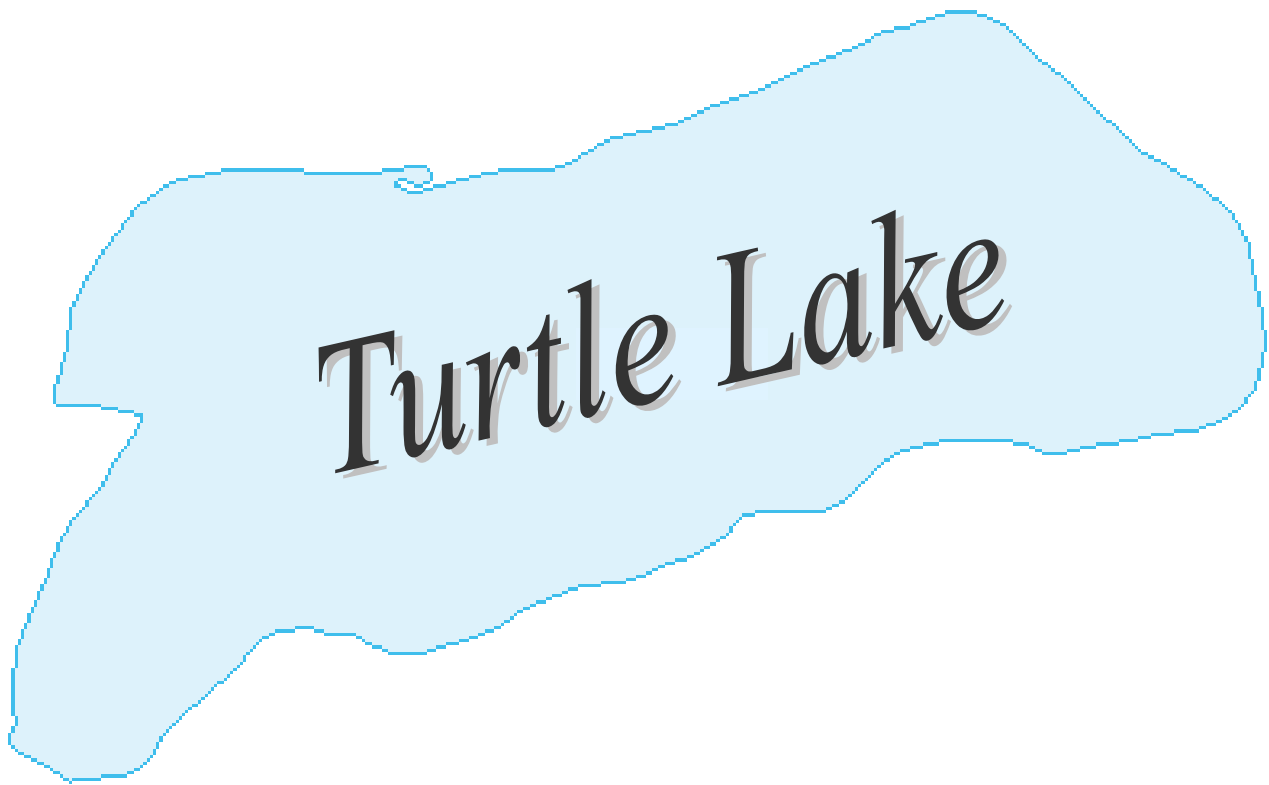


Walworth County
Lake Landowner Survey
Results 2005



2005 Turtle Lake Landowner Survey Results

(17 surveys – percentage relative to responses)

1. Lake Name **Turtle**
2. Are you a full time resident? **Yes 5 (29.4%) No 12 (70.6%)**
3. Do you live on or off the lake? **On 16 (94.1%) Off 1 (5.9%)**
4. How long have you owned property on or near a lake in Walworth County? **Ave. 36.6 yrs (3-100)**
5. If you are a part-time resident, approximately how often are you in residence?
 - a. less than 3 months per year **1 (10.0%)**
 - b. 4-6 months per year **1 (10.0%)**
 - c. more than 6 months per year **0 (0.0%)**
 - d. mostly weekends **8 (80.0%)**
6. Do you have any plans to become a full-time Walworth County lake residence at some future date?
Yes 5 (55.6%) No 4 (44.4%)
7. Please tell us which lake protection groups are associated with your lake?
 - a. Lake Association **11 (42.3%)**
 - b. Lake District **0 (0.0%)**
 - c. Lake Improvement/Protective **7 (26.9%)**
 - d. Land Conservancy **1 (3.8%)**
 - e. Sanitary District **1 (3.8%)**
 - f. Property/Home Owners Association **6 (23.1%)**
 - g. Other (please list) **0 (0.0%)**
8. Which, if any, of the groups listed above are you a member of?
 - a. Lake Association **10 (52.6%)**
 - b. Lake District **0 (0.0%)**
 - c. Lake Improvement/Protective **5 (26.3%)**
 - d. Land Conservancy **1 (5.3%)**
 - e. Sanitary District **0 (0.0%)**
 - f. Property/Home Owners Association **3 (15.8%)**
 - g. Other (please list) **0 (0.0%)**
9. What are the three (3) primary reasons you bought property on your lake?
 - a. Boating **7 (14.6%)**
 - b. Fishing **7 (14.6%)**
 - c. Swimming **5 (10.4%)**
 - d. Water Skiing **3 (6.3%)**
 - e. Jet Skiing **0 (0.0%)**
 - f. Non-motorized boating **0 (0.0%)**
 - g. Natural scenic beauty/Relaxation **10 (20.8%)**
 - h. Investment **4 (8.3%)**
 - i. Get away from the big city **7 (14.6%)**
 - j. Other **5 (10.4%)**

provide place for grandchildren, inherited, parents, family property, inherited

10. Which of the following do you feel curtails your enjoyment of the lake?

	No Problem	Minor Problem	Serious Problem	No Opinion
Excessive algae	5 29.4%	9 52.9%	0 0.0%	3 17.6%
Poor overall water quality	11 64.7%	3 17.6%	0 0.0%	3 17.6%
Litter on shoreline	8 47.1%	5 29.4%	1 5.9%	3 17.6%
Strange odors/tastes	14 82.4%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	3 17.6%
Debris/obstacles in water	11 64.7%	3 17.6%	0 0.0%	3 17.6%
Oil/Gas film	12 70.6%	2 11.8%	0 0.0%	3 17.6%
Fish kills	7 41.2%	6 35.3%	0 0.0%	4 23.5%
Unwanted fish species	7 41.2%	6 35.3%	0 0.0%	4 23.5%
Excessive aquatic weeds	5 29.4%	6 35.3%	3 17.6%	3 17.6%
Excessive floating weeds (left from harvesting operation)	13 76.5%	1 5.9%	0 0.0%	3 17.6%
Increased number of structures takes away from the natural scenic beauty of the lake	11 64.7%	1 5.9%	2 11.8%	3 17.6%
Excessive development around lake	8 47.1%	4 23.5%	2 11.8%	3 17.6%
Excessive sediment deposited into lake	8 47.1%	3 17.6%	3 17.6%	3 17.6%
Lake level too high/low	0 0.0%	1 5.9%	14 82.4%	2 11.8%
Too many geese	0 0.0%	3 17.6%	13 76.5%	1 5.9%
Exotic Invasive Species	5 29.4%	3 17.6%	6 35.3%	3 17.6%
Excessive Boat Traffic	7 41.2%	4 23.5%	3 17.6%	3 17.6%
Decline in Boating Safety	7 41.2%	1 5.9%	5 29.4%	4 23.5%
Limited Access/Parking	10 58.8%	0 0.0%	1 5.9%	6 35.3%
Other (please list)	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	2 11.8%	15 88.2%

List: # of slips allowed for businesses, jet ski

11. Which of the following do you feel are a problem for the water quality of the lake?

	No Problem	Minor Problem	Serious Problem	No Opinion
Excessive algae	8 47.1%	5 29.4%	1 5.9%	3 17.6%
Fish kills	7 41.2%	4 23.5%	1 5.9%	5 29.4%
Litter on shoreline	9 52.9%	4 23.5%	1 5.9%	3 17.6%
Debris/obstacles in water	10 58.8%	3 17.6%	1 5.9%	3 17.6%
Oil/Gas film	10 58.8%	4 23.5%	0 0.0%	3 17.6%

Excessive aquatic weeds	6 35.3%	5 29.4%	3 17.6%	3 17.6%
Excessive floating weeds (left from harvesting operation)	13 76.5%	1 5.9%	0 0.0%	3 17.6%
Lack of wetland preservation	9 52.9%	1 5.9%	3 17.6%	4 23.5%
Excessive sediment deposited into lake	11 64.7%	2 11.8%	1 5.9%	3 17.6%
Lake level too high/low	2 11.8%	1 5.9%	13 76.5%	1 5.9%
Too many geese/waterfowl	2 11.8%	2 11.8%	12 70.6%	1 5.9%
Exotic Invasive Species	5 29.4%	3 17.6%	6 35.3%	3 17.6%
Soil erosion	8 47.1%	4 23.5%	0 0.0%	5 29.4%
Dog/pet waste	10 58.8%	3 17.6%	0 0.0%	4 23.5%
Other – please list	0 0.0%	1 5.9%	3 17.6%	13 76.5%

List: *failing septic systems, see notes – end, septic systems, drainage pipe too low*

12. Below is list of causes of water quality problems. Please indicate to what extent each one contributes to the decline of water quality on your lake.

	Strongly Contributes	Moderately Contributes	Does not Contribute	Don't know
Lawn fertilizers/pesticides	3 17.6%	3 17.6%	2 11.8%	9 52.9%
Removal of natural shoreline vegetation	3 17.6%	4 23.5%	2 11.8%	8 47.1%
Soil erosion – shoreline	1 5.9%	4 23.5%	4 23.5%	8 47.1%
Soil erosion - residential	0 0.0%	4 23.5%	3 17.6%	10 58.8%
Soil erosion – farm fields	1 5.9%	1 5.9%	4 23.5%	11 64.7%
Soil erosion - construction	1 5.9%	2 11.8%	3 17.6%	11 64.7%
Stormwater runoff	5 29.4%	2 11.8%	3 17.6%	7 41.2%
Septic Systems	3 17.6%	3 17.6%	1 5.9%	10 58.8%
Geese/waterfowl waste	9 52.9%	3 17.6%	1 5.9%	4 23.5%
Pet waste	0 0.0%	3 17.6%	4 23.5%	10 58.8%
Grass clippings/leaves	1 5.9%	3 17.6%	4 23.5%	9 52.9%
Street salt/sand	0 0.0%	2 11.8%	4 23.5%	11 64.7%
Improper disposal of oils and chemicals	0 0.0%	1 5.9%	3 17.6%	13 76.5%
Litter	1 5.9%	6 35.3%	3 17.6%	7 41.2%
Carp/bottom fish churning up bottom sediments	1 5.9%	7 41.2%	3 17.6%	6 35.3%
Boats bringing in exotic species	7 41.2%	3 17.6%	1 5.9%	6 35.3%
Accidental spills of oil or gas by boats	0 0.0%	2 11.8%	3 17.6%	12 70.6%

List: low water - damaged dam

13. Does your lake protection group promote any of the following lake best management practices?

- a. Maintain/install native vegetative buffer on lakeshore **11 (18.3%)**
 - b. Limit mowing adjacent to the shoreline **11 (18.3%)**
 - c. Protecting against soil erosion **8 (13.3%)**
 - d. Limit use of chemical (especially phosphorous) lawn care products **12 (20.0%)**
 - e. Raingardens and basins to control and filter stormwater runoff **3 (5.0%)**
 - f. Limit amount of impervious surfaces **5 (8.3%)**
 - g. Exotic species prevention **10 (16.7%)**
 - h. Others **0 (0.0%)** please list
-

14. Are you familiar with the Shoreland Zoning Regulations for your property?

Yes 13 (76.5%) No 4 (23.5%)

15. How effective do you think current shoreland regulation efforts are at protecting water quality?

Very effective **3 (17.6%)** Very ineffective **2 (11.8%)**
 Somewhat effective **6 (35.3%)** No opinion **5 (29.4%)**
 Somewhat ineffective **1 (5.9%)**

16. Are you aware that Walworth County offers technical assistance and educational opportunities, which are available for lakeshore landowners? **Yes 11 (64.7%) No 6 (35.3%)**

17. Have you ever taken advantage of this assistance? **Yes 7 (41.2%) No 10 (58.8%)**

18. Would you be interested in taking advantage of this assistance? **Yes 9 (64.3%) No 5 (35.7%)**

19. How effective do you believe current educational efforts are at protecting water quality?

Very effective **4 (23.5%)**
 Somewhat effective **4 (23.5%)**
 Somewhat ineffective **2 (11.8%)**
 Very ineffective **0 (0.0%)**
 No opinion **7 (41.2%)**

20. To what extent are the following actions needed to deal with your concerns for the lake?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Opinion
Conduct a whole lake study and develop lake management plan	10 58.8%	1 5.9%	1 5.9%	5 29.4%
Conduct an aquatic plant survey	6 35.3%	3 17.6%	1 5.9%	7 41.2%
Conduct a study of land uses in the watershed	7 41.2%	4 23.5%	1 5.9%	5 29.4%
Provide more education about environmentally friendly land use practices	10 58.8%	4 23.5%	1 5.9%	2 11.8%

Provide residents with technical assistance to reduce shoreline erosion	10 58.8%	3 17.6%	1 5.9%	3 17.6%
Promote methods to reduce soil erosion	10 58.8%	2 11.8%	1 5.9%	4 23.5%
Promote methods to reduce stormwater runoff	7 41.2%	6 35.3%	1 5.9%	3 17.6%
Increase enforcement of boating laws	11 64.7%	3 17.6%	1 5.9%	2 11.8%
Stock fish	8 47.1%	5 29.4%	0 0.0%	4 23.5%
Better enforcement of current zoning and land disturbance ordinances	8 47.1%	3 17.6%	2 11.8%	4 23.5%
Develop stronger zoning and land disturbance regulations for lake development	8 47.1%	4 23.5%	1 5.9%	4 23.5%

21. What lake protection or management activities or programs would you recommend that the County undertake, improve or promote? *Not enough resources to enforce regulations; Lakes are huge factor in the economic health of Wal. Co. and all supervisors need to spend more time/effort protecting lakeshores from development; Audrey Greene must be kept as Lakes Person, Keep Audrey Greene as the Lake Specialist for Walworth County. Her help has been invaluable to our lake and membership, Decreased water level; run-off from farm fields into stream leading to lake with increased weed production; what to do about increased sediment buildup - thank you, repair dam on South side of lake to stop the runoff and low lake level - Lake has lost 1 ft. in last 20 years, I am very concerned about the lake levels which continue to drop. Jet skis are a problem- very dangerous in the summer on a small lake, Talk to Richmond Township about taking out the huge drainpipe under Turtle Lake Rd because the pipe is way to low and drains the lake excessively., our water quality is fine, more education is still needed - as people become more educated the compliance has increased; continue support for Walworth County Lake Assn. And their activities. More promotion needed, more boating enforcement - great personnel but seriously understaffed, The problem lies with the drainage on Turtle Lake Rd done by the Township, which has been proven to be too low grade allowing excess water to be siphoned off. Drainage ditch on my property allows runoff from hill area; debris floats into NE shoreline & is deposited - that with low water levels makes the shoreline need dredging, must educate the weekend warriors rather than property owners; water safety-speed regulation; protection from large developments; monitor boats for exotics; jet ski regulation, help with lake levels*