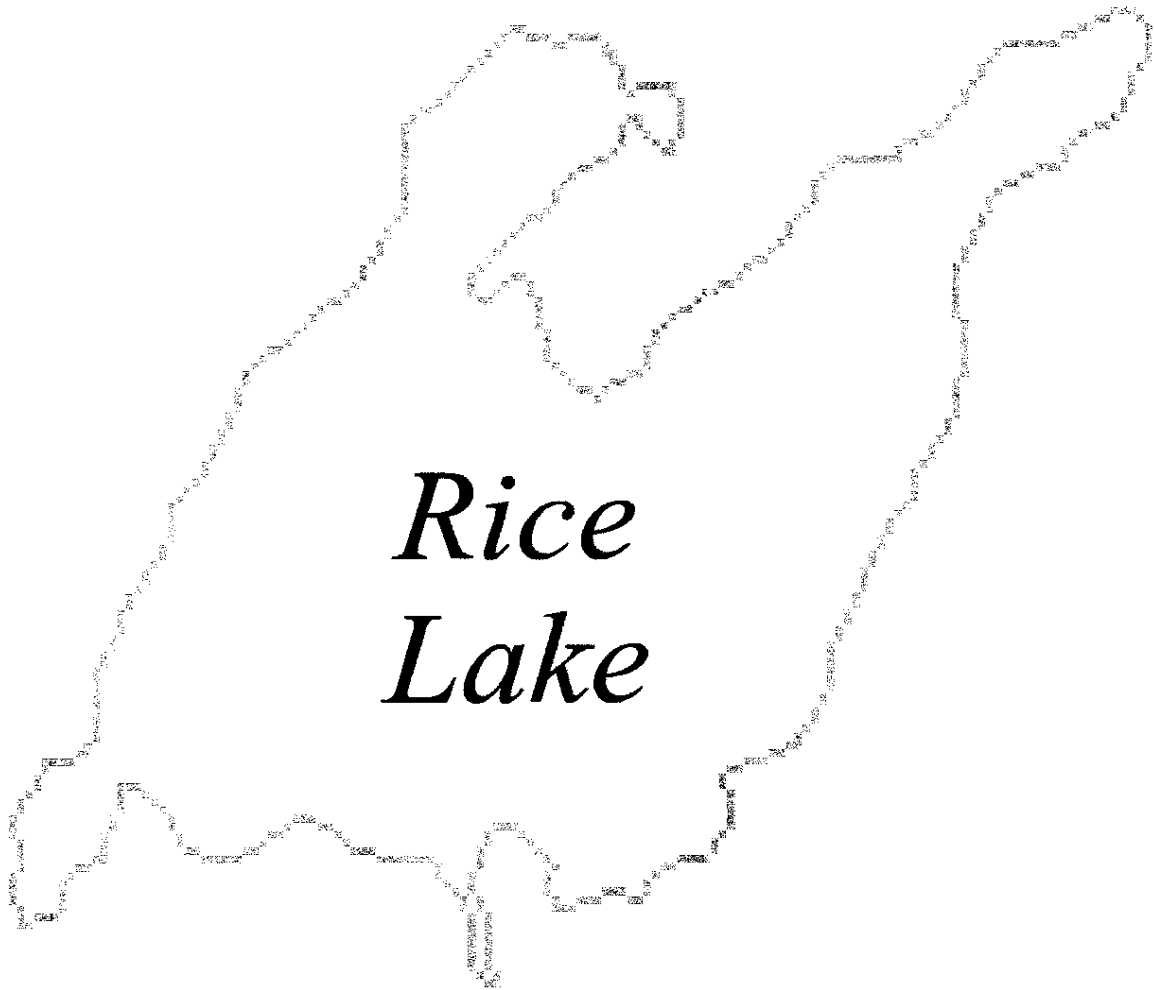


Walworth County
Lake Landowner Survey
Results 2005



2005 Rice Lake Landowner Survey Results

(25 surveys – percentage relative to responses)

1. Lake Name Rice
2. Are you a full time resident? **Yes 12 (48.0%) No 13 (52.0%)**
3. Do you live on or off the lake? **On 18 (72.0%) Off 7 (28.0%)**
4. How long have you owned property on or near a lake in Walworth County? **Ave. 17.6 yrs (0.5-55)**
5. If you are a part-time resident, approximately how often are you in residence?
 - a. less than 3 months per year **2 (15.4%)**
 - b. 4-6 months per year **3 (23.1%)**
 - c. more than 6 months per year **1 (7.7%)**
 - d. mostly weekends **7 (53.8%)**
6. Do you have any plans to become a full-time Walworth County lake residence at some future date?
Yes 3 (30.0%) No 7 (70.0%)
7. Please tell us which lake protection groups are associated with your lake?
 - a. Lake Association **15 (34.9%)**
 - b. Lake District **9 (20.9%)**
 - c. Lake Improvement/Protective **2 (4.7%)**
 - d. Land Conservancy **0 (0.0%)**
 - e. Sanitary District **0 (0.0%)**
 - f. Property/Home Owners Association **16 (37.2%)**
 - g. Other (please list) **1 (2.3%) WI Seasonal Residents Assn**
8. Which, if any, of the groups listed above are you a member of?
 - a. Lake Association **8 (29.6%)**
 - b. Lake District **5 (18.5%)**
 - c. Lake Improvement/Protective **0 (0.0%)**
 - d. Land Conservancy **0 (0.0%)**
 - e. Sanitary District **0 (0.0%)**
 - f. Property/Home Owners Association **13 (48.1%)**
 - g. Other (please list) **1 (3.7%) WI Seasonal Residents Assn**
9. What are the three (3) primary reasons you bought property on your lake?
 - a. Boating **12 (16.2%)**
 - b. Fishing **10 (13.5%)**
 - c. Swimming **6 (8.1%)**
 - d. Water Skiing **5 (6.8%)**
 - e. Jet Skiing **0 (0.0%)**
 - f. Non-motorized boating **3 (4.1%)**
 - g. Natural scenic beauty/Relaxation **19 (25.7%)**
 - h. Investment **6 (8.1%)**
 - i. Get away from the big city **11 (14.9%)**
 - j. Other **2 (2.7%)**

Home, family

10. Which of the following do you feel curtails your enjoyment of the lake?

	No Problem	Minor Problem	Serious Problem	No Opinion
Excessive algae	1 4.0%	8 32.0%	13 52.0%	3 12.0%
Poor overall water quality	4 16.0%	11 44.0%	4 16.0%	6 24.0%
Litter on shoreline	12 48.0%	8 32.0%	1 4.0%	4 16.0%
Strange odors/tastes	11 44.0%	5 20.0%	1 4.0%	8 32.0%
Debris/obstacles in water	12 48.0%	5 20.0%	1 4.0%	7 28.0%
Oil/Gas film	13 52.0%	5 20.0%	1 4.0%	6 24.0%
Fish kills	12 48.0%	5 20.0%	1 4.0%	7 28.0%
Unwanted fish species	11 44.0%	5 20.0%	0 0.0%	9 36.0%
Excessive aquatic weeds	0 0.0%	1 4.0%	21 84.0%	3 12.0%
Excessive floating weeds (left from harvesting operation)	2 8.0%	10 40.0%	8 32.0%	5 20.0%
Increased number of structures takes away from the natural scenic beauty of the lake	12 48.0%	6 24.0%	1 4.0%	6 24.0%
Excessive development around lake	11 44.0%	5 20.0%	3 12.0%	6 24.0%
Excessive sediment deposited into lake	7 28.0%	7 28.0%	0 0.0%	11 44.0%
Lake level too high/low	3 12.0%	9 36.0%	8 32.0%	5 20.0%
Too many geese	2 8.0%	8 32.0%	13 52.0%	2 8.0%
Exotic Invasive Species	4 16.0%	6 24.0%	5 20.0%	10 40.0%
Excessive Boat Traffic	11 44.0%	6 24.0%	2 8.0%	6 24.0%
Decline in Boating Safety	11 44.0%	5 20.0%	1 4.0%	8 32.0%
Limited Access/Parking	16 64.0%	1 4.0%	0 0.0%	8 32.0%
Other (please list)	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	3 12.0%	22 88.0%

List: *lawn fertilizer, oversized boats, farm run-off*

11. Which of the following do you feel are a problem for the water quality of the lake?

	No Problem	Minor Problem	Serious Problem	No Opinion
Excessive algae	3 12.0%	6 24.0%	11 44.0%	5 20.0%
Fish kills	11 44.0%	4 16.0%	1 4.0%	9 36.0%
Litter on shoreline	11 44.0%	7 28.0%	1 4.0%	6 24.0%

Boats bringing in exotic species	2 8.0%	1 4.0%	3 12.0%	19 76.0%
Accidental spills of oil or gas by boats	2 8.0%	3 12.0%	4 16.0%	16 64.0%

List: *weed growth/need to harvest, water too green with weeds, Algae/Excessive aquatic weeds, people not obeying slow wake*

13. Does your lake protection group promote any of the following lake best management practices?

- a. Maintain/install native vegetative buffer on lakeshore **4 (21.1%)**
- b. Limit mowing adjacent to the shoreline **3 (15.8%)**
- c. Protecting against soil erosion **3 (15.8%)**
- d. Limit use of chemical (especially phosphorous) lawn care products **6 (31.6%)**
- e. Raingardens and basins to control and filter stormwater runoff **0 (0.0%)**
- f. Limit amount of impervious surfaces **0 (0.0%)**
- g. Exotic species prevention **3 (15.8%)**
- h. Others **0 (0.0%)** please list:

14. Are you familiar with the Shoreland Zoning Regulations for your property?

Yes 8 (33.3%) No 16 (66.7%)

15. How effective do you think current shoreland regulation efforts are at protecting water quality?

Very effective **2 (8.0%) Very ineffective 1 (4.0%)**
 Somewhat effective **2 (8.0%) No opinion 19 (76.0%)**
 Somewhat ineffective **1 (4.0%)**

16. Are you aware that Walworth County offers technical assistance and educational opportunities, which are available for lakeshore landowners? **Yes 6 (25.0%) No 18 (75.0%)**

17. Have you ever taken advantage of this assistance? **Yes 2 (8.3%) No 22 (91.7%)**

18. Would you be interested in taking advantage of this assistance? **Yes 9 (52.9%) No 8 (47.1%)**

19. How effective do you believe current educational efforts are at protecting water quality?

Very effective **0 (0.0%)**
 Somewhat effective **1 (4.0%)**
 Somewhat ineffective **1 (4.0%)**
 Very ineffective **0 (0.0%)**
 No opinion **23 (92.0%)**

20. To what extent are the following actions needed to deal with your concerns for the lake?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Opinion
Conduct a whole lake study and develop lake management plan	7 28.0%	6 24.0%	1 4.0%	11 44.0%
Conduct an aquatic plant survey	10 40.0%	7 28.0%	0 0.0%	8 32.0%
Conduct a study of land uses in the watershed	1 4.0%	8 32.0%	3 12.0%	13 52.0%

Debris/obstacles in water	14 56.0%	4 16.0%	0 0.0%	7 28.0%
Oil/Gas film	11 44.0%	7 28.0%	1 4.0%	6 24.0%
Excessive aquatic weeds	0 0.0%	2 8.0%	21 84.0%	2 8.0%
Excessive floating weeds (left from harvesting operation)	2 8.0%	8 32.0%	8 32.0%	7 28.0%
Lack of wetland preservation	10 40.0%	2 8.0%	5 20.0%	8 32.0%
Excessive sediment deposited into lake	6 24.0%	5 20.0%	2 8.0%	12 48.0%
Lake level too high/low	2 8.0%	8 32.0%	10 40.0%	5 20.0%
Too many geese/waterfowl	2 8.0%	7 28.0%	11 44.0%	5 20.0%
Exotic Invasive Species	6 24.0%	3 12.0%	4 16.0%	12 48.0%
Soil erosion	7 28.0%	4 16.0%	5 20.0%	9 36.0%
Dog/pet waste	14 56.0%	4 16.0%	0 0.0%	7 28.0%
Other – please list	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	2 8.0%	23 92.0%

List: *too large of boats, farm run-off*

12. Below is list of causes of water quality problems. Please indicate to what extent each one contributes to the decline of water quality on your lake.

	Strongly Contributes	Moderately Contributes	Does not Contribute	Don't know
Lawn fertilizers/pesticides	4 16.0%	6 24.0%	0 0.0%	15 60.0%
Removal of natural shoreline vegetation	2 8.0%	2 8.0%	4 16.0%	17 68.0%
Soil erosion – shoreline	3 12.0%	4 16.0%	2 8.0%	16 64.0%
Soil erosion - residential	1 4.0%	3 12.0%	2 8.0%	19 76.0%
Soil erosion – farm fields	1 4.0%	1 4.0%	4 16.0%	19 76.0%
Soil erosion - construction	1 4.0%	2 8.0%	5 20.0%	17 68.0%
Stormwater runoff	2 8.0%	4 16.0%	1 4.0%	18 72.0%
Septic Systems	0 0.0%	3 12.0%	3 12.0%	19 76.0%
Geese/waterfowl waste	10 40.0%	8 32.0%	1 4.0%	6 24.0%
Pet waste	0 0.0%	2 8.0%	7 28.0%	16 64.0%
Grass clippings/leaves	1 4.0%	3 12.0%	6 24.0%	15 60.0%
Street salt/sand	1 4.0%	4 16.0%	5 20.0%	15 60.0%
Improper disposal of oils and chemicals	1 4.0%	1 4.0%	5 20.0%	18 72.0%
Litter	0 0.0%	7 28.0%	4 16.0%	14 56.0%
Carp/bottom fish churning up bottom sediments	2 8.0%	6 24.0%	2 8.0%	15 60.0%

Provide more education about environmentally friendly land use practices	9 36.0%	8 32.0%	1 4.0%	7 28.0%
Provide residents with technical assistance to reduce shoreline erosion	6 24.0%	9 36.0%	1 4.0%	9 36.0%
Promote methods to reduce soil erosion	5 20.0%	11 44.0%	1 4.0%	8 32.0%
Promote methods to reduce stormwater runoff	5 20.0%	9 36.0%	2 8.0%	9 36.0%
Increase enforcement of boating laws	5 20.0%	5 20.0%	8 32.0%	7 28.0%
Stock fish	13 52.0%	6 24.0%	1 4.0%	5 20.0%
Better enforcement of current zoning and land disturbance ordinances	5 20.0%	8 32.0%	1 4.0%	11 44.0%
Develop stronger zoning and land disturbance regulations for lake development	7 28.0%	5 20.0%	3 12.0%	10 40.0%

21. What lake protection or management activities or programs would you recommend that the County undertake, improve or promote? **Major problem is excessive weed & algae - lake too green to swim in, Work with Mgmt District, improve/promote education of environmental issues, 2/3 of Rice Lake shoreline is controlled by Kettle Moraine State Park - I trust that they know what they are doing, Need: weed management; algae management, stock fish; help maintain higher water levels, Our Whitewater/Rice Lake Assn. Fees pay for weed cutting each summer. I would like to see more harvesting of weeds in the lake areas owned by the County and State so more of the lakes could be enjoyed, Clear the weeds from Rice Lake - it seems that all the efforts of the Lake Management District go to Whitewater Lake - we deserve better services, Leave us alone - the less we're bothered by county & DNR types the better, We lost our parks and beaches to the goose droppings. Properties are ruined from goose droppings., Need to inform residents & visitors what the zoning rules are & why they are important in easily understood terms**