



What do we stand for?

*Real voices of
Chatham Democrats*

*W*E ASKED CHATHAM DEMOCRATS TO TELL US, IN THEIR OWN WORDS, what we stand for as a local party. Responses varied and shared visions of the responsibility the party holds to all citizens, including fiscal responsibility and social responsibility. There was a general call for responsiveness in government and openness in considering all views. Most importantly, our fellow democrats share a vision for a prosperous community through well-planned progress, leadership, open government and accountability.

These views are not exclusive to Democrats alone. We're sure that this vision is what most Americans hope for in their government. So we'd like to share with you a bit more of what we believe.

We hope you'll join us in creating a government in Chatham that meets all of our needs.

IN OUR OWN WORDS:

1. Open, honest, and inclusive dialogue for ALL Chatham citizens
2. Fiscal responsibility and social responsibility
3. Smart, planned growth
4. Partnership and leadership with surrounding towns and the village to eliminate duplication of services
5. Openness and fairness in government, tolerance of opposing views, and a government process that is inclusive, productive and pragmatic.
6. Leadership in realizing the Comprehensive Plan while respecting and preserving the character of our hamlets.
7. Government decision making that provides the most opportunity for the broadest range of citizens in our town.
8. A government that can learn and adapt to changes and still preserve what makes Chatham special.
9. Putting the greater good ahead of partisanship.
10. Taking leadership in ensuring our state and federal representatives are responsive and working toward the same goals as the town.

Chatham Democrats are first and foremost dedicated to Chatham, the community where we live.

We care about our fellow citizens who are our neighbors, our local business people and farmers.

We love the land in Chatham and value its unique natural beauty and the local agriculture.

We want Chatham to be a place where families can thrive, where people can live, shop, and work.

We want to preserve the rural, small-town nature of our community, while recognizing that growth is inevitable. To this end we need to implement our master plan.

We treasure the children of our community and want to see them thrive. This not only means good schools, but places and programs to keep them active and connected to the community. We hope that they will want to (and be able to) live in Chatham as adults.

We care about our senior citizens, many of whom are struggling to live on fixed incomes. We want them to be able to continue to live in Chatham near their family, friends and neighbors. We need to do what we can to help them do this -- transportation, affordable housing, a senior center.

It may seem ironic, but on the local level, Chatham Democrats stand for non-partisanship. Chatham government should be "...of, by and for the people." We believe there is no "Republican" way or "Democrat" way to solve problems.

There is only what is best for the citizens of Chatham.