

LAKE REGION COMMUNITY OPINION SURVEY

SUMMARY OF RESULTS - LAKE TOWNSHIP (PERMANENT RESIDENTS ONLY)

Lake, Palmyra (Wayne) and Paupack Townships, together with Hawley Borough, are preparing a Comprehensive Plan. We need your help! Your name has been chosen at random to receive a community survey being sent to only 10% of all voters and taxpayers. Your participation is, therefore, crucial.

This survey is intended to assess your feelings about your Township and your expectations about the future. Please keep this in mind when answering the survey questions. You should read the entire survey before you begin to answer the questions. Some questions ask for only one response while others ask for multiple answers. Also, if more than one person in your household would like to respond to the opinion questions, please feel free to pick up an additional survey form at the Municipal Buildings or visit the project website at: www.shepstone.net/LakeRegion.

Please return it in the enclosed pre-addressed, postage paid, envelope as soon as possible. Surveys mailed after March 15 cannot be included in the results. The data will be COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL and will be tabulated by our consultants. Public meetings are planned for the near future to present the results.

1)

Which of these communities do you reside in? (Check for primary residence)	
200	Lake Township
	Palmyra Township
	Paupack Township
	Hawley Borough

2)

How many years in total have you lived in this community?		How many years in total have you lived in this County?	
32	Less than 5 years	28	Less than 5 years
26	5 to 9 years	26	5 to 9 years
30	10 to 14 years	27	10 to 14 years
19	15 to 19 years	17	15 to 19 years
16	20 to 24 years	12	20 to 24 years
77	25+ years	90	25+ years
0	None - 2nd home owner	0	None - 2nd home owner

3)

How much land do you own in this community?	
1	None, I rent
99	Less than 2 acres of land
58	2 to 5 acres
7	6 to 9 acres
7	10 to 19 acres
16	20 to 49 acres
8	50 to 99 acres
3	100 to 149 acres
1	150 to 199 acres
0	More than 200 acres

4)

What MOST influenced your ORIGINAL decision to live here? (Please check no more than 3)		What are the PRIMARY reasons you CONTINUE to live here? (Please check no more than 3)	
77	Affordable housing costs	55	Affordable housing costs
72	Born or raised here	53	Born or raised here
22	Close to friends/relatives	75	Close to friends/relatives
26	Close to work	23	Close to work
32	Low crime rate	37	Low crime rate
57	Low taxes	56	Low taxes
6	Quality of schools	15	Quality of schools
2	Quality of services	8	Quality of services
120	Rural atmosphere	138	Rural atmosphere

5)

Which of the following statements BEST describes your opinion of how the community you live in has changed since the time you first moved here? (Please check only ONE)	
33	The Township has become a more desirable place to live.
62	The Township has become a less desirable place to live.
84	The Township has not changed noticeably in its desirability as a place to live.
15	I have not lived here long enough to form an opinion.

6)

What do you like LEAST about the community? (Please check no more than 3)			
78	Cost of services/taxes	87	Increased density of population
7	Housing costs	62	Lack of job opportunities
43	Lack of cultural/recreation	18	Lack of land use regulation
18	Quality of services	63	Lack of shopping opportunities
49	Transportation difficulties	31	Too much regulation now

		1	2	3	4	5	
7)	Please rate the importance of each of these aspects of the community's environment to your personal quality of life: (Circle your rating for each, using the following guide) 1 = Not that important 2 = Slightly important 3 = Moderately important 4 = Very important 5 = Extremely important	Air quality	7	3	16	52	121
		Drinking water quality	4	2	7	47	138
		Farmland	20	18	53	62	41
		Historic buildings	30	25	71	43	21
		Mature forests	10	11	50	73	48
		River access	50	32	50	31	29
		Scenic views	12	15	56	64	46
		Stream corridors	23	17	61	59	32
		Stream water quality	10	10	34	50	93
		Wetlands	26	27	41	57	41
Wildlife habitat	10	13	47	50	79		

		1	2	3	4	5	
8)	Please rate the importance of regulating each of these aspects of land development in your community: (Circle your rating for each, using the following guide) 1 = Not that important 2 = Slightly important 3 = Moderately important 4 = Very important 5 = Extremely important	Business signs	27	17	52	46	53
		Commercial development near homes	10	16	29	44	95
		Density of development	4	7	30	57	90
		Hillside development	20	15	53	46	57
		Historic character	17	20	53	57	43
		Impact on streams	4	12	32	66	80
		Landscaping	13	11	54	75	40
		Preserving trees at commercial sites	13	7	37	65	72
		Protection of farmland	7	8	34	58	87
		Scenic impact	11	7	42	75	38
		Site design and layout	11	11	46	66	59

9)	Modern technology and ease of travel has made it possible than ever to conduct businesses from residential locations.	Do you have an existing home occupation?		Would you like to have a home occupation?	
		26	Yes	48	Yes
		168	No	129	No

		Reduce	Continue	Increase	
10)	Please tell us to what extent you would generally favor spending your tax money adding, expanding or improving each of these: (Circle your position on each, using the following guide) Reduce = Reduce Spending Continue = Continue Current Level Increase = Increase Spending	Ambulance services	5	138	53
		Fire Protection	3	138	55
		More playground facilities	25	123	44
		Other youth-based activities	21	109	62
		Picnic facilities	35	135	21
		Police protection	9	109	75
		Road maintenance	6	113	82
		Senior activities center	12	143	39
		Special clean-up days	5	120	67

11)	How old are you?	0	<25 years
		5	25-29 years
		10	30-34 years
		14	35-39 years
		15	40-44 years
		17	45-49 years
		20	50-54 years
		21	55-59 years
		28	60-64 years
		25	65-69 years
		25	70-74 years
		15	75-79 years
3	80+ years		

12)	Where is the last place you lived prior to moving to your current address?	
	28	Elsewhere in community
	22	Elsewhere in the County
	42	Elsewhere in Pennsylvania
	24	Always lived where I do now
	64	New York City/New Jersey Metropolitan Area
	19	Elsewhere in U.S. or outside U.S.

13)	Are there any children under age 18 years living at home with you?	
	63	Yes
	132	No

14) Which of the following choices describe your current employment status? (You may choose more than one category)

Householder No. 1:	
62	Employed by others full-time
6	Employed by others part-time
82	Retired
31	Self-employed full-time
5	Self-employed part-time
1	Student
4	Unable to work
2	Unemployed, seeking work

Householder No. 2:	
41	Employed by others full-time
11	Employed by others part-time
59	Retired
9	Self-employed full-time
5	Self-employed part-time
1	Student
10	Unable to work
4	Unemployed, seeking work

15) Please indicate where you work.

Householder No. 1:	
30	This municipality
18	Elsewhere in County
3	Luzerne County
7	Monroe County
6	Pike County
33	Lackawanna/Wayne County
4	New Jersey
15	New York

Householder No. 2:	
17	This municipality
12	Elsewhere in County
0	Luzerne County
3	Monroe County
1	Pike County
30	Lackawanna/Wayne County
1	New Jersey
9	New York

16) How would you describe your present occupation?

Householder No. 1:	
5	Administration support occupation
25	Contractor, self-employed
13	Executive/administrative/managerial
6	Farming, forestry or mining
4	Handler, cleaner, helper or laborer
7	Homemaker
4	Machine operator/assembler/inspector
5	Precision production, craft or repair
1	Private household occupation
19	Professional occupation
75	Retired
5	Sales occupation
4	Service occupation
2	Technician or support occupation
8	Transportation or material moving

Householder No. 2:	
14	Administration support occupation
3	Contractor, self-employed
11	Executive/administrative/managerial
2	Farming, forestry or mining
4	Handler, cleaner, helper or laborer
13	Homemaker
0	Machine operator/assembler/inspector
1	Precision production, craft or repair
1	Private household occupation
15	Professional occupation
52	Retired
8	Sales occupation
5	Service occupation
0	Technician or support occupation
1	Transportation or material moving

17) How would you rate the quality of the following public and semi-public services?

		1	2	3	4	5
Please rate the quality of these public and semi-public services: (Circle your rating for each, using the following guide) 1 = Poor Quality 2 = Fair Quality 3 = Neutral/Undecided 4 = Good Quality 5 = High Quality	Ambulance services	6	18	42	82	42
	Fire protection	2	13	39	87	48
	Health care services	16	37	58	57	18
	Land use regulation	20	25	80	48	7
	Overall Township code enforcement	17	29	64	45	22
	Police protection	25	31	53	63	18
	Public meeting space	7	26	65	72	18
	Road maintenance	23	24	40	81	24
	Utilities (e.g. electric)	9	10	33	100	40

18)	Should the municipality establish or improve local land use or other regulations with respect to the following: (Please answer for each issue)				
	Regulating the construction of cellular communications towers?	139	Yes	56	No
	Protecting the right to farm?	186	Yes	10	No
	Protecting the right to timber using sound management practices?	173	Yes	20	No
	Regulating junk vehicle storage?	179	Yes	17	No
	Regulating mobile home parks?	167	Yes	28	No
	Regulating wind power generation facilities?	135	Yes	58	No
	Addressing the compatibility of adjacent uses?	150	Yes	34	No

19)	Please compare the importance of each of these development issues:					
(Circle your rating for each, using the following guide, and comparing the choices) 1 = Not that important 2 = Slightly important 3 = Moderately important 4 = Very important 5 = Extremely important	Land Development Issue No.1					
	Protecting private property rights	5	2	15	56	117
	COMPARED TO:					
	Managing the impact of development	7	12	37	51	84
	Land Development Issue No.2					
	Developing the commercial tax base	11	12	59	44	54
COMPARED TO:						
	Developing a bedroom community	27	32	52	44	5

20)	Which of the following statements BEST describes your view of zoning as a method of dealing with land use issues? (Please answer based on the experience or need of your own community)					
33	I don't know enough about it and I am unsure about the costs and benefits of zoning for my community.					
30	I view zoning as an infringement on my private property rights and, therefore, favor other approaches.					
32	I support zoning but favor a limited approach that balances property rights and development regulation.					
90	I want to see a very strong zoning ordinance that addresses all the major land development issues.					

21)	Where would you like to see the community in the next 10-20 years? Please indicate how important each possible goal is to you. (Circle your rating for each, using the following guide) 1 = Not that important 2 = Slightly important 3 = Moderately important 4 = Very important 5 = Extremely important	Clean and green environment	5	2	18	60	109
		Development of tourism industry	48	41	55	24	25
		Extended sewer and water systems	38	22	38	40	56
		Higher quality forms of development	33	18	59	53	27
		More affordable housing	39	36	52	31	32
		More high valued housing	34	28	55	43	33
		More local shopping opportunities	34	27	37	52	44
		More recreation for residents	36	29	47	36	43
		More second-home development	84	53	38	10	4
		More small-scale industrial jobs	29	25	54	50	33
		Preservation of remaining farms	10	4	27	52	107

22) Is there anything else you would like to tell us for use in our Comprehensive Plan or any question where you wished you could offer an answer we didn't offer as a choice? If so, please provide your thoughts below or as attachment.

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY!!