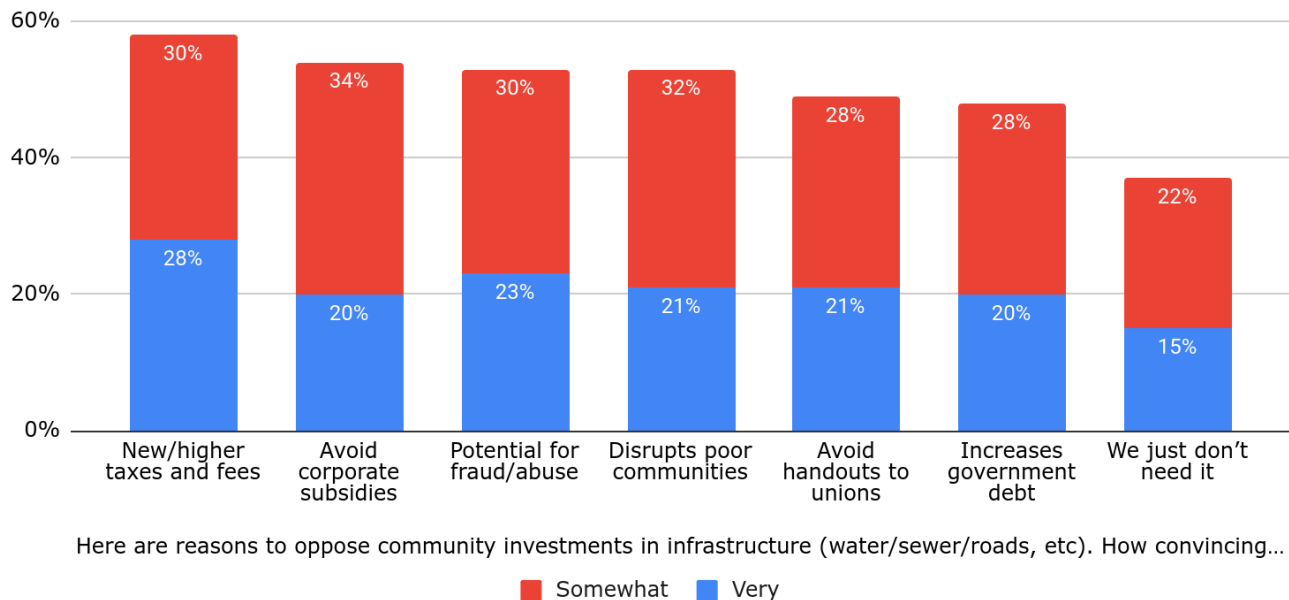
Here are reasons to support developing natural areas and farmland. How convincing are they?



Here are reasons for your community to invest in local infrastructure (water/sewer/roads, etc).
How convincing are they?

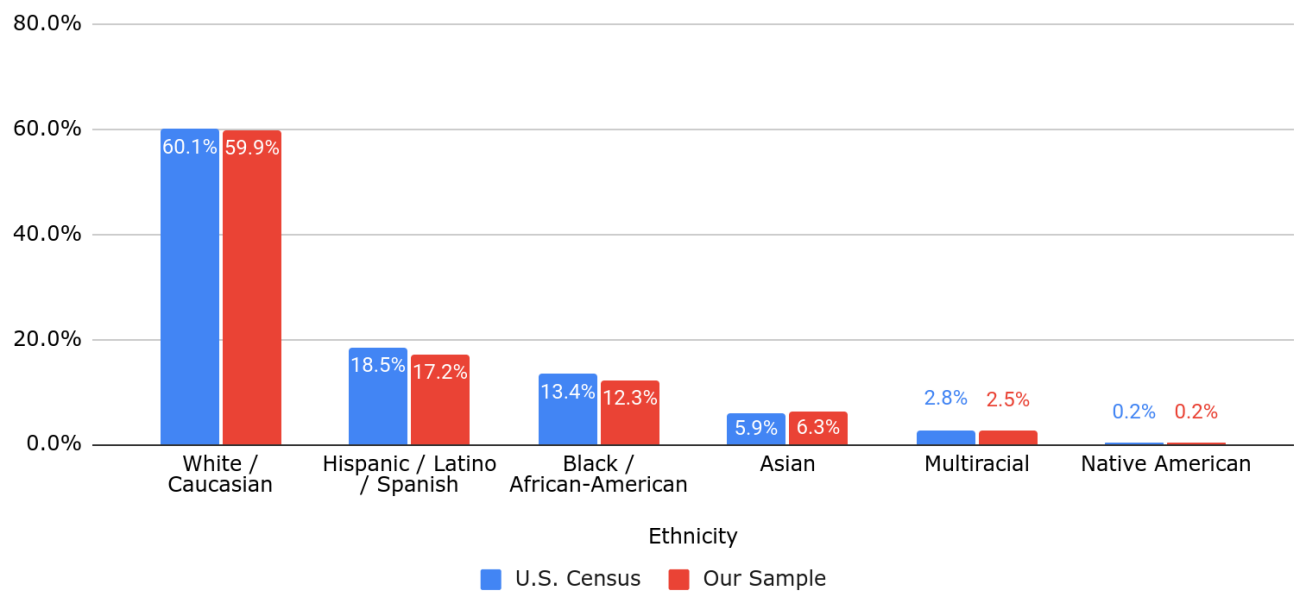


Here are reasons to oppose community investments in infrastructure (water/sewer/roads, etc).
How convincing are they?

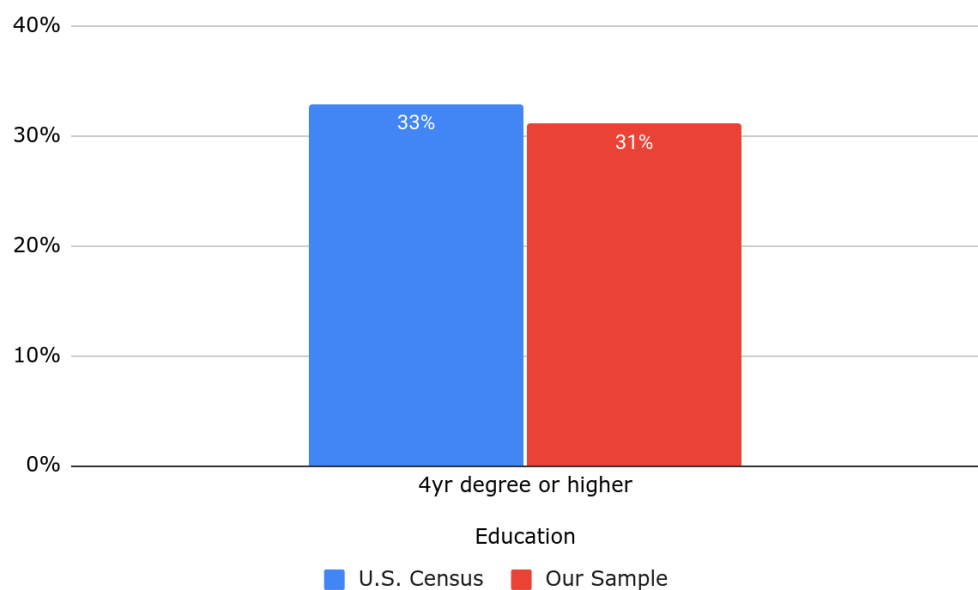


Survey Sample Demographics

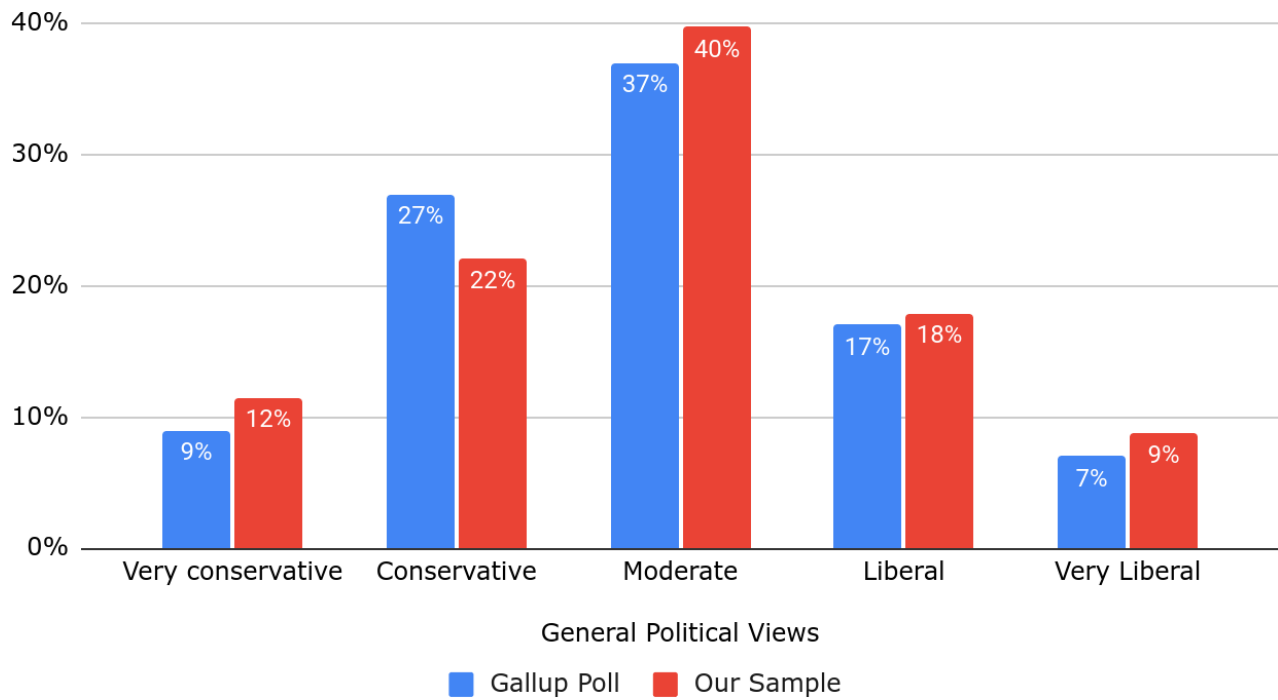
Ethnicity



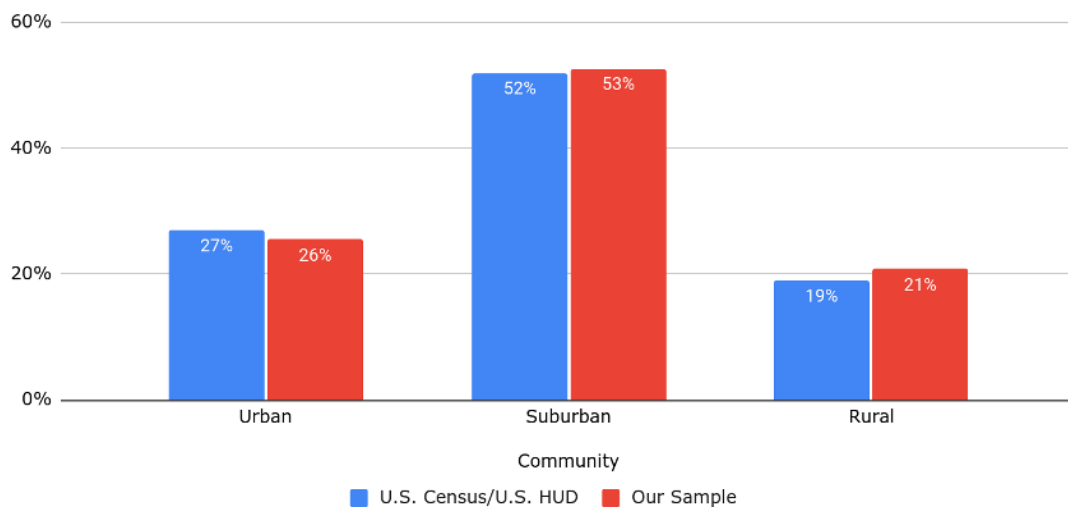
Education



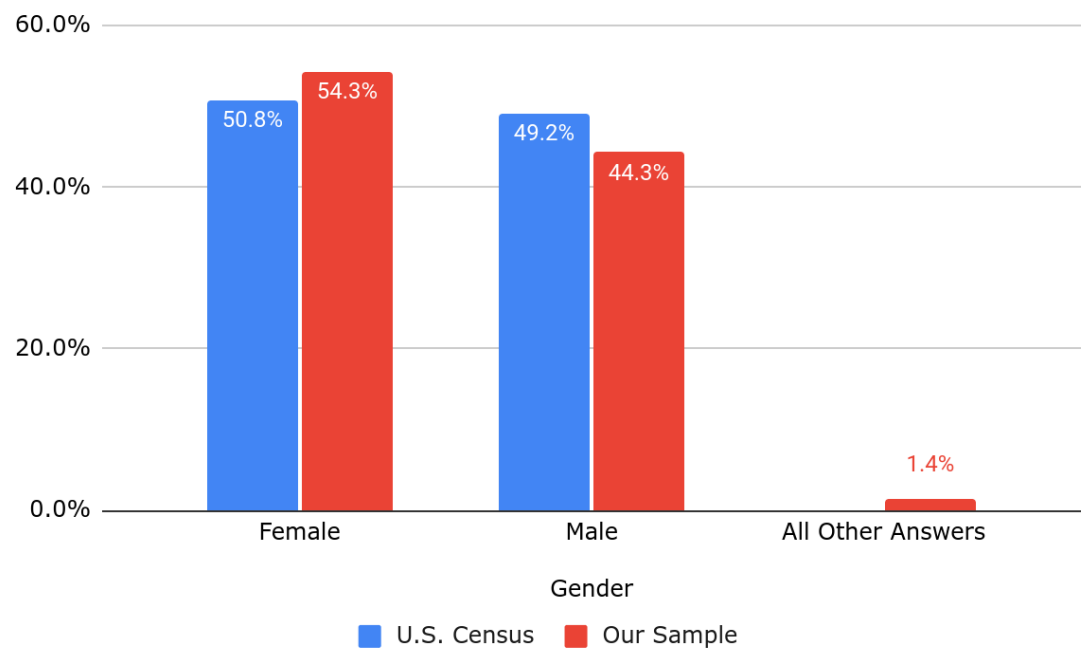
General Political Views



Community Type



Gender



Appendix: Survey Takers' Verbatim Answers

Imagine tomorrow you will do something to prevent water pollution or protect waterways. What would it be?

- Clean up trash surrounding lakes, streams, rivers, and ocean.
- I would sign petitions
- Make sure I don't dispose of anything harmful in any waterways.
- no garbage in the waterways
- clean all the trash out of the area and in the water
- Things that I will do to prevent water pollution are I won't pour cooking oil or any fat/grease down the sink, I use bidet instead of toilet paper to avoid toilet as a wastebasket, I don't flush or dispose any chemical, harsh cleaning agents, medications/drugs down the toilet or sink.
- I would call the water distribution to check on water to make sure it is good to use.
- I'm not sure
- Don't know don't really care
- "1. contact leadership in my area to find out if there are any initiatives being created to address this issue
- 2. ascertain if they are written in a way that actually helps the communities most in need"
- Respect the waterways by not throwing any kind of trash or debris into these waters which further pollutes them. Eventually it will affect the drinking water (bottled or tap).
- Having some factories closed or have their water runoff cleaned
- not sure
- It would be good if households can get kits for testing domestic water. As a person, I don't know what to do to prevent water pollution
- Join a community based group to assist with cleaning up the waterways in our area.
- clean lakes and rivers of debris plastics and harmful toxins and waste
- Checking and testing water all time
- help clean up pollution
- I would distribute flyers for public awareness
- I would try to make sure trash isn't thrown into the waterways. Maybe give a fine if trash is thrown into it.
- Fund companies that fight against pollution
- pick up trash
- I don't know what I'm doing now that contributes to it so I don't know
- Clean trash from a beach
- Place waste receptacles
- Donate or volunteer to clean up
- I guess approach local government to step in
- making sure not to put like oil in sink or do anything else that gets the water messed up, not throwing trash anywhere
- gather people and educate them the serious of the pollution and everyone must do something in their ability to change
- I don't really know. Not litter
- Write a local politician or the governor.
- pick up litter in the waterways
- don't throw trash in water

- compost my kitchen scraps
- don't put trash in the water
- I can further cut down on water pollution by using just enough of cleaners to do the job. Phosphates aren't the only harmful chemicals in cleaners. Phosphates lead to algae blooms and kill fish and other aquatic animals by reducing the oxygen in the water.
- conserve my water usage
- No idea
- not sure
- "I think it starts with plumbing inside and outside the home renew all old pipes underground in all neighborhoods and soundring communities."
- No use of chemicals including fertilizers for agriculture. Only use 200% natural products.
- I could participate in a cleanup of some sort.
- Recycle plastic so they don't end up in any body of water.
- If I see something, report it.
- I will not dispose of medicines into the water system. I will not dump trash in waterways.
- Don't litter, go a car wash where the gray water is reused, and rainwater to water my plants
- I would save water bottles.
- buy a filter to make water cleaner
- Stop using water bottle
- making sure I do not use chemicals in my sink
- Protecting my environment by cleaning up the waterways of the community that I reside in.
- Continue to not pollute water and waterways.
- Contact your politicians regarding problem
- not sure
- Get ahold of who ever could help to make sure water is safe
- i have no idea how to do this but would like to help
- I live near a beautiful lake. I will continue to keep it clean.
- No trash
- pick up litter along waterways
- I don't know yet. What we are doing is not working though.
- I guess donate to a fund
- harass the people i power who refuse to fix it.
- Clean up around local rivers.
- PUT TRASH BINS CLOSE TO LAKES AMD RIVERS
- pray that God takes control of earths affairs it's obvious that man can't
- Clean up those water ways and have a group of people join me even
- Alot of things
- probably 1 of have some kind of meeting to address the issues then decide on solutions for the problem. then go from there to try and solve the problem
- Clean out the trash
- Be careful with what is flushed or poured down sinks
- Utilize the method of boiling water before consuming
- Educate the masses, spearhead a lake and river cleanup effort in my county
- I am unsure how to take action
- I don't know. There has to be a government solution to this problem.
- Email politicians about corporate responsibilities towards the environment. Fines

for non-compliance by companies.

- Clean up trash around water areas and also help people to understand how to prevent water pollution by boat users etc.
- i have no idea maybe get into contac with a group that does
- recycle
- Purchase natural products
- pick up trash in the water and by it
- I really am not sure
- na
- Make sure the water is clear and clean
- I would sign an online petition or possibly email a government official. We've always been taught in our family and teach our kids to not leave anything behind, other than scraps of food for the animals, when you leave a campsite or fishing area.
- No idea
- I would go around and pick up litter and paper near local waterways, such as in the park.
- N/A
- Donate money. Protest. Sign a petition.
- I would need to contact my local community and local government local representatives. I don't know if the water here is very polluted but I think it is everywhere with microscopic plastic particles. But the water here has chlorine in it to kill germs and that is good. But we really need to do something about the plastic problem. It's a nightmare! I do contact my local representatives, sign petitions.
- Use biodegradable materials
- I don't b know
- get countries like china & india to stop polluting our waterways
- Using less water
- No litter or toxic waste in water
- make sure it is clean.
- I would make sure that I never put any trash or waste where it could get into our waterways
- Inwouldnt wash my aquarium in my sonk when the fish poopoo needs to flushed out of the rocks
- I would not litter.
- I will not dispose of any chemicals into our plumbing lines.
- limit use of disposable packaging, tell others to limit use, reuse packaging, organize cleanup
- Teach my child to respect the earth & nature, don't litter, don't run my vehicle more than necessary
- Pick up trash it of the creek
- Not really sure. I guess don't pollute the streams with trash.
- Stop using products that release chemicals into the water
- im not really sure about this
- unsure
- Educate population
- not throw contaminants in trash
- Not throwing garbage to the rivers or sea
- To make sure that I am responsible for recycling what needs to be recycled. Also, I don't use natural products.
- talk to politicians
- Pick up trash and put it into a garbage can.

- I would make sure not to litter and to recycle as much as possible
- no dumping in streams or rivers
- Go down to the water treatment area and ask for a water sample kit to be mailed in.
- Do not throw garbage into our water ways
- Testing
- I drink bottled water a lot more.
- Don't pollute
- I'm not sure, perhaps find out how I can help out my local area.
- not throw out things that will pollute
- I would not put improper waste in my water system.
- clean up all the old uranium mines in the area
- I live in Reidsville Georgia zip code 30453. Although this city and county gets millions of dollars in grant money they refuse to show how they spend it and they do not spend it on the infrastructure! They do not spend it on water Management. They need to be investigated! They are a bunch of crooks and they do nothing for this County or this city to improve it
- Properly dispose of hazardous materials
- Make sure that I do not throw things out of my car window, make sure I put my trash in the trash can and also pick up trash in my yard and try to recycle as much as I can.
- no littering rivers, streams and oceans
- I would get others to gather with me to start some sort of raffle.
- Keeping trash picked up
- I already am conscious of how my actions of disposing trash can affect water pollution.
- Try to help prevent it
- "I do not have much knowledge about environmental issues and concerns. However, I believe in taking actions whenever I need to. If I was supposed to something to prevent water pollution. The three ways I would prevent water pollution it would be through:
 - a) You should pick up litter and throw it away.
 - b) I shouldn't pour my motor oil in the drain.
 - c) Compost grass or yard waste."
- I would sign a petition making a change. I would address it on social media.
- I think that contacting local government officials is the only way that change has any hope of being instituted.
- be aware of using toxic chemicals
- throwing trash in the garbage not on the ground
- pick up garbage
- none known.
- On my own, I cannot do much that will make a difference. I believe that each community can come together and make decisions to make a difference with prevention of water pollution and protecting waterways.
- Prohibit the use of many of the chemicals used in farming and production that end up in the water supply and are known to be toxic
- Donate \$ to an organization involved
- don't through trash into water ways.
- Use more filters
- Go to city council meeting
- I don't know

- Not sure. I need to educate myself on this.
- na
- I don't have any idea
- post
- I would make sure my trash gets recycled and doesn't go in to a sewer runoff. Ultimately, it's big bosses and governments that need to make massive changes to protect the environment.
- It is to get rid of hazardous waste on the ground and do not overuse pesticides or fertilizers.
- Buy filter, boil water to drink
- not sure what i would do but will be open to possibilities
- n/a
- Wash your car or outdoor equipment where it can flow to a gravel or grassy area instead of a street.
- Recycle plastic bags. Don't flush old medications down the toilet
- recycle
- Pick up cans that are lying around public parks.
- Not litter
- I will continue to vote for leaders I feel will make a difference in my community. I could also pen letters or call local officials.
- have everyone go a day with out
- I am not sure
- Not littering by throwing things into lakes, etc.
- I could volunteer to help clean the litter out of a river.
- be mindful what you put down the drain, do not litter
- not sure how I could prevent water pollution
- Well I would prevent water pollution or protect waterways by stop throwing stuff in waters like dumping stuff like oil and garbage, and perpetrators we have to stop throwing stuff in waters
- Make sure it's always getting purified
- Filters in rivers or lakes
- I would clean up after myself and if I see trash near a waterway, I would pick it up.
- be careful when disposing of medications
- Research issue at a local level
- I'm honestly not sure
- Clean the debris in the ditches or water such as plastic containers.
- i dont know
- not flush medicine down the toilet
- use less plastic
- Use a hard water filter?
- I do not know
- Stop buyi
- not really sure what I could do
- I would not litter.
- I don't know
- Make the ones that throw stuff away that can harm the water do some jail time then also community service
- Catching the people polluting them
- I would not litter near the river near my house. I would donate money to clean up the river.
- To be more aware of what I am doing and to research more on it to do more

- Participate in cleanup
- Not littering, which I don't do anyway. Other than that, I'm not sure.
- Don't dump toxic chemicals into water
- Monitor waterways for illegal dumping
- I'm not sure, I don't believe I participate in water pollution
- Pick up garbage along the beach
- maybe go to stream or waterway and clean
- have a lot of help and money
- Throw my trash away properly
- more clean and minus plastic
- Drink well water
- Recycling and picking up trash in water ways
- use less water
- Nothing
- USING NATURAL PRODUCTS INSTEAD OF STRONG CHEMICALS AT HOME.
- I don't know
- join a group to clean up local water ways
- I honestly have no idea 🤔
- I would 1 go to my local city mayor's office and local water company to speak to those in charge of these departments to see if there is something we can do as a community volunteer group.
- Get involved in government
- PICK UP TRASH
- Prevent and protect our water from waste products
- Make a phone call to the city
- Well I think one way to help with the waste and water is not to just use water frivolously just let it run uncontrollably for no reason but served take shorter showers conserving the way that I wash my clothes don't wash everyday but you specific days and what not to wash my laundry
- Not use salt to melt snow and ice.
- I am not sure how to solve that problem or anywhere to begin. It has to start with the people.
- Water filters.
- I would probably start a big water filter
- Avoid flushing toxic materials in toilet and sink
- I have no idea
- I don't know
- I would pick up litter in my community and surrounding areas. I would also be sure at my own home to throw trash into a garbage can and not into the street where it could go down drains.
- DON't really know
- Urge congress to act
- Have been drainage and sewage in n out city es.
- Don't let water run in the sink just to warm it up
- Make sure we keep our water clean from oil spill .
- Conserve water regularly
- Volunteer to clean. Recommend our officials hire the most qualified people to do the best job possible, if current officials are not doing a good job
- Beach cleanup
- gather people and go pick up trash
- I would send a letter to every address letting them know that I will be testing the

waters to make sure there are no pollutants. If there are, I'd clean all the toxins out.

- Neat
- I would probably find some cool way to encourage the town to recycle!
- Write a letter to congressperson
- Save water 💧
- less plastic
- use water filters
- Not pollute
- I can be careful what I put down the drain
- I am not sure.
- Use reusable bottles instead of plastic water bottles
- keeping contaminants out of rivers
- help clean up litter out of areas that could be drinking water
- Have more filtration
- Put up a huge billboard
- Start cleaning up the mess you started to do.
- I would not throw out trash
- do not know
- No pollution
- Do research online or join a community group
- Not litter
- I don't know
- talk to local politicians
- Stop plastic manufacture; make recycling the law
- I do not use any chemicals on my property, as I have a pond and a stream and I don't want pollutants to get into the water and go downstream.
- Not pour toxins on the ground or in the sewer
- I would give everyone good quality filters to filter out bad chemicals and fluoride
- I can't think of a single thing to do
- i dont know
- I would just be conscious of my own actions such as fertilizer runoff or fishing equipment
- Be careful with waste water and fertilizers
- save the water, clean the lakes
- None
- "Put up
- Gates"
- Sign petitions, reach out to local and state regulators and politicians, write letters to editors, attend local meetings and state protests.
- Nothing.
- use tap water
- I would continue to pick up litter and throw it in a trash receptacle and continue to not blow my leaves in the street to prevent clogged storm drains.
- I can contact state officials or representatives
- I conserve on plastics by filling water in glass jugs.
- I would ask for a nationwide water filtration system that will filter out toxins in the water supply to ensure clean and safe water for everyone.
- Stop the storing of deadly stuff in our area while there is fracking and well drilling that is causing earthquakes and all casing water pollution. I would have deadly items move back to where it came from - would also stop the Fracking and Water

• Injections.

- WoW, I don't know off the top of my head. I suppose I would contact the right department and make a complaint. I would have to see what agency that would handle this complaint.
- recycle more. less plastic in the waterways.
- Pollution cleanup
- I would try to save the environment
- I have no idea what I would do to prevent water pollution or protect waterways.
- Recycle
- Recycling and conserve more
- Honestly I'm not sure as I haven't really ever been in a situation or lived anywhere when I've really been concerned about water pollution. So I guess I would 1 do some research online and ask friends and family who may know more about the topic than I do to see what I could realistically do to make a difference especially in my own community. I guess that would be a start and then I would figure out where to go from there and what to do as a 1 step. Knowledge is power!
- na
- Help educate ppl on what they are doing is causing harm
- I would try to watch what I rinse down the driveways etc.
- clean trash out of the water
- Get rid of a lot of irresponsible manufacturing plants.
- I would and am recycling as often as possible and becoming more aware of packaging on all sorts of products. Since I was a youngster, I was told "don't be a litterbug!" Keeping trash off the streets and put in proper receptacles is very important.
- Call for a new piping valve invention
- I would educate my family to ensure they do not put chemicals down the drain within our home.
- Regulate big corps
- volunteer to collect debris in the area
- End all mask mandates
- Make it cleaner
- Use eco-friendly products
- idk
- recycling
- I have no idea
- Make sure trash gets thrown away
- pick up garbage in the street
- Send a letter
- Sign petitions and send letters to officials.
- not pouring chemicals down the drain
- Throw away trash properly.
- not littering
- I would try to make sure that water pollution is safe to fix around anywhere.
- Not dump trash and waste into waterways and recycling responsibility
- Start a campaign at my local library.
- Pick up litter blocking the man holes and sewers
- Clean the water
- petition to pass legislation. Participate in clean ups.
- Picking up trash with gloves on and throw it in the trash
- I wouldn't know where to start

- Idk
- I'm not quite sure but I would do anything to make sure our water supply is not contaminated with toxic chemicals or waste
- Not very sure
- Not litter
- idk
- I could be mindful of what i put down the drain
- I'm concerned about the toxic chemicals in the water
- dont litter, be more careful
- I honestly have no idea
- I really haven't put much thought into it so I'm not sure
- provide clean water or bottled water for the affected areas
- Pick up any garbage I see near any water drain pipes etc. Even if it's by picking up one piece of garbage
- It would be saving water.
- I'm not sure
- pick up some trash
- switch completely to biodegradable products for anything which goes down wastewater drains
- Remove lobbyist from access to government officials that make the laws to protect our water, and immediately remove government officials that take donations from ANY lobbyist or makes decisions based on their own personal ties with companies.
- It would be easy for me to pick up trash in my area because there's a lot of it. It is also not a good idea to pour cleansers and beauty products down my drain, since they might end up polluting local rivers.
- have no idea
- Donate to the cause
- Avoid polluting water with chemicals or trash
- don't know
- Maybe contact my local government representatives
- Pick up trash near waterways
- I'd look deeper into the sources of the pollution and work to correct them or shut them down.
- I don't know
- I really don't know
- end factory farming and farming of animals
- I don't know
- boycott companies that don't help
- Minimize the use of plastic materials
- make sure that all of the pollution is cleaned up and the water is treated and cleaned so it is safe for consumption safely
- Go pick up trash on a local beach or pick up litter in the gutters of my neighborhood
- Be careful what I let go down the drain.
- Make it a mandate that landlord have to replace our dates pipes within their properties. It does absolutely no good for the government to redo all of the city water pipes if the landlords aren't replacing piping as well
- I do not know
- Become more active in conservation groups
- i will use less water to save it for good
- Sign a petition, make a donation.
- Clean the trash in thise atear

- To make people wake up whether it's just one person or government. Once water is gone all is gone
- I would not use toxic chemicals on my lawn.
- dispose of chemicals properly
- Minimize garbage disposal waste. Properly dispose of all debris rather than litter in public places.
- Taking trash out of our rivers
- Make sure that I recycle things properly, and watch the type of garbage I have.
- Picking up trash and not allowing it to get in our water ways.
- cleaning the water
- don't pour chemicals down the drain or put trash into a receptacle
- Store water better
- Keep toxic spills from any areas that could allow flow to any nearby streams or irrigations ditches. Don't flush toxic chemicals down sinks or toilets.
- Picking up litter
- tweet at senators/ government officials
- Reach out to the government officials
- clean trash out of the streams behind my house
- I'm not really sure. I guess I would be careful about how I dispose of my trash, for one thing
- pretty much none
- Recycle
- use recycle bottles more
- Not using too much water when cleaning home.
- Calling someone out with authority
- Idk
- Dispose of waste in a way that won't effect the environment and the waterways.
- Not sure
- Unsure
- Go to a council meeting or gather up volunteers to help pick up trash close to water areas
- Biodegradable plastic blends, underwater pollution vacuum (sucks up plastics and allows sea life to swim through it), feed wax worms plastics, or create a microscopic molecule that can consume plastic. Also make any and all pollution illegal with a two million + dollar fine paid with six years of prison.
- pick up litter and throw it in trash
- Clean out the drains and area around it in the street
- throw away in a garbage
- Clean up local creeks
- Recycle all plastic reduce my use of plastic . participate in clean up projects around my community
- Cutting up plastic rings
- Work on cleaning pipes and clean up water
- Don't throw trash in water
- compost, clean litter
- N/A
- have a community come together to help clean the water and find a way to prevent or change the source that's causing the pollution
- Clean up waste in nearby beaches or grounds
- Recycle!
- I intend that water has always been clean, safe and sanitary.

- disposing of medication properly
- Better recycling programs in my area, and for the rural communities around here. Better conservation programs for farmers so they can prevent chemical runoff
- Stop dumping chemicals and conserve water as opposed to using it for everything
- Stop littering and encourage others also to stop, donate finances, organize groups to clean up
- Publicly advocating or protesting. Picking up trash or pollution in the rivers and bodies of water near me
- not sure
- Go to the town's hall and talk with the Mayor or person in charge of the environmental factor of my town. I would present to them what is my idea about preventing these situations, and also try to develop a fund raise program to help the town.
- Take my kids to the water sources in our neighborhood to pick up trash and litter.
- Not throw anything into the ditch.
- I don't know
- n/a
- Clean oil from water
- Beach cleanup
- meet with others to resolve the situation
- Community involvement teaching classes at the local health fitness centers and having Summer booths to teach and show people how they can be a part of community water health
- more trash cans around water
- I would make sure nothing is dumped in the waterways, and restrict boat access to the waterways if necessary.
- Clean the Razorback Greenway
- I would 1 of all purchase products that are natural and know the ingredients so that I am not adding to contaminating the water. Further, could participate in activists groups that are working to stop water pollution or are trying to protect natural waters.
- I grew up in the 60's through the 80's and I remember hearing stories about Love Canal. There are areas in the United States where people have died of cancer because of the toxic water. I would write an email to my public officials urging them to restrict large companies from polluting water. Large companies think they can get away with it because they can hire lawyers.
- Pick up litter
- not sure
- I can pick up trash on the beach that I live near and I can remove it from the ocean whenever I see it.
- Not to use plastic bags, but instead, use reusable canvas bags. Don't buy bottled water.
- Clean up all the trash near and around
- Creating less trash
- Don't litter
- Reach out to an organization that focuses on this activity.
- not sure
- Ensure my trash is thrown away properly - take care of myself and my family to ensure we are doing what is to be done
- Recycling
- Dispose of medications responsibly.

- get a water purifier and reusable bottle.
- Consciously recycle
- M/A
- Use less plastic
- Flush less
- I do not know.
- be accountable for what i "wash down the drains" at home and encourage others to be mindful
- keep my landscape upkeep products from going down the storm drains
- Curtail the use of pesticides and fertilizers.
- Smarter landscaping. Too many homes are being built with a unusable area of lawn. Have a grass area for kids, pets or to enjoy but then have the rest of the yard created in a way where it doesn't need watering.
- Pick up litter near waterways so it doesnt go into the water and create more pollution
- Not really sure
- I would use sustainable items, it would be plastic free
- It is very important that we should save water not to waste it and The best way to protect streams from pollution is to prevent it at the source! This means keeping litter and other trash out of creeks in Raleigh. It's also important to keep trash out of yards and streets.
- fine big buisness
- Don't throw garbage into streams or waterways.
- Unsure
- Pick up trash in community
- DIspose of medication and electronics properly
- I will attempt to not put waste in the drains rather put in recycle bends or other containers for that specific item or chemical
- dont use plastic bottles that can end up in the water
- i have no idea
- I'm not sure - I'd definitely try to not pollute current groundwater and dump things illegally.
- I would do something to promote a solution
- Expose all the companies and corporations that are polluting. Volunteer for water pollution cleanup with others in my community.
- Testing water
- No idea
- by stopping waste to be thrown in water
- Pick up litter and drop it in thrash cans. Clean water drains
- Not use single purpose bottles
- Removing some of the pollution that is thrown in the ways or water ways and it's causing things to be clogged up
- If I could do something to prevent water pollution, the 1 thing that I would do is to contact my local politician to see if they could help with this.
- Block it off
- Nothing
- Stop dumping litter in the water ways
- less waste
- I'm not sure how to prevent it
- Ensure that I don't polute.
- helping not to pollute the planet in any way taking care of the planet not littering

- and recycling as much as possible
- Maybe not pollute
- I would go to my local government officials and express my issues I have, and ask what kind of solutions that I can do to help. I would also ask people in my community to come with me or sign a petition.
- Drink tap water
- I'm not sure
- The closest waterway to me is about 15 miles from me so I would say keep telling my friends and family to stop using as much plastic as possible because besides harmful chemicals plastic is the biggest problem
- Not sure
- I would take some time to clear up the coast and the beaches from time to time to eliminate waste and garbage that has piled up.
- I would probably have to go to the government and ask what I can do to help with this matter
- I would try to buy less plastic products, because they might ultimately wind up in our waterways.
- Not to litter
- o paper,plastic,trash thrown into the lakes streams oceans. ban and enforce no industrial or nuclear waste into the waterways
- I don't know
- Use non toxic chemicals to clean
- I wouldn't know where to begin
- No contaminate lakes or any water. specially water that can be recycle. Instruct new generations about how to preserve the environment.
- Recycle
- Picking up trash around the rivers. One of my clubs does trash pick-up days, but there's always more.
- PICK UP TRASH
- I would make sure to not pollute the water by throwing trash into it and start to pick up trash along the water ways.
- Call the city to clear out trash from the rivers.
- chemical free cleaning
- I would start by picking up trash in a local waterway.
- keep poultion out of the water ways
- There isn't really anything I can do, but if I could swim. I would clean lakes and river.
- I live in Florida and am frustrated by the lack of care for the bodies of water here. Building near waterways, especially the ocean, is out of control. I would propose to state leaders to stop allowing construction within a certain amount of miles from any body of water, whether it's the lakes, rivers, ocean or Gulf.
- CLEAN UP TRASH AROUND WATERWAYS.
- It will be a little bit more than the other
- Clean up
- Never clean up a spill by hosing it into a storm drain. Place kitty litter, sand, or another absorbent on the spill. Once the liquid becomes solid - sweep it up and throw it in a garbage can.
- Can't think of anything right now.
- Find a group of people that have my concerns and find a way to address it through the local government and the state.
- Pick up trash close to waterways


- Use less plastic bags
- Protect water pollution
- I could make sure there isn't any pollution in the areas. We have a large homeless population that like to live near our waterways and they will bathe and wash clothes and use it for a toilet and it's all illegal. But there's not always a place to house them or give them assistance. I am trying to make a more conscious effort to not dump anything down the drain that could hurt the water.
- Make more borders around creeks and any water forms
- Being careful with what we flush or pour down our drains which will end up in our water
- No idea
- I don't have any idea
- Be mindful of things of where I throw things away and make sure that I am disposing of waste and trash in the proper places and areas.
- talk the city coucil
- eliminate plastic and single use glass/plastic from rivers and lakes
- Make certain that nothing is dumped and use recycle
- Write my congressman
- Round up all the fathers who consistently never pay child support, thieves in jail, those guilty of domestic violence and they can walk the rivers cleaning trash up
- Discuss with others
- i will make sure to recycle properly
- One person cannot solve this monumental corrupt systemic problem., perpetuated by the corrupt corporate oligarchs. apart from waving a magic wand to remove highly toxic glyphosate (RoundUp) so heavily used in U.S. that besides poisoning our food, it is polluting the groundwater, the air and organic farms, as well, due to glyphosate run-off from Big Ag farms, Magic wand would have to wave away, plastic, fluoride, and other industrial waste, dirty petroleum, (oil spills and leaks), radioactive substances, etc. etc. etc. all of which are toxic and have no moral or natural justification. Clean RENEWABLE, live, Primary Water exists. Why are we limited to dirty sewage water that necessitates "cleaning" with toxins? Food for thought. While, I have my magic wand out, I'd 1 wave away this corrupt parasitic corporate system that profits immeasurably, by implementing artificial this and that, all of which is toxic, and causing harm to all divine life here, on Earth.
- Don't throw my trash out the window. Use a receptacle.
- cleaning up trash along the waterway
- Clean up the beach
- quit throwing garbage in the water
- Helping to keep pollutants out of the water by properly disposing of them.
- I have no idea
- Recycling plastic so it doesn't get in the water system
- I would never throw trash into a waterway.
- A special preventive added to water, safe nontoxic
- Discontinue single use plastics, recycle more, donate to kinderhook lakes clean up project
- We could use less plastic, Do not dispose oil or grease down the sink, do not clean with hazardous chemicals, handle toxic chemicals properly, avoid pesticides, and do not waste water.
- Use less plastic
- Community cleanup
- do not throw out trash, recycle

- Not sure
- Pick up all the trash
- Not sure. Don't pour chemicals down the drain. By natural organic cleaning products.
- protest on those companies that are not
- I will make sure that all trash makes it's way to a trash can, and if I see trash near a water drain I will pick it up and throw it away
- No idea
- I can pick up liter, mulch yard waste, and use a fried,y soap when washing my car.
- pass laws to prevent damage
- I will not put waste and chemicals in the drains.
- Do my part by keeping the area clean
- use fewer chemical products; dispose of plastic responsibly by recyling or not using it
- Do my part to prevent more waste
- do not put bad things in septic system
- no chemicals used on water run offs. dont use chemicals on car
- I would write to Congress to see what they are doing about water pollution.
- Pick up trash thrown in lakes and rivers. It's disgusting.
- I would go to my nearest river with a bag and walk around and start picking up any garbage I saw
- NOT SURE
- Don't dump trash near the water.
- Don't throw or pour anything in lakes and oceans and use environmental friendly cleaners and detergents
- I have no comment.
- not that i can think of
- NOTHING
- restrict use of harsh chemicals in my property and lawn
- I would try to clean up a waterway if it had trash in it
- Use less plastics, use no pesticide
- Recycle more plastics and use more recyclable products
- pick up trash as I'm walking alongside it.
- recycle properly, learn where your garbage goes.
- Limit the amount of fertilizer used in my yards
- Put treatment in place and limit pollution
- Volunteer to help clean rivers/riverbanks
- Not sure
- Volunteer for the engineering team as I have a Mechanical Engineering degree
- Sign a petition
- access to safe drinking water
- have no clue as to where to even start
- Not sure
- I would protect it against littering.
- stop people from leaving trash buy the riverbanks
- I would clean up the trash along the river and in the river to reduce pollution
- I am not sure
- recycle
- dunno
- stop illegal dumping
- I would try to organize people in my community to clean the waterways of garbage

and mud to allow the passage of water.

- I would need to understand exactly what the problem is and how one can involve themselves to help fix the issue.
- I would bring people together and talk about the matter
- make it so big business dont pollute our waterways
- Prevent water pollution.
- It would be to pick up trash around these areas.
- I will go down to the local stream and pull out garbage so the waterway is cleaner and less polluted, improving the downstream waterway.
- clean up waterways
- get educated on the matter and see what i can personally do to help
- i have no idea
- Dispose of items and liquids properly so they won't contaminate water supplies
- Throw all my trash away and make sure I recycle.
- Dispose of motor oil and such in a responsible way.
- Make sure I dispose of trash and chemicals properly
- Vote Republicans out.
- Conserve water
- make sure garbage is secure ,not blowing around your property.
- Heavy fines and jail time for polluters
- Higher fines for waste spillage
- cams and higher fines close business that don't listen
- Not toss my trash In the street
- Be mindful of what I use, spray or spread on my lawn that might run off into waterways
- pick up trash
- I'll buy more eco-friendly products like straws I'll stop using some plastic straws and switch to metal straws and use metal containers instead of plastic containers
- I would volunteer to clean up. Proactively I would keep doing what I do to not pollute/conserve/dispose
- Be mindful of anything my household is doing to add to this and make sure our neighborhood watch team is looking out for pollution.
- i dont know
- Make factories treat water they use
- Not sure, sorry.
- I would try to take shorter showers and limit my daily consumption of water at home.
- I would move off grid and forget this pathetic life of bull shit in socoioty and I would just use what i need from the ground
- not sure
- research want would be the best
- Have factories filter their waste water
- Have a super powers that allow me to fix the water to make it clear
- I will conserve water and make sure my waste goes where it is safe to go
- Research where my efforts can be the most effective before taking uninformed actions
- I would educate my children like I always do because they are the ones that can really make a difference
- less wasting and recycling
- let the PEOPLE do this and NOT some LEFT WING RACIAL GROUP
- Send some message to the government to do something about it

- Call the government
- Use environmentally safe fertilizers and pesticides on my lawn
- Join one of the groups that do clean-ups of local waterways.
- no idea
- I would raise awareness about this problem.
- Stop as many people as I can from throwing trash in the sewers and gutters
- Pick up trash around waterways
- He would be just trying to figure out life in general and make the best of it for what we got
- I would need more time
- The best thing I can do is vote.
- Cleaning up a section of creek
- Arrest people who litter the beach with junk
- I already do donate monthly cash to help
- Recycling
- Make sure my trash goes into a trashcan instead of a local waterway.
- Shoot the bastards.
- dispose of expired medications by bringing them to the pharmacy
- I would not pollute the world.
- Regulations
- Get some type of filtration system to clean the water out to make it drinkable.
- Start the process earlier
- Buy a reuseable water filter
- Write to a legislator.
- educate people on how to prevent water pollution
- A focus on recycling
- Not dump engine coolant onto the yard.
- Pick up trash
- It will be inspecting the canals where companies usually drain their waste water. I would take pictures to compare the level of pollution of the water. I will compare the colour of the water week after week. I will also write about the companies which are careless or reckless.
- Recycle it
- Pick up trash along the water source
- Start a campaign to remind people not to dump their trash in the woods or the river.
- I would clean up the litter
- Organize shore cleanup by volunteers, once or twice a month.
- Remove all fluoride and chloramine from all municipal sources.
- make sure i use natural products when i do my garden work
- stop dumping into lakes
- I would volunteer to help clean up an area.
- I'll stop littering.
- recycling
- Call the mayor's office and tell them
- Clean trash
- have a filtering system every so often along rivers and lakes to ensure continuous filtration
- contact my congress person
- We would have a good filtering system that would prevent filth and toxins from entering our waterways.

- Recycle plastic
- I wouldn't know where to start.
- Make a campaign to help stop pollution
- The chemicals will wash into storm drains and waterways. Mulch or compost grass or yard waste. Or, leave it in yard if can't compost.
- Talk to the mayor of my city
- make more awareness
- Trying to use water filters more frequently would help somehow.
- take care in flushing things down the toilet
- Provide volunteer assistance to a water cleaning project
- less trash
- i would install a new filter
- They need control waterways.
- How I handle my household's waste. Not disposing of harmful wastes.
- I would probably participate with an organization and their efforts
- There is nothing I can personally do unless I have habits that are potentially causing problems. If I dump motor oil in my backyard, that has the potential to affect waterways, as well as underground aquifers. I would obviously want to avoid that.
- focus on proper water usage and conservation
- I would go get the garbage and debris out of a waterway
- I would tell on the business that are polluting and form a ban on their services.
- i dont know
- prevent throughing waste into water
- PICK UP GARBAGE OUT OF WATERWAYS
- Not throw trash in the water
- No idea.
- dont put waste down storm drains
- I'm not sure...
- Get more jobs cleaning the water
- Write to government representatives to support legislation
- I would vote for the right candidates that will support water pollution prevention and action initiatives and legisltation
- i don't know
- keep wast in a jug
- ban electric cars
- support organizations designed to alleviate these conditions
- join awareness groups and forums on social meia. Forwrd concerns to congress
- not sure
- I would 1 need a lot of money, its hard to spend it in something like that once you have the money
- Better wastewater treatment
- Make sure to use household chemicals that are safe for family and the environment as well
- None suggestions
- conserve water
- "Pour chemicals in designated dispensers.
- Recycling 
- See trash...pick it up."
- not litter anymore
- I can call my local board of health and ask them what action to take

- Keep trash from falling into sewer system.
- Not a darn thing
- Make sure when I go fishing I take everything with me and leave nothing.
- Not allowing and type of manufacturing plant to dump any waste or harmful chemicals into a body of water.
- avoid dumping toxic chemicals into the drain
- Not polute in the water
- disabled so nothing I can do in this matter
- prevent water runoff from my lawn irrigation system
- to clean trash from river banks and other waterways
- I have no idea as it is not an issue near me.
- clean up storm drain areas
- clean a local stream
- Prevent disposing of any trash in waterways and picking up and properly disposing of any trash I can reach to help clean our waterways.
- stop using plastics
- Clean up trash
- I can't do anything
- Clean up trash in waterways and surrounding areas
- Making sure that any compounds that I use outdoors for feeding, Insect control or home cleaning or maintenance do not contain Phosphates or other chemical compounds which when used enter ground water when they enter the sewer system.
- No use of toxic chemicals
- Take a shorter shower.
- Homeless off water leves
- keep run off from grass fertilizers from getting in the sewer system
- Take a very short shower instead of a regular length shower.
- Get trash out of streams in the area
- I have no idea.
- I won't throw trash in the water.
- Contact local government
- place a barrier so plastic waste won't make it into the waterways
- Call my local senator in Congress person and complain to them that I want results and I want to know
- Talk to Congress
- get rid of bottles, straws and business waste
- I would make sure that there isn't any trash near any water
- nothing
- Write state and local representatives
- pick up trash. recycle more
- Donate to a cause
- push elected officials to do more now
- Place garbage where it belongs.
- I don't know
- remove trash from a creek
- I could volunteer to clean up trash out of local streams.
- I don't know
- Conserve
- i have a stream on my property, i would install a catch basin to remove pollutants etc from continuing on down stream

- Help clean waterways
- Filter industrial wastes drained into waterways. Limit non biodegradable plastics in waterways.
- Strong action on the part of government and private companies to abate these problems.
- I would call a congressman.
- Clean up the trash on are road ways
- use a state of the art filter
- Voting for tighter policies as they are introduced
- tell others to not throw trash in a creek or river
- nothing
- Pick up trash that can flow unto waterways.
- speak put to others and form groups to try and correct the problems we are facing
- Don't throw waste into waterways.
- Don't know
- No idea - physically unable to do much.
- I would confront the people who i see polluting
- salt water
- Don't know
- I will make sure that I am not dumping harmful things into the water supply.
- Contribute to a charity involved in the issue
- I think I would 1 organize a small group of concerned citizens who were directly address do you want a permission problem problem by removing debris and garbage from what I waterways. Then I would probably address my local government in the form of the city council and petition them to do more to address this ongoing situation.
- Recycle as much of my discarded items as possible
- N/A
- protest, vote
- Recycling would help dramatically and not littering.
- I'm not sure what I would do.
- I'm on less than 20k a year and i'm not a politician .. not sure there's anything i can do.
- Ensuring I continue to not pour anything harmful down the drain
- Just do not pollute
- I can drug the river
- filter my water
- Make sure I do nothing to liter the waterways.
- I can remove plastic bottles and other debris from the areas I travel through and visit. I find it absolutely appalling that people are such animals and do not care about protecting their environment.
- I could use products that don't harm or pollute waterways.
- No idea
- Not sure
- I would pick up any litter I see near the bay or near waterways.
- I won't throw my trash in the lake anymore
- I would heavily reduce agricultural runoffs and push for more organic farming as opposed to industrial farming.
- I would pick up litter
- Not contribute
- Cleaning up the riverside

- One of the ways that I can do to prevent a water pollution is filter products that will help make the water be cleaned from toxins. I also will try to protect the waterways by building construction that will protect and prevent toxins and dirt from poison
- To prevent water pollution, I would attempt to recycle trash items and garbage. Or I could donate some amount of money to an organization that would help clean up water pollution. And lastly, Attempt to be involved in voting and influencing politicians to protect or fix "water Pollution."
- Recycle cans and bottles
- Recycle trash
- I would clean the water and help the earth
- Encouraging people to stop pollution
- idk
- Taking debris from the water with special equipment
- Get rid of all trash currently in the waterways, and establish laws to prevent any pollutants from going in to the water.
- Write a blog regarding the issue.
- Pick of trash
- I would want to find a way to lessen the impact of fertilizer runoff in the Mississippi delta and Gulf of Mexico.
- not sure
- not sure.
- Volunteer to do a beach clean up
- Recycle and throw garbage in the trash
- Not wash my car in the driveway
- Clean our rivers and reservoirs.
- I'll stay away from waterways so I don't pollute them
- Not much. I believe climate change and environment stuff is the biggest hoax this century.
- Not throw trash in waterways
- Support an organization that organized to clean up shorelines and water ways.
- Not pee in public water sources
- really don't know
- Recycle
- I would help lobby individuals to pressure the local government to help clean areas of their community clean AND PRESERVE METHODS OF KEEPING THE PURITY AND SAFETY OF THEIR WATER AND WATER WAYS CLEAN RELATIVE TO USAGE AND DRINKING.
- Use less chemical based products that go down the drain like shaving cream and soaps.
- Recycle plastic bottles...
- call a meeting of the people to a peaceful protest to the problem, and attend council meetings at city hall to present the issues to them
- Recycle batteries.
- dont litter
- imaginary 5K for conservation fundraiser
- ensure that the lawn products I use are environmentally safe
- use less water
- cleaning it
- i dont know
- what i do myself is i just do not add to the problem in the 1 place i conserve water, and do not pour toxic liquids into drains, and try not to buy products from

- companies that pollute
- Take trash out of lakes
- It out the lakes and oceans
- nothing
- I would stand outside of water treatment plants with a sign.
- sign a petition for stricter dumping laws
- Kill all of the politicians that are putting in policies to prevent clean water.
- Landscape my property in a way that prevents soil erosion.
- no buy anymore single use plastic
- Not litter in oceans
- install rain barrel
- I would recycle plastic bottles, clean up beaches, and attempt to promote a cleaner ocean.
- educate folks on what we can do
- I have no idea
- I have no idea
- Hard question honestly
- Not littering
- Stop all trashes from throwing it in water
- Proper garbage disposal
- Not littering or throwing trash in public
- I would probably advocate for more protections to ensure water is kept clean. I don't know much about the issue. I imagine keeping waterways from being polluted would be the most impactful start.
- Pick up garbage
- I don't know.
- Join a conservation group
- Use water less.
- I have no idea actually.
- write my congressman and city director
- check the water coming out of all companies that are located on the rivers
- I can reduce the amount of water I use in the shower and toilet and save sink water from the bathroom and kitchen for the garden. I can also reduce the dishwasher loads to a minimum.
- Pick up trash near waterways that could end up in the waterway
- do more checking on larger corporations and see what they can do better
- I don't know
- Don't use herbicides like roundup.
- Strict regulations on water conservation
- Be proactive in protective effort
- drown some environmentalists
- Heavily fine people who litter the waters
- protecting the water that's polluted should be 1 because every human on this earth needs water to survive.
- install water filters in my house
- Unsure. My local government is highly ineffective at their current job in taking action
- I would build a machine and a social media app that coincides with it!
- Making stronger legislation against companies that pollute.
- Work with volunteers and our local riverkeeper organization to remove litter from local waterways and river.

- Me, not polluting the water.
- Go out and take photographs of polluted areas in my local community, and upload the photos to an existing Citizen Monitoring website so that the problem gets added to a centralized database and reaches a wider audience.
- Use better judgement
- Try too remove trash out of it
- It would be to not put anything into the water system that could cause pollution.
- Clean out as much plastic as I can.
- Pick up the trash around the areas.
- Regulate businesses who pollute water and fine them heavily in addition to making them pay the entire bill for cleaning the toxic waste they are responsible for.
- everybody's doing their part
- Actually I would it be good work to prevent water pollution.
- Make it strictly illegal with very tough enforcement for anyone, especially companies to put trash in our waters whether it be runoff from production, general trash from cruise ships, or chemical;s of any kind
- I love it
- do not leave any trash near waterways in my community
- recycle
- Not throw trash in the waterway
- i will clean up the creek and plant trees along the creek to prevent soil eroison
- I don't know
- Not flush harmful chemicals or materials down the drains
- Conserve water. stop littering, less lawn chemicals
- n/a
- Be careful of water usage
- I always make sure to dispose of waste properly
- I'm not sure.
- Flush the toilet less often.
- I honestly do not know because I think it takes a team of people to come up with an optimal solution for that.
- Nothing
- Don't take power boats out to leak petroleum.
- Support a conservation group
- Do my part by making sure that all trash and debris next to by community lake is cleared
- I'm not sure if I could something. Water pollution is a serious issue in other countries, but I do not see it here in the United States. We has one of the best water systems around the world and I'm very proud of that.
- Throw all garbage in the trash and help put ck up trash from the community
- Somewhat alright and could be greater
- Not sure
- Make stricter laws and penalties on dumping and pollution.
- Research what organizations do this and volunteer. If I were "woke". that is, but I am not. Only about 10% to 20% of the population considers themselves to be "woke". This survey assumes we all are. Very, very incorrect.
- Cleaning up trash and litter in the environment.
- stop put pollution in the waters ways that it will stop polltioning the waters
- "Clean the garbage out of the waterways,
- Better maintenance of natural debris"
- Pick up debris I see next to a water source

- Drive less
- recycle and clean up trash etc around creeks and water ways
- Use green chemicals,
- Stop businesses from dumping
- stop throwing trash and debris in the sewer system
- Write letters or emails to local and national officials, urging them to take a particular action.
- I would join a steering committee or public awareness group and start making things happen instead of just talking about it.
- I'm really not sure
- Throwing less trash in water and passing laws protect are water .
- The only thing I can think of would be to use filtration systems.
- NO FLOURIDE , NO CHLORINE
- recycle would be the most likely
- Call my political rep and demand tighter controls on water pollution
- unsure
- ask the government to do more
- I would go to our local river and pick up garbage along the shoreline.
- Make sure my water is always filtered!
- Put up signs in protest of water pollution and the problems it causes and what we can each do to help
- stip polution
- some kind of change
- Recycle and pick up trash. Use tap water instead of bottled water. Eliminate single use products/containers.
- I would protest and talk to local government
- Make sure I dispose of my waste in proper storage.
- Try to protect water drains and sewage systems
- Clean up lake areas
- Be sure to recycle plastics and cardboard items.
- Nothing comes to mind
- Use a filter get some water.,
- properly disposing of all trash where it should be - only using necessary water
- It would have to be laws, strictly enforced not allowing people or companies to pollute waterways
- I wouldn't actually do anything physical. More, emotional support
- get rid of litter and other debris in and around water areas
- I will reduce waste.
- No idea
- protect dams
- 1 I would need to understand preventative methods and if any I can implement do so. Next levels would be dependent on how much of an impact I can make and if authorities are listening.
- "DO NOT pour fat from cooking or any other type of fat, oil, or grease down the sink. Keep a "fat jar" under the sink to collect the fat and discard in the solid waste when full.
-
- DO NOT dispose of household chemicals or cleaning agents down the sink or toilet. Simsbury has a Hazardous Waste Collection day usually from 8:00am to 1:00pm at Henry James School. Connecticut Resource Recovery Authority lists all collection dates.

-
- DO NOT flush pills, liquid or powder medications or drugs down the toilet. For recommendations on proper disposal for all types of medical wastes, visit the CT DEP publication [here](#).
-
- Avoid using the toilet as a wastebasket. Most tissues, wrappers, dust cloths, and other paper goods should be properly discarded in a wastebasket. The fiber reinforced cleaning products that have become popular should never be discarded in the toilet.
-
- Avoid using a garbage disposal. Keep solid wastes solid. Make a compost pile from vegetable scraps.
-
- Install a water efficient toilet. In the meantime, put a brick or 1/2 gal container in the standard toilet tank to reduce water use per flush.
- Run the dishwasher or clothes washer only when you have a full load. This conserves electricity and water.
-
- Use the minimum amount of detergent and/or bleach when you are washing clothes or dishes. Use only phosphate free soaps and detergents.
-
- Minimize the use of pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers. DO NOT dispose of these chemicals, motor oil, or other automotive fluids into the sanitary sewer or storm sewer systems. Both of them end at the river.
-
- If your home has a sump pump or cellar drain, make certain it does not drain into the sanitary sewer system. If you are unsure, please call Simsbury Water Pollution Control at (860) 658-1380 and we can assist in determining the discharge point."
- Sign a petition to save waterways.
- Nothing comes to mind
- It is necessary to limit or eliminate the use of chemicals, also preserve and rescue the existing mines in the water springs
- No clue
- Sign a petition
- Do not put chemicals in the drains
- "There is nothing I can do on my own.
- We need government involvement and economic resources."
- Na
- Clean gutters
- N/A
- Filter out any impurities to provide drinking water
- not sure
- It would be to protest against it.
- I would have to study the issue rather than come up with some halfcocked nonsense of the top of my head.
- nothing at all
- Bridge
- Dispose of cooking oil in a safe and economic way
- write my congress man
- Don't throw any trash help keep water ways clean.

- Make sure every plastic bag I use is disposed
- Not pollute.
- Work with my community and find solutions together
- Secure area from all phases
- maintenance of driveways
- Stop dumping chemicals and medicine down the toilet
- stop polluting
- Contact my local congress person to voice my opinion
- save water
- I can't do anything myself
- No over spill
- I will start by speaking to people
- I would protest.
- Remove plastic and other trash from a local stream.
- I try to avoid putting chemicals in any of my wastewater. This means I do not use chemical products for cleaning that will go down the drain. Also this means I do not wash down the sidewalk or driveway with any chemicals.
- Limit new construction and hold government and military oversight accountable for their lack of compliance, communication and caring for basic human rights and health
- Pick up trash on my daily walks to avoid it being blown or carried into streams.
- Recycle plastic water bottles. Turn off water in my household when not in use.
- Clean up
- Ensure toxic fluids are segregated and not released into the ecosystem
- Not pour motor oil into the sewer
- I honestly have no idea
- I have no idea. I think these problems are overblown and used by Liberals as a political tool, a contrived issue, rather than something real. I have no trust in the people and groups that advocate for environmental issues
- Stop using fertilizer and pesticides.
- Try to use home supplies that are safe for our water sources.
- Use natural products that don't add to the pollution of the water table.
- I have no idea.
- Decrease the use of plastic
- Protest unauthorized mining
- i have no idea what to do or were to go
- clean the garbage
- im unsure
- volunteering for a local org
- Na
- Not sure
- Boil water
- I wish I could build those machines that suck up trash while simultaneously yelling at people who throw shit everywhere.
- Write to my local official about ideas on how to filter that polluted water better using methods like those used in polluted water systems in 3-world countries.
- Unsure how to start.
- Keep the neighborhoods clean
- Recycle
- Dispose of waste in appropriate locations
- Dont waste so much water

- Stop letting urban areas overuse chemicals
- Less industrial waste
- Making sure businesses and everyday people don't dump in rivers.