

These are our answers to the questions of the voting assistant

www.MijnStem.nl (choose waterschappen)

The CDA does not want the water board to invest in a few windmills that produce expensive, rather than sustainable, power. Large windmill parks at sea are fine and often much cheaper. The CDA does not want major investments or increased water tax rates.

The CDA wants exotics to be dealt with if they pose a threat to other animal species, the water quality or the stability of our dykes. Research has shown that e.g. red swamp crayfish can be harmful.

Should the water board contribute to the costs of making existing neighbourhoods rainproof? The CDA recognises the importance of making existing neighbourhoods rain- and climate-proof, but that is primarily a municipal task. The water board cannot pay for that outright, but it can take on an advisory and supporting role.

The CDA values water safety and strong (tall) dykes the most. The contradiction is actually false. We can avoid flooding with more room for water storage, within and outside urban areas, and better drainage.

The CDA wants effective measures that limit the emission of greenhouse gases (feasible targets, no symbolic gestures). These measures should not lead to an increase of the water board tax rates.

The CDA has always opted for lowering water levels, “level follows function,” to facilitate the use of the land for agriculture and other purposes. To curb soil subsidence, this will not be possible in the long run. The CDA wants a gradual transition.

Clean surface water is a core task of the water board, it should not be outsourced. The CDA wants a low rate for the purification levies. Businesses often produce specific waste water that they can purify themselves on certain conditions.

Farmers, businesses and environmental organisations have a big stake in the water board’s activities and landscape management and pay relatively high water tax rates. They therefore have a direct say in the management that decides on e.g. water levels.

The CDA values sustainability, yet the costs must not outweigh the benefits. Sustainable collaboration with other governments is preferable. Tax rates should not increase too much. The AGV water board does not always have to be the first or best.

The CDA wants water boards to make optimal use of the energy sources with which they already have experience. Solar panels on waste purification installations and reuse of raw materials. Energy can also be generated from surface water.

The water board does a lot of work for the nature sector, which is costly. “Nature” is not free. Environmental organisations currently pay a very low water tax rate. The problem is that they are often already dependent on subsidies.

The CDA is still in favour of fixed amounts. We want to reduce water usage, but administrative and operational expenses soar when linked to water usage. Purification is for everyone, but some people get water from their own well or source.

Income politics are not the water board's concern. The CDA is in favour of adopting the remission policy for the water board's taxation for low-income families.

Flooding must be prevented as much as possible. Rainfall will be more frequent and heavier due to climate change. That means we must create more space for water storage to avoid problems. It is a job for the water board and municipalities.

The CDA wants to put agriculture first. Drought is a part of nature, it will recover eventually. Our food supply is vulnerable during a drought. We must develop water supplies in order to prevent the rationing of water.

The CDA has already sought to reduce regulation and the issuance of permits by the water board. We want to continue that trend, provided that water safety and quality are not compromised.

If the development of environmentally friendly watersides contributes to the improvement of the water quality, it can be a task for the water board. The development of more natural areas must be paid by other parties.

With more clean surface water, clean soil and air, the biodiversity will increase once again. Clean (surface) water is a core task of the water board, but the development of more natural areas must be paid by other parties.

Sailing too fast is a nuisance and a danger, but it also inflicts damage to the watersides. Stricter enforcement is needed. Pollution must also be tackled. Noise pollution is a municipal affair, not a job for the water board.

The environment and proper water management are global concerns. The Dutch are great at water management, which other countries can benefit from. This is a good way to recoup invested tax money. We can provide aid during crises.

The CDA is in favour of a circular economy and the reuse of raw materials and against wasting resources. We want the water board to spread this message and use it as a condition for anyone who wants to work together with the water board.

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The Amstel is not suitable enough for swimming. Due to the insufficient capacity of sewers in Amsterdam and Amstelveen, they sometimes flood. The effluent dumped in the Amstel by the water purification facility in Amstelveen is still too dirty, so invest.

Water should be enjoyed, so we want to make natural areas and dykes as accessible as possible for recreation. This must be done in collaboration with private land owners: damage, pollution and nuisance must be prevented.

The muskrat is an invasive exotic species that does not belong in our water system. It must be actively dealt with because it compromises the stability of our dykes. Animal welfare must be taken into account, however.

Cost considerations should not be a deciding factor when it comes to using chemical pesticides. However, they may be used to deal with harmful plant species if these pose a threat to safety. Use in the least harmful manner!