

JEFFERSON, MADISON AND SALEM TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY OPINION SURVEY

SALEM 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.

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	Totals	100.0%

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

29	Less than 5 years	17.7%	25	Less than 5 years	15.1%
25	5 to 9 years	15.2%	20	5 to 9 years	12.0%
14	10 to 14 years	8.5%	13	10 to 14 years	7.8%
11	15 to 19 years	6.7%	13	15 to 19 years	7.8%
18	20 to 24 years	11.0%	18	20 to 24 years	10.8%
62	25+ years	37.8%	72	25+ years	43.4%
5	None - 2nd home	3.0%	5	None - 2nd home	3.0%
164	Totals	100.0%	166	Totals	100.0%

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

9	None, I rent	5.5%
57	Less than 1 acre	35.0%
4	1 to 2 acres	2.5%
49	2 to 5 acres	30.1%
7	6 to 9 acres	4.3%
7	10 to 19 acres	4.3%
15	20 to 49 acres	9.2%
11	50 to 99 acres	6.7%
1	100 to 149 acres	0.6%
1	150 to 199 acres	0.6%
2	More than 200 acres	1.2%
163	Totals	100.0%

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)

100	Rural atmosphere	29.6%	103	Rural atmosphere	30.4%
54	Born or raised here	16.0%	70	Friends/relatives	20.6%
53	Friends/relatives	15.7%	42	Born or raised here	12.4%
45	Low taxes	13.3%	34	Affordable housing	10.0%
38	Affordable housing	11.2%	32	Low taxes	9.4%
23	Low crime rate	6.8%	30	Low crime rate	8.8%
20	Close to work	5.9%	21	Close to work	6.2%
3	Quality of services	0.9%	4	Quality of services	1.2%
2	Quality of schools	0.6%	3	Quality of schools	0.9%
338	Totals	100.0%	339	Totals	100.0%

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)

62	The Township has not changed noticeably in its desirability as a place to live.	39.2%
48	The Township has become a less desirable place to live.	30.4%
30	The Township has become a more desirable place to live.	19.0%
18	I have not lived here long enough to form an opinion.	11.4%
158	Totals	100.0%

6) What do you like LEAST about the Township? (Please check no more than 3)	85	Increased density of population	21.6%
	64	Lack of shopping opportunities	16.2%
	58	Cost of services/taxes	14.7%
	39	Lack of job opportunities	9.9%
	36	Lack of cultural/recreation	9.1%
	32	Lack of land use regulation	8.1%
	30	Transportation difficulties	7.6%
	23	Quality of services	5.8%
	19	Too much regulation now	4.8%
	8	Housing costs	2.0%
394	Totals	100.0%	

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	5	1	5	33	118	744
	Air quality	5	3	6	45	105	734
	Stream water quality	6	11	20	48	76	660
	Wildlife habitat	7	13	32	52	58	627
	Mature forests	5	12	44	57	40	589
	Farmland	14	13	43	35	55	584
	Scenic views	15	13	39	56	38	572
	Stream corridors	14	23	40	41	40	544
	Wetlands	20	24	31	45	40	541
	Historic buildings	19	21	59	35	25	503
	River access	30	29	52	24	24	460

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	Protection of farmland	4	7	25	44	82	679
	Impact on streams	4	7	31	46	70	645
	Commercial development near	17	10	21	38	78	642
	Density of development	14	5	34	32	75	629
	Preserving trees at commercial	13	12	32	47	58	611
	Scenic impact	12	11	35	50	53	604
	Site design and layout	12	12	36	46	55	603
	Landscaping	13	13	33	56	44	582
	Business signs	18	19	43	35	46	555
	Historic character	14	21	42	45	36	542
	Hillside development	20	13	40	46	37	535

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?			
	28	Yes	17.1%	33	Yes	23.7%
	136	No	82.9%	106	No	76.3%
	164	Totals	100.0%	139	Totals	100.0%

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			Reduce	Continue	Increase		
	Road maintenance	3	1.9%	78	48.8%	79	49.4%
	Police protection	8	5.1%	88	55.7%	62	39.2%
	Other youth-based activities	16	10.1%	84	52.8%	59	37.1%
	Special clean-up days	2	1.3%	98	61.6%	59	37.1%
	More playground facilities	19	11.9%	91	57.2%	49	30.8%
	Fire Protection	1	0.6%	123	75.9%	38	23.5%
	Ambulance services	2	1.3%	121	75.6%	37	23.1%
	Picnic facilities	28	17.8%	97	61.8%	32	20.4%
	Senior activities center	9	5.7%	126	79.2%	24	15.1%

11) How old are you?

2	<25 yrs	1.2%
5	25-29 yrs	3.0%
5	30-34 yrs	3.0%
12	35-39 yrs	7.3%
17	40-44 yrs	10.4%
9	45-49 yrs	5.5%
19	50-54 yrs	11.6%
17	55-59 yrs	10.4%
17	60-64 yrs	10.4%
23	65-69 yrs	14.0%
14	70-74 yrs	8.5%
15	75-79 yrs	9.1%
9	80+ yrs	5.5%
164	Totals	100.0%

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

52	Elsewhere in Pennsylvania	31.3%
44	New York City/New Jersey Metropolitan Area	26.5%
24	Always lived where I do now	14.5%
19	Elsewhere in the County	11.4%
17	Elsewhere in U.S. or outside U.S.	10.2%
10	Elsewhere in Township	6.0%
166	Totals	100.0%

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

34	Yes	20.6%
131	No	79.4%
165	Totals	100.0%

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

Householder No. 1:

49	Employed by others full-time	29.9%
11	Employed by others part-time	6.7%
74	Retired	45.1%
23	Self-employed full-time	14.0%
3	Self-employed part-time	1.8%
0	Student	0.0%
3	Unable to work	1.8%
1	Unemployed, seeking work	0.6%
164	Totals	100.0%

Householder No. 2:

33	Employed by others full-time	28.2%
12	Employed by others part-time	10.3%
52	Retired	44.4%
11	Self-employed full-time	9.4%
4	Self-employed part-time	3.4%
0	Student	0.0%
4	Unable to work	3.4%
1	Unemployed, seeking work	0.9%
117	Totals	100.0%

15) Please indicate where you work.

Householder No. 1:

17	The Township	20.2%
16	Elsewhere in County	19.0%
1	Luzerne County	1.2%
2	Monroe County	2.4%
3	Pike County	3.6%
37	Lackawanna/Wayne County	44.0%
4	New Jersey	4.8%
4	New York	4.8%
84	Totals	100.0%

Householder No. 2:

11	The Township	18.3%
10	Elsewhere in County	16.7%
2	Luzerne County	3.3%
3	Monroe County	5.0%
3	Pike County	5.0%
26	Lackawanna/Wayne County	43.3%
4	New Jersey	6.7%
1	New York	1.7%
60	Totals	100.0%

16) How would you describe your present occupation?

Householder No. 1:		
3	Administration support occupation	1.9%
14	Contractor, self-employed	8.6%
15	Executive/administrative/managerial	9.3%
2	Farming, forestry or mining	1.2%
3	Handler, cleaner, helper or laborer	1.9%
4	Homemaker	2.5%
5	Machine operator/assembler/inspector	3.1%
2	Precision production, craft or repair	1.2%
0	Private household occupation	0.0%
19	Professional occupation	11.7%
73	Retired	45.1%
4	Sales occupation	2.5%
10	Service occupation	6.2%
3	Technician or support occupation	1.9%
5	Transportation or material moving	3.1%
162	Totals	100.0%

Householder No. 2:		
5	Administration support occupation	4.4%
5	Contractor, self-employed	4.4%
7	Executive/administrative/managerial	6.1%
2	Farming, forestry or mining	1.8%
5	Handler, cleaner, helper or laborer	4.4%
8	Homemaker	7.0%
0	Machine operator/assembler/inspector	0.0%
0	Precision production, craft or repair	0.0%
1	Private household occupation	0.9%
16	Professional occupation	14.0%
46	Retired	40.4%
7	Sales occupation	6.1%
5	Service occupation	4.4%
3	Technician or support occupation	2.6%
4	Transportation or material moving	3.5%
114	Totals	100.0%

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	Utilities (e.g. electric)	3	13	37	73	35	607
		Ambulance services	6	13	41	73	27
	Fire protection	4	17	41	72	26	579
	Health care services	9	34	56	45	13	490
	Public meeting space	10	24	69	36	16	489
	Police protection	18	41	41	38	19	470
	Road maintenance	27	39	28	52	14	467
	Overall Twp. code enforcement	29	27	56	29	15	442
	Land use regulation	32	28	62	21	13	423

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?	150	Yes	90.9%	15	No	9.1%	
Protecting the right to timber using sound management practices?	145	Yes	87.9%	18	No	10.9%	
Regulating junk vehicle storage?	145	Yes	87.9%	20	No	12.1%	
Regulating mobile home parks?	141	Yes	85.5%	21	No	12.7%	
Addressing the compatibility of adjacent uses?	125	Yes	75.8%	30	No	18.2%	
Regulating the construction of cellular communications towers?	109	Yes	66.1%	54	No	32.7%	
Regulating wind power generation facilities?	107	Yes	64.8%	55	No	33.3%	

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	3	6	22	34	100	717
	COMPARED TO:						
	Managing impact of development	7	11	25	48	69	641
	Land Development Issue No.2						
	Developing commercial tax base	12	18	34	42	49	563
	COMPARED TO:						
	Developing bedroom community	33	20	54	20	23	430

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)		
58	I support zoning but favor a limited approach that balances property rights and development regulation.	36.5%
39	I view zoning as an infringement on my private property rights and, therefore, favor other approaches.	24.5%
39	I want to see a very strong zoning ordinance that addresses all the major land development issues.	24.5%
23	I don't know enough about it and I am unsure about the costs and benefits of zoning for my Township.	14.5%
159	Totals	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	3	1	14	51	92	711
	Preservation of remaining farms	5	9	17	37	93	687
	More local shopping	22	14	35	35	55	570
	More small-scale industrial jobs	21	12	51	44	31	529
	More recreation for residents	23	23	49	38	28	508
	Higher quality development	27	16	53	36	27	497
	More high valued housing	33	31	45	26	24	454
	Extended sewer and water	42	27	40	24	26	442
	More affordable housing	38	26	45	27	21	438
	Development of tourism	41	33	53	12	18	404
	More 2nd-home development	78	35	31	3	11	308

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	11	Jobs, needed	2
Taxes, don't increase	10	Property clean-up, more needed	1
Junkyards, clean-up	8	Policing, more needed	1
Regulations, reduce	5	Code enforcement, needed	1
Development, needed	3	Dog leash law, needed	1
Spring clean-up day, important	3	Roads, improve	1
Rural beauty, protect	2		
Zoning, needed	2		

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY