

# JEFFERSON, MADISON AND SALEM TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY OPINION SURVEY

## JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP RESULTS

Jefferson, Madison and Salem Townships 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 Township Buildings or visit the project website at: [www.shepstone.net/JMS](http://www.shepstone.net/JMS).

Please return it in the enclosed pre-addressed, postage paid, envelope as soon as possible. Surveys mailed after April 19 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 Townships do you live in or have a 2nd home in? (Check for primary residence)

110	Jefferson Township, Lackawanna County	27.0%
130	Madison Township, Lackawanna County	31.9%
167	Salem Township, Wayne County	41.0%
407	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

2) How many years in total have you lived in this Township?      How many years in total have you lived in this County?

18	Less than 5 years	16.4%	5	Less than 5 years	4.5%
3	5 to 9 years	2.7%	1	5 to 9 years	0.9%
7	10 to 14 years	6.4%	4	10 to 14 years	3.6%
13	15 to 19 years	11.8%	5	15 to 19 years	4.5%
17	20 to 24 years	15.5%	7	20 to 24 years	6.4%
52	25+ years	47.3%	88	25+ years	80.0%
0	None - 2nd home	0.0%	0	None - 2nd home	0.0%
110	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	110	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

3) How much land do you own in this Township?

5	None, I rent	4.6%
41	Less than 1 acre	37.6%
7	1 to 2 acres	6.4%
31	2 to 5 acres	28.4%
5	6 to 9 acres	4.6%
3	10 to 19 acres	2.8%
8	20 to 49 acres	7.3%
4	50 to 99 acres	3.7%
1	100 to 149 acres	0.9%
4	150 to 199 acres	3.7%
0	More than 200 acres	0.0%
109	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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)

65	Rural atmosphere	27.7%	70	Rural atmosphere	29.8%
41	Born or raised here	17.4%	39	Friends/relatives	16.6%
35	Quality of schools	14.9%	36	Born or raised here	15.3%
32	Friends/relatives	13.6%	24	Quality of schools	10.2%
19	Close to work	8.1%	21	Low crime rate	8.9%
14	Low crime rate	6.0%	20	Close to work	8.5%
14	Low taxes	6.0%	12	Low taxes	5.1%
13	Affordable housing	5.5%	10	Affordable housing	4.3%
2	Quality of services	0.9%	3	Quality of services	1.3%
235	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	235	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

5) Which of the following statements BEST describes your opinion of how the Township you live in has changed since the time you first moved here? (Please check only ONE)

47	The Township has not changed noticeably in its desirability as a place to live.	43.5%
41	The Township has become a less desirable place to live.	38.0%
17	The Township has become a more desirable place to live.	15.7%
3	I have not lived here long enough to form an opinion.	2.8%
108	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

6) What do you like LEAST about the Township? (Please check no more than 3)	40	Lack of cultural/recreation	15.8%
	36	Lack of shopping opportunities	14.2%
	32	Increased density of population	12.6%
	29	Cost of services/taxes	11.5%
	29	Quality of services	11.5%
	25	Lack of job opportunities	9.9%
	20	Too much regulation now	7.9%
	19	Transportation difficulties	7.5%
	19	Lack of land use regulation	7.5%
	4	Housing costs	1.6%
253	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

7) Please rate the importance of each of these aspects of the Township'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	Drinking water quality	3	0	3	20	83	507
	Air quality	3	2	9	24	71	485
	Stream water quality	6	7	15	26	52	429
	Wildlife habitat	10	7	19	22	49	414
	Mature forests	9	7	19	38	33	397
	Scenic views	9	9	19	42	28	392
	Wetlands	19	15	21	22	30	350
	Stream corridors	14	13	26	31	20	342
	Farmland	16	16	25	23	24	335
	River access	32	16	26	14	15	273
	Historic buildings	36	17	19	22	10	265

8) Please rate the importance of regulating each of these aspects of land development in your Township:  (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	Impact on streams	2	6	18	32	50	446
	Com. development near homes	10	5	8	25	60	444
	Preserving trees at commercial	3	6	23	33	43	431
	Density of development	5	5	17	33	45	423
	Protection of farmland	6	7	19	25	49	422
	Scenic impact	7	7	20	35	38	411
	Site design and layout	8	5	23	35	35	402
	Business signs	17	8	21	22	40	384
	Hillside development	8	7	31	32	28	383
	Landscaping	6	6	28	33	28	374
	Historic character	20	17	30	24	15	315

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?			
	16	Yes	12.6%	27	Yes	22.9%
	111	No	87.4%	91	No	77.1%
	127	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	118	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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	Road maintenance	2	1.9%	31	29.2%	73	68.9%
	Police protection	4	3.8%	45	42.5%	57	53.8%
	Other youth-based activities	7	6.5%	52	48.6%	48	44.9%
	Special clean-up days	5	5.0%	52	51.5%	44	43.6%
	More playground facilities	13	12.7%	54	52.9%	35	34.3%
	Fire Protection	4	3.7%	74	69.2%	29	27.1%
	Ambulance services	5	4.7%	74	69.8%	27	25.5%
	Picnic facilities	22	21.8%	56	55.4%	23	22.8%
	Senior activities center	7	6.8%	78	75.7%	18	17.5%

11) How old are you?

3	<25 yrs	2.8%
1	25-29 yrs	0.9%
6	30-34 yrs	5.5%
9	35-39 yrs	8.3%
7	40-44 yrs	6.4%
16	45-49 yrs	14.7%
21	50-54 yrs	19.3%
16	55-59 yrs	14.7%
10	60-64 yrs	9.2%
1	65-69 yrs	0.9%
5	70-74 yrs	4.6%
4	75-79 yrs	3.7%
10	80+ yrs	9.2%
109	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

12) Where is the last place you lived prior to moving to your current address?

60	Elsewhere in the County	55.6%
15	Always lived where I do now	13.9%
13	Elsewhere in Pennsylvania	12.0%
8	Elsewhere in Township	7.4%
6	New York City/New Jersey Metropolitan Area	5.6%
6	Elsewhere in U.S. or outside U.S.	5.6%
108	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

13) Are there any children under age 18 years living at home with you?

43	Yes	40.6%
63	No	59.4%
106	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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

Householder No. 1:

47	Employed by others full-time	44.3%
6	Employed by others part-time	5.7%
22	Retired	20.8%
18	Self-employed full-time	17.0%
2	Self-employed part-time	1.9%
2	Student	1.9%
6	Unable to work	5.7%
3	Unemployed, seeking work	2.8%
106	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Householder No. 2:

26	Employed by others full-time	35.6%
16	Employed by others part-time	21.9%
17	Retired	23.3%
7	Self-employed full-time	9.6%
1	Self-employed part-time	1.4%
0	Student	0.0%
3	Unable to work	4.1%
3	Unemployed, seeking work	4.1%
73	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

15) Please indicate where you work.

Householder No. 1:

9	The Township	12.9%
21	Elsewhere in County	30.0%
8	Luzerne County	11.4%
5	Monroe County	7.1%
1	Pike County	1.4%
24	Lackawanna/Wayne County	34.3%
0	New Jersey	0.0%
2	New York	2.9%
70	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Householder No. 2:

7	The Township	13.7%
20	Elsewhere in County	39.2%
4	Luzerne County	7.8%
0	Monroe County	0.0%
0	Pike County	0.0%
20	Lackawanna/Wayne County	39.2%
0	New Jersey	0.0%
0	New York	0.0%
51	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

16) How would you describe your present occupation?

Householder No. 1:		
4	Administration support occupation	4.0%
5	Contractor, self-employed	5.1%
19	Executive/administrative/managerial	19.2%
2	Farming, forestry or mining	2.0%
1	Handler, cleaner, helper or laborer	1.0%
4	Homemaker	4.0%
0	Machine operator/assembler/inspector	0.0%
1	Precision production, craft or repair	1.0%
1	Private household occupation	1.0%
16	Professional occupation	16.2%
20	Retired	20.2%
9	Sales occupation	9.1%
6	Service occupation	6.1%
6	Technician or support occupation	6.1%
5	Transportation or material moving	5.1%
99	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Householder No. 2:		
5	Administration support occupation	7.0%
1	Contractor, self-employed	1.4%
8	Executive/administrative/managerial	11.3%
1	Farming, forestry or mining	1.4%
3	Handler, cleaner, helper or laborer	4.2%
7	Homemaker	9.9%
0	Machine operator/assembler/inspector	0.0%
0	Precision production, craft or repair	0.0%
1	Private household occupation	1.4%
19	Professional occupation	26.8%
15	Retired	21.1%
4	Sales occupation	5.6%
4	Service occupation	5.6%
0	Technician or support occupation	0.0%
3	Transportation or material moving	4.2%
71	<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

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

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	1	3	20	50	34	437
		Fire protection	0	2	23	53	30
	Utilities (e.g. electric)	5	17	36	34	15	358
	Public meeting space	12	21	42	22	3	283
	Police protection	19	20	33	26	4	282
	Health care services	14	20	47	12	4	263
	Overall Twp. code enforcement	28	16	35	20	2	255
	Land use regulation	22	21	45	9	1	240
	Road maintenance	34	33	19	16	0	221

18) Should the Township establish or improve local land use or other regulations with respect to the following:

(Please answer for each issue)							
Protecting the right to farm?	100	Yes	93.5%	7	No	6.5%	
Regulating mobile home parks?	100	Yes	93.5%	8	No	7.5%	
Regulating junk vehicle storage?	99	Yes	92.5%	9	No	8.4%	
Addressing the compatibility of adjacent uses?	93	Yes	86.9%	10	No	9.3%	
Protecting the right to timber using sound management practices?	96	Yes	89.7%	11	No	10.3%	
Regulating the construction of cellular communications towers?	87	Yes	81.3%	21	No	19.6%	
Regulating wind power generation facilities?	78	Yes	72.9%	30	No	28.0%	

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 property rights	0	2	10	27	66	472
	COMPARED TO:						
	Managing impact of development	4	4	18	32	48	434
	Land Development Issue No.2						
	Developing commercial tax base	13	9	35	19	27	347
	COMPARED TO:						
	Developing bedroom community	19	15	28	19	20	309

**NOTE:** Rankings from left to right, from "not that important" to "extremely important." The number to the far right represents a total ranking. The total ranking gives relative weights to each ranking (from 1 for "Not that important" up to 5 for "Extremely Important.") and add the results.

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 Township)		
55	I support zoning but favor a limited approach that balances property rights and development regulation.	53.9%
22	I want to see a very strong zoning ordinance that addresses all the major land development issues.	21.6%
16	I view zoning as an infringement on my private property rights and, therefore, favor other approaches.	15.7%
9	I don't know enough about it and I am unsure about the costs and benefits of zoning for my Township.	8.8%
102	<b>Totals</b>	100.0%

21) Where would you like to see the Township 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	1	2	14	28	63	474
	Preservation of remaining farms	3	9	17	27	52	440
	Extended sewer and water	18	12	27	19	32	359
	More recreation for residents	15	16	21	25	29	355
	Higher quality development	13	11	34	24	24	353
	More local shopping	20	25	17	19	27	332
	More high valued housing	20	13	40	16	18	320
	More small-scale industrial jobs	27	14	26	25	14	303
	More affordable housing	23	18	36	15	13	292
	Development of tourism	45	24	27	5	7	229
	More 2nd-home development	57	23	25	0	1	183

**NOTE:** Rankings from left to right, from "not that important" to "extremely important." The number to the far right represents a total ranking. The total ranking gives relative weights to each ranking (from 1 for "Not that important" up to 5 for "Extremely Important.") and add the results.

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.

Development, regulate	6	Taxes, don't increase	2
Recreational facilities, needed	5	Regulations, reduce	1
Policing, more needed	5	Spring clean-up day, important	1
Roads, improve	5	Junkyards, clean-up	1
Code enforcement, needed	4	Jobs, needed	3
Rural beauty, protect	3	Junkyards, clean-up	3
Zoning, needed	3	Roads, improve	1
Development, needed	2		

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY