

OTTER LAKE - SUSTAINABLE LAKE PLAN

2006 Questionnaire – Results

1. My vision for Otter Lake can best be described as: (check the one or two that most apply to you)

- a place to have fun with lots of activity going on 10 (4%)
- a place to just kick back and relax 53 (21%)
- a place to gather with family and friends 93 (36%)
- a place of natural beauty that restores my sense of well-being 101 (39%)

2. The quality of the water in our lake is important to me.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
132	22	0	0	0
(86%)	(14%)	(0%)	(0%)	(0%)

3. We regularly swim in the Lake.

yes 130 (85%) no 23 (15%)

4. From where do you obtain your drinking water supply?

<i>a well</i>	<i>the lake</i>	<i>other source</i>
65	23	71
(41%)	(14%)	(45%)

5. If you obtain drinking water from the lake do you utilize a purification/filtration system.

yes 28 (42%) no 39 (58%)

6. Septic re-inspection is important.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
69	57	10	4	2
(49%)	(40%)	(7%)	(3%)	(1%)

7. I'm concerned about water pollution from water craft particularly those with two stroke engines.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
39	57	11	25	1
(25%)	(37%)	(20%)	(16%)	(1%)

8. Air pollution is generally not something that we can control locally. Water craft exhaust, however, does concern me.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
31	54	35	32	2
(20%)	(35%)	(23%)	(21%)	(1%)

9. I like to see wildlife around our cottage/home.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
65	74	9	4	0
(43%)	(40%)	(6%)	(3%)	(0%)

10. I'm concerned about wildlife damage to our property, buildings and/or pets.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
18	38	38	53	8
(12%)	(25%)	(25%)	(34%)	(5%)

11. I'm concerned about personal safety because of wildlife (eg. bears, wolves, fishers).

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
14	30	30	61	21
(9%)	(19%)	(19%)	(39%)	(13%)

12. Beavers should be legally trapped out of Otter Lake and its watershed.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
47	37	30	2	2
(31%)	(25%)	(20%)	(15%)	(10%)

13. We (someone in your household or visitors) go fishing on the Lake.

<i>never</i>	<i>once a year</i>	<i>several times a year</i>	<i>quite frequently</i>
26	44	55	19
(18%)	(31%)	(38%)	(13%)

14. We are satisfied with the fish population in the lake.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
7	46	62	32	7
(5%)	(30%)	(40%)	(21%)	(5%)

15. I value peace and quiet on our lake.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
73	68	14	1	0
(47%)	(44%)	(9%)	(1%)	(0%)

16. Noise reduces my ability to enjoy my cottage / home.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
48	63	21	19	0
(32%)	(42%)	(14%)	(13%)	(0%)

17. Specific types of noise that bother me include: (check those of concern)
- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| <i>boats</i> 24 (10%) | <i>neighbours' music, radio, TV</i> 32 (13%) |
| <i>jet skis</i> 109 (44%) | <i>constant dog barking</i> 52 (21%) |
| <i>parties</i> 23 (9%) | <i>construction and maintenance</i> 5 (2%) |
18. I have a powerboat which I enjoy using on the lake.
- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Yes</i> 100 (70%) | <i>no</i> 43 (30%) |
|----------------------|--------------------|
19. My boat motor is 25 hp or less more than 25 hp
- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 51 (51%) | 56 (66%) |
|----------|----------|
20. Does your outboard meet the 2008 EPA emission standards which would include most 4-stroke outboards and some newer 2-stroke models.
- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Yes</i> 50 (51%) | <i>No</i> 49 (49%) |
|---------------------|--------------------|
21. I have a jet ski which I enjoy using on the lake.
- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Yes</i> 3 (2%) | <i>No</i> 146 (98%) |
|-------------------|---------------------|
22. I enjoy watching the night sky.
- | | | |
|------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| <i>very much</i> | <i>some</i> | <i>no opinion</i> |
| 98 (64%) | 51 (33%) | 5 (3%) |
23. I want my property well lighted for safety and security reasons.
- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| <i>strongly agree</i> | <i>agree</i> | <i>no opinion</i> | <i>disagree</i> | <i>strongly disagree</i> |
| 3
(2%) | 41
(27%) | 41
(27%) | 61
(40%) | 8
(5%) |
24. I am aware of lighting techniques that provide light for specific purposes but that don't light up the sky.
- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| <i>yes</i> 89 (63%) | <i>no</i> 52 (37%) |
|---------------------|--------------------|
25. I am concerned about boating safety on our lake.
- | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| <i>often</i> | <i>occasionally</i> | <i>never</i> | <i>don't know</i> |
| 30
(21%) | 97
(67%) | 10
(7%) | 8
(6%) |
26. Motorized water craft and water skiers interfere with swimmers.
- | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>often</i> | <i>occasionally</i> | <i>never</i> | <i>don't know</i> | <i>specific concerns</i> |
| 12
(8%) | 80
(54%) | 24
(16%) | 28
(19%) | 3
(2%) |

27. Some water craft operators don't yield the right of way to non-motorized craft (sailboats, canoes, pedal boats).

<i>often</i>	<i>occasionally</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>don't know</i>	<i>specific concerns</i>
13	72	13	47	9
(8%)	(47%)	(8%)	(31%)	(6%)

28. Some people have swimming rafts anchored too far out in the lake and they present a safety hazard to boaters.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
7	26	59	51	9
(5%)	(17%)	(39%)	(34%)	(6%)

29. Security of our cottage / home is an issue on our lake.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
17	59	44	36	7
(10%)	(36%)	(27%)	(22%)	(4%)

30. We've experienced a break-in in the last 5 years.

<i>yes</i> 15 (10%)	<i>no</i> 138 (90%)
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31. We've had a problem with trespass on our property.

<i>yes</i> 23 (15%)	<i>no</i> 130 (85%)
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32. I think we have a friendly community on the lake .

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
28	101	18	7	0
(18%)	(66%)	(12%)	(5%)	(0%)

33. I value our sense of community and think it should be strengthened.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
26	85	39	3	1
(17%)	(55%)	(25%)	(2%)	(1%)

34. The ecologists say that the shoreline is the "ribbon of life" around the lake.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
50	73	26	4	1
(32%)	(47%)	(17%)	(3%)	(1%)

35. We all need to make sure we do a good job of keeping (or working to restore) our shoreline in a natural state with native trees and shrubs along the shore, and rocks and natural vegetation in the water.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
58	73	9	10	1
(38%)	(48%)	(6%)	(7%)	(1%)

36. I am concerned that runoff into the lake from lawn and garden maintenance (weed killers, pesticides, fertilizer) can lead to problems for the lake.

<i>strongly agree</i>	agree	no opinion	disagree	strongly disagree
73	60	14	6	0
(48%)	(39%)	(9%)	(4%)	(0%)

37. A buffer of native trees, shrubs and other natural vegetation should be maintained between the developed part of the property and the lake.

<i>strongly agree</i>	agree	no opinion	disagree	strongly disagree
54	60	25	11	3
(35%)	(39%)	(16%)	(7%)	(2%)

38. I think a lawn between the cottage and the lake is part of what some people enjoy about their cottage experience and should not be discouraged.

<i>strongly agree</i>	agree	no opinion	disagree	strongly disagree
11	57	30	34	20
(7%)	(38%)	(20%)	(22%)	(13%)

39. Water levels are generally

<i>too high</i>	<i>too low</i>	<i>acceptable</i>	<i>no opinion</i>
20	23	93	10
(14%)	(16%)	(64%)	(7%)

40. There's too much fluctuation in water levels.

<i>strongly agree</i>	agree	no opinion	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
12	49	46	8	1
(8%)	(31%)	(29%)	(24%)	(8%)

41. Should water levels in the lake be controlled by artificial means?

<i>strongly agree</i>	agree	no opinion	disagree	strongly disagree
11	32	32	52	23
(7%)	(21%)	(21%)	(35%)	(15%)

42. Have you noticed an increase in weed growth in your waterfront?

<i>yes</i> 93 (62%)	<i>no</i> 25 (17%)	<i>somewhat</i> 33 (22%)
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43. Are you concerned by frequent algae blooms in th lake.

<i>yes</i> 93 (61%)	<i>no</i> 20 (13%)	<i>somewhat</i> 39 (26%)
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44. Would you be concerned about construction on already approved building lots on the lake?

<i>yes</i> 45 (30%)	<i>no</i> 104 (70%)
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45. Would you be concerned about the creation of new building lots on the lake?

yes 118 (78%) no 33 (22%)

46. In some areas the redevelopment of existing properties (ie tearing down an old cottage and building a new one or doing a major expansion to an old cottage) is becoming an issue.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
21	31	55	38	7
(14%)	(20%)	(36%)	(25%)	(5%)

47. Should "monster" cottages or homes be built on our lake? ("monster" cottages or homes can be defined as those that cover a large portion of their lot and/or that are much larger than the rest of the buildings on the lake).

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
7	26	36	40	43
(5%)	(17%)	(24%)	(26%)	(28%)

48. "Back lot" and "cluster" development should be strictly controlled to prevent added traffic and pressure on our Lake's environment.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
83	53	9	5	3
(54%)	(35%)	(6%)	(3%)	(2%)

49. Boat houses should be kept to a minimum to preserve the present look of our lake.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
40	57	29	17	2
(28%)	(39%)	(20%)	(12%)	(1%)

50. Are there too many laws and rules getting in the way of my ability to enjoy my property as I see fit?

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
14	31	35	56	8
(10%)	(22%)	(24%)	(39%)	(6%)

51. Should there be more public boat access to the lake?

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
6	2	8	50	78
(4%)	(1%)	(6%)	(35%)	(54%)

52. The Rideau Lakes Township roads are generally adequately maintained.

in summer:	yes	no	In winter.	yes	no
	122	16		77	20
	(86%)	(12%)		(79%)	(21%)

53. Our private access roads are generally adequately maintained.

in summer:	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>	In winter.	<i>yes</i>	<i>no</i>
	122	9		66	20
	(93%)	(7%)		(77%)	(23%)

54. I'm concerned about the names assigned to the roads around our lake.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
7	13	77	28	17
(5%)	(9%)	(54%)	(20%)	(12%)

55. Non-resident snowmobile and ATV access to and from our lake is a concern.

<i>strongly agree</i>	<i>agree</i>	<i>no opinion</i>	<i>disagree</i>	<i>strongly disagree</i>
29	49	50	11	4
(20%)	(34%)	(35%)	(8%)	(3%)

56. My lakeshore property is:-

<i>a seasonal cottage</i>	<i>a year round home</i>
61 (42%)	84 (58%)

57. Do you use your property all year round.

<i>yes</i> 46 (32%)	<i>no</i> 98 (68%)
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