

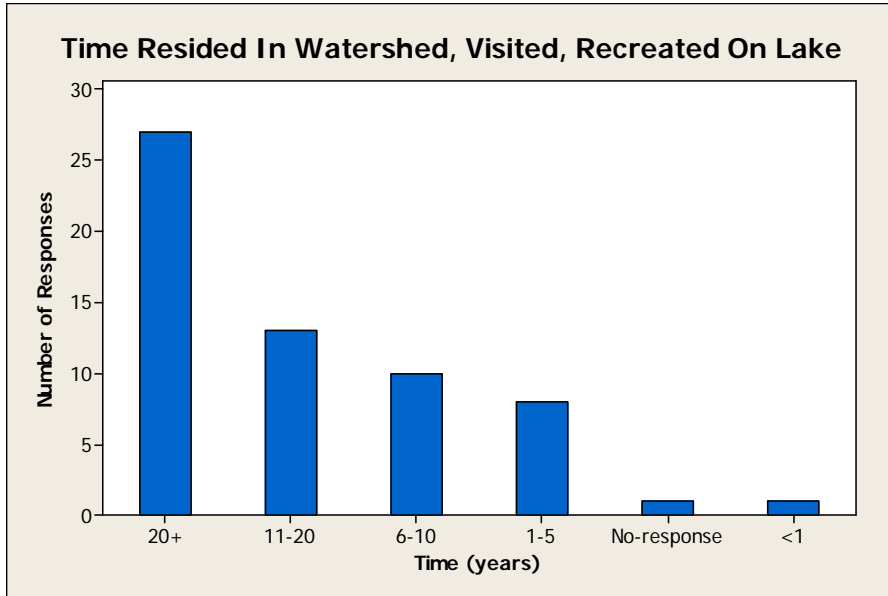
CITIZEN SURVEY OF SPRING LAKE WATERSHED 2009

Number of surveys sent: ?

Number of surveys received: 62

1. How long have you lived in the watershed, visited or recreated on Spring Lake?

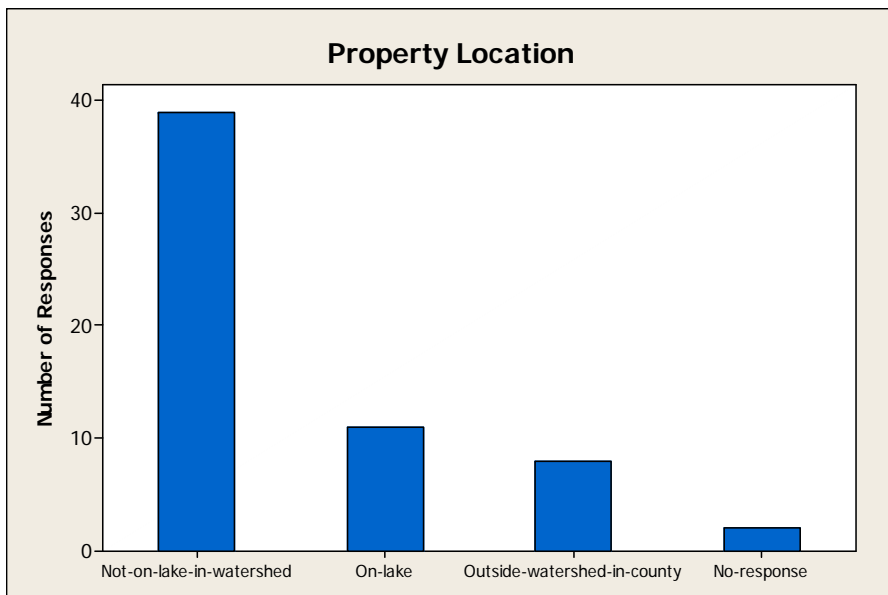
- Less than a year 1-5 years 6-10 years 11-20 years More than 20 years



2. Where is your property or rental nearest to Spring Lake located?

(See map attached to cover letter to locate your property)

- On the lake Outside the watershed but in Portage Co.
 Not on the lake but in the lake watershed Outside of Portage Co.

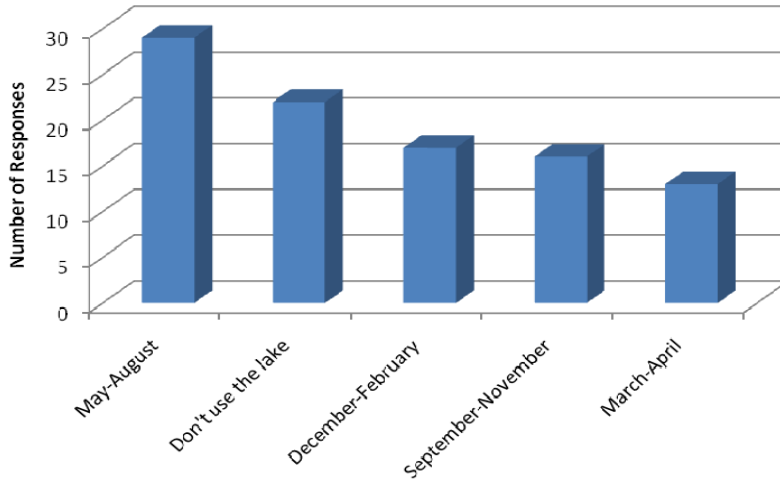


3. What time of the year do you generally use Spring Lake?

(Check all that apply)

- March - April May – August September – November December – February
 Don't use the lake (go to question 24)

Spring Lake Usage By Month

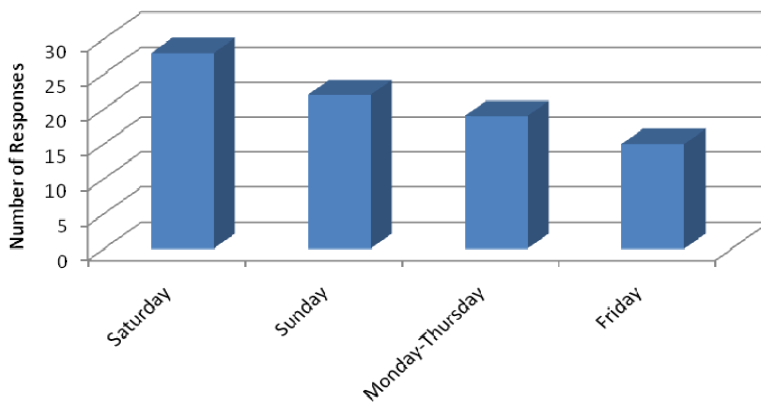


4. Which days during the week do you typically use Spring Lake?

(Check all that apply)

- Monday – Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

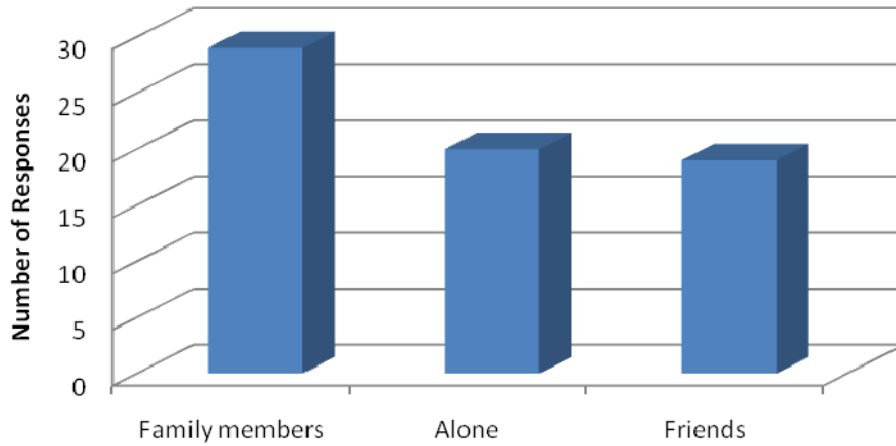
Spring Lake Usage By Day



5. When you use Spring Lake are you typically ... (Check all that apply)

- Alone
 With family members
 With friends
 With members of a club
 Other _____

Who Do You Use the Lake With?

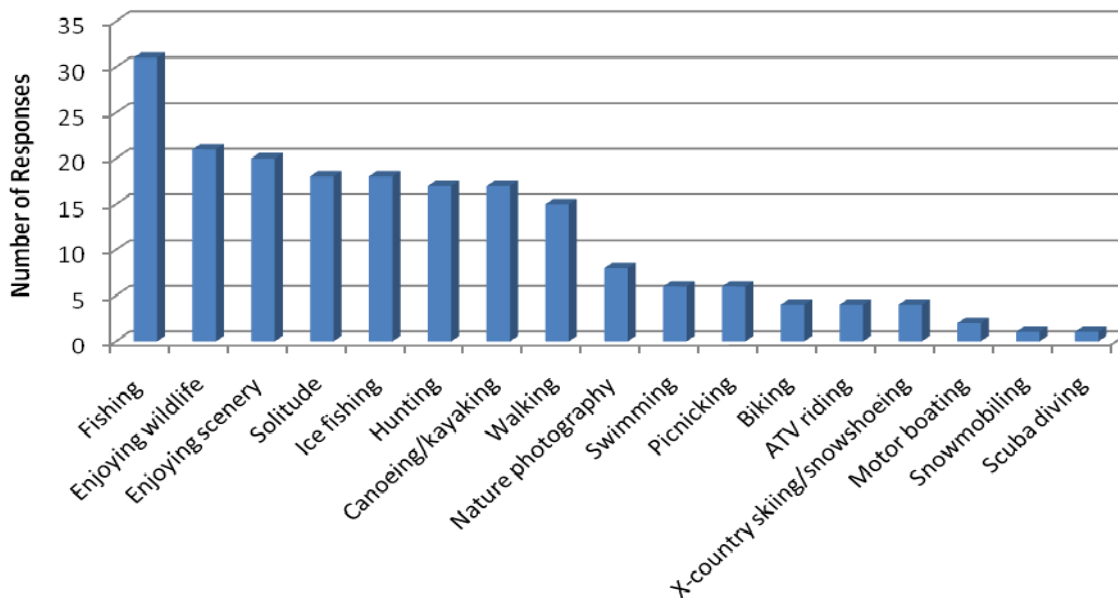


◆◆RECREATION◆◆

6. What activities do you enjoy at or near Spring Lake? (Check all that apply)

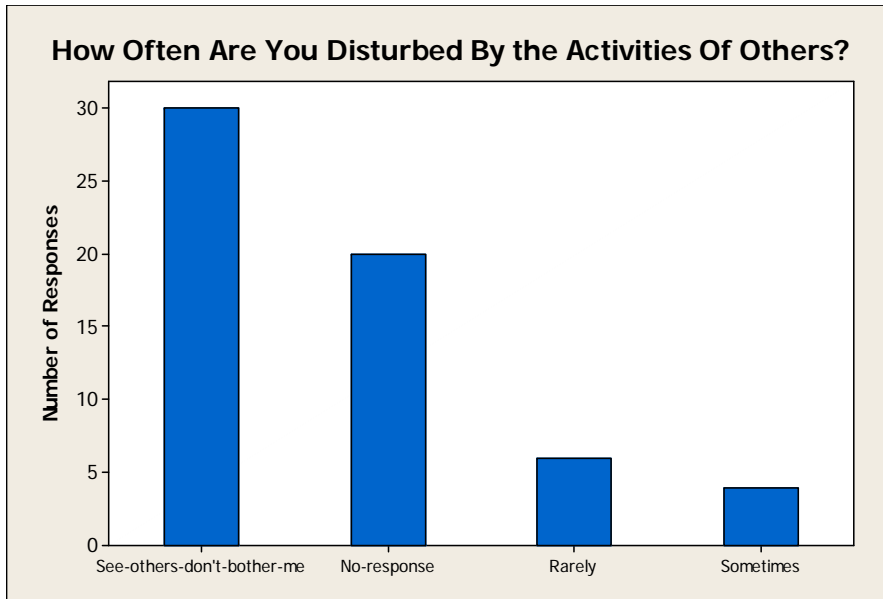
- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Hunting | <input type="radio"/> Swimming/snorkeling | <input type="radio"/> Walking |
| <input type="radio"/> Jet skiing | <input type="radio"/> Biking | <input type="radio"/> Enjoying scenery |
| <input type="radio"/> Motor boating | <input type="radio"/> Sailing | <input type="radio"/> Nature photography |
| <input type="radio"/> ATV riding | <input type="radio"/> Picnicking | <input type="radio"/> X-country skiing, snowshoeing |
| <input type="radio"/> Canoeing / kayaking | <input type="radio"/> Enjoying wildlife | <input type="radio"/> Snowmobiling |
| <input type="radio"/> Fishing | <input type="radio"/> Solitude | <input type="radio"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Ice fishing | | |

What Recreational Activities Do You Partake In?



7. Which statement best describes your experience in or on the lake?

- Rarely see and hear another person
- I see others but they do not bother me
- Sometimes the noise and activities of others disturb me
- Often the noise and activities of others disturb me
- I have to regularly plan around the noise and activities of others
- There is so much noise and activity that I normally can't enjoy the lake



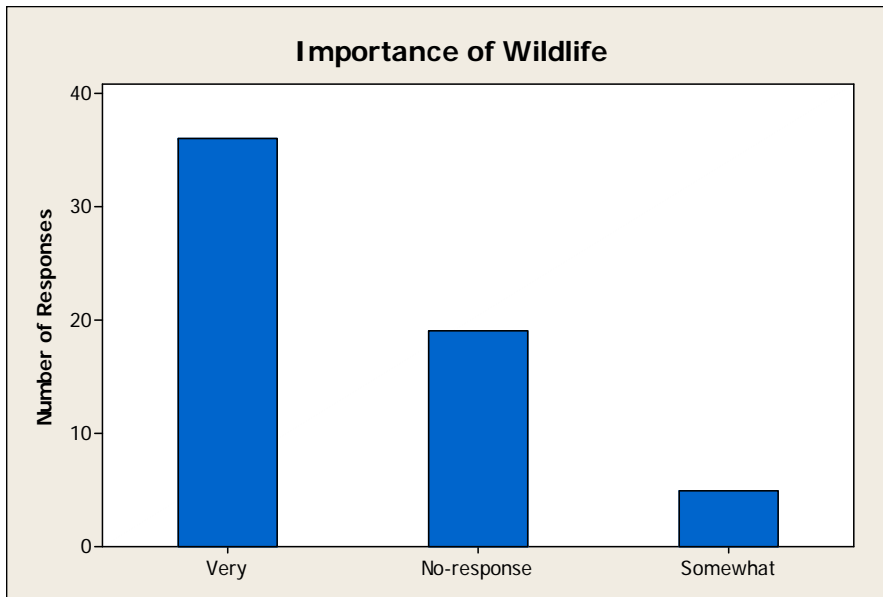
8. What could be done to maintain or improve your recreation experience on Spring Lake?

- To keep it as natural as possible
- No more houses
- Provide garbage dumpsters at boat landings for trash
- Better boat landing and parking facilities; not much free parking in its present state.
- Deeper landing sites on both sides of lake
- Stop runoff and limit building in area
- I think it is fine the way it is
- Less agricultural runoff
- Get rid of some of the weeds so we could fish more of the lake
- Install a better pier
- Use only small motor boats, canoes, kayaks
- Nothing - scenery is great, walking is great, snowshoeing is wonderful
- Sometimes would like to fish off my shoreline, but hampered by boaters anchored a few feet from my property
- Weed control in the lake. Past 5 years lake has been so low that it's difficult to launch boat
- Open the stream that flows into the lake which has clogged up by a beaver dam (I realize this may be against the law, but getting rid of it would improve the trout fishing)
- Boat launch improvement. Hard to turn around and limited parking
- The lake is under 50 acres. It is a no wake lake and needs to be posted as so. In the Wisconsin boating rules this is written, but not posted at the launch. Better yet make it a no motor lake, its 34 acres; you can row/paddle across it in minutes

♦♦WILDLIFE♦♦

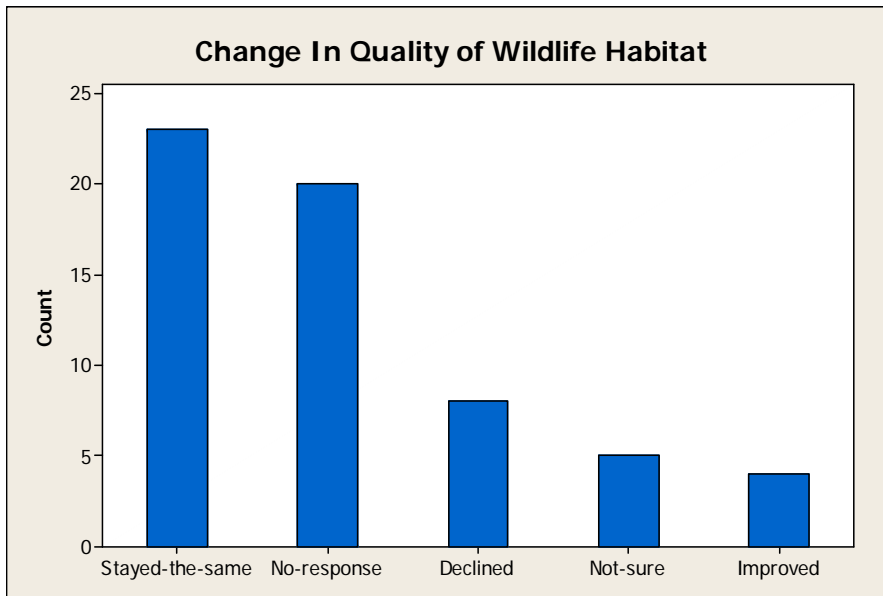
9. How important is it for you to see wildlife (ducks, geese, squirrels, songbirds, frogs, turtles, etc) when you use Spring Lake?

- Very important Somewhat important Not too important Not at all important



10. How has the quality of the wildlife habitat near Spring Lake changed since you began using the lake?

- Improved Stayed the same Declined Not sure



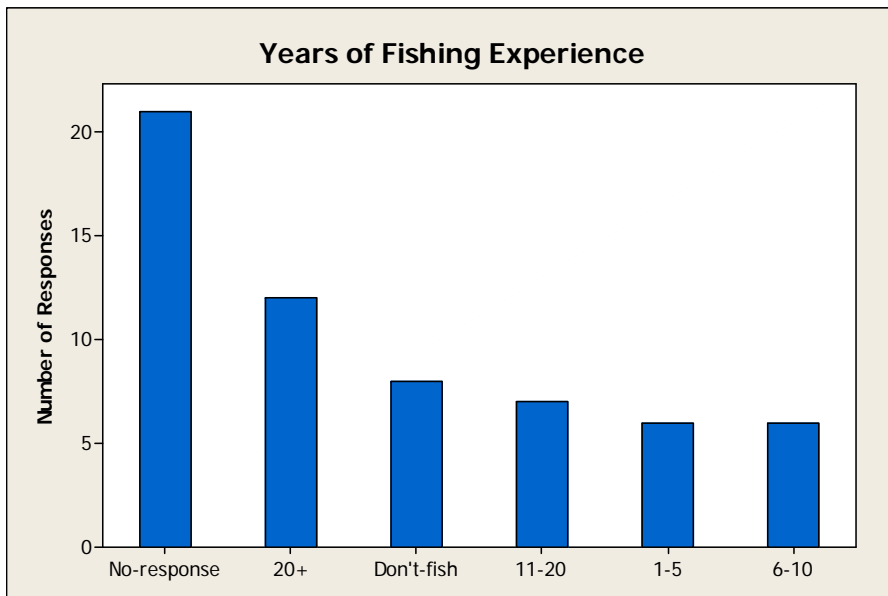
If it has changed, what factors do you feel have contributed to this change?

- Natural habitat has allowed wildlife to flourish; we've put up bluebird houses
- Boaters; many, many more people use the lake
- More weeds and algae
- More bald eagles, loons, cranes, etc.
- Land development for residences
- More weedy than before. Possibly from spring time manure run-off from the fields around the lake.

♦♦FISHING♦♦

11. How many years of fishing experience do you have on Spring Lake?

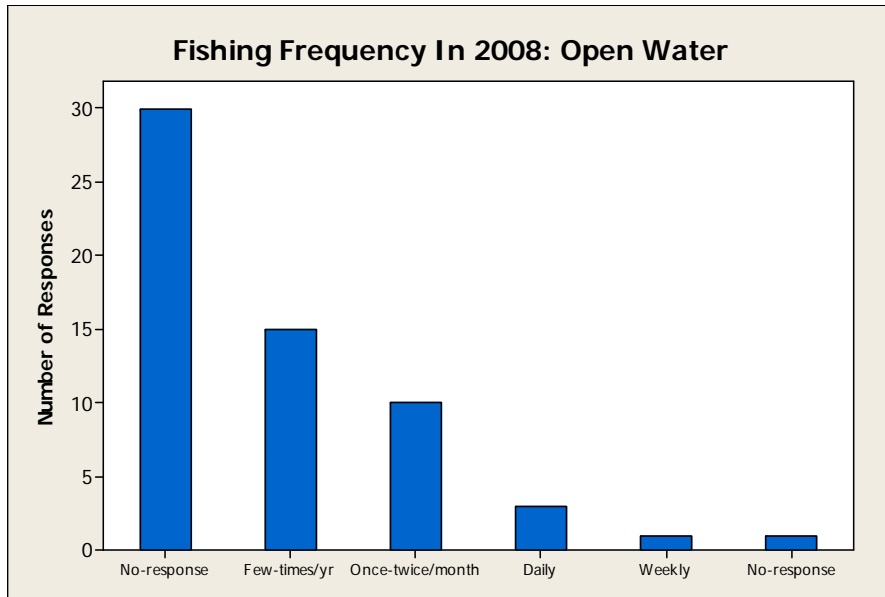
- Less than a year
- 1-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-20 years
- More than 20 years
- I don't fish on Spring Lake (go to question 17)



12. In 2008, how often did you fish Spring Lake?

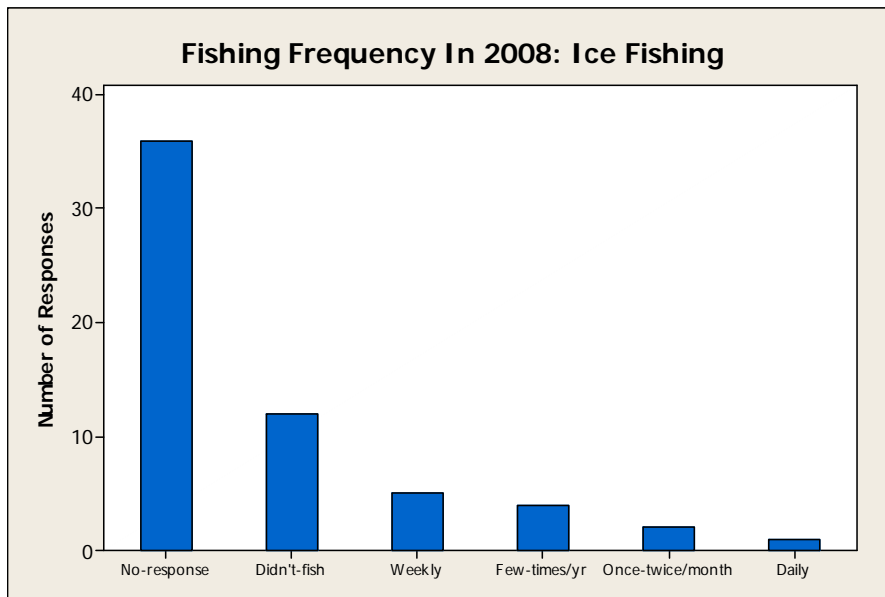
Open water:

- Daily Weekly Once or twice a month A few times a year Didn't fish



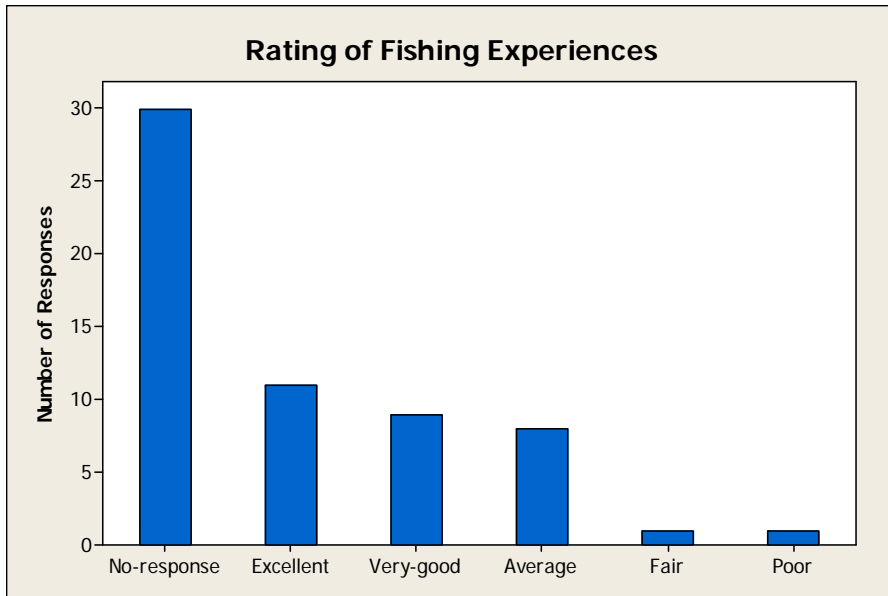
Ice fishing:

- Daily Weekly Once or twice a month A few times a year Didn't fish



13. How would you rate your fishing experiences on Spring Lake?

- Excellent
- Very Good
- Average
- Fair
- Poor



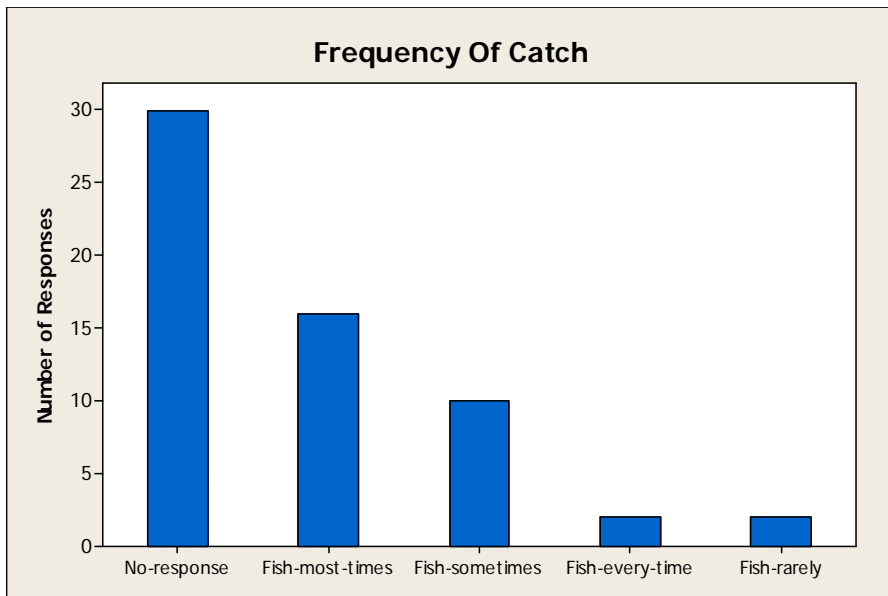
14. In general, how would you describe your fishing experiences on Spring Lake?

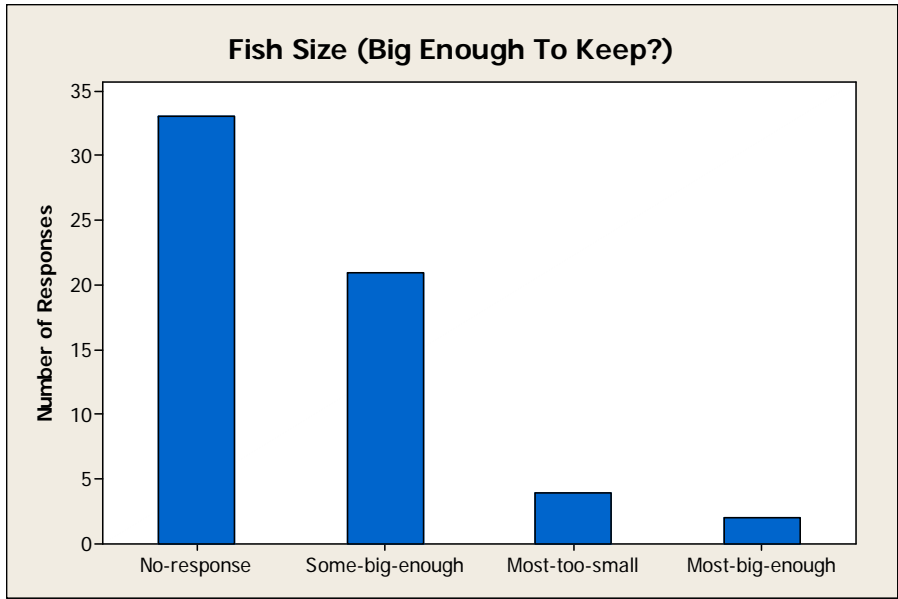
Frequency of catch:

- I catch fish every time I go out
- I catch fish most times I go out
- I sometimes catch fish
- I rarely catch fish

Fish size:

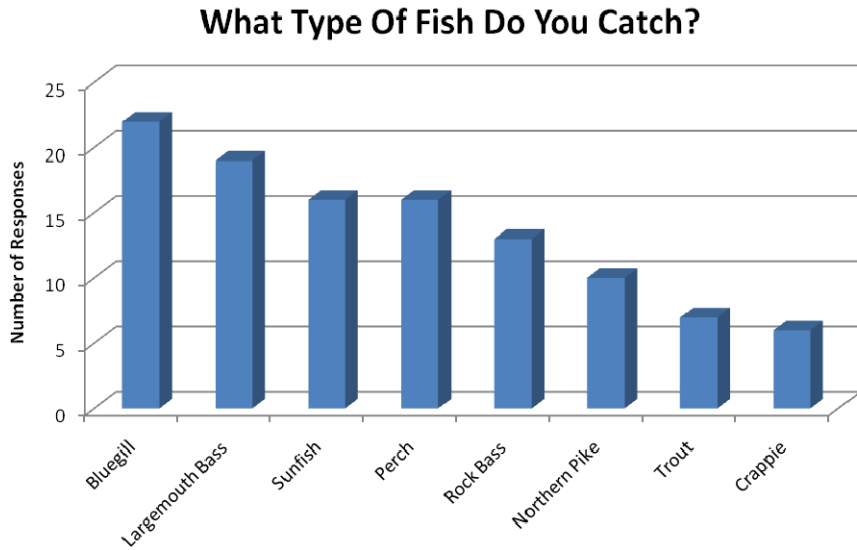
- Most fish are big enough to keep
- Some fish are big enough to keep
- Most fish are too small to keep





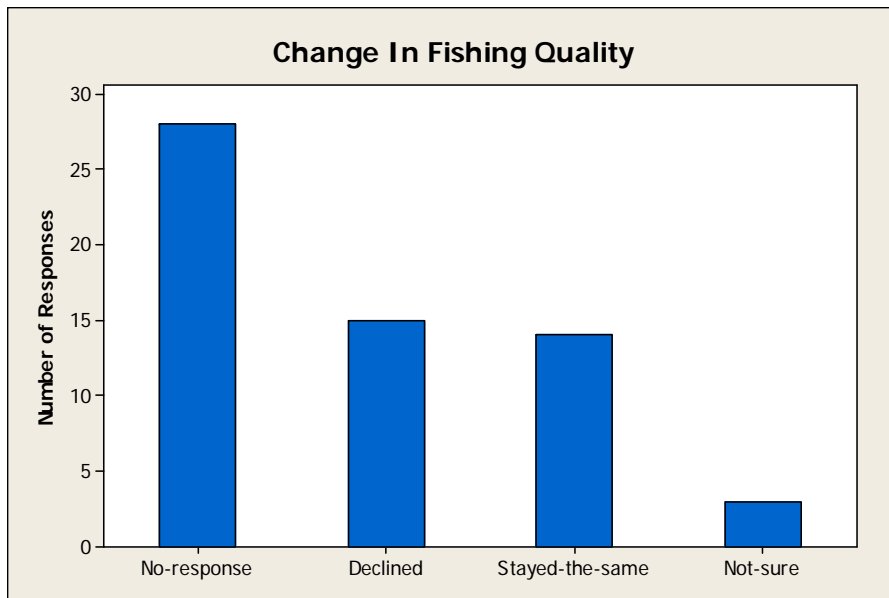
15. What type of fish do you catch?

- Northern Pike
- Crappie
- Sunfish
- Perch
- Bluegill
- Other _____
- Largemouth Bass
- Rock Bass
- I haven't caught any



16. In general, would you say the quality of fishing on Spring Lake has ...

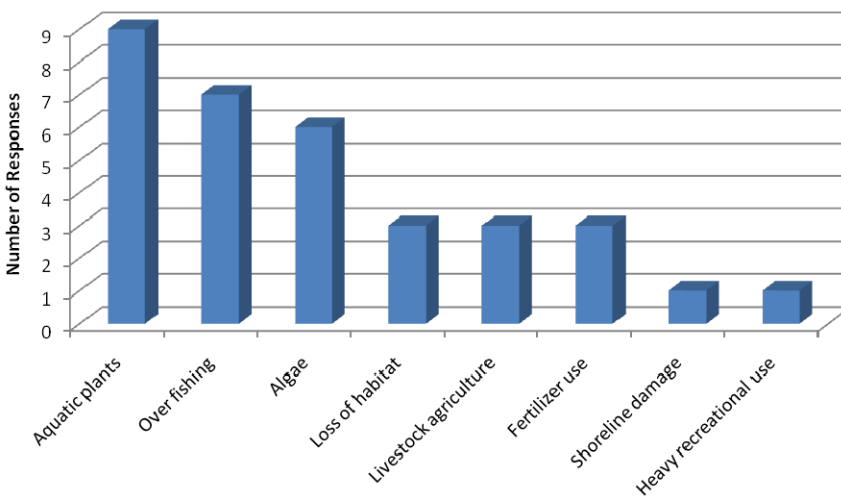
- Improved
 Stayed the same
 Declined
 Not Sure



If you indicated that fishing quality has declined, what do you believe has contributed to the decline? (Check all that apply)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Loss of habitat | <input type="radio"/> Development pressure | <input type="radio"/> Livestock agriculture |
| <input type="radio"/> Shoreline damage | <input type="radio"/> Heavy recreation use | <input type="radio"/> Aquatic plants |
| <input type="radio"/> Over fishing | <input type="radio"/> Septic system seepage | <input type="radio"/> Algae |
| <input type="radio"/> Fertilizer use | <input type="radio"/> Herbicide use | <input type="radio"/> Air pollution |
| <input type="radio"/> Soil erosion | <input type="radio"/> Vegetable agriculture | <input type="radio"/> Other _____ |

Contributors To Decline In Fishing Quality



Comments:

- Our farm uses "a lot" less fertilizer/chemicals; less tilling = less run off; hopefully better water quality
- Algae problem; cause unknown!
- Algae blooms are bad on Spring. One type of weed has taken over the majority of the lake (brown in color, low growing, very thick). It has really changed the lake in the last 20 years. Very hard to catch

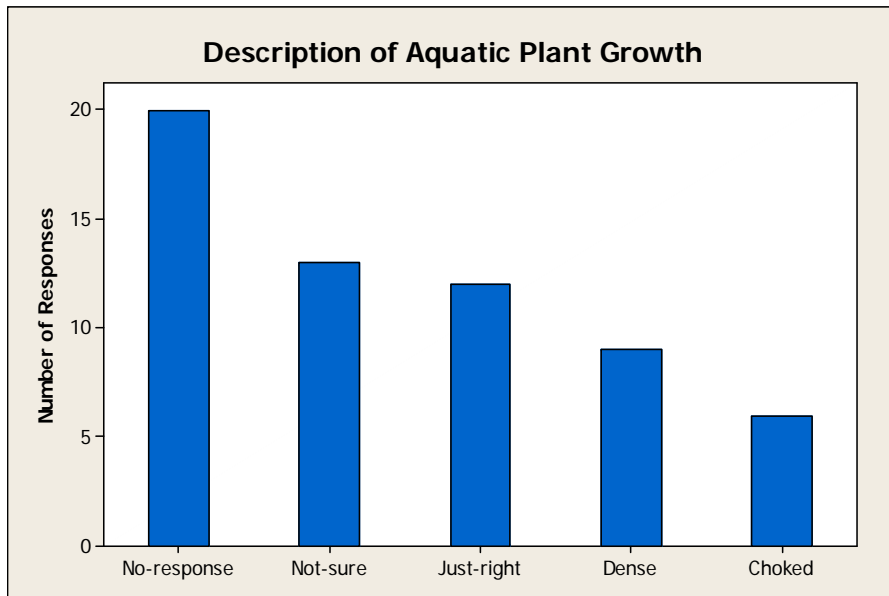
any fish of any size. Used to catch some really nice largemouth bass, bluegill, and crappie; not so any more

- Someone has put northern pike in spring lake and has destroyed the trout fishing

♦♦ AQUATIC PLANTS ♦♦

17. In your opinion, which statement best describes the current amount of aquatic plant growth in Spring Lake?

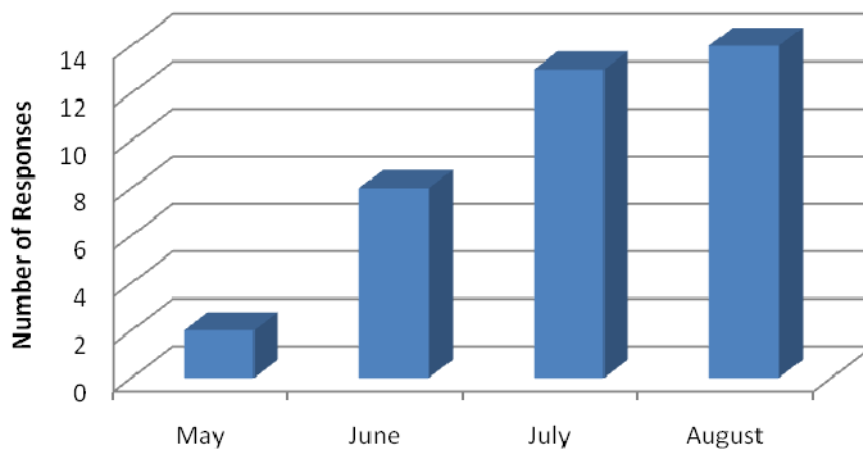
- Very little, less than optimum for fish and wildlife
- Just the right amount for fish and wildlife and doesn't affect my use of the lake.
- Dense growth, more than optimum for fish and wildlife and the plants limit my use of the lake
- Choked with growth, the plants ruin fishing and my ability to enjoy the lake
- Not Sure



If you selected dense or choked, what month(s) do the problems occur? (Check all that apply)

- May
- June
- July
- August

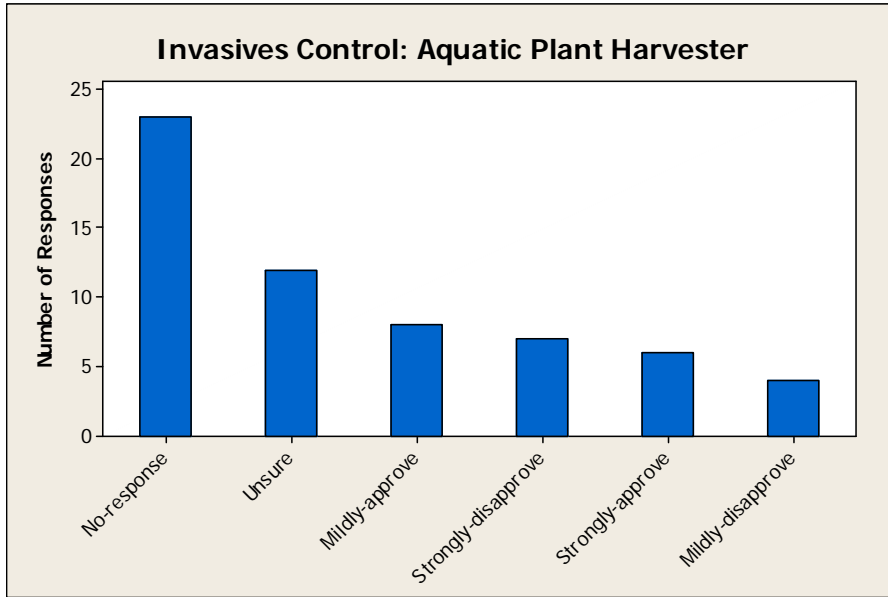
Dense/Choked Months



18. What is your opinion on the use of the following management strategies for the control of invasive aquatic plants in Spring Lake?

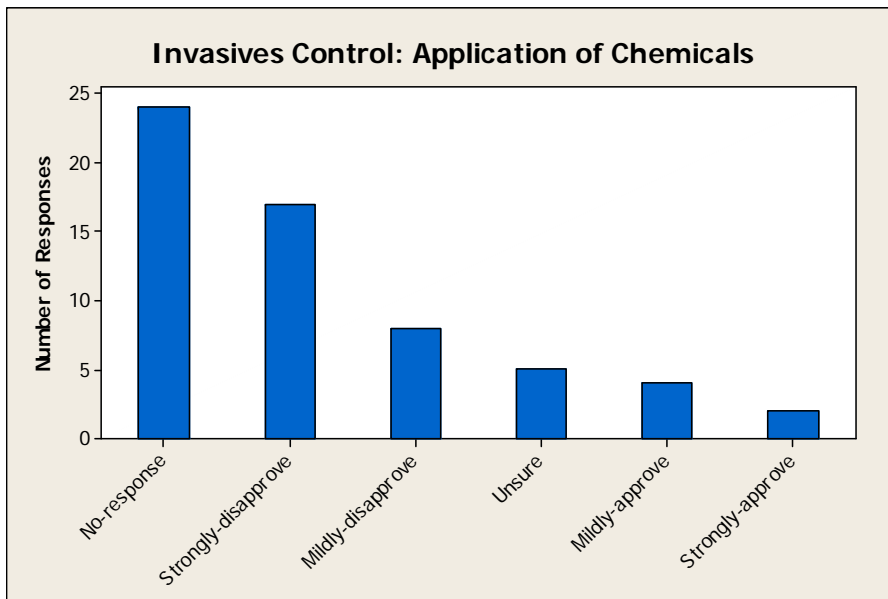
a. Aquatic plant harvester

- Strongly disapprove Mildly disapprove Unsure Mildly approve Strongly approve



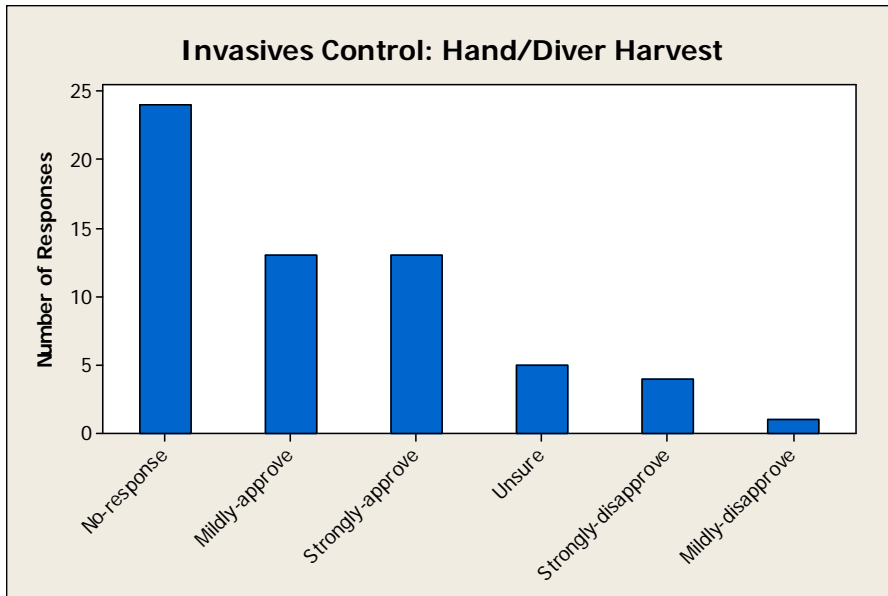
b. Professional application of chemicals

- Strongly disapprove Mildly disapprove Unsure Mildly approve Strongly approve



c. Hand-harvesting and/or use of diver to harvest

Strongly disapprove Mildly disapprove Unsure Mildly approve Strongly approve

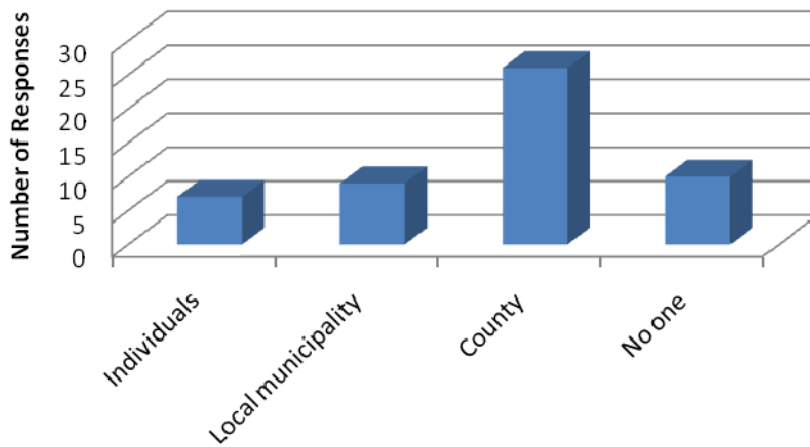


19. Since the state has indicated that they cannot pay for the entire cost of managing invasive aquatic plants, who should pay for these practices? (Check all that apply)

Individuals Local municipality County No one (no management is undertaken)

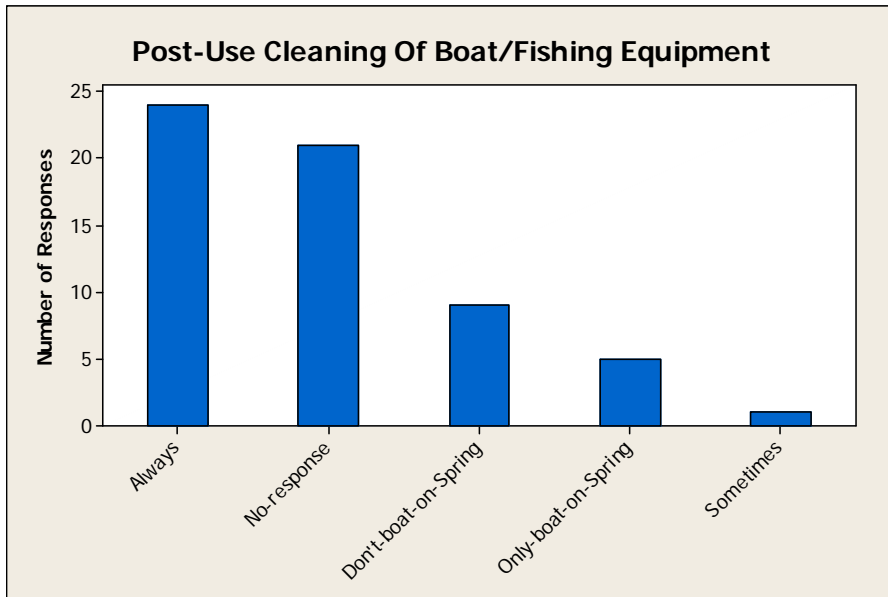
Comments _____

Funding For Invasives Management



20. After you have been in another lake, do you clean your boat, trailer, and fishing equipment and empty your boat's live wells and tanks before using them in Spring Lake?

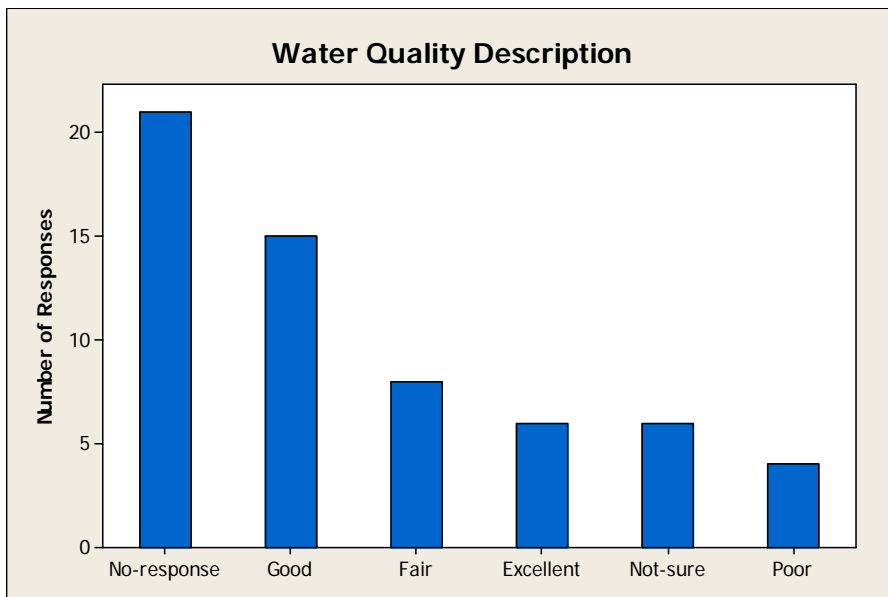
- Yes, all of the time
- Yes, some of the time
- No, never
- No, only boat on Spring Lake
- Don't use a boat in Spring Lake



◆◆WATER QUALITY◆◆

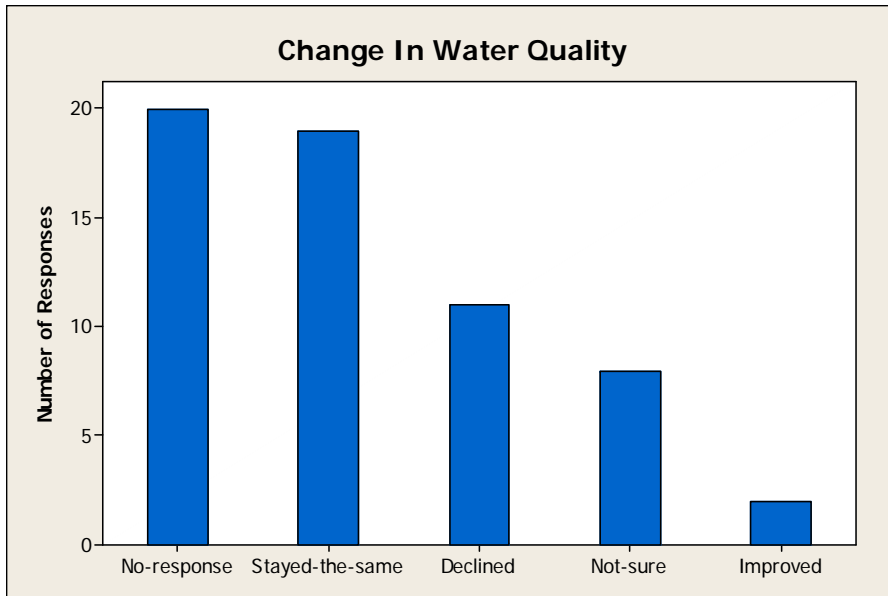
21. In your opinion, which statement best describes the current water quality in Spring Lake?

- Excellent (Clear most days, no scum present)
- Good (Clear most days, some scum present)
- Fair (Clear on some days, scum frequently present)
- Poor (Murky or scummy most of the time)
- Not Sure



22. In general, the water quality of Spring Lake has...?

- Improved
 Stayed the same
 Declined
 Not Sure



If it has improved, what do you feel has contributed to this?

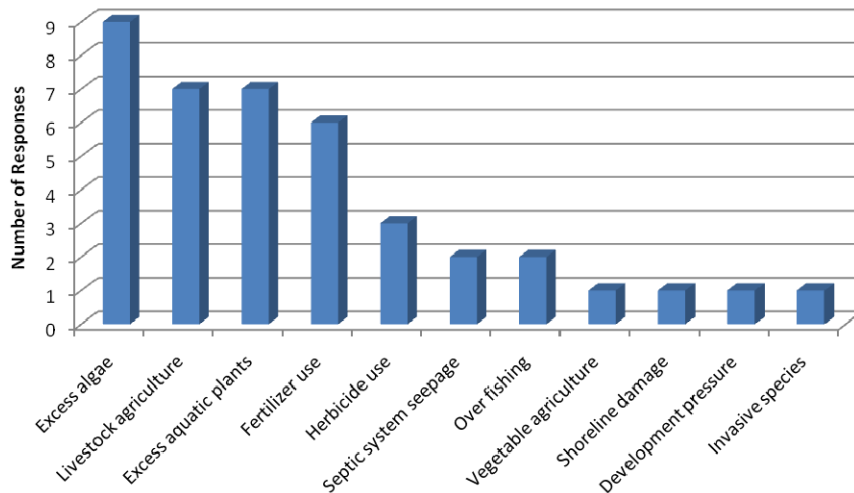
- We've not tilled our farm for many years, so use less fertilizer and less run off

If it has declined, what in your opinion are the primary causes?

(Check all that apply)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Loss of aquatic plants | <input type="radio"/> Septic system seepage | <input type="radio"/> Vegetable agriculture |
| <input type="radio"/> Shoreline damage | <input type="radio"/> Fertilizer use | <input type="radio"/> Livestock agriculture |
| <input type="radio"/> Over fishing | <input type="radio"/> Soil erosion | <input type="radio"/> Excess aquatic plants |
| <input type="radio"/> Development pressure | <input type="radio"/> Herbicide use | <input type="radio"/> Excess algae |
| <input type="radio"/> Heavy recreation use | <input type="radio"/> Air pollution | |
| <input type="radio"/> Other: _____ | | |

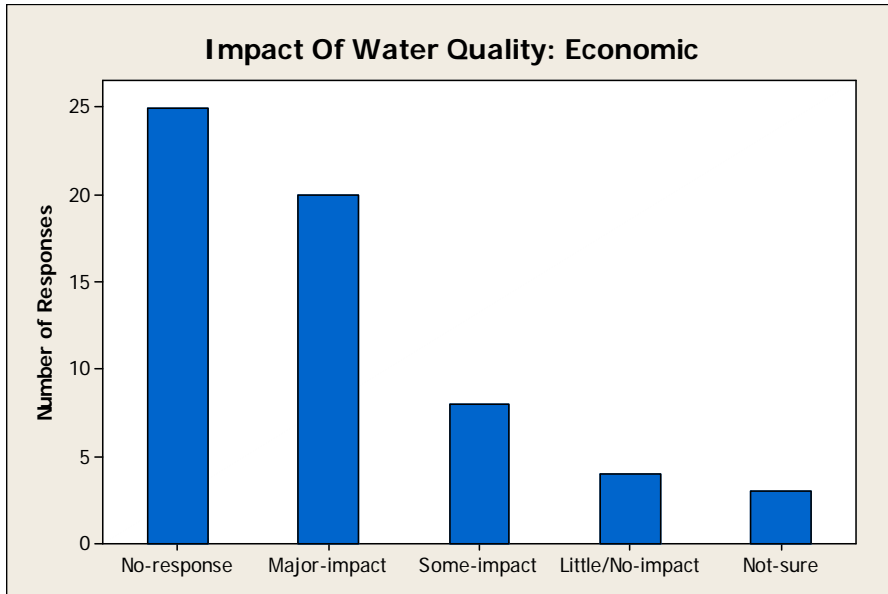
Contributors To Decline In Water Quality



23. How much impact does the water quality have on your perceived value of Spring Lake?

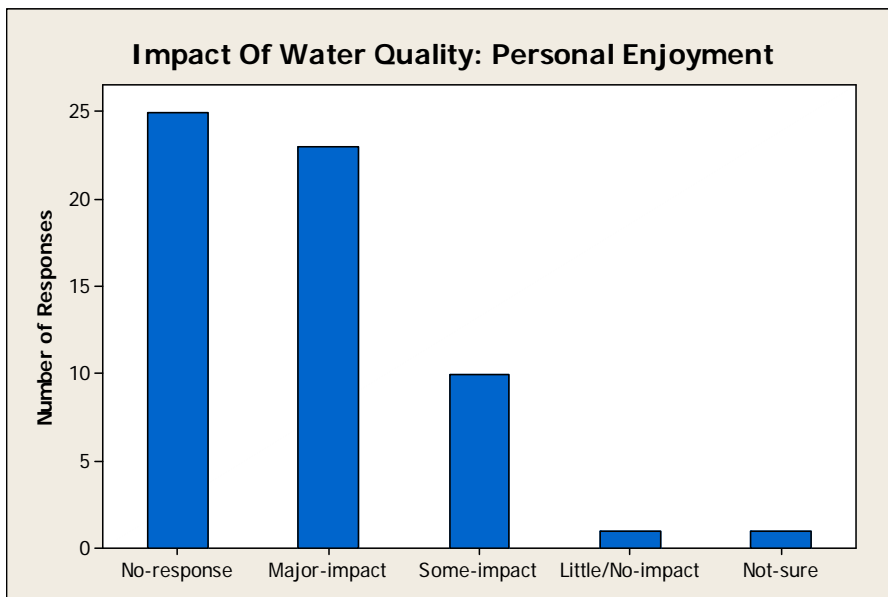
Economic

- Major impact Some impact Little or no impact Not sure



Personal enjoyment

- Major impact Some impact Little or no impact Not sure

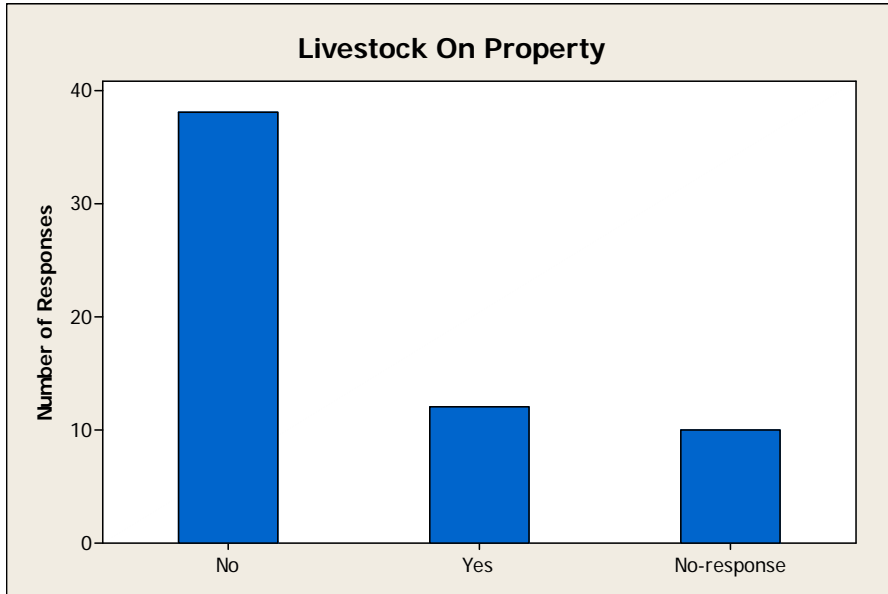


♦♦ WATERSHED LAND MANAGEMENT ♦♦

Please answer only if you live or own property anywhere in Spring Lake watershed, otherwise go to Question 31

24. Are there any livestock on your property

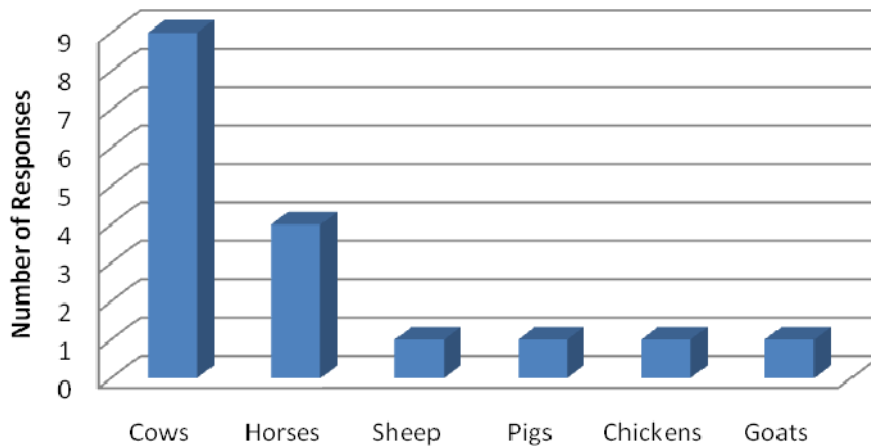
- Yes No? (If no, go to question 25)



If yes, what type of livestock is present? (Check all that apply)

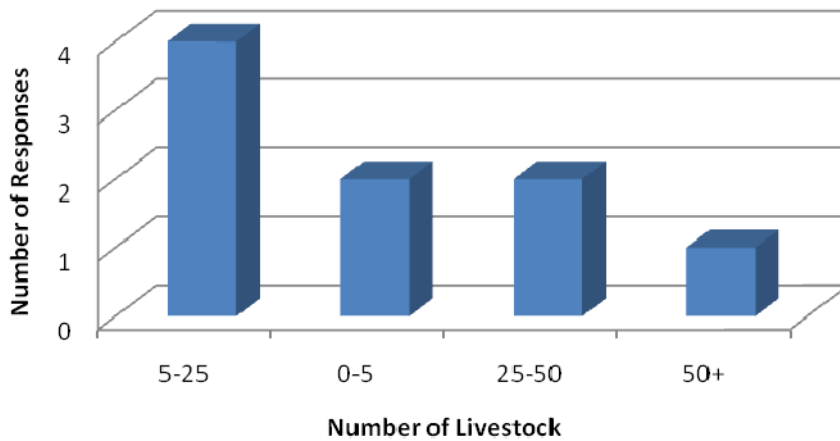
- Cows Sheep Other _____
 Horses Pig

Livestock Types



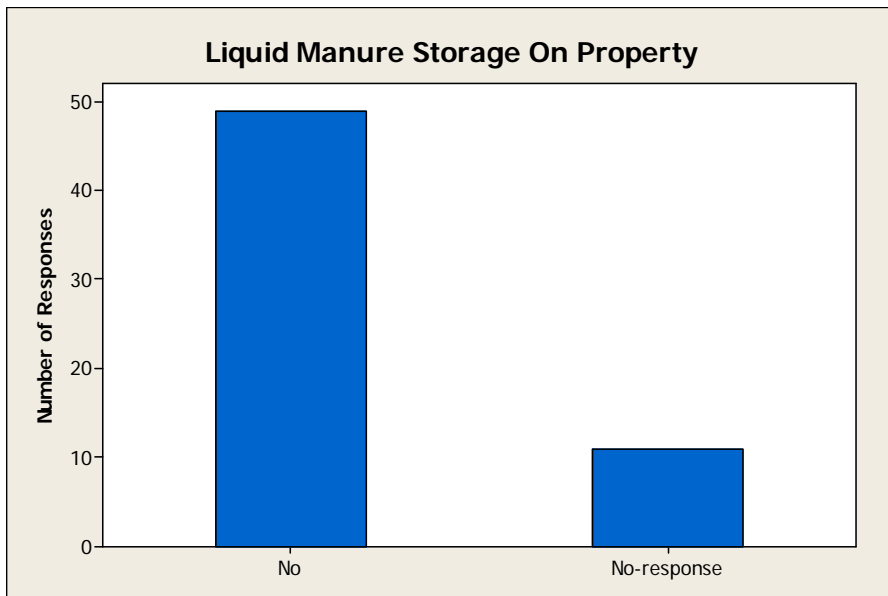
Approximately how many livestock are on the property? _____

Livestock Densities



25. Do you store any liquid manure on your property?

- Yes No (If no, go to question 26)



If yes, how is the liquid manure stored? (Check all that apply)

- Unlined lagoon Open tank Sealed covered tank
 Lined (clay or concrete) lagoon Tank below slatted floor Other _____

Approximately how many days of liquid manure production can you store?

- 100 or less 101 – 150 151-200 201 – 250 251 or more
 Not sure

How far are liquid manure storage facilities from the nearest waterbody/wetland?

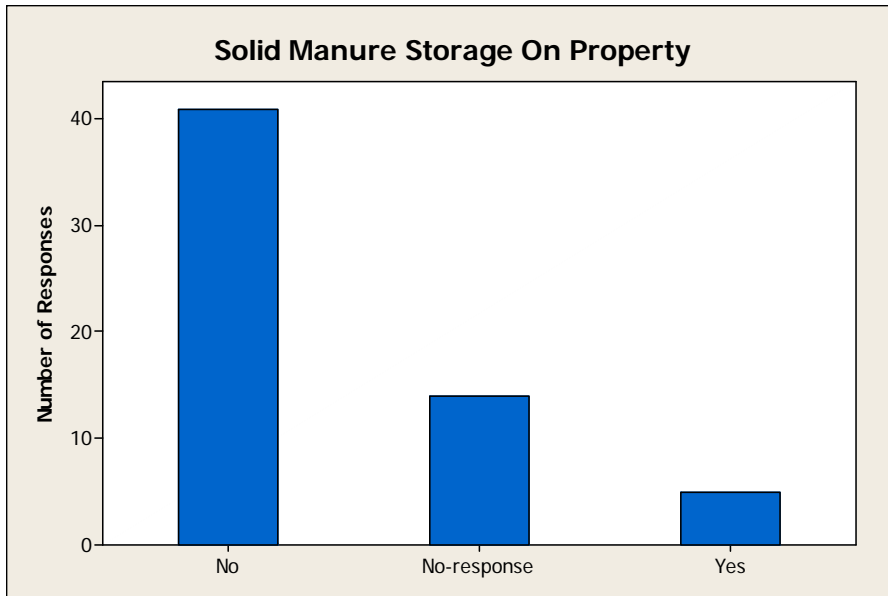
- 0 ft. – 50 ft. 51ft. – 100 ft. 101 ft. – 200 ft. More than 200 ft. Not sure

How far are liquid manure storage facilities from any well used for domestic purposes?

- 0 ft. – 50 ft. 51. – 100 ft. 101 ft. – 200 ft. More than 200 ft. Not sure

26. Do you store any solid manure on your property?

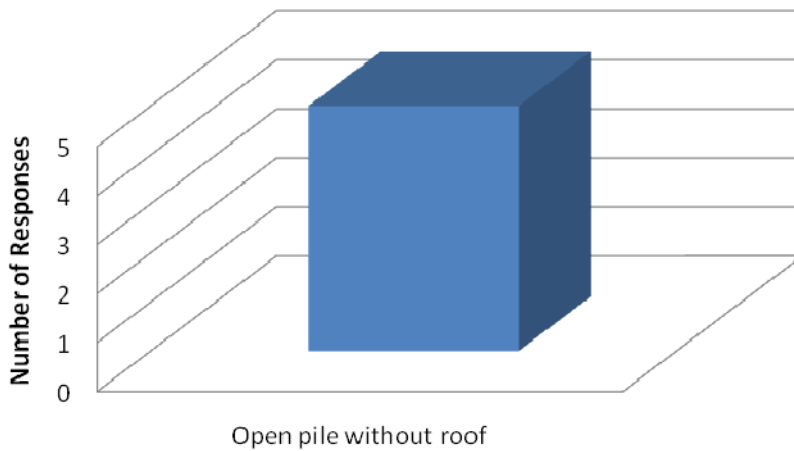
- Yes No (If no, go to question 27)



If yes, how is the solid manure stored? (Check all that apply)

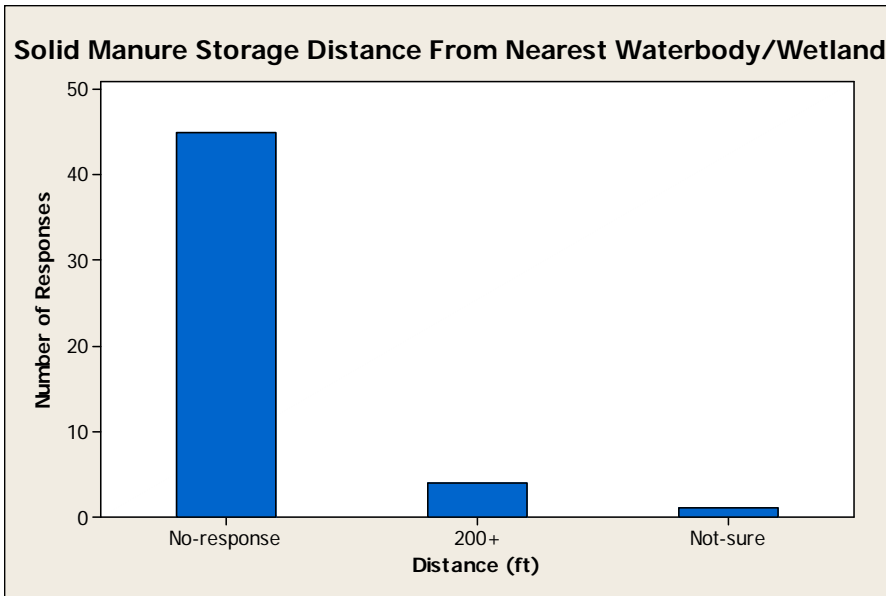
- Open pile without a roof Open pad without containment
 Open pile with a roof Open pad with containment
 Manure pack Covered storage pad
 Other _____

Type of Solid Manure Storage



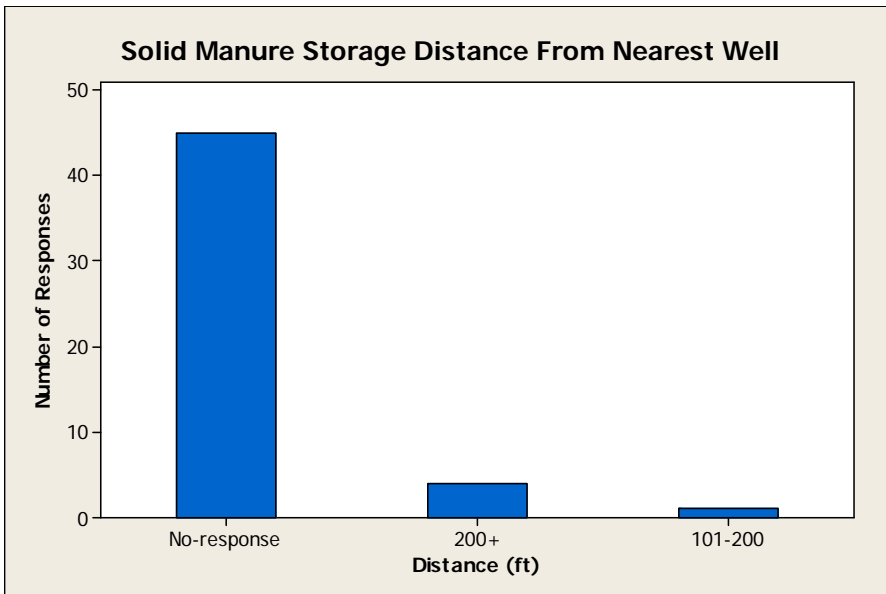
How far are solid manure storage facilities from the nearest waterbody/wetland?

- 0 ft. – 50 ft. 51ft. – 100 ft. 101 ft. – 200 ft. More than 200 ft. Not sure



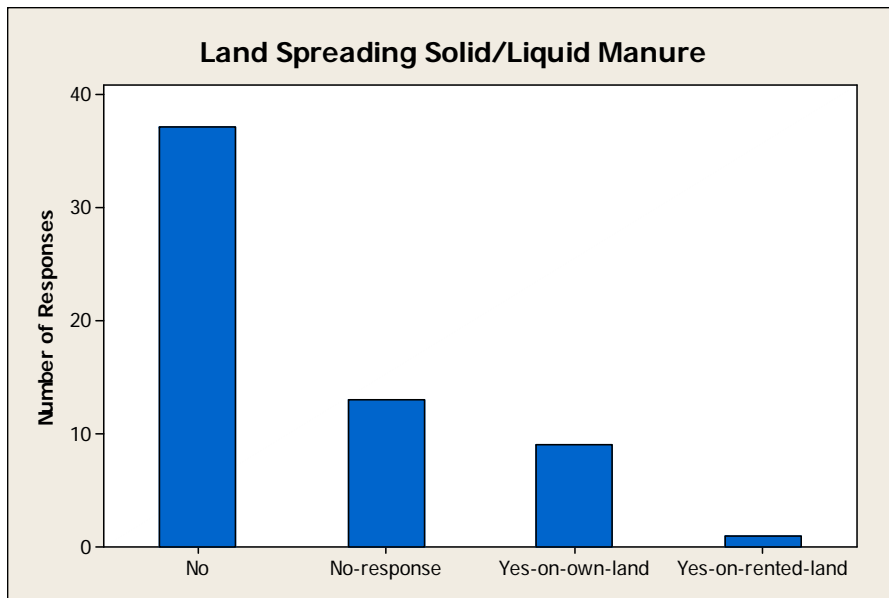
How far are solid manure storage facilities from any well used for domestic purposes?

- 0 ft. – 50 ft. 51ft. – 100 ft. 101 ft. – 200 ft. More than 200 ft. Not sure



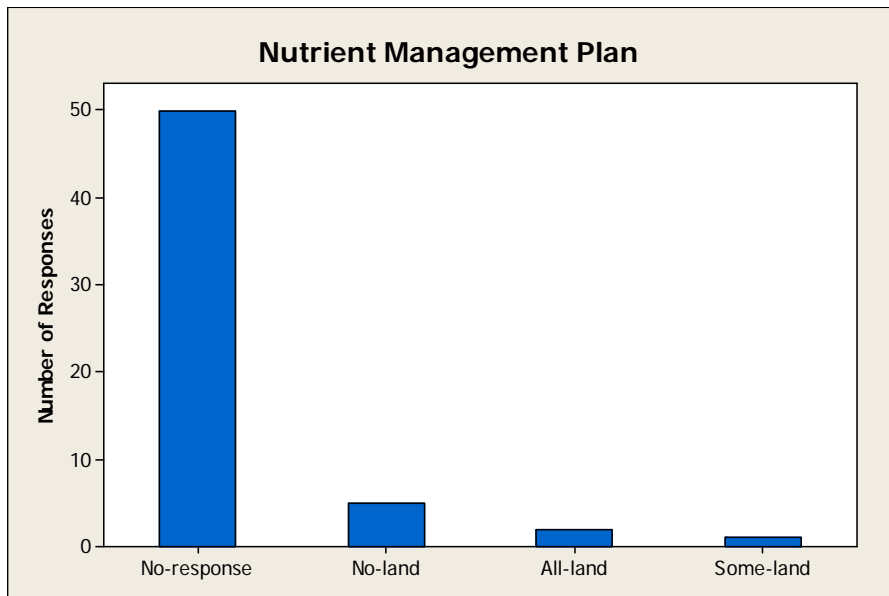
27. Do you land spread either your solid or liquid manure?

- Yes, on my own land Yes, on rented land No (If no, go to question 28)



I have a nutrient management plan on....

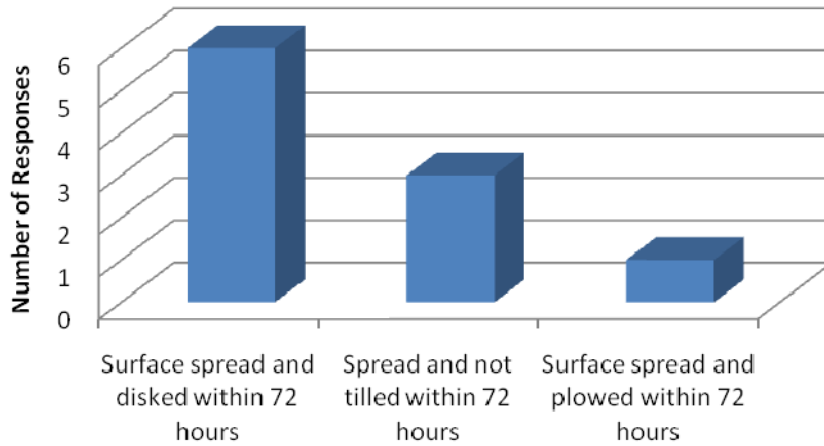
- All of the land I use for spreading Some of the land I use for spreading None of the land



How do you apply your manure? (Check all that apply)

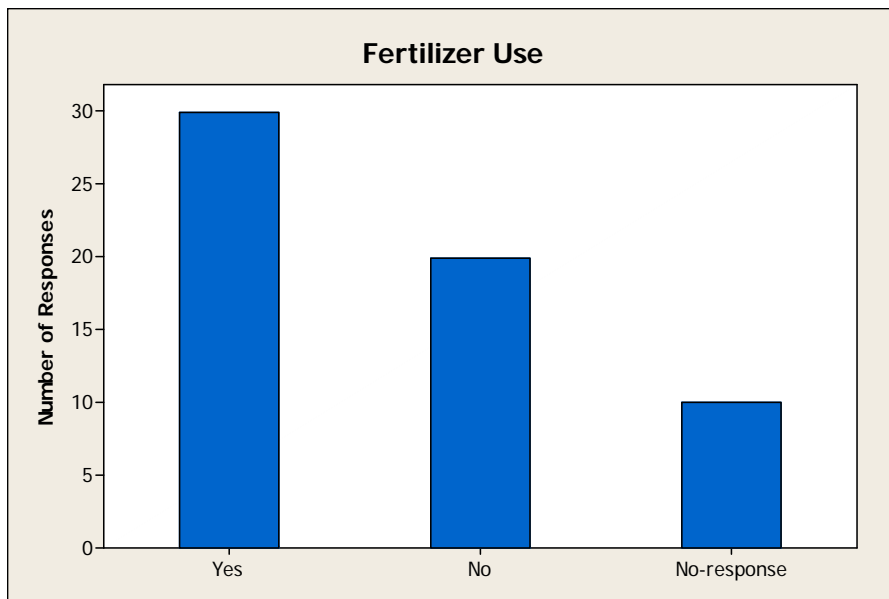
- Injected into the soil
- Surface spread and plowed under within 72 hours (chisel or moldboard)
- Surface spread and disked into the soil within 72 hours
- Spread and not tilled within 72 hours
- Other _____

Type Of Manure Application



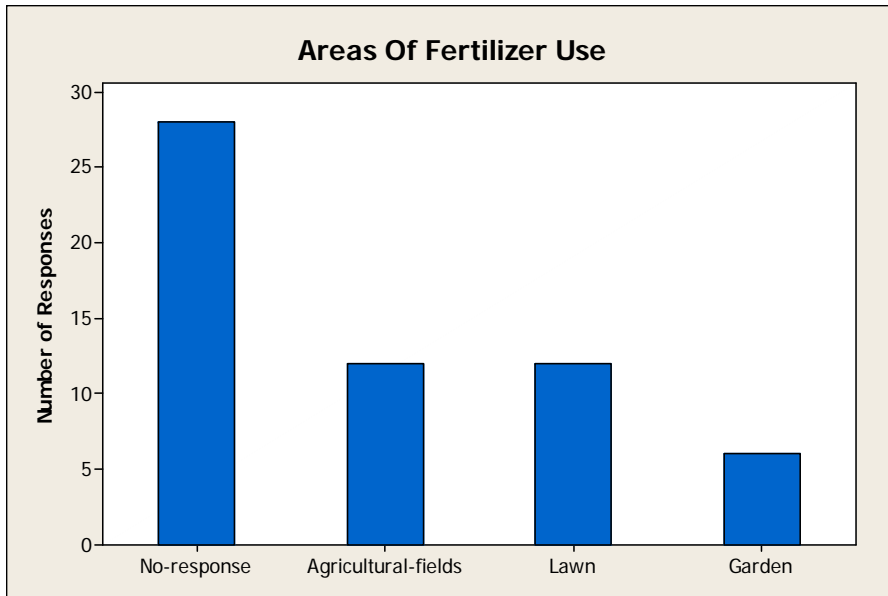
28. Do you use fertilizer?

- Yes
- No (if no, go to Question 29)



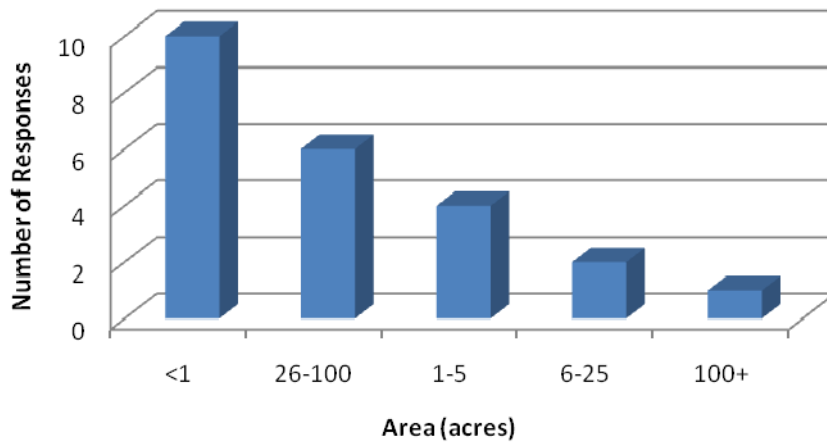
If yes, where?

- Agricultural fields Garden Lawn Other _____

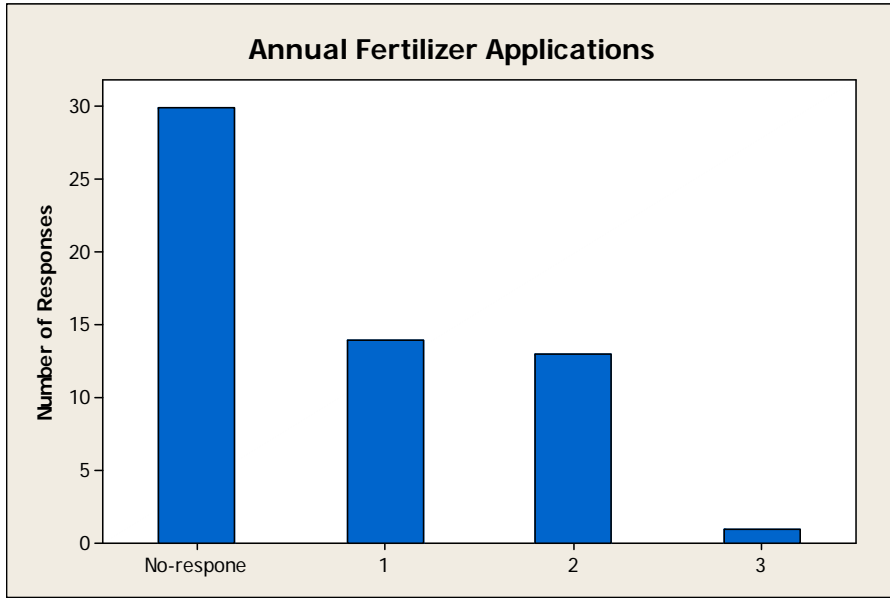


What is the size of the total area that is fertilized? _____ acres or _____ square feet

Size Of Fertilized Area

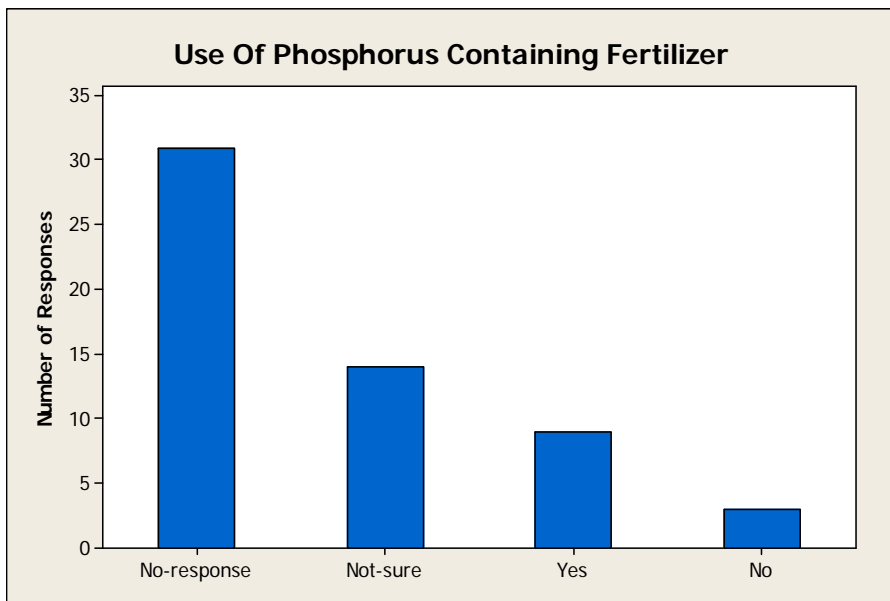


How many times per year do you apply fertilizer? _____



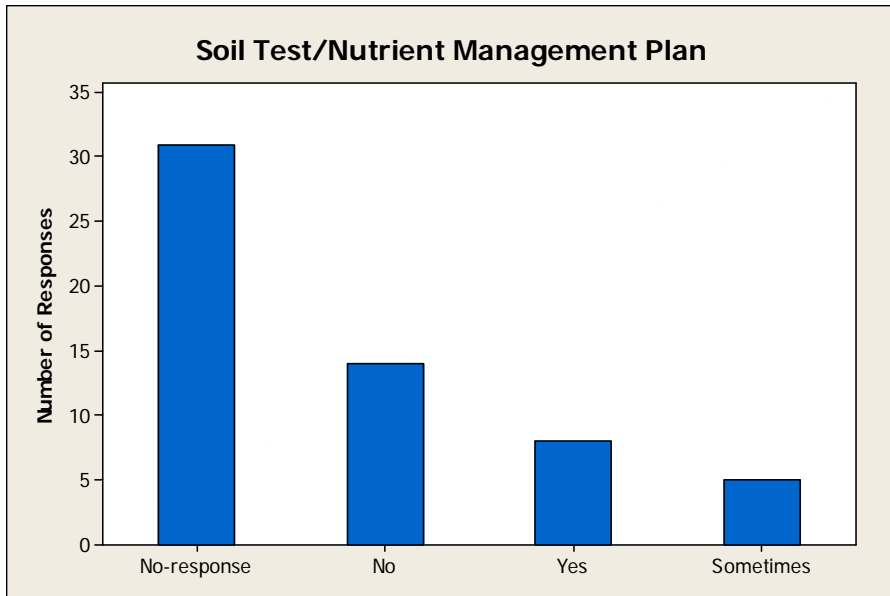
Do you use fertilizer which contains phosphorus?

- Yes No Not sure



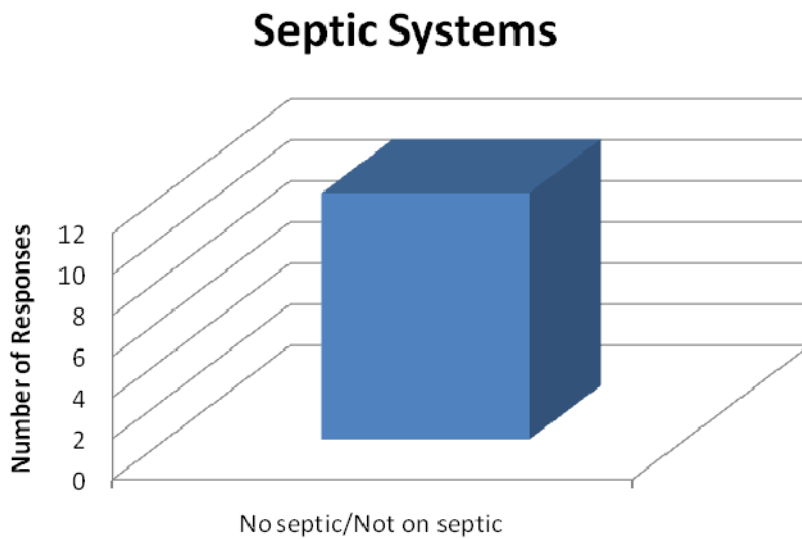
Do you test your soil or follow your nutrient management plan before applying fertilizer?

Yes, all of the time Yes, some of the time No, never

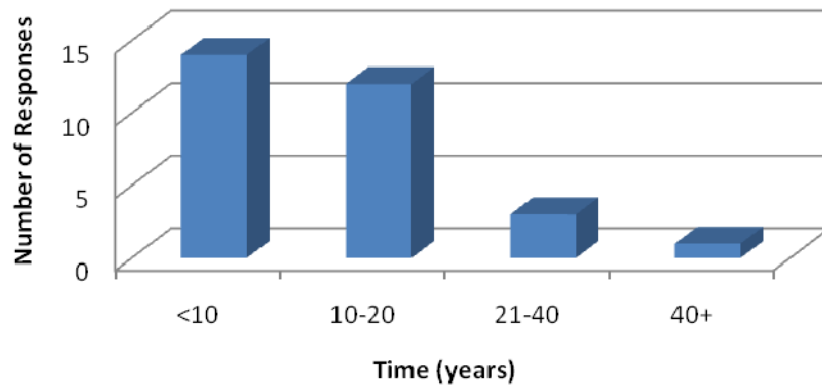


29. Do you know when your septic system was...

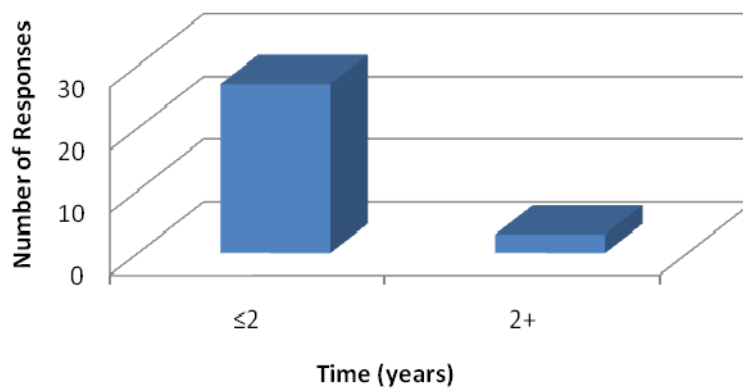
Installed ____ Years ago Last maintained ____ Years ago No septic/Not on septic



How Long Ago Was Your Septic System Installed?



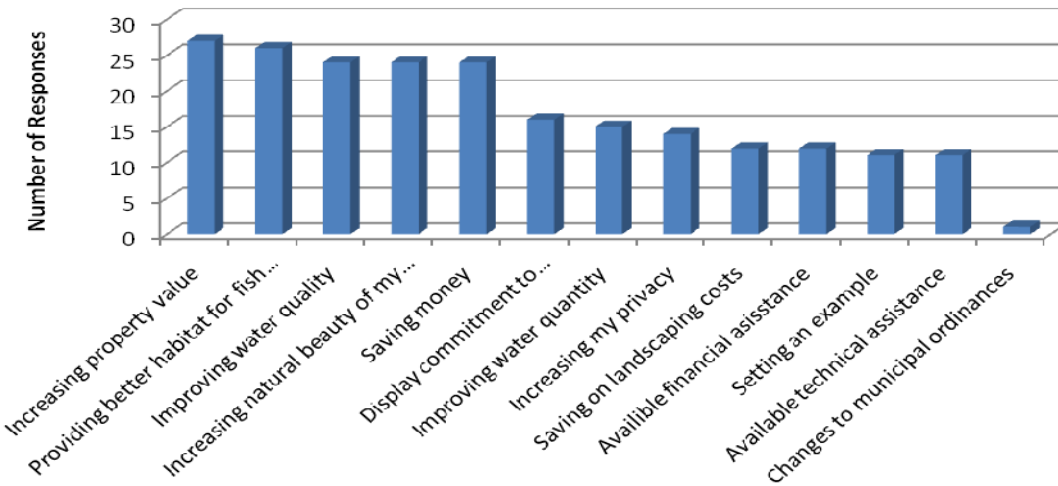
How Long Ago Was Your Septic System Maintained?



30. What might motivate you to change how you manage your land? (Check all that apply)

- Improving water quality
- Improving water quantity or saving water
- Providing better habitat for fish and wildlife
- Increasing the natural beauty of my property
- Displaying a commitment to the environment
- Available financial assistance
- Available technical assistance
- Setting an example for community members
- Savings on landscaping/maintenance costs
- Increasing my privacy
- Increasing my property value
- Saving money
- Changes to municipal ordinances
- Other _____

What Would Motivate You To Change How You Manage Your Land?

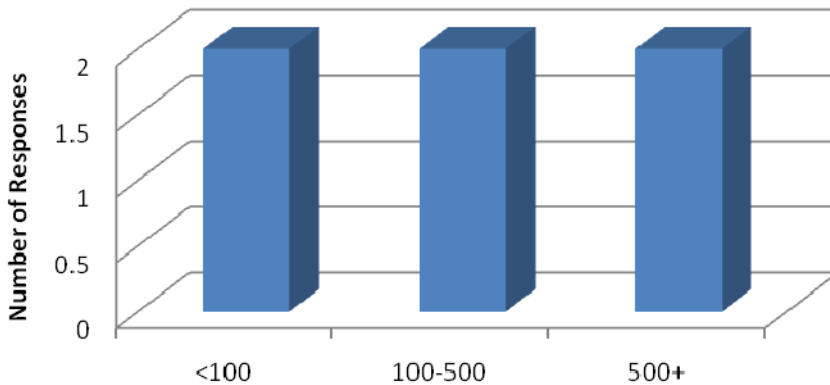


◆◆ SHORELAND MANAGEMENT ◆◆

Please answer only if you own shoreland property, otherwise go to **Question 35**

31. How many feet of lake frontage do you own? _____ feet

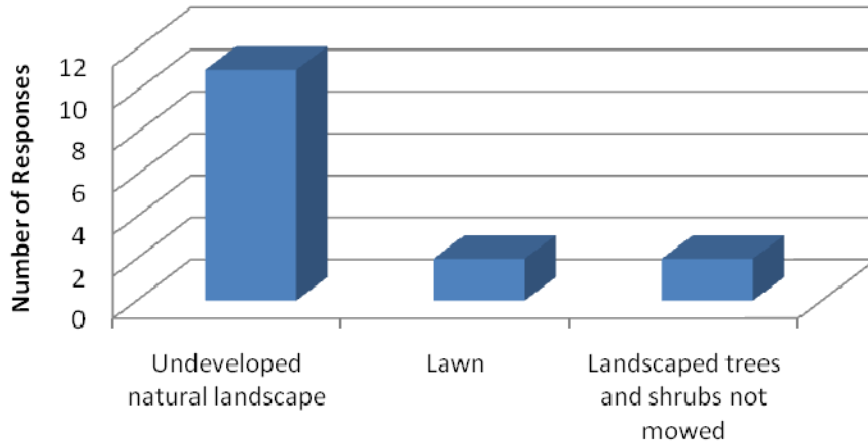
How Many Feet Of Lake Frontage Do You Own?



32. What best describes where your property meets the lake? (Check all that apply)

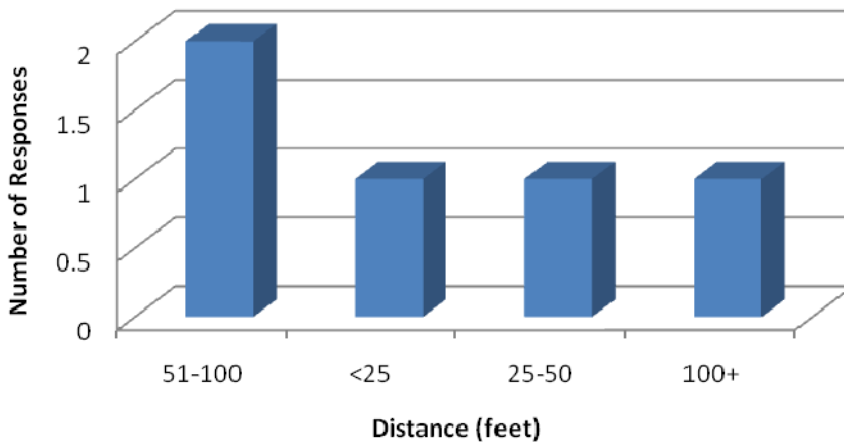
- Undeveloped natural landscape
- Lawn
- Landscaped trees and shrubs not mowed
- Rock Riprap for Stabilization
- Retaining Wall
- Boathouse or other building

Water/Land Interface Description



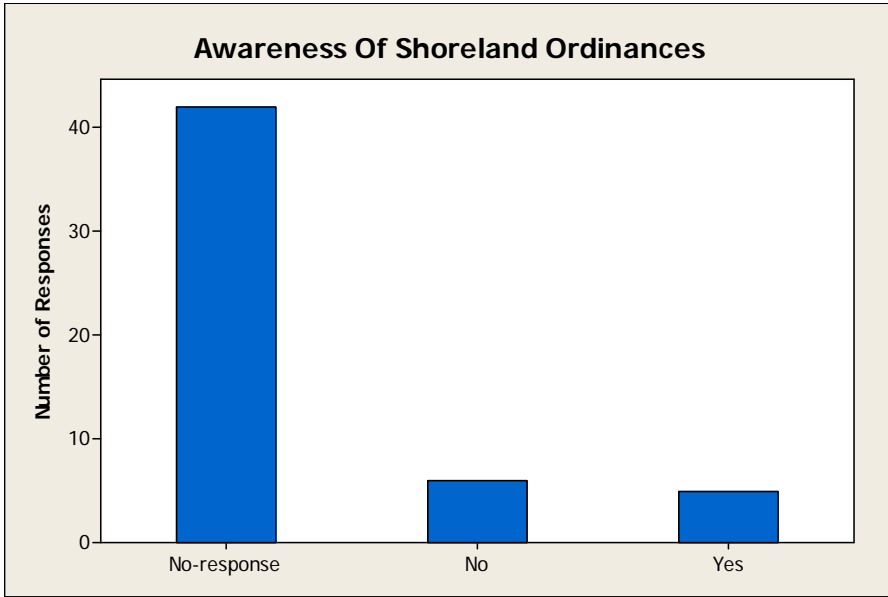
33. If you have a natural landscape or a combination of un-mowed vegetation with trees and shrubs, how far from the lakeshore on to the property does it extend? _____ feet

Length of Natural Buffer



34. Are you aware of the Portage County/State Shoreland Ordinances?

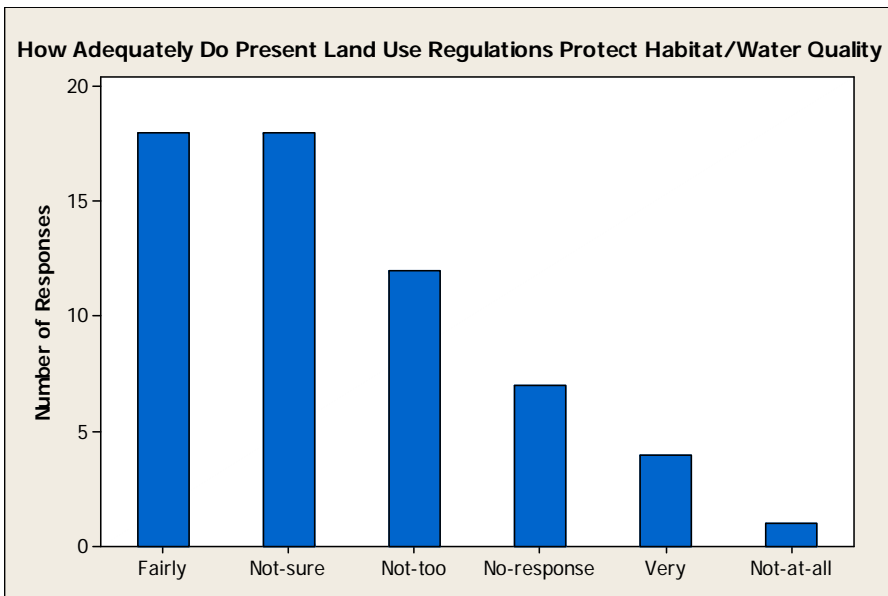
- Yes No



♦♦ GENERAL ♦♦

35. How adequately do you feel the present land use regulations protect habitat and water quality in the lake?

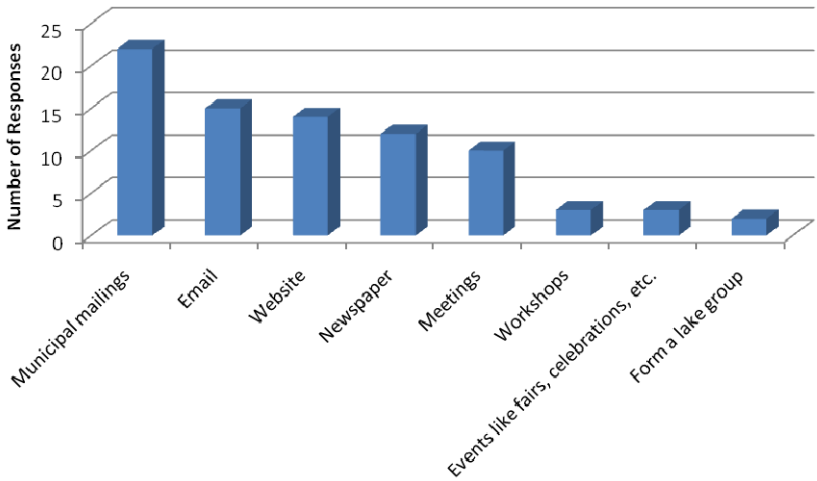
- Very adequate Fairly adequate Not too adequate Not at all adequate Not sure



**36. How would you like to receive information on planning and management activities for Spring Lake?
(Check all that apply)**

- Meetings
- Website
- Form a lake group
- Workshops
- Events like lake fairs, celebrations, etc
- Information in municipal mailings
- Newspaper
- E-mail
- Other _____

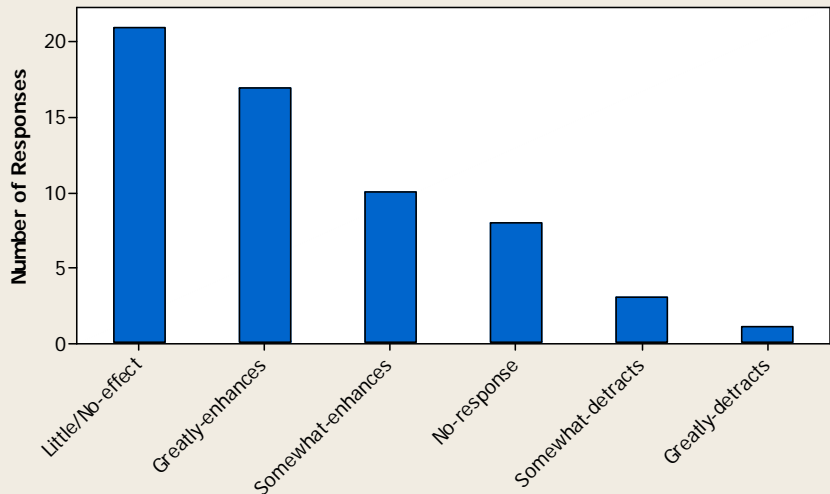
How Would You Like To Receive Information On Planning and Management Activities?



37. To what extent does publicly owned land around or near the lake enhance the overall quality of your lake experience?

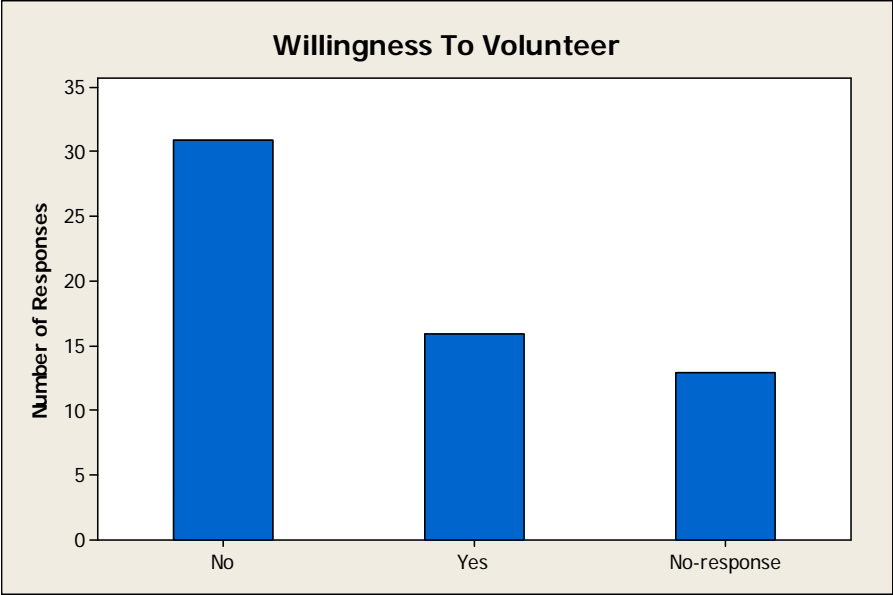
- Greatly enhances
- Somewhat enhances
- Little or no effect
- Somewhat detracts
- Greatly detracts

Effect Of Public Land On Lake Use



38. Many lakes around Wisconsin have stewardship groups that help to look after the lake. Some of their activities may include water quality monitoring, invasive species monitoring, boat launch inspection, etc. Since Spring Lake does not have a stewardship group, would you be willing to volunteer some time to participate in some of these activities?

- Yes
- No



39. What do you value most about Spring Lake?

- "Everything - this property (farm) has been in our family for 100+ (150) years, so you can see I believe that the shoreline shall be natural; swamp, trees, wildlife"
- "Fishing"
- "It's a wonderful lake (we don't live on it) we often drive to the lake - from both sides - and enjoy just looking at the lake and watching the fisherman"
- "Clean water, clean air, natural surroundings, not populated, quiet"
- "The property I own has been in the family for over 50 years. It is a sad time to see the carelessness of outsiders (over advertised) ruin the lake. The power company created an oak wilt situation by trimming the oaks during the summer months (6+ years ago), and the problem continues on adjoining properties"
- " The beauty and natural environment of the lake and surrounding area"
- " The scenic beauty and solitude plus the fishing experiences which were better years ago"
- " Wildlife habitat"
- " The wildlife it attracts"
- " The natural beauty of the lake. It's fairly undeveloped, its peaceful, quiet. There are 40 acres of public hunting/fishing land on its south side which I like because it won't be developed"
- " Privacy "
- " Quiet, wildlife "
- " Because we live on the creek, we value the quality of spring lake. We own 1800 feet of creek boundary, so we enjoy the beauty, wildlife, and recreation"
- " It feels like a wild lake - you don't really notice the homes. Peace and quiet. The bald eagles and wildlife"
- " Scenery, wildlife, and good and healthy quality of fish"
- " It's relatively undeveloped landscape"
- " Quiet "
- " I don't go there. Disabled"
- " It's relatively undeveloped shoreline"
- " It is spring fed and clean"
- " The clear water and solitude, wildlife"
- " It is a nice clean lake close to home to fish"
- " Minimal development, very scenic"
- " Pristine, eagles, fish"
- " The mostly undeveloped area around the lake and the variety of wildlife"
- " The quiet atmosphere that is close by"
- " It's peacefulness so close to home"
- " It hasn't been ruined by development"
- " Fishing"
- " I love to swim/snorkel there. I like to take my kid canoeing there. It is a beautiful lake that is walking distance from my house"
- "Good fishing and hunting"
- "I have only used the lake a couple of times, but it is nice to have lakes nearby"

40. In your opinion, what should be done to restore, maintain, or improve Spring Lake?

Please use the backside of this survey if you need more space.

- "Maintain dam downstream; keep at proper level. Have state land marked better - I hear folks on my land, that have entered through state land"
- "Improve Pickerel and Wolf lakes so that there is not over crowding on Spring lake"
- "Open to ideas"
- " I have observed several activities on the lake that has disturbed me. Since I visit the lake generally on weekends #1. There was a large boat speeding several times around the lake (no wake lake), 2-3 times getting stuck in shallow waters. #2. One occasion of a boater standing in his boat along my shoreline (front yard) urinating. Disgusting! #3. Driving vehicles on the lake [should be unlawful to do so]"
- " Owner is 95 y/o. Property in watershed, currently using for pulp wood and hunting. 40 acres"
- " 1- weed control. 2- Better boat launch areas around my pier. It's very weedy and muck. Water level very low"
- " I'm not sure what needs to be done to the lake proper in order to restore a higher quality to it. What is a real sore spot for me is that for years we (my folks and I inherited the property) were able to have a trailer on the land which we used for camping and recreation on the site. Now we cannot even camp there, no trailer allowed anymore, and so the land is useless to me. It's zoned as farmland, so no camping. I will probably sell the land some day and say good-bye to Spring Lake. Some so-called county officials need to wake up!"
- " Regulation on agricultural irrigation practices, particularly the timing of irrigation. I see many fields being irrigated in the middle of a hot day. It seems to me that a lot of groundwater could be conserved by restricting irrigation to early morning or late evening when there is less chance for evaporation and waste"
- " Strict zoning!"
- " Posting a no wake/or making it a no motor lake would be a great start, and trying to get a handle on the algae problem would be great. As far as the weed type taking over the lake, I don't know if there is anything to do about it"
- " I would like to see a public park area at the lake with tables and fire pits and swings for the kids"
- " Weed control. Pesticides and animal waste control"
- " Control the development along its shores. Monitor the spring farm run-off, the way the fields are spread with manure"
- " Maintain shoreland buffers - educate landowners if possible . Buy adjacent property for public and protection. Don't build in wetlands. Reduce impacts from agriculture"
- " No more houses. Keep an eye on plant growth. Check water quality. Good fishery - hopefully we can keep it that way"
- " Try to control the weeds/algae on the west end during the summer months."
- " Improved boat landing. Buy vacant lot at end of road and make into park."
- " Make a park"
- " Offer the farmer who allows free access to his cattle to overgraze the tributary stream (on county K) technical and financial assistance to fence the cattle out of the wetlands and properly rotate them. NRCS has programs and staff for this. This would greatly reduce the phosphorus delivery!"
- " Slow the use of groundwater by all farms"
- " Removal of some weeds"
- " Nothing"
- " Less agricultural runoff = less algae bloom during summer!"
- " Limit the boats to no wake or trolling motors only. Limit baits or no live baits. Have a boat wash station with mandatory use before entering the lake the station should be a good 1/4 mile away from the lake to prevent direct drainage back to the lake"

- " More monitoring of manure spreading on close fields between November and April, to control runoff better"
- " Get cattle out of tributary areas"
- " We need to be sure it is protected from farm runoff. We need to keep invasive species at bay"
- "Runoff"
- "I used to have a small pond behind my land. Now that ground is down it is no longer there. It brought a lot of wildlife right to my back door. Except for the past two winters our snowfall has been way down and we haven't been getting enough rain. When we have a trend like this the state needs to regulate the amount of irrigating farmers do, because not just Spring Lake but most of the lakes around me are down or gone"