Indiana University’s School of Public and Environmental Affairs spring 2013 capstone course entitled “Lake Management Associations: Developing Sustainability Guidelines” formed to address issues faced by its client, the Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations in Minnesota.

A 14-question online survey of lakeshore residents on 7 Hubbard county lakes was conducted as part of this project. It was completed between February 21, 2013 and March 5, 2013.

The online survey was sent to 755 Lake residents, and 290 residents responded. This factsheet summarizes those results.

All results are shown in frequencies and not percentages (except for pie graphs)

*Starred figures indicate multiple answers were allowed

**Household Size**

- 71% 1
- 13% 2
- 8% 3
- 4% 4
- 4% 5
- 0% 6

**# of Retirees in Household**

- 43% None
- 33% 1
- 24% 2

**# of People <18 in Household**

- 89% None
- 9% 1
- 2% 2
- 1% 3

**# of Months Residents Spend on the Lake**

- 72% 6 months or less
- 28% > 6 months

- Mean and median age of Lake respondents was 65
- Respondents have owned their lake homes for an average of 22 years, median = 18 years.
- Most respondents (196/290) listed “enjoying the scenery and setting” as the most important factor for becoming a lake property owner.

**Lake Residents’ Perception of Local Organizations, Neighbors and Lake Users**

- Lake Assoc.
- COLA
- DNR
- Neighbors
- Lake Users

- Very Negative
- Somewhat Negative
- Neutral
- Somewhat Positive
- Very Positive
- NA

**Ranking of Lake Residents’ Concerns (#1 most important)**

1. Aquatic invasive species
2. Pollution from shoreline residences
3. Shoreline owners understanding issues
4. Shoreline development
5. Fisheries management
6. Lake pollution from agricultural runoff
7. Development in the lake watershed
8. Effectiveness of the lake association
9. Boating practices/etiquette
10. Collaboration and knowledge sharing
11. Native plant restoration
12. Funding for lake association
13. Lake pollution from forestry operations
14. Participation and membership among lake residents
15. Lack of volunteers
16. Recreation user conflicts
*Lake Residents’ Preferred Contact Method

- Email
- Newsletters
- Open Meetings
- LA Workshops
- In-Person
- Facebook
- Brochure
- Phone Calls

*Organizations Lake Residents are Involved In

- None
- Church
- Other
- Boating
- Hunting
- Fishing
- Birding

*Water Quality Practices Lake Residents Engage In

- Septic System Maint.
- Naturalized Landscaping
- Create Shoreline Buffers
- Natural Or Low Fertilizers
- Porous Parking Surfaces on Property
- Planting of Native Plants
- Reduced Yard Mowing
- No Fertilizers
- Proper Pet Waste Mgmt
- None of the Above

*AIS Practices Lake Residents Engage In

- Stay current with AIS news
- Wash/rinse boating equipment
- Dispose of bait in trash
- Drain water
- Collect and remove AIS
- Check for AIS

*Factors Preventing Lake Residents from Engaging in Water Quality and AIS Prevention Practices, Broken Down by Permanent and Seasonal Residents (majority of respondents answered “none of the above” and are not included in figure)

**Water Quality Practices:** (none of the above = 197/290)

- Too expensive ‡
- Not sure what to do
- Don’t think it’s important
- Forget to do it
- Don’t have time
- Other

**AIS-Prevention Practices:** (none of the above = 159/290)

- Not sure what to do
- Don’t think it’s important
- Forget to do it
- Don’t have time
- Other

‡The option “too expensive” was only provided for water quality practices

**Most residents that said “other” factors prevented them from engaging in AIS prevention because they only boated in Lake**
Lake Residents’ Views of Local Rules and Laws

*Involvement of Lake Residents with the Lake Association*

- Donated to lake association fundraisers
- Learn from lake association guidelines
- Attend meetings
- Attend lake association events
- Volunteer
- Assist with lake association projects
- None of the Above
- Leadership position
- Other

*Recreational Activities Residents Engage in on Lake*

- Motor Boating
- Fishing
- Swimming
- Canoeing or Kayaking
- Birding
- Water Craft Riding
- Water Skiing
- Hiking Around the Lake
- Other
- Sailing

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Online survey conducted by the Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs Capstone Course.