

## Appendix A - Mail Survey Methodology

The questionnaire was developed by reviewing other surveys that had been implemented in Michigan and throughout the United States. SWMPC and a committee of local stakeholders ensured the survey included questions of local importance.

A random sample list of homeowners with specifications of occupied and unique homeowners was drawn from the 2007 winter tax bill. There really was not an available complete list of residents/homeowners. Commercial lists may include more residents but exclude seasonal homeowners. Due to limited funds, the mailing list was obtained from the county equalization departments. Both year-round and seasonal homeowners were included in the random sample and efforts were made to exclude: businesses, apartments (owners and renters), vacant land, land with hunting sheds only, and foreclosures/bank owned houses/trusts. A systematic random sample was obtained (example – if the total number of records is 35,000, divide this by 1,100 (the sample size) which equals 31, so every 31<sup>st</sup> record is selected from the beginning to the end of the list). The list included the first and last name, mailing address, SITUS or site location, tax classification code, State Equalized Value (SEV), homestead exemption (or some way to distinguish a primary or secondary home), and municipality.

From a total of 3,000 household records bad addresses were subtracted and a net sample of 2,830 (excluded 85 of bad addresses from a total 2,915 samples) was obtained.

A Dillman mail procedure included a first mailing of questionnaire (appendix B), a personalized letter (appendix C) and business reply envelope; a postcard was mailed (appendix D). One week after the first mailing; and a second mailing similar to the first was done three weeks after the initial mailing (appendix E). A shorter non-response survey was conducted in September 2008 with a response rate of 8%. A total of 859 usable surveys were obtained. Overall, this yielded a 30% response rate.

## Appendix B - Mail Questionnaire

# Southwest Michigan Conservation Assessment Survey



### Growing Greener

An initiative of the  
Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

185 E. Main Street, Suite 701

Benton Harbor, MI 49022

[www.swmpc.org/growgreen.asp](http://www.swmpc.org/growgreen.asp)

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
**UNIVERSITY**



**If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Dr. Christine Vogt at  
Michigan State University  
(517) 432-0318 or [vogtc@msu.edu](mailto:vogtc@msu.edu)**

Department of Community, Agriculture, Recreation and Resource Studies  
Michigan State University  
131 Natural Resources  
East Lansing, MI 48824-1222

Conservation in the southwest Michigan region is currently being practiced by private land owners, non profit organizations, government agencies (primarily through parks and recreation agencies), and industries, including agriculture. In the next 30 years, this region will experience significant land use change. This survey is aimed at understanding residents’ perspectives on conservation and related topics. Your participation in this survey is important and greatly appreciated. We would like to hear your views on these topics. There is no right or wrong answer. Before you begin the survey please note the following definitions:

Home is a permanent or seasonal home in Berrien, Cass or Van Buren County.

Conservation is the planning for and protection of natural resources and natural lands for future generations to enjoy and use.

Green and Open Spaces such as parks, farms and shorelines are:

- often for human use and provide areas for recreation and hunting
- areas of land that are used for production or “working lands” to ensure the continued production of economically valuable commodities (timber, fruits, vegetables, grains, etc.)
- often high value natural areas including parks of national, state, and regional importance
- often important for proper functioning natural systems that cleanse our air and water
- areas in private and public ownership

**Natural Resources** include all minerals, plants, water resources, animals, and the air.

**Water Resources** are natural bodies of water including lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands.

**Rural** refers to land areas that are less developed than cities, villages, or suburbs. Rural can include farms, open spaces, wooded areas, and water resources.

**Section 1 refers to you and your household’s outdoor recreation activities and experiences with conservation resources in the southwest Michigan region.**

1. Please check those **outdoor** activities that you or others in your household have done in Berrien, Cass or Van Buren Counties (including at your home) in the past five years. *(Please check all that apply.)*

<u>General Activities</u>	<u>Water Activities</u>	<u>Trail Activities</u>
PLAYGROUND	CANOE OR KAYAK	WALK/HIKE
SCENIC DRIVE	SWIM – POOL	MOUNTAIN BIKE
PICNIC	SWIM – LAKE MICHIGAN	BICYCLE
NATURE OBSERVATION	SWIM – INLAND LAKE,	RUN/JOG
BEACH WALKING	POND, RIVER	
OUTDOOR PHOTOGRAPHY	ICE FISH	IN-LINE SKATE
HUNT	FISH - INLAND LAKE	SKATEBOARD
CAMP	FISH – RIVER	CROSS COUNTRY SKI
VISIT HISTORICAL SITES	FISH – LAKE MICHIGAN	SNOWMOBILE
MUSHROOM/BERRY PICK	POWER BOAT	OFF ROAD VEHICLE
BIRDING	SAIL BOAT	HORSE RIDE
SOFTBALL/BASEBALL	WATER SKI	
SOCCER	JET SKI	
GOLF		
OTHER (DESCRIBE _____)		

**1b.** What is the **nearest PUBLIC green or open space** to your home? *(Please describe.)* \_\_\_\_\_

1c. How far is this place from your home? (Please check one.)

LESS THAN ½ MILE

1-4 MILES

½ MILE TO LESS THAN 1 MILE

OVER 4 MILES

1d. Do you use or visit this area? (Please check one.) YES NO Why or Why not?

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2. How often do you participate in **outdoor** recreation activities? (Please check one.)

EVERYDAY

A FEW TIMES A YEAR

A COUPLE TIMES A WEEK

NEVER

A FEW TIMES A MONTH

3. How often do you visit **Lake Michigan** (beach, swim, boat, sunset watching, etc)? (Please check one.)

EVERYDAY

A FEW TIMES A YEAR

A COUPLE TIMES A WEEK

NEVER

A FEW TIMES A MONTH

4. Are there **green and open spaces** or natural features in your community that are especially important to you? (Please check one.)

YES (Continue to 4B.)

NO (Skip to question 5.)

4b. Please list **one green and open space area** or a **natural feature** in your community that is especially important to you. (Please describe.) \_\_\_\_\_

4c. Why is this **one green and open space area** or a **natural feature** especially important for you? (Please describe.) \_\_\_\_\_

4d. Is the **green and open space area** or **natural feature** listed above currently being conserved or considered for conservation? (Please check one.)

YES (Skip to question 5.)

NO (Continue to 4e.)

DON'T KNOW (Skip to 5.)

4e. Should the natural feature you listed be conserved? YES NO

5. Are there **water resources** (e.g., lakes, rivers, wetlands, streams) in your community that are especially important to you? (Please check one.)

YES, CONTINUE TO 5B

NO, SKIP TO QUESTION 6

5b. Please list **one water resource** in you community that is especially important to you. (Please describe.) \_\_\_\_\_

5c. Why is this **one water resource** important to you? (Please describe.) \_\_\_\_\_

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5d. Is the **water resource** you listed above currently being conserved or considered for conservation? (Please check one.)

YES (skip to question 6)

NO (continue to 5e))

DON'T KNOW (skip to 6)

5e. Should the **water resource** you listed be conserved? YES NO

6. Overall, do you think that the **quality and quantity of green and open spaces** in your community has increased, decreased, or stayed the same in the **past 5 years**?

**Quality** of Green and Open Spaces has: *(Please check one.)*

INCREASED                                      DECREASED                                      STAYED THE SAME

**Quantity** of Green and Open Spaces has: *(Please check one.)*

INCREASED                                      DECREASED                                      STAYED THE SAME

7. Overall, do you think that the **quality and quantity of water resources** in your community has increased, decreased, or stayed the same in the **past 5 years**?

**Quality** of Water Resources has: *(Please check one.)*

INCREASED                                      DECREASED                                      STAYED THE SAME

**Quantity** of Water Resources has: *(Please check one.)*

INCREASED                                      DECREASED                                      STAYED THE SAME

**Section 2 concerns your beliefs and opinions regarding conservation.**

8. Please rate the **importance of each criterion** for determining whether a specific area or type of green and open space should be conserved: *(Please circle one response for each statement.)*

	<b>Not at all important</b>	<b>Slightly important</b>	<b>Moderately important</b>	<b>Very important</b>	<b>Extremely important</b>
Provides scenic and aesthetic values	1	2	3	4	5
Provides local cultural values to communities	1	2	3	4	5
Provides economic vitality and jobs for communities	1	2	3	4	5
Provides habitat for plant and animal species	1	2	3	4	5
Provides for healthy living and quality of life	1	2	3	4	5
Provides areas for agricultural activity, including locally produced food	1	2	3	4	5
Provides places for outdoor recreation	1	2	3	4	5
Provides protection of water quality	1	2	3	4	5
Provides protection of air quality	1	2	3	4	5

9. Please rate your level of **agreement** with the statements below. (Please circle one response for each statement.)

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Natural resources in highly populated areas (urban) are important to conserve.	1	2	3	4	5
Natural resources in low populated areas (rural) are important to conserve.	1	2	3	4	5
Conservation areas should be public resources or publicly owned.	1	2	3	4	5
Conservation areas should be privately owned.	1	2	3	4	5

10. How do you feel about the **level of public access** to each of the following? (Please circle one response for each item.)

	Too much	Adequate	Some more needed	Much more needed
Lake Michigan	1	2	3	4
Inland lakes	1	2	3	4
Rivers	1	2	3	4
Beaches	1	2	3	4

11. How do you feel about the **amount of** the following **resources/assets** in your community? (Please circle one response for each item.)

	Too much	Adequate	Some more needed	Much more needed
Campgrounds	1	2	3	4
Historical/cultural attractions	1	2	3	4
Biking trails	1	2	3	4
Mountain biking trails	1	2	3	4
Hiking trails	1	2	3	4
Horse (equestrian) trails	1	2	3	4
Cross country ski trails	1	2	3	4
Snowmobile trails	1	2	3	4
Off road vehicle trails	1	2	3	4
Hunting Land	1	2	3	4
Open and green spaces	1	2	3	4
Agricultural lands	1	2	3	4
Public parks	1	2	3	4
Protected natural areas	1	2	3	4
Piers for fishing	1	2	3	4
Playgrounds	1	2	3	4
Lake Michigan beaches	1	2	3	4
Ball fields (soccer, baseball, etc)	1	2	3	4
Golf courses	1	2	3	4
Canoe/kayak launches	1	2	3	4
Skateboarding parks	1	2	3	4

12. In regards to your community, please rate your **level of support or opposition** for conservation efforts or programs targeted at the following: *(Please circle one response for each item.)*

	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<b>Moderately oppose</b>	<b>Neither support nor oppose</b>	<b>Moderately support</b>	<b>Strongly support</b>
Plant species	1	2	3	4	5
Animal species	1	2	3	4	5
Forest areas	1	2	3	4	5
Sand dunes	1	2	3	4	5
Inland lakes	1	2	3	4	5
Rivers	1	2	3	4	5
Floodplain corridors	1	2	3	4	5
Wetlands	1	2	3	4	5
Lake Michigan	1	2	3	4	5
Groundwater & aquifers	1	2	3	4	5
Environmental education	1	2	3	4	5
Recycling	1	2	3	4	5
Neighborhood, city and county parks	1	2	3	4	5
Trails	1	2	3	4	5
Sidewalks	1	2	3	4	5
Working farms, including orchard, vineyards & nurseries	1	2	3	4	5
Locally produced food	1	2	3	4	5
Farmer's markets	1	2	3	4	5
Agri-tourism attractions (u-pick, mazes)	1	2	3	4	5
Subdivisions with open space	1	2	3	4	5
Golf courses	1	2	3	4	5

13. Please rate your level of **agreement** with the statements below: *(Please circle one response for each statement.)*

	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Strongly agree</b>
I feel <b>my community's</b> public input process for conservation and land use planning is adequate	1	2	3	4	5
<b>My local government</b> should be primarily involved in conservation.	1	2	3	4	5
<b>My county government</b> should be primarily involved in conservation.	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Citizen volunteer groups</b> should primarily be involved in conservation.	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Land conservancies or other nonprofit organizations</b> should be primarily involved in conservation.	1	2	3	4	5
<b>All of the above</b> should be involved in conservation.	1	2	3	4	5

14. How much would you personally be willing to pay to conserve green and open space in your community or county? *(Please check one.)*

\$0/year    \$1-5/year    \$6-10/year    \$11-15/year    \$16-25/year    More than \$25/year

15. What funding sources would you support or oppose for raising this money you checked above? *(Please circle a response for each item.)*

	<b>Strongly oppose</b>	<b>Moderately oppose</b>	<b>Neither support nor oppose</b>	<b>Moderately support</b>	<b>Strongly support</b>
User fees (for parks and facilities)	1	2	3	4	5
Parks, recreation and open space millage	1	2	3	4	5
Property taxes	1	2	3	4	5
Bond referendum	1	2	3	4	5
A tax on property sales (transfer tax)	1	2	3	4	5
Donations to nonprofits	1	2	3	4	5
Other: <i>(describe below)</i>	1	2	3	4	5



**Section 3 asks about your physical health behaviors.**

**16.** Where do you participate in physical activity? *(Please check all that apply.)*

- At home
- Public indoor recreational facilities
- Local school or community building
- Private fitness centers or clubs
- Shopping malls
- Public outdoor parks
- Neighborhood streets or sidewalks
- Trails
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**17.** What barriers keep you from participating in **outdoor** physical activity? *(Please check all that apply.)*

- I don't feel safe outdoors
- It is not convenient for me
- I have no sidewalks or trails near my home
- I have no one to exercise with
- I don't have time
- Outdoor physical activity isn't something I like
- Health problems prohibit me from outdoor activities
- I lack transportation to an outdoor facility
- There are no public outdoor places near my home
- No barriers keep me from participating in outdoor physical activity

**18.** Please rate your level of **agreement** with the statements below: *(Please circle one response for each statement.)*

	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Somewhat disagree</b>	<b>Neither agree nor disagree</b>	<b>Somewhat agree</b>	<b>Strongly agree</b>
Obesity is a personal issue, not a community problem	1	2	3	4	5
Gardening, yard work and chopping wood are considered physical activity	1	2	3	4	5
I desire to be more physically active	1	2	3	4	5
Urban sprawl makes it harder to be more physically active	1	2	3	4	5
A connected trail and sidewalk system would make it easier for me to be active	1	2	3	4	5
I enjoy walking to get to places, such as the store	1	2	3	4	5
I enjoy biking to get places, such as the store	1	2	3	4	5

19. Overall, do you think the quality of your health and quantity of physical activity has increased, decreased, or stayed the same in the past 5 years?

**Quality of your health has:** *(Please check one.)*

INCREASED

DECREASED

STAYED THE SAME

**Quantity of physical activity in your life has:** *(Please check one.)*

INCREASED

DECREASED

STAYED THE SAME

19b. What would you attribute your change in health quality or physical activity levels to?  
*(Please describe.)* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Section 4 asks about your overall quality of life.**

20. Does the availability of green and open space and water resources in your community enhance your quality of life? *(Please check one.)*

YES (answer next two questions)

If YES, What is the one land or water area in your community that is most important to enhancing your quality of life? \_\_\_\_\_

If YES, what aspects of your life are enhanced by the presence of this land or water resource? \_\_\_\_\_

NO

21. The greatest concern that I have about conservation in my community is...*(Please describe.)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

22. What changes do you think need to be done in your community to make green and open spaces and water resources better for future generations to have and enjoy? *(Please check and/or describe.)*

My community needs the following changes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
NO changes need to be made in my community

23. When should your township, city or village become involved in regional land use planning (i.e., a cooperative land use and water resource planning effort between Berrien, Cass and Van Buren counties)? *(Please check one.)*

THIS YEAR

NEXT YEAR

3 + YEARS FROM NOW

PLANNING SHOULD HAVE TAKEN PLACE YEARS AGO

THERE IS NO NEED FOR REGIONAL LAND USE PLANNING

**Section 5 asks about general demographics. These data will be kept in the strictest confidence and used for statistical purposes only.**

24. Are you: (*Please check one.*)     FEMALE    MALE
25. What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS OLD
26. In which county do you own a home where you reside part or full-time? (*Please check one.*)  
 BERRIEN     CASS     VAN BUREN
27. In what municipality is your home located? \_\_\_\_\_ TWP/CITY/VILLAGE
28. Which statement best describes your residential status in Berrien, Cass or Van Buren County? (*Please check one.*)  
 I AM A FULL TIME, PERMANENT YEAR ROUND RESIDENT WHO OWNS MY HOME  
 I AM A PART TIME, SEASONAL RESIDENT WHO OWNS MY HOME (*also check all that apply from the list of three items below*)  
 I AM RETIRED AND ONLY RESIDE AT THIS RESIDENCE DURING CERTAIN SEASONS/TIME PERIODS  
 I USE THIS RESIDENCE FOR VACATION/WEEKEND USE  
 SOMETHING ELSE (*Please describe.*)  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 NONE OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBES MY RESIDENTIAL STATUS (*Please describe.*)  
 \_\_\_\_\_

29. What is the approximate size of your residential lot? \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ FEET or \_\_\_\_\_ ACRES
30. How many years in total have you lived in Berrien, Cass or Van Buren counties?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS
31. Did you live or visit Berrien, Cass or Van Buren County as a child? (*Please check one.*)  
 LIVED                      VISITED                      NEITHER LIVED OR VISITED

32. Indicate the level of importance of why you choose to own a home in Berrien, Cass or Van Buren County? (*Please circle one response for each item.*)

	Not important at all	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
Family ties	1	2	3	4	5
Friends close by	1	2	3	4	5
Family legacy	1	2	3	4	5
Natural landscapes/views	1	2	3	4	5
Proximity to Lake Michigan	1	2	3	4	5
Local culture/traditions	1	2	3	4	5
Presence of wildlife	1	2	3	4	5
Community involvement	1	2	3	4	5
Outdoor recreation	1	2	3	4	5
Employment opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
Educational opportunities	1	2	3	4	5

33. Which industries best represent where the members of your household have held jobs?  
(Please check all that apply.)

AGRICULTURE	MINING	TOURISM	RECREATION
HEALTH/MEDICAL	GOVERNMENT	EDUCATION	FORESTRY
MANUFACTURING	RETAIL SERVICES	OTHER: _____	

34. Please indicate the highest level of education you have completed. (Please check one.)

LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL	SOME COLLGE
TECHNICAL SCHOOL DEGREE	COLLEGE DEGREE	ADVANCED DEGREE

35. Of what ethnic or racial groups are you a member? (Please check all that apply.)

EURO-AMERICAN/WHITE	AFRICAN AMERICAN/BLACK
AMERICAN INDIAN	ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER
HISPANIC/LATINO(A)	OTHER, PLEASE SPECIFY: _____

36. Which of the following categories best describes your total 2007 household income (from all sources and before taxes)? (Please check one.)

- LESS THAN \$25,000
- \$25,000 - \$49,999
- \$50,000 - \$99,999
- \$100,000 – OR MORE

Please use the space below for other comments, questions, or suggestions regarding this survey and conservation efforts in southwest Michigan. When you are done, please return your survey in the postage-paid envelope. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION AND HELP!**

## Appendix C - Questionnaire Cover Letter (the First Mailing)

June 13, 2008

<<subject first name>> <<subject last name>>  
<<subject address>>  
<<city>>, <<state>> <<zip code>>

Dear <<subject first name>>:

Southwest Michigan is known for its natural areas, lakes, rivers and its many opportunities for outdoor recreation. In the next 30 years, the Berrien, Cass and Van Buren County region will experience unprecedented land use change. Even with stable population growth, the natural and working landscape is being converted to a more developed environment. Growing Greener is a voluntary initiative led by the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission. Partners in this initiative include representatives from national, state and local governments, nonprofit organizations and concerned citizens with interests in wildlife, water quality, non-motorized transportation, land use planning, recreation, tourism and economic development. With this initiative, a green infrastructure vision for southwest Michigan will be developed. The vision will be an **interconnected network of public and private open and green spaces and water resources that will contribute to the health, economic well-being and quality of life of our communities.**

The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission has partnered with Michigan State University to conduct a study to help define the values citizens of this region place on land conservation and issues effecting overall quality of life. Enclosed is the Conservation Needs Assessment Survey that will take approximately **15 minutes** to complete. **As a thank you for taking the time to complete the survey, your name will be entered in a drawing for gift certificates. For Berrien county residents, we have four county park passes. The value of the Annual Park Entry Permit is \$35.**

You have been randomly selected to represent permanent and seasonal residents, so your participation is crucial. If there is **more than one adult in the household**, we ask that the **person with the first birthday in a calendar year** complete the survey. By volunteering to complete the survey and returning it to Michigan State University, you indicate your consent to participate in the survey. There are no known risks associated with your participation in this study. Your participation in this study may contribute to a better understanding of issues concerning regional land conservation efforts.

Your responses will be kept confidential and your name will not be associated with any results. Your privacy will be protected to the maximum extent allowable by law. If you have any questions about this project at any time, please call Dr. Christine Vogt, Associate Professor at MSU: (517) 432-0318 or contact her at [vogtc@msu.edu](mailto:vogtc@msu.edu). If you have any questions or concerns regarding your rights as a study participant, or are dissatisfied at any time with any aspect of this study, you may contact – anonymously, if you wish, Peter Vasilenko, Ph. D., Director of the Human Research Protection Programs (HRPP) at Michigan State University: (517) 355-2180, fax: (517) 432-4503, email: [irb@msu.edu](mailto:irb@msu.edu), or regular mail: 202 Olds Hall, East Lansing, MI 48824.

Sincerely,

Christine Vogt, Ph.D.  
Michigan State University

Marcy Colclough  
Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

Enclosures: survey, postage paid envelope

## Appendix D - Post-Card Reminder Letter

Hello,

Last week or so you should have received a survey mailed from Michigan State University titled “Growing Greener.” It is part of an important research study concerning land use in Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren counties.

If you have already returned it, please accept our sincere thanks. If not, we ask that you do so as soon as possible. Your participation is voluntary and you can skip questions if you so choose. Your views and information will be very helpful.

If you did not receive the survey, or it was misplaced, please call me at 517-432-0318 or e-mail me at vogtc@msu.edu. We would be glad to mail you another survey. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Christine A. Vogt, Associate Professor, MSU

## Appendix E - Questionnaire Cover Letter (the Second Mailing)

July 14, 2008

<<subject first name>> <<subject last name>>

<<subject address>>

<<city>>, <<state>> <<zip code>>

Dear <<subject first name>>:

In the past few weeks you should have received a mailing from Michigan State University for a research study. We are partnering with the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission on an initiative called Growing Greener. Southwest Michigan is known for its natural areas, lakes, rivers and its many opportunities for outdoor recreation. In the next 30 years, the Berrien, Cass and Van Buren County region will experience unprecedented land use change. Even with stable population growth, the natural and working landscape is being converted to a more developed environment. Growing Greener is a voluntary initiative led by the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission. Partners in this initiative include representatives from national, state and local governments, nonprofit organizations and concerned citizens with interests in wildlife, water quality, non-motorized transportation, land use planning, recreation, tourism and economic development. With this initiative, a green infrastructure vision for southwest Michigan will be developed. The vision will be an **interconnected network of public and private open and green spaces and water resources that will contribute to the health, economic well-being and quality of life of our communities.**

We have heard from many, but have not heard from you yet. Enclosed is another copy of the Conservation Needs Assessment Survey that will take approximately **15 minutes** to complete. Please consider completing and returning the survey as soon as you receive it in the mail. We will be processing surveys after Labor Day for those who receive this survey in their held mail. **As a thank you for taking the time to complete the survey, your name will be entered in a drawing for gift certificates. For Berrien county residents, we have four county park passes. The value of the Annual Park Entry Permit is \$35.**

You have been randomly selected to represent permanent and seasonal residents, so your participation is crucial. If there is **more than one adult in the household**, we ask that the **person with the first birthday in a calendar year** complete the survey. By volunteering to complete the survey and returning it to Michigan State University, you indicate your consent to participate in the survey. There are no known risks associated with your participation in this study. Your participation in this study may contribute to a better understanding of issues concerning regional land conservation efforts.

Your responses will be kept confidential and your name will not be associated with any results. Your privacy will be protected to the maximum extent allowable by law. If you have any questions about this project at any time, please call Dr. Christine Vogt, Associate Professor at MSU: (517) 432-0318 or contact her at [vogtc@msu.edu](mailto:vogtc@msu.edu). If you have any questions or concerns regarding your rights as a study participant, or are dissatisfied at any time with any aspect of this study, you may contact – anonymously, if you wish, Peter Vasilenko, Ph. D., Director of the Human Research Protection Programs (HRPP) at Michigan State University: (517) 355-2180, fax: (517) 432-4503, email: [irb@msu.edu](mailto:irb@msu.edu), or regular mail: 202 Olds Hall, East Lansing, MI 48824.

Sincerely,

Christine Vogt, Ph.D.  
Michigan State University

Marcy Colclough  
Southwest Michigan Planning Commission

Enclosures: survey, postage paid envelope

## Appendix F - Non-response letter/survey

Hello,

September 8, 2008

Over the past two months you probably received a survey called “Southwest Michigan Conservation Assessment Survey: Growing Greener.” I am writing you for a final time because we did not hear from you. I need to accurately estimate the level of interest and support for conservation and resource planning in the Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren region. This effort needs the full range of public input, including your thoughts. Would you please consider answering these few questions and returning this letter in the prepaid envelope? Your answer will be anonymous. This will be the last contact with you.

1. Overall, do you think that the quality and quantity of green and open spaces in your community has increased, decreased, or stayed the same in the past 5 years? *(please check one box for each statement)*

	Increased	Decreased	Stayed the Same
Quality of Green & Open Spaces			
Quantity of Green & Open Spaces			
Quality of Water Resources			
<b>Quantity of Water Resources</b>			

2. Please rate your agreement with the statements below. *(please circle a response for each statement)*

	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Neither Agree Nor Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree
Natural resources in highly populated areas (urban) are important to conserve.	1	2	3	4	5
Natural resources in low populated areas (rural) are important to conserve.	1	2	3	4	5
Conservation areas should be public resources or publically owned.	1	2	3	4	5
Conservation areas should be privately owned.	1	2	3	4	5

\*\*\*\*\* Please turn over a few more questions \*\*\*\*\*



3. How do you feel about the **amount of** the following **resources/assets** in your community?  
*(Please circle one response for each item.)*

	Too much	Adequate	Some more needed	Much more needed
Campgrounds	1	2	3	4
Historical/cultural attractions	1	2	3	4
Biking trails	1	2	3	4
Mountain biking trails	1	2	3	4
Hiking trails	1	2	3	4
Horse (equestrian) trails	1	2	3	4
Cross country ski trails	1	2	3	4
Snowmobile trails	1	2	3	4
Off road vehicle trails	1	2	3	4
Hunting land	1	2	3	4
Open and green spaces	1	2	3	4
Agricultural lands	1	2	3	4
Public parks	1	2	3	4
Protected natural areas	1	2	3	4
Piers for fishing	1	2	3	4
Playgrounds	1	2	3	4
Lake Michigan beaches	1	2	3	4
Ball fields (soccer, baseball, etc)	1	2	3	4
Golf courses	1	2	3	4
Canoe/kayak launches	1	2	3	4
Skateboarding parks	1	2	3	4

4. How much would you personally be willing to pay to conserve green and open space in your community or county? *(Please check one.)*

\$0/year    \$1-5/year    \$6-10/year    \$11-15/year    \$16-25/year    More than \$25/year

5. To help us on surveys in the future, could you share with us why you didn't return the earlier surveys we sent you.

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**Thank you for your time! Please return your response in the pre-paid envelope as soon as possible.**

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## Appendix G - Data for Open-Ended Questions

❖ **Survey question 1b: Top outdoor activities participated in nearby the community**

**Berrien County**

**Water bodies/beaches**

Beach  
 Beaches of St. Joseph/Benton Harbor  
 Big and Little PawPaw Lakes  
 City of New Buffalo Public Beach, Lake Michigan  
 Clark Park, McCoy Creek, Pond  
 Hagar Beach  
 Hess Lake, Baroda Township Park  
 Lake Chapin  
 Lake Michigan  
 Lake Michigan and St. Joseph River  
 Lake Michigan and St. Joseph River Mariana Land  
 Lake Michigan Beach  
 Lake Michigan Beach and Park  
 Lake Michigan beach stop 40 Michigan  
 Lake Michigan, 2 bulks away  
 Land along creek in Michigan Shore  
 Michigan Beaches  
 New Buffalo Beach  
 New Buffalo Public Beach  
 Niles by the river, St. Joseph Pier walk  
 PawPaw Lake  
 PawPaw Lake boat launch  
 PawPaw River and Hays Park  
 Rocky Gap Beach  
 Shore line Lake Michigan  
 Silver Beach  
 Silver beach, St. Joseph MI  
 St. Joseph Rive, Lake Chapin, Angeline Rd. Park-interurban trail.  
 St. Joseph River  
 St. Joseph River/Lake Michigan  
 Warren Dunes  
 Weko Beach

**Parks & recreation including golf**

2 county parks, 1 within 1 miles, the other within 3 miles  
 3 Blocks, playground  
 Arthur Dodd Park  
 Baseball Park  
 Berrien Hills Golf Club Napier Av, Benton Harbor  
 Berrien Springs campground  
 Berrien Springs Schools/County Fair grounds  
 Berrien Springs Village Park  
 Bluff, downtown St. Joseph  
 Brook wood Golf Course  
 Carrode Park  
 Carrode Park, St. Joseph Park  
 Chakaming Township, Warren Dunes  
 Chakaming Park and Preserve  
 Children's park in subdivision  
 City and township parks  
 City of Niles park  
 City Park  
 City Park on corner of S. 17th and Ferry, Niles  
 City Park, borders river, has playground  
 Farm Park  
 Feather Park, Wolfs Prairie Park  
 Fernwood Botanical Gardens  
 Fernwood gardens  
 Fernwood Botanical Gardens, Warren Dunes State Park  
 Friendship Park  
 Grand Beach Golf Course  
 Grand Mere  
 Grandmere State Park  
 Grandmere State park, Stevensville  
 Hackers Recreation Center  
 Hagar Township Parks/FOP Ball Park Coloma Twp  
 Hayes park, Watervliet  
 Hayes Parks in Watervliet  
 Hays Park  
 Hays Park, baseball park w/ playground near the river  
 high school open field  
 Hull Park  
 Jung/Lakeshore Schools conservation Area, Stevensville  
 Kiwanis Park

Kiwanis Park and playground  
 Kiwanis Park, Whirlpool field  
 Kiwanis Tiny tots Parks in St. Joe City  
 Lake Township Park  
 Lincoln Township  
 Lincoln township park on Lake Michigan on Notre Dame Rd.1.  
 Lincoln township/grand mere  
 Lincoln Twp Park  
 Love Creek Nature Center  
 Lyons Park  
 Lyons park/Silver Beach/Lake Michigan  
 Madeline Bertrand Park  
 Margaret Upton Arboretum  
 McCoy Creek Park in Buchanan  
 McCoy park and trails  
 National Dunes, Indiana  
 New Buffalo Public Beach  
 New Buffalo Twp Park  
 Niles city park  
 Niles Riverfront Park  
 North Lake Township Park: shelter, playground Park  
 Park in New Buffalo  
 Park near River-Niles  
 Park on Dowagiac Creek  
 Park on St. 60 River in city of Niles  
 Park, home owner's association park  
 Park, picnic area, and playgrounds  
 Parks, Coloma and Watervliet  
 Pepper Marring Park  
 Pipestone Creek Golf Course  
 Pipestone Golf Course  
 Playground  
 Playground, City Park  
 Playground Park  
 Pontiac St. Playground  
 Public hunting  
 Randall Play Park  
 River front park, with playground, fishing docks  
 River Park Playground, skateboard area, playground  
 Riverfront park, Niles  
 Riverfront Parks and picnic area  
 Riverview Park  
 Riverview Park in St. Joseph Township  
 Riverview Park-St. Joe  
 Rocky Gap Park  
 Royalton Twp Park  
 Saint Patrick's Park  
 Sarrett Nature Center  
 Sarrett Nature Center, Benton township park  
 Sarrett Nature Center, Fernwood  
 Scenic look out (Lake MI) Red Arrow HWY-St. Joe public beach, Warren Dunes.  
 Scenic Lookout on Lakeshore Dr.  
 Shoreham Village Park  
 Shoreham Village Park, Tennis Ct, Basketball Ct, Playground-walking course, picnic.  
 Sister lakes Lions Park  
 Small Parks in New Buffalo  
 Soccer fields on Maiden Lane  
 Soccer field behind the church  
 Sodus Township Park  
 St. Joseph River Park  
 St. Joseph River Park, Bike, Walk Trail, Playground  
 St. Joseph Riverview Park  
 State Park  
 Stevensville Park  
 Still new to the area- moved here from 1/5 years ago. (There is a walking area? Sign says no motor vehicles, but I have not explored it yet. For beaches we go to silver beach, Lincoln township-warren dunes).  
 Ticornia Park and Jean Klock Park  
 Township Park  
 Township park and Love Creek Co. Park  
 Township park and warren dunes state park  
 Van Buren Trail  
 Village Park  
 Warren Dunes  
 Warren Dunes State Park  
 Warren State Park  
 Warren Woods  
 Warren Woods park- nature trails to walk (we are surrounded by farm fields, but this is public use)  
 Warren Woods State Park  
 Warren Woods, Warren Duens  
 Wet Lands State Park  
 Yes, Timber town playground

## **Trails/greenways**

Glenlord Rd to Hollywood Rd  
wood landscapes  
Berrien Hills  
Hunting  
Rural space behind my house and blueberry farm  
a few blocks away

## **Own property/home**

All surrounding areas, including my acres  
At the end of our road by Hwy 12  
Behind our house  
I have 52 acres and /5 mile of PawPaw River-  
frontage.  
Next door, and up and down street, fruit orchard  
Our farm is across the road from our home  
Residence and across the road

## **Farmland**

Corn field, right across the street  
Farm  
Farm Land  
French's field, Niles, MI  
I live in the middle of an orchard  
Mitchell Farm (sweet grass)  
Vergots farm on John Beers Road

## **Cass County**

### **Water Bodies/Beaches**

2 miles access site to magician lake  
Baldwin Lake  
Baron Lake, fruit farm, fields of plantings  
Beach, woods  
Beautiful streams, hiking paths, horse riding paths,  
picnic area  
boat landing at MGZ near Dutch settlement Rd.  
near Dowagiac  
Boat launch at Juno Lake  
Boat launch/ park and wetlands nature walk  
Christian Creek, Juno-Christian-painter-eagle lakes  
City Parks, Dowagiac Woods  
Corey Lake & Harwood Lake  
Corey or Harwood lake boat launch  
Dewey Lake  
Diamond Lake

Diamond Lake, Cesspools  
Dowagiac river  
Eagle Lake  
Eagle lake/ Eagle lake school- swim playground  
Forest Mill Pond  
Graver Lake  
Indian Lake  
Inland Lake shoreline  
Juno Lake  
Lake Michigan  
Lake Michigan Beach  
Long Lake  
Michigan Lake public Access otherwise, I don't know  
Mill Pond + Twin Lake  
Mill Pond, city park, fishing  
Painter lake  
Public areas to lake (Diamond)  
River  
Robins Lake  
Shore line, farms  
Silver Beach  
sister Lakes  
Twin Lakes beach  
Wetland at Diamond lake

### **Parks & recreation including golf**

4 mi. Dr. Lawless Park  
9 miles country park  
A small sitting park down the road that, I never visit.  
A.J Lawless PR.  
Across the street- Russ Forest  
Arthur Doner Park  
At the corner - long lake public access  
Beeson picnic area  
Cass country park : Lawless Park, picnic, hiking,  
biking ball field.  
Children play ground  
Christina Lake + Four Lakes golf course  
County park  
Crane Pond State Game area  
Diamond Lake golf course  
Dodd Park  
Doll Horne Park  
Doughiak Creek, Picnic area; mill pond

Dowagiac Woods  
 Dr. Lawless Park  
 Dr. Lawless Park - Mt bike area  
 Dr. Lawless Park/ Newton Forest  
 East side park/playground  
 Edwardsburg public schools, playground  
 Edwardsburg High School Athletic Field  
 Fires Lakes golf course  
 Fulkerson&17th park  
 Fuss Forest  
 Golf course  
 Golf course on Indian Lake  
 Gunn park - pleasant lake - Edwardsburg  
 Gunn Park near pleasant Lake  
 Hampshire golf course  
 Heddons Park  
 Heddons Park Newton woods  
 Hunting Preserve - Jones  
 Kiddee Coral - playground for kids  
 Kiddee Coral  
 Kraus Park  
 Kraus Park - small picnic area with playground  
 Krause Park, Edwardsburg, MI  
 Law less county park  
 Lawless Park  
 Lawless Park Cass county  
 Lawless Park, Russ Forest  
 Lion Park, Old race track + baseball Fields  
 Lions park 95th Ave.  
 Little league field  
 Lyons Park  
 Madeline bertrand county park  
 Made line bertrand park  
 Milton TWP Park  
 Newtons woods  
 Niles River walk  
 North main St. well site Elkhart In  
 Old football field  
 Orchard hills county club  
 Park  
 Park by pleasant lake (Edwardberg)  
 Park in Cassopolis  
 Park in Dowagiac  
 Park in Edwardberg

Pepper martin Park- Howard Township, Cass Co.  
 Playground at Cincolhn community Center  
 Playground at Mason/Union library  
 Private campground  
 Public hunting state land the lake I live on  
 Public Park  
 Recreation front park- Downtown Niles, MI  
 Recreation areas - country parks  
 River front Park - Niles MI  
 Rudolph woods  
 Russ Forest  
 Russ Forest - Lawless Park  
 Russ Forest 3 miles  
 Russ Forest county park though we are surrounded –  
 to private owned open land.  
 Russ Forest Marcellus hwy  
 Russ Forest Park  
 Russ Forest(Marcellus, MI), approx 3-5 miles away  
 Russ Forest, Cass county on Marcellus Hwy  
 Russ Forest/ Newton Woods  
 sister lakes lions parks  
 Small park near Bush Lake cars co.  
 Small Park subdivision set aside  
 Softball/ skate park area in Dowagiac  
 Spruce ridge golf course  
 State ground also parks recreation 4.5miles either-  
 way north/south.  
 State land MI Lawless Park  
 State property Norton Road  
 State property right across the street  
 State timber off Marcellus road and Penn road  
 Swiss Valley  
 Texas drive park. Kalamazoo  
 The park access the street  
 TK Lawless Park  
 Township Park  
 Warren dines state park

### **Trails/greenways**

Brandywine Creek Trail  
 Hiking Trails e SMC, Russ Forest  
 SMC woods  
 Southwest Michigan closes Trails, Cass co.  
 Pokagon Twp.  
 Western Michigan college trail walk

## **Wood landscapes**

Fernwood  
Newton Woods & Dowagiac woods  
Peacock Ridge  
Woods + Trails (Rudolph woods+ smc Trails)

## **Own property/home**

Our own property  
5 acres - we own across from our home  
Across from home  
Back of Property SWMLC Thomas FEN  
Backyard  
Baldwin Lake - Property located on it  
Open spaces is part our farm & home  
Our 48 plus acres- vacant  
Out the door  
Outside the home  
Own MI property  
We live in the country, there is a lot of-  
open space.  
We owe a farm  
We own 10 acres

## **Farmland**

Our neighbors have 180 acres next to our house-  
1 mile farm land park 2miles  
A farm directly behind my house  
A field  
Corey LK orchard  
Corn field  
Farm  
Farm Fields across street(corn this yr)  
Farm land & Open fields  
Farm land local parks- school playgrounds  
Farmland & Vandalia 2 miles away  
Farmland, shoreline, fields  
Field across street  
Neighbor farm, they raise beef cattle and horses-  
also shovelhead lake recreational where we live –  
also camp peninsula a merit church camp.  
Neighbors Field + across the road - Farm land  
Next door is a farm  
Open uncultivated fields, woods surrounding my  
home on all four sides  
Pine Lake Farms  
Small farm  
Working lands

## **Van Buren County**

### **Water Bodies/Beaches**

Beach of lake Michigan Laily block  
Beaches  
Boat launch/ picnic area on Van Auken Lake  
Brandy wine lake, turkey lake 0.5 miles  
Covet Township beach  
DNR public boat landing  
Don' know South Haven beach  
Eagle Lake ( off of M -51)  
Eagle Lake access  
Hall Lake Public boat launch  
Hayes Park in water  
Lake & Park  
Lake Brown wood, Leduc blueberries, Pawpaw river  
Lake Cora + Reynolds Lake Access/ Lake Cora Hills-  
Golf Course.  
Lake Cora small break for swim, fishing, boat-  
landing 3 miles away.  
Lake front  
Lake Mich - St. Joseph  
Lake Mich. Beach at South haven, MI  
Lake Mich. Shoreline  
Lake Michigan  
Lake Michigan beach 100 yard from Home  
Lake Michigan beaches  
Lake Michigan South haven  
Lake Michigan Van Buren Trail  
Lake of the woods, it is a public lake with open beach  
and area for picnic with children plays area.  
Lake of woods  
Maple island Pond in PawPaw  
Maple Lake - picnic area- playground, lake  
Maple Lake boat launch (PawPaw)  
Maple Lake in Pawpaw  
Parks - beach Lake Michigan  
PawPaw Maple Lake  
PawPaw River and Lake Cora  
Private Lake front picnic + playground area  
Public access boat launch - bank lake (Lawton area)  
Public access lake/ Island Park  
Public access to big crooked lake  
Public beach South Haven  
Public boat landing - 300 ft away form house  
Public Lake

Public park + boat landing  
 shore line 4 lake Michigan approx 2 blks from the home  
 So haven Beach  
 South Haven Black River outlet  
 South Haven South beach  
 South Haven South beach + Kal Haven trail-  
 blueberry farm.  
 State Park/ beach  
 Van Buren State - Lake MI

**Parks & recreation including golf**

A small park in PawPaw  
 A township park  
 Across the street from my house-  
 southern Michigan Gun club.  
 Allegan Forest  
 Allegan state game area  
 Baseball Park  
 Bobles Garnde school playground/ Kal Haven Trail  
 C.E. Lewis Park, Lawton, Playground; tennis,  
 basketball courts, wide open field.  
 Camp ground & lake - public park/farms  
 City Park  
 City Park school playground  
 Clancy Lewis Memorial Park Lawton, also-  
 kenney wetland protection area about 7 miles  
 conservation area adjacent to my property.  
 County Park  
 Crane Poho state game area  
 Decatur Public school pines  
 Dyckman Park in South Haven  
 Elkenburg Park, South Haven  
 Ely Park Van Buren trail 2 blocks  
 Fish Hatchery - walking trails  
 Golf course  
 Golf course - Own yards  
 Golf course peacock ridge  
 Grand junction school + local beaches –  
 many local lakes.  
 Grand Mere State Park  
 Hagar Park & beach  
 Hamilton township historic grange hall  
 Hegar shore park, Lake MI shoreline  
 Keeler conservation public hunting area  
 Kid Park  
 Kids Corner, City park with play equipment,  
 baseball, grass area, grills

Kid's corner, Public Park & South beach  
 Kids corner, South Haven Trail  
 Kids Dream Lawton Park  
 Kids dream park  
 Kids korner, children's park  
 Kids paradise park  
 Kirvanis Park -Bangor  
 Lake Cora golf course  
 Lawis Park  
 Lawrence village park  
 Lawton Elen Playground  
 Lawton golf course  
 Lawton Park  
 Less than 1mile - martha mott nature conservatory  
 Lion Park, Bangor  
 Lions Park  
 Lions park in Bangor  
 Maple Inland Park/ village of PawPaw  
 Maple Island  
 Maple Island; a park in maple lake, PawPaw  
 Maple Isle Park  
 Mattawan city park  
 Mattawan city park(band stand, swings, monkey bars)  
 Mattawan village Park  
 Nature conservancy - I sold property to them  
 Nature conservancy  
 Nature conservancy PawPaw  
 Newton woods - Vandalia  
 Park  
 Park - ball park with creek (Bloomingdale)  
 Park at school  
 Park in Blooming dale  
 Park in Decatur, MI  
 Park in Lawrence, VBISD habitat trails  
 Park in the village of PawPaw  
 Park South Haven  
 Parks in South Haven  
 PawPaw high school  
 PawPaw Public Park  
 Porter TWP Park, Lawton Park/ playground,  
 Kal Haven Trail  
 Public Land  
 Public park & playground  
 Public Park in Mattawan + PawPaw

Public Park Lawrence MI  
 Raider romp community playground + park  
 Russ Forest  
 Russ Forest Park  
 Russ Forest, Lawless Park  
 Russ Park - hiking, horse riding trails  
 School ball fields  
 Shady brook park, Bloomingdale  
 Shamrock golf course  
 Small village park  
 Softball field  
 Softball Park  
 South Haven Decatur public parks + campground  
 South haven state Park  
 State Forest  
 State Land  
 State land open to hunting  
 State Park  
 Texas drive park - Texas corners  
 Texas Drive park + Ausable Trail  
 Texas Township Park  
 Tot Lot  
 Tot- lot Playground/softball - baseball field for kids  
 Town Park  
 Van Buren country camp grounds  
 Van Buren County park - PawPaw  
 Van Buren State Park  
 Van Buren State Park - near lake Michigan  
 Van Buren state park Covert MI  
 Van Buren State Park or South Haven city Park  
 or S.H. Township parks.  
 Village Park  
 wolf lake fish hatchery  
 Wolf Lake fish hatchery  
 3 = trails/greenways  
 Kal - haven trail, beach at south haven  
 Kal Haven Trail  
 Kal haven trail - lake Michigan  
 Kal Haven Trail on 62nd St, Van Buren  
 Natural trail  
 Nature trail, open fields  
 Trail - Celery Pond in So. Haven  
 Trail from Bloomingdale we don't like it, because  
 it's isolated from people like portage MI trails  
 Van Buren County Trail

## **Wood landscapes**

Wooded pine forest (school pines)  
 Woods walking

## **Own property/home**

Across street  
 Farm land own  
 Front door( I live in woods)  
 Home-Farm  
 I have my own open space public place is  
 Van Buren co. park at Covert.  
 I live in the country so next door  
 Our 1.5 acres woods  
 Our own woods  
 Out my front door - Farmland woods, etc  
 Own property - 60 acres  
 own two acres and a neighbors grape field down the street  
 Surround my home - farm land  
 We just move to our house- I have 7 acres of forest  
 We live on a farm, with lakes close by

## **Farmland**

Block away is a corn field + a park  
 Blueberry farm  
 Blueberry fields(u-pick)  
 Brother's farm of my garden  
 Farm  
 Farm - neighbor  
 Farm Land & a Park in Lawton  
 Field and river  
 Hay field next door  
 Kovac Blue Berry Farm  
 Private Farm  
 Yard , fields



❖ **Survey question 4b : Green and open spaces important to residents**

**Berrien County**

**Beach/Water**

Beach  
Beach front park  
Beach on Lake Michigan, Lincoln Township Beach and Grand mere park.  
Beach, lakefront Park in St. Joe  
Covert Beach  
Creek  
Dunes  
Dunes along Lake Michigan  
Galien River  
Galien River  
Hess Lake and singer lake  
I have a 5 acre pond  
Lake and Beaches  
Lake Michigan  
Lake Michigan (Silver Beach)  
Lake Michigan Beach  
Lake Michigan Beaches, Weko Beach  
Lake Michigan Shoreline  
Lake/Bluff  
Lakefront- our ravine  
Lakefront/shoreline  
Lakeshore (Michigan)  
Lakeshore beach  
LM Beach, Sarrett Nature Center  
Madron Lake  
McCoy Creek  
Michigan Shoreline  
Mud Bog Lake, Fernwood  
Oxbow of St. Joseph River  
PawPaw Lakes  
Private area beaches  
San dunes beach Grand mere state Park, Lincoln township park, North Lake Grand mere park  
Sand Dunes  
Silver Beach  
Silver beach, peaceful walk, pier, water

Spring fed creek and pond  
St. Joseph River  
St. Joseph River, Benton Township Park  
The beaches  
The bluff in St. Joseph  
The Public access site on PawPaw Lake, Coloma and Watervliet sites.  
Tower hill at Warren Dunes  
Waterfront  
Weko Beach  
Weko Beach, Bridgman  
Wetland/River  
Wetlands on PawPaw lake

**Parks & recreation including golf**

Arthur Dodd  
Bluff in St. Joseph  
Bluff Park  
Caronda Park  
City Park  
City square, Dtown Benton Harbor  
Fernwood  
Fernwood and Riverfront Park  
Fernwood Botanical Gardens  
Fernwood Gardens  
Fernwood Nature Center  
Fernwood Nature Center  
Golf Course  
Grand Mere State Park  
Hagar township parks  
Hays Park  
Island Park  
Island Park, Footbridge, Quaint  
Jean Klock Park  
Jean Klock Park  
Jung Conservation Area  
Lake Blvd. Park  
Lincoln Township Park and Nature Trail  
Love Creek Nature Center  
Love Greek Nature Center in Berrien Center. (Virgin woods. Peaceful walk, good exercise, wildflowers in spring).  
Madeline Bertrand Park  
Margaret Upton Arboretum  
New Buffalo Twp Park

New Troy community Center w/ grounds  
 Park  
 Park overlooking lake  
 Parks for children to play  
 Pebble wood Golf Course  
 Picnic area, play park (children) Lake  
 River front park, open and scenic  
 River Park  
 Riverfront  
 Riverfront Park, Niles  
 Saint Patrick's park  
 Sarrett nature Center  
 Soccer field  
 State Park  
 The former OAKES golf courses (planning to build homes on it)  
 The Riverfront Park in Niles, MI  
 Veterans Park  
 Warren Dunes State Park  
 Warren Dunes State Park  
 Warren Dunes/Woods  
 Warren wood park between Warren Woods Ed. and Elm Valley Rd.  
 Warren woods  
 Warren Woods and Dunes  
 Warren Woods area  
 Warren woods State Park  
 Water treatment plant  
 We like to tube at Madeline Bertrand Park  
 Wolfs Prairie Park

**Trails/greenways**

Bike trails, walking trails  
 Interurban trail, local woods, st. Joseph River, and Lake Michigan  
 McCoy Trail  
 Nature preserves designed wetlands  
 Neighborhood common area  
 The walkway along the River in St. Joseph  
 Walking course

**Wood landscapes**

Bog area  
 Public Hunting  
 Ravine

Wetland areas adjacent to Jean Klaock park, Benton Harbor  
 Woods  
 Woods and old lake (swamp) behind us  
 Woods behind us  
 own property/home  
 My home  
 My own 14 acres  
 My property

**Farm land**

Fruit Farms  
 Fruit trees and vineyards  
 My farm and farmland across the road w/ pond  
 Nearby dormant farm  
 Our farm, woods and pond  
 Open Farmland out backyard

**Cass County**

**Beach/Water**

Baldwin Lake  
 Baldwin Lake (also long, Indiana overbite lakes)  
 Cable lake beaches  
 Campground with lake  
 Christiana Creek  
 Christina Lake  
 Crane pond  
 Crane Pond in Newberg township.  
 Christian, Juno, Painter + Eagle Lakes  
 Diamond Lake  
 Dowagiac Creek, Stone Lake, Pond on own farm  
 Dowagiac River  
 Eagle Lake public  
 Graver like public access  
 Harwood Lake  
 Hat bridge Rd bridge area river- wetland- beautiful St. Joseph county.  
 Indian Lake  
 Inland lake  
 Juno Lake  
 Kinger Lake  
 Lake  
 Lake MI, woods

Lake Michigan  
 Lake Michigan beaches  
 Lake Michigan& Inland small lakes  
 Lakes  
 Lakes & farms  
 Lakes farmland woods  
 Lakes rivers(water)  
 Leuley Lake  
 Little crooked lake  
 Long Lake  
 Mill Pond  
 Mill Pond back water  
 River & Lake  
 Robin Lake  
 Shavehead Lake  
 Shavehead lake peninsula  
 The lake  
 Wetland  
 Wetlands on Lwristiaina lake  
 Where lake Lagrange or Witt Pond/ the river area is.

**Parks & recreation including golf**

All state land  
 Bill parks, Parks  
 Broadway park  
 Dr. Lawless Park  
 Fernwood  
 Fernwood nature center  
 Golf course or lake  
 Gunn Park  
 Gunn Park -picnic/ playground area next to a beach  
 Howard TWP little league park  
 Howell point park(private)  
 Jeon clark park  
 Lawless park  
 Lawless park - Newtons woods  
 Lawton park on many state park  
 Morgador Valley  
 Newton woods  
 Newton woods Russ Forest  
 Park  
 Park - golf course  
 Park + historical sites  
 Parks in Berrien county and Lake Michigan

Parks Trails  
 Potato creek state park  
 Russ Forest  
 Russ Forest, Lucks Farms  
 River front park  
 River side park  
 River walk  
 riverfront walkway  
 Rudalphi woods  
 Rudoffie Park  
 Rules city park  
 Russ forest  
 Russ Forest Dowaglen  
 Russ Forest Park  
 Russ Forest Park - Vilonia Township  
 small parks + state parks  
 Southwest Michigan village  
 Warren dunes state park

**Trails/greenways**

Cora walk  
 Hunting areas (deer & turkey)  
 SMC campus & woods  
 Smc Trails  
 Snowmobile trails  
 Southwest Michigan College Trail  
 State owned lands  
 Walking trail  
 wood landscapes,  
 Bird watching, natural habitat's  
 Dowagiac woods  
 Dowagiac woods & Creek  
 Dowagiac woods on Frost st. Dowagiac  
 Natural woods up to lake  
 Rolling wood hills  
 Small wooded area  
 Various pirate woods/timber  
 Wooded areas on lake(Juno)

**Own property/home**

5 acres owned by me  
 Back of my property  
 Back of my new house - dose to Diamond Lake-wetland- DNR has change of this.  
 My back yard

My farm  
 My farm 240ac  
 My home lands, wildlife ,rabbits  
 My land and land next to mine  
 My own land  
 My parent 40 acre parcels  
 My property surrounds The Lake, also like farmland and wooded areas.  
 My woods  
 My yard  
 Our neighborhood  
 Our farm on M-62 south  
 Our home and acreage + the Farmlands  
 Our neighbors property & the use of it is amazing  
 Our own 40 acre Farm/ woods  
 Own land  
 Owned land on Priest Lake  
 Personal property  
 undeveloped land melt to my home  
 We own & live on wetland & woods  
 We purchased 2 acres to enclose wildlife-  
 We do not plan to develop it.  
 Wood around house  
 Yard

### **Farmland**

Farm Field/ woods  
 Farmland  
 Farmlands state land  
 Farms & like to see crops growing  
 Farm wood nature center + farms  
 Fields  
 Old farm a woods corner of Penn + Dutch settlement  
 Open fields  
 We use the field to X country ski  
 Working Farm lands

### **Van Buren County**

#### **Beach/Water**

Ackley Lake  
 All of the lakes and surrounds  
 Almena township swamp  
 Beach - S. Haven, black river

Beach + state park  
 Black Lake  
 Black River  
 Boat landing  
 Bridges pond. PawPaw  
 Brush crick & PawPaw River  
 Celery pond  
 Celery Pond  
 Chainmen's swamp  
 Gravel Lake  
 Inland lakes - river  
 Island Lake I live on  
 Kalamazoo River + Flood Plain  
 Kinney waterfowl production area, porter township  
 Lake  
 Lake brain wood - we have deeded access  
 Lake Front  
 Lake Mich, beach's  
 Lake Michigan  
 Lake Michigan & accompanying land features (dunes, woods, beaches)  
 Lake Michigan + Cedar Lake  
 Lake Michigan beaches  
 Lake Michigan shoreline in South Haven ,MI  
 Lake Michigan-shoreline  
 Lake of the woods  
 Lake of the woods lake  
 Low Land swamp  
 Maple Lake  
 Mill Creek  
 North point beach in South Haven  
 PawPaw River  
 PawPaw River Brush creek  
 Pollution at Maple Lake  
 Private lake, woods  
 Public beach , ball fields  
 Public boat launch sites  
 Rivers + lakes, Pawpaw River  
 Shafer Lake  
 Shoreline - lake Michigan  
 Shoreline Lake Michigan  
 Small, close lakes; woods, farm land, bar hunting  
 South beach  
 South Haven beach

The beach  
The celery pond  
The lake Michigan shoreline  
The Lakes  
The sister lakes & keeler lake  
Van Buren Co. Lake Michigan Prop. next to VB.  
State Park  
Wetlands  
Wolf Lake  
Wolf lake fish hatchery

### **Parks & recreation including golf**

Bangor Park and Dam  
Bangor school grounds/trails  
Bangor's lions Park - for canoeing black river  
Deerlick beach  
Deerlick Park, South Haven  
Ely Park  
Fuller Land Preserve  
Grand Mere State Park  
Kids corner  
Kids corner city park  
Lawrence Park  
Local ball parks + lakes  
Local Park, bike trail, beach  
Maple Island Park  
Mattawan Park  
Nature conservancy on Van Kal  
Nature Preserve  
Nature preserves m Ave.  
Park  
Park on lake  
Park trees – play area  
PawPaw Conservation club  
Probably kids corner  
Raider romp  
Roadside Park on Lake MI  
Russ Forest  
Russ Forest - being out in the open air  
School Pines  
Stanley Johnson Park  
State Park and township park - Dunes  
State Park/ Sand dunes  
The parks  
Van Buren State Park

Van Buren county North Point Conservation areas.  
Village park

### **Trails/greenways**

Harberg walk  
Kal haven trail  
Natural Trial  
Trail over tubes into Maple lake  
Van buren county walking trail  
Van Kal + rails  
wood landscapes  
Allegan Forest & Todd Farm  
Conservation Areas  
Forested areas  
Rural Nature of area  
Trees  
Vacant wooded areas  
Wild area - habitat restoration  
Wood  
Woods around my home. The PawPaw river  
Woods, the whole area has cats of natural woods

### **Own property/home**

Almena county property 320 AC  
Back yard  
Family farm  
I own land & own yard  
My 20 acre farm - Lake Mich.  
My 5 acres  
My farm  
My farmland with its hill  
My home  
My land, 54 acres  
My pond  
My vineyard  
My yard - I don't have close neighbors  
Our lake + surrounding greenery  
Personal Property  
Rural area around our house  
The farmland behind my home

### **Farmland**

Farmland  
Farms + fields  
Grape Vineyards

Grape vineyards, orchards  
Leduc blueberries  
Working the farm land

### ❖ Survey question 4c: why green and open spaces are important to residents

#### **Berrien County**

##### **Leisure/recreation**

Access to Lake Michigan  
Beach  
Because I like to walk my dog there  
Boat access for family  
Cross-country skiing  
Enjoy hiking  
Everyone should be able to enjoy Lake Michigan  
Favorite walking area  
Fishing  
Fishing and beauty of sunsets  
Fishing and hiking  
Fishing, boating  
For boating, fishing, and swimming  
For walking, the animals that live there and its natural beauty  
for walking-sunsets  
Game (Pheasants)  
Golf  
Great variety of trails and habitats  
Hiking  
I like to be outside  
I love walking, scenic views, and water  
It attracts wildlife  
It impact everything that orders the river and-our entire area,  
provides fishing, boat in access, natural trails  
It is a nice place to go  
Less crowded beach  
Love spending time outside, very quiet place too  
McCoy trail is new to walk  
Memorial, creek, shade trees, shelter, picnic tables-  
snow slide, water slide  
Nice place to walk, relax

Nice to walk along  
Pavilions, BBQ, Stream  
Peace and quiet, walks, birding, fishing,  
canoeing, sailing  
Pick berries, fresh vegetables  
Playground and tennis  
Playground, sports fields, activities for the family  
Potential for outdoor entertaining/celebration  
Provides a feeling of freedom  
Provides an area to ride ORV's  
Recreation  
Safe place to play, walk  
Safe to walk  
Sailing  
School field trips, nature preserve, serving many-  
communities  
Softball Field  
The challenge of climbing to the top and the view of-  
Lake Michigan is wonderful.  
The kids need a safe/car-free place to ride bikes  
The people who have no land to hunt  
This is our main source of recreation  
To use for boating  
Walking, relaxing  
Warren Woods is a peaceful place to walk  
Watch the birds and animals  
We enjoy to swim, walk, hike, run  
We like to tube in the winter, picnic in the summer

##### **Natural beauty**

A beautiful place to visit next to all the buildings-  
and concrete.  
Beauty, ecology  
Beautiful and needed, lots of building in area  
Beautiful and peaceful  
Beautiful and still natural  
Beautiful old growth trails  
Beautiful picnic area for family outings  
Beautiful. Educational  
Beauty  
Beauty and view  
Beauty, ease to get to/use  
Beauty, no congestion of city, convenience of-  
picking fruit  
Beauty, quiet  
Beauty, view

Because of all the wildlife that occupies the space  
 Bird watching/nature/boating  
 Birds and fish  
 Borders my lot. Provides corridor for wildlife.  
 Part Wetland to slow run-off. Cools air in summer.  
 Clean water  
 Diversity of plant, water and animals  
 Dunes, Beaches  
 Education, Beauty  
 Enjoy nature  
 Enjoy wildlife, birds, trees, flowers, etc.  
 Fernwood is beautiful. Years ago my children-  
 went to summer camp there.  
 Grass, unspoiled spaces  
 Has beautiful view and is great for walking  
 I look at it everyday  
 I love to watch it, grew up by it  
 Interesting natural form  
 It is a beautiful natural oasis on Lake Michigan-  
 and a gift to the citizens.  
 It is beautiful and a place to relax or exercise  
 It's a beautiful beach. Great camping, great-  
 sand dunes  
 Its beautiful  
 It's beautiful, unique  
 Its part of nature and home for its habitants  
 Lots of aquatic animals/birds, tons of wildflowers  
 Natural Beach  
 Natural Beauty (interested in photography)  
 Natural beauty to enjoy, asset for community  
 Natural wildlife and plants  
 Nature at it's best  
 Nature preserve  
 Natural beauty, good use of land (whether-  
 dormant or active farm)  
 Not developed yet  
 Nothing like it  
 Over looks lake, scenic  
 Peace, beauty, get away  
 See vegetation and animals while exercising  
 Seeing birds and sometime animals  
 Serenity, beauty  
 The Dunes are unique to the area  
 The grandeur of the lake is inspirational  
 To observe it natural beauty  
 to view crop growing, viewing wildlife

Unique forest  
 Very beautiful and peaceful  
 Very natural, untouched, lots of wildlife  
 We need to preserve wildlife  
 We own it and find it beautiful  
 Wide open spaces, plenty of beaches

### **Solitude/spiritual/mental,**

A peaceful and relaxing and rejuvenating retreat  
 A place for children  
 Area is getting crowded by people, so  
 it is good to have preserves where nature can be  
 enjoyed w/out housing.  
 As a child, I drank the fish spring water  
 Beach area for my children  
 Because a lot of people visit this place  
 Because I live on it  
 Because I planted it  
 Because its mine, I own it  
 Both are places we can go to relax with the kids  
 Calming, peaceful, clean, large enough for ?-  
 bathrooms, multiple items there are available.  
 Calming, relaxing, not so crowded  
 Close by  
 Close to home  
 Close to home, can take grandchildren there often  
 Close to home, clean  
 physical well being/exercise  
 Close to town, museum, restrooms, parking  
 Close, small, Quaint, Quiet, River  
 Enjoy Sunset

### **Family activities**

Example of how the land has evolved  
 Exercise  
 Family time  
 For exercise and fresh air and beautiful views  
 for grandchildren  
 For my kids to play  
 Gets us out of the house and closed in yard, fresh air  
 Grandfather was a farmer grandchildren love the place  
 Grandkids play there  
 Great family spot  
 I grew up going to the nature center convenience  
 It offers so much for our future  
 It services a large area and many people

It's my home and I live working on the property  
 its the closest and easiest to go fishing  
 Jean Klock Park  
 Keep area free of more development  
 Knowledge  
 Live on the River (Marina)  
 Lots of use and close by  
 Most other farm land is being sub-divided  
 My kids fished and water-skied there  
 My wife uses to walk  
 Newly established  
 Nice peaceful place  
 No growth  
 No other public spaces around  
 Not able to walk much at all.  
 (Able to go there).  
 to participate with friends and family  
 On our own 20 acres

**Other**

Peaceful, serene  
 Perfect place to relax  
 Place to relax, sunsets. etc  
 Provides activity for my children  
 Provides privacy and our own sanctuary  
 Relax, exercise, study nature  
 Relaxing  
 Reminder of my childhood  
 San dunes beach Grand merf state Park-  
 Lincoln township park.,  
 North Lake Grand mere park  
 Shoreline is peaceful and connects 3 states

**Cass County**

**Leisure/recreation**

Beautiful to walk or ride bikes/ horses  
 Big tree, Hiking Trails, Wildlife  
 excellent for kayaking  
 Fishing  
 Fishing with family + Friends  
 Good fishing water  
 Good for learning baseball & exercise  
 Grew up at a lake= lots of activity  
 hiking & fishing

Hiking, picnics, fishing  
 History, quality entertainment for friends  
 Home - wildlife hunting and woods river  
 Horseback riding in allowed  
 Hunting enjoying the outdoors  
 Hunting, fishing, mushrooming  
 I can take my dog to lake to swimming & play &-  
 fish without to many speed boats.  
 I can walk, hunt, camp, get away  
 It allows for riding, hiking, camping  
 It is a safer activity with made trails  
 It is on open area. That I would like to walk out-  
 because it is private property.  
 It is open to the public for walking, biking, etc  
 Kayaking, nature watching & swimming & fishing  
 Lake (beauty, recreation) farmland ( beauty of open space)-  
 woods (recreation and beauty). I am a tree lover.  
 Like to fish, enjoy the outdoors  
 Limited areas to hunt  
 Love water + swimming  
 nature walks, preservation of wildlife & plants  
 New water- nice place for picnic or for kids to play  
 Nice waking Trail  
 Picnic area & beautiful stream  
 Place to hike + mushroom hunt  
 Place to walk + watch nature  
 Pontoon Boat  
 Recreation  
 Relax, walk, hike, enjoy forest  
 Snowmobile trails  
 So we can all enjoy Lake, Farm & wetland  
 Space for fun  
 Swimming/ Sailing /Fishing  
 The variety of activities year around  
 to get outside and enjoy winter  
 To play golf + fish  
 Trail walking - nature enthusiast  
 Trails/ wildlife  
 Trees, birds, trials, recreation privacy  
 Walking  
 Walking short distance from home  
 Walking swimming family  
 walking trails, areas, views  
 Water and playgrounds  
 wonderful bike trail, camping, fishing



Woods + pastime

X-county skiing

### **Natural beauty**

Aesthetically pleasing

Animal life

Beautiful- natural

Beautiful old woods, excellent wildlife habitat, wildflowers, diversity

Beautiful woods/ creek

Because development hasn't destroyed its beauty

Because of open space – undeveloped- on birch lake

Because there is a lots of wild life, birds and- different plants to see.

Can appreciate the natural beauty of the trees- birds, water creatures, clean air, sights, sounds.

Clean & beautiful

Clean River

Clean, beautiful, fun, relaxing

Few on growth forest survive

For income peace of mind animals

Fuel tree and love to see the animal. +

Birds that use this place. + also squirrel

Full of wildlife

Houses Being built every where

I enjoy its beauty and feel safe there

I enjoy nature

I grew up there, It's beauty, open space, gorgeous sunsets

it is along the river

It is nature unspoiled

It is to a wide range of wildlife

It's a very nice park

It's beautiful & close

It's nature

Like to watch wildlife, swans, beavers, birds

Local grown foods + habitat of animals(deer)- to view.

Nature, beautiful, not crowded unique

Open land , native plants

Peace + beauty

Peace, quiet, natural beauty

Preserve nature

Seek to preserve

The beauty and peacefulness

The natural view + animals

Underdeveloped habit for wildlife

Usually quiet with ducks and wildlife

Watching wildlife

We love the water + the dunes

We want the animals to feel safe from the evil hunters.

we want to protect the atmosphere

Wild life habitat & beauty

Wildflowers in the spring are fantastic

Wildlife

Wildlife( deer, Rabbits, Raccoons, Geese, duck)

### **Solitude/spiritual/mental,**

A feeling of openness and tranquility

a retreat

Basic outdoor privacy - contentment

Feeling of happiness

Freedom from building structures

Is peaceful

It gets us closer to nature+ as relaxation

Just a good place to relax

Peace + tranquility

Personal enjoyment

Quiet

Quiet, lots of natural wildlife

Relaxing

Renews the spirit

Physical well being/exercise

Health walking

Place to exercise

### **Family activities**

Husband's treat grand fater built the house

It is very nice, family and animal friendly area

It's closeness to home. kids enjoy their time there

We have family picnics - take youth grown

### **Convenience**

Close to home

Close to home & connects to own property

Close to home- not over crowded - rustic

Close to home, spent time there as a child

close to homes, biking trail

Don't have to travel up North to Cabin

Homestead

I live here

I live on Diamond Lake and enjoy it  
 I live on it  
 I live on its shore line  
 I live on the lake  
 I love seeing it using it  
 I own it  
 It's where I live  
 Lake home  
 Live on/ own property on Christian Creek  
 Our house is on this lake  
 Own property on lake  
 Owned & preserved for 80 years  
 Resident of Lake  
 Seasonal cottage on Lake for 46 yrs  
 Seasonal home  
 Simply because it sits night lack of my new home  
 We chose to live in the county not a city  
 We live in it  
 We own it although it is protected.

**Other**

Because if we don't have them the Earth will die.  
 Because it is important to continues produce  
 Because it is open space  
 how I make a living  
 I have been coming were since 1952  
 It's an endangered resource  
 Kids run a marina on it  
 My child hood home  
 Open to anyone  
 Public place  
 Safe

**Van Buren County**

**Leisure/recreation**

A Trail for all seasons/ walking/ riding/ biking-  
 skiing  
 Accessibility to snowmobile Trails  
 Attracts & held wildlife for viewing/hunt/fish  
 Camp , swimming with family  
 clean, fun  
 Dock my boat  
 enjoy outdoors in many ways

Fishing  
 Fishing & hiking  
 For canoeing Black River + swimming dog  
 Get away from people hike  
 Good fishing spot  
 Good place to walk and bike  
 Growing crops - house riding  
 Hiking + biking  
 Hunting  
 Hunting & walking  
 I can use all of this  
 I enjoy biking the trail  
 I like to farm & fish- boating  
 I like to swim, beauty, enjoyment  
 I use the beach and south Haver Park area very frequently-  
 in the summer.  
 It allows everyone access to lake Michigan  
 It is a place I can walk to and unwind  
 It is a place to picnic, swim, and or fish,  
 also boating.  
 It is a place you can walk sand dunes swim and water.  
 It is where I hunt & mushroom and take walks nice  
 & quiet.  
 It's our access to Lake Michigan  
 It's well- known, public access + publicized;  
 unique worth preserving  
 Kids can swim for free  
 Love walking the beach and swimming in the water  
 Lovely to walk  
 Nearby for camping, swimming, enjoying beach  
 Nice Park - picnic area etc.  
 Nice to cross - county ski, walk, bike, etc.  
 Open to hunting  
 Place to ride  
 Place to study nature  
 Place to walk enjoy nature  
 Played and swam there every day in the summer  
 growing up  
 Practice + safety - shooting ranges  
 Public access recreation  
 Ride 4 wheeler  
 Safe walking area  
 Salmon fishing  
 Scenic - walk dogs through it  
 They provide much fun, informative activities that are free.  
 To get to the beach, you walk through the woods.  
 (It's beautiful, quiet, never busy/ I proposed to my wife there).

Tourism  
Undeveloped; good for hiking, cross country-  
skiing, birding, botany, quiet, private.  
Use for running  
Use lake swimming  
use to access Inland Lake for fishing + boating  
We use it + turn a reason

### **Natural beauty**

Beautiful + very clean  
Beautiful sunsets  
Beauty  
Beauty + value to property owners  
Beauty of seeing ducks and swans  
Birds and grass  
birds, deer - wildlife  
Ecosystem perpetuation  
Ecosystems and scenery  
Enjoy the space, birds, shade  
Ft's relaxing and it maintains the natural-  
environment  
Hold a lot of wildlife. block some wind off lake  
I enjoy watching there  
I grew up in the big city ( Detroit area) and-  
did not live close to a big lake – but dreamt that-  
I could! Dream-come true.  
I love green grass  
I love the open land around me  
It has sand dunes, a stream, wild flowers-  
sandy beach on Lake Michigan  
It is beautiful and productive  
It is close and can see wild life  
It needs to stay undeveloped natural  
It's a wetland within the city  
Its beautiful/scenic  
Its close to nice natural setting  
It's natural beauty. some county leaders want-  
to sell it for development  
It's taken care of  
Life source for all living thins in the vicinity of  
Lake Michigan  
Lots birds deer turkeys Blue Heron Birds  
Lots of birds wild life  
Love the sunsets  
Natural beauty  
Preserving natural area  
Protect + feed wildlife

Saves natural areas  
Serene - beautiful natural  
Shade, oxygen  
Sit watch the lake & sunset  
The life it supports  
They are beautiful and enjoyable  
Too much residential construction in-  
surrounding are need to preserve wood & farm lands  
Tranquility, beauty  
Uncrowned, few power boats  
View  
View of sky and wildlife  
Wildlife  
Wildlife refuge

### **Solitude/spiritual/mental**

A sense of country peace + quiet  
get back to natural  
I gives me peace of mind  
It's calming  
It's relaxing and a great place to visit  
Peace  
Quiet place to walk  
Reduces blood pleasure - make me feel good to be alive  
Relaxation  
Relaxing to sit/ view lake/ outdoor concerts-  
physical well being/exercise  
No often exercise places open

### **Family activities**

for children  
Fresh produce, children learning work  
Grandson - plays  
I love children and it is next, or across the street form  
where I grew up, and across from the beach.  
It's for family  
Playground for children/ pavilion for gatherings/Picnic area  
playground for my son  
Quality of life, family recreation  
Recreation for children/ exercise/ diversion/ relaxation  
Show area for my grand kids

### **Convenience**

Born and raised close to  
Close - can walk  
Close to home

Close, large open area dog & kid friendly  
 Close, nature state  
 Extremely close proximity  
 I live by it  
 I live on this lake  
 I own it  
 In family for nearly 200 years  
 Island Lake I live on  
 It is ours  
 It runs through my property  
 Its in my backyard  
 Its mine  
 Live on lake  
 near our property

**Other**

Because its the last large wooded area open-  
 to public  
 Because parks are an intricate park of own  
 community.  
 Been there since live been a kid  
 Has what I like(66 yrs old)  
 Help feed the world  
 High quality, not human influences  
 I hate to see subdivision take any farms  
 I have lived near it all my life  
 I like the protection of forest  
 I love to be there  
 Income  
 It was a donated park  
 Kedwolge park  
 Keep it clean  
 No New likes are being built  
 People have attacked us and divided family and-  
 handed our development success to others wrongly.  
 Raise fish for ponds  
 So haven Beach  
 Vegetables  
 Well maintained  
 Will not be sold to private investment  
 wish to live in a rural area

❖ **Survey question 5b : Water  
 resources important to residents**

**Berrien County**

**Lake**

A small pond created after the land was sand mined  
 Berrien Lake  
 Clear lake  
 Hess Lake Park  
 Hess lake, small spring fed lake  
 Inland Lakes  
 Jarvis Lake, small lake in our backyard we fish and  
 boat on it  
 Lake Chapin  
 Lake Chapin, and St. Joseph River  
 Lake Michigan  
 Lake Michigan + North Lake  
 Lake Michigan and PawPaw Lake  
 Lake Michigan, many beaches in our area of SW MI  
 Lake Michigan, St. Joseph River  
 Lake Michigan-Weko Beach  
 Lakes  
 Lakes and Rivers  
 Our ravine, Lake Michigan  
 PawPaw lake  
 PawPaw Lake and Little PawPaw Lake  
 PawPaw Lake and River  
 PawPaw Lake Coloma  
 PawPaw Lake Fishing  
 PawPaw Lakes, Big and Small  
 PawPaw River/Jean Klock Park  
 Pipestone Lake, we live on it  
 Pond across the road, and Lake Michigan  
 River/Lake  
 Rivers and Lakes  
 Round Lake  
 Sake River and Pond  
 Small Lake borders property  
 Smith Lake  
 Spring fed creek and pond  
 Stone lake  
 Wagher Lake

**River**

Blue Creek  
 Blue Creek at the back of our property  
 Clearwater Creek, Eau Claire

Creek  
 Dowagiac Creek  
 Dowagiac Creek or rivers  
 East Galien River  
 Galien River  
 Galien River and its watershed  
 Galien River Tributary  
 Galien River watershed  
 Galien River needs to be cleaned up, Lake-Michigan too of course.  
 Hickory Creek  
 Little PawPaw River and Lake Michigan  
 McCoy Creek  
 PawPaw River  
 PawPaw River and Mill Creek  
 PawPaw River comes from Hartford area to St. Joseph  
 River  
 St. Joseph River  
 St. Joseph River, Farmer Creek  
 St. Joseph River, Lake Michigan  
 St. Joseph River, PawPaw River  
 St. Joseph River/Clear Lake  
 Swamps  
 The Oplien River  
 Undeveloped wetlands behind my house  
 Wetland

**Beach/Launch Site,**

Launch sites  
 Lincoln township beach  
 Silver beach  
 Lyons Park Beach  
 Lake Michigan Beaches  
 Private area beaches  
 Rocky Gap Beach  
 Silver Beach

**Pool**

City Pool

**Park**

Jean Klock park  
 Lincoln twp park. Our picnic/playground area  
 Grand Mere, Picnic area, play park-(children) Lake

**Cass County**

**Lake**

All area lakes and revivers - Michigan keeps then lakes-and rivers cleaner which makes them more enjoyable.  
 All of sister lakes area lakes  
 all of them we need water to live  
 All the 36 lakes, fishing, entertainment  
 All the lakes in Edwardsburg  
 Baldwin Lake  
 Baldwin lake union, Michigan  
 Baldwin Lake, Eagle Lake  
 Barron Lake  
 Barrow lake water level  
 Beautiful Inland Lakes  
 Big fish lake  
 Birch Lake  
 Bunker Lake  
 Burch Lake Cass Co.  
 Carter Lake  
 Christian Creek+ Adjoining Lakes  
 Christiana, juno + Painter Lake  
 Christiana Lake  
 Clare Pond  
 Cobert Lake, lake we are nest to and Lake Michigan  
 Corey Lake  
 Cranberry Lake-Cass county  
 Dewey Lake  
 Dewey lake- all lakes in sister lakes  
 Diamond Lake  
 Diamond Lake- stone Lake  
 Diamond Lake, Cassopolis, Michigan  
 Diamond Lake/ Eagle Lake  
 Donnell Lake  
 Donnell Lake + Lewis Lake  
 Dowagiac Creek & Mill Pond  
 Driskell lake  
 Eagle Lake  
 Eagle Lake Cass county  
 Eagle Lake- where I have lived all of my life  
 East End of eagle lake  
 Garver Lake  
 Gold Lake  
 Harwood Lake  
 Harwood+ Corey Lake Birch Lake

Hemlock Lake  
 Inland lakes  
 Inland Lakes- Big fish- saddlebag Lakes  
 Inland Lakes(Tri lake area)  
 Juno, Painter & Christiana Lakes  
 Lake  
 Lake chapping & Farmer Creek  
 Lake Michigan  
 Lake near camp for church  
 Lakes, recreational resource  
 Lakes Three of them  
 Lilly Lake, Chain of Lakes  
 Lily Lake- in Newberg twp  
 Little Crooked Lake  
 Little Fish Lake  
 Long Lake  
 Long Lake in union, MI  
 Long lake, Coverdale Lake +Baldwin Lake  
 Long Lake, Union MI  
 Lots of lakes and Dowagiac River  
 Magician Lake  
 Many lakes lead me to another in Cass county--  
 Irany streams star form lakes and move on  
 to other lakes ( Eagle lakes, Christiana lake)  
 Michigan Lake  
 Mill Pond  
 Mill Pond- Dowagiac Creek  
 Mill Pond off back of property  
 Mill Pond, Dowagiac  
 Mud Lake  
 Mullen Lake - water fowl - (Sand hill Cranes-  
 1100 last fall)  
 My home Long Lake  
 Out Inland Lake  
 Paradise Lake  
 Pleasant Lake  
 Shavehead Lake  
 Shavehead lake - its a 23 acres lake with good-  
 fishing and beautiful surrounding.  
 Sister lakes  
 Skyhawk lake  
 Stone Lake  
 Stone Lake at the edge of carroapis very nice lake  
 Stone Lake/04 bow stream/ beaches on lake  
 Stove lake, Dicmund lake  
 Twin Lakes

Twin Lakes, Cass Co.  
 Upper + Lower Mill Pond  
 West Lake

### **River**

Brandywine Creek  
 Canstantine Township river system- above  
 Christiana Creek  
 Christiana Creek winds through my property  
 Creeks  
 Dowagiac river  
 Family owned wetland  
 Mud Creek  
 Potato Creek  
 River  
 Rocky River  
 St. Joseph River  
 The Creek in my back yard  
 The creek that runs through Vilonia  
 The gerrgie Creek that home into the  
 Dowagiac creek  
 The watershed that Flows into painter Julo/crestians lake  
 Water way through the city  
 Wetland on SE Conner of M-62 and US 12.

### **Beach/Launch Site,**

all public access  
 Public boat Landing  
 Public access to public fishing sites

### **Park**

Gunn Park Edwardburg  
 Riverfront Park  
 Heddon Park

### **Van Buren County**

### **Lake**

Ackley Lake  
 All Lake + streams are important to me that are-  
 close to my home.  
 All water ways are but live near in Inland Lake  
 Bankson Lake  
 Bankson Lake, Lawton  
 Big Crooked Lake - little Crooked Lake  
 Black River

Black River, Mill Pond  
 Bankson Lake  
 Brandy wine lake . Lake MI  
 Brandywine Lake  
 Burke Lake Trowbridge twp  
 Cedar Lake  
 Celert pond  
 Cedar Lake It's a good fishing lake  
 Cranberry Lake  
 Crooked Lake - Texas Township  
 Eagle Lake  
 Eagle Lake - PawPaw  
 Eagle lake , Texas swimming, boating, picnicking  
 Eagle Lake( M-51)  
 Finch Lake Chain of lakes ( 5 Lakes)  
 Haley Lake  
 Inland Lake - Muskrat Lake  
 Lake  
 Lake - Van Auken  
 Lake 5 in area  
 Lake Brown wood  
 Lake Cora  
 Lake Cora our family cottage then home since 1956  
 Lake Fleven  
 Lake I live on  
 Lake Michigan  
 Lake Michigan - Rlach river  
 Lake Michigan + black River  
 Lake Michigan is more important than any major city.  
 Lake Michigan pawpaw Lake  
 Lake Michigan, black river  
 Lake Michigan/ clean water etc  
 Lake Michigan/ Deer Lick Park  
 Lake of the wood Decatur  
 Lake of the woods  
 Lake of the woods because that's where I live  
 Lake of the woods PA  
 Lake we swim the public swimming area- lake of the woods lake.  
 Lakes  
 Lakes in this area  
 Lakes, Ponds  
 Lakes, small stream; water above ground- indicates water below to service need for- house" well water.

Lakes/ streams  
 Little cedar lake  
 Little crookes lake  
 Little PawPaw Lake  
 Local Lakes  
 Magicians Lake  
 Maple + Ackle lake  
 Maple Lake  
 Maple Lake - Nice parks  
 Maple Lake (PawPaw)  
 Maple Lake as listed above  
 Maple Lake PawPaw  
 Merriman Lake  
 Mill Lake  
 Mill Lake + surrounding wetlands  
 N/S Scott Lake - Van Buren city  
 Nature pond on our property  
 Our lake - we live on a private lake  
 Our lake Mich. beach as we love the water  
 PawPaw Lake  
 Pond + stream at home, Lake Mich. Fish at Inlands  
 Pond on our property  
 Pond wildlife + fish  
 Private lake  
 Rush lake  
 Schager Lake  
 Scott Lake  
 Several Lakes, Hall, Van Auken, Shafer  
 Shafer Lake - Van Buren county  
 Shafer Lake  
 The big lake & surrounding features and the predominant land/water features here.  
 The celery pond  
 The surrounding lakes  
 There is water in Portage and I love it because the animals have water and trees  
 Three mile lake  
 Turkey Lake  
 Van Buren Lake  
 Wolf Lake

### **River**

Black river  
 Black river and its  
 Black river of South Haven, harbor

Creek that runs edge of our property  
 East Branch of the PawPaw  
 Ground water & wetlands (related)  
 In Mattawan, near the edge of the village we live next to a small wetland.  
 Kalamazoo River + flood Plain  
 Lower swamp  
 Mattawan Creek  
 Mill Creek  
 PawPaw River  
 PawPaw River(East Branch)  
 PawPaw River, all water resources are important  
 PawPaw River, brush creek  
 Pounds/ wetlands in wooded areas within 1 mile-of my home  
 River ( black)  
 River beauty  
 River my property has & the lake I live on (Huzzy Lake)  
 Tulipwood creek  
 Wetlands on my property

**Beach/Launch Site,**

Public Beach  
 Jephtha Lake Public access  
 North point beach in South Haven on Lake MI.  
 Public beach

**❖ Survey question 5c: Why water resources are important to residents**

**Berrien County**

**Leisure/recreation**

Beach  
 Beach, swimming  
 Beautiful to see/walk the beach/power boat/fish  
 Beautiful, relaxing to visit swim, take walks, picnic, take children to play equipment at St. Joseph.  
 Beautiful, supplies our water, recreation, commerce  
 Beauty Recreation  
 Beauty, swim

Beauty, walking, swimming, sailing  
 Boating and fishing  
 Boating, fishing, and swimming  
 Clean to swim and fish, recreation preserve natural setting  
 Daily water, swimming, sailing, recreation  
 Drinking water source, beaches  
 Drinking water, climate modification, beauty and fishing  
 Drinking water, swimming, boating  
 Enjoy environment  
 Entertainment, business highway, create travel and-business, good fro recreation, natural, clean, peaceful.  
 Fish on piers several days a week  
 Fishing  
 Fishing and Boating  
 Fishing and swimming for my family  
 For canoeing and kayak use  
 For recreation and fishing for all of us  
 Going to beach and boating  
 Great for water sports and family and friend time-  
 Peacefu retreat relaxing to walk beach and watch sunsets.  
 Hiking trail through woods  
 Historical importance to the start of the city  
 I fish everyday  
 I fished it as a boy  
 I have enjoyed the beauty and activities for many years  
 I live by it. Want the water to be safe for fishing/swimming  
 I love to walk the beach  
 It is great to go fishing and sightseeing  
 It's beautiful and wonderful for boaters  
 It's so close to go fishing  
 Love fishing and canoeing  
 Multiuse, scenic, boating, fishing, bird watching  
 My kids like to swim in it as well as my dog-  
 I enjoy the sunsets.  
 Natural Beauty, fishing  
 Natural beauty/fishing recreation  
 Near the water, enjoy fish, boating, scenic view and wildlife  
 Not able to walk much at all. Able to go there to participate with friends and family  
 Own boats  
 Peaceful, fun  
 Place to go and enjoy  
 Playground, picnic area, trails, water  
 Provide opportunity for fishing and watch nature  
 Recreation  
 Recreation and beauty



Recreation and clean water  
 Recreation, swimming  
 Recreational draw and hydro electric  
 Recreational opportunities  
 Relaxing walks and swimming  
 Rush Lake Fishing  
 Sailing, swimming  
 Scenic, boating  
 Source of water and recreation  
 Swim  
 Swim, look at, walk along  
 Tourism, Nature, Shipping  
 Used for summary and respite and walking  
 Water aerobics, free, 5 days a week  
 We boat on it  
 We canoe the river, abundant wildlife to see, sometimes fish there  
 We fish and boat on it  
 We like to go to the beach  
 We like to swim, walk on beach, play in the sand  
 We live on lake and enjoy swimming, fishing, and more important the beauty and serenity

**Natural beauty**

Beauty  
 Beauty, close by  
 Beauty, commercial  
 Beauty, ease to get to/use  
 Beauty, view  
 Being a lake  
 Enjoy the water  
 Historical and aesthetic value  
 Importance to the environment and-its natural beauty.  
 It's a beautiful lake, what's not to like  
 It's natural with not a lot of access, clear water-and moving  
 It's not overly developed, lots of woods and beautiful shoreline  
 Like to see it and fresh water source  
 Lovely beach in town and lighthouse  
 Natural Beauty, Very relaxing  
 Peace, Beauty, Get away  
 Pond provides wildlife with a "watering hole"- Lake Michigan is just beautiful.  
 Sheer beauty in any weather  
 Source of fresh water, natural beauty, assist to community

Source of municipal water supply, temper climate-just beautiful  
 The peacefulness and beauty  
 Watch the fish, listen to the water, see blue herons/racoons  
 Water for community, beauty  
 Wildlife

**Solitude/spiritual/mental**

Calming, relaxing, not so crowded  
 I have never lived far from Lake MI it provides-respite, relaxation and water for drinking.  
 It is inspirational  
 It is peaceful to sit in one of the swings and watch the river  
 It's God's gift to us  
 Place to relax  
 Place to relax, sunsets. etc  
 To observe birds, deer, etc.-to walk around the tranquil setting

**Natural habitat**

Animal and Plant life  
 Because of the fish and wildlife that it attracts  
 Drinking Water, Natural Habitat, wildlife  
 For preservation of plant and animal life  
 Fresh water for all beings to live  
 Important to environmental stability, and economic stability from tourist trade  
 Important o wildlife and people for survival  
 It attracts wildlife  
 It encompasses a large wetland  
 It is the biggest natural resource in the area  
 Life preserving  
 Natural habitat for fish, fowl and animals  
 Natural resource, piece for historical significance for Niles  
 Natural setting close to home important to preserve  
 Part of nature, nature needs to survive  
 Provides water into the lake and farms throughout Berrien County.  
 Provides a home to fish animals along the river.  
 Valuable wetlands  
 You know it provides a lot of wild life, then it helps-us by taking surplus rain waters

**Convenience/proximity**

Adjoins assn. property  
 Borders home  
 Borders my property  
 Close proximity to where we live

Close to home  
 Convenient  
 Goes through my backyard  
 I have a cottage there  
 I live in a Marina on the River  
 I live on an island in the middle of the river  
 I live within two blocks of it  
 I own property on the river  
 I use it  
 It is nice to be able to just walk not far from home  
 to see the fish run up it  
 It is the only close one  
 Its the closest cleanest beach area 1-4 miles from  
 our house  
 Live next to it and use it  
 Near my home and beautiful  
 On our own 20 acres  
 One of a kind, live on lake  
 Our home overlooks it  
 Property line  
 We have a home in the community  
 We have property nearby  
 We live by it and use it daily  
 We live on a homestead that has 90 +  
 feet shoreline on the lake.  
 We live on it, and love it  
 We live on PawPaw lake  
 We live on this lake

### **Important to community**

Because our water comes from it  
 Because I enjoy it and want future generations to  
 enjoy it also  
 Because it will need to provide water to our  
 community --for years to come.  
 Because the kids in community swim in it  
 Center of City activity  
 Economic impact on area  
 Fresh water source  
 I own Bar/Restaurant, I depend on tourists and ice  
 fisherman  
 It contributes to our local economy  
 It gives community character  
 It is another asset to our town  
 It is better than housing or commercial-  
 development- It was dedicated to the citizens-  
 of Benton Harbor in 1917.  
 (And, it is a baby girl's memorial).

It's a water resource for Michigan, Illinois, Indiana,  
 Wisconsin  
 It's part of my community  
 Keeping it clean  
 Our only local river  
 River flows through Galien so needs to be kept clean, etc.  
 River fest Riverfront homes  
 Runs through community  
 Source for water  
 They are enjoyable and keep the area a little cooler  
 Water source  
 Water source, I like watching boats

### **Nostalgia**

Family history-100+ years  
 I grew up living on the lake  
 I grew up near it

### **Other**

Because we go there at least once a week  
 Great Lake  
 I have enjoyed it my whole life and hope my-  
 grandchildren can also.  
 I like it  
 It has become clogged with fallen trees, preventing-  
 it uses like to make into lake.  
 Not properly developed  
 One of the last ones left  
 Same reason its important to you  
 the water needs cleaned up, especially-  
 beautiful scenery  
 We need to keep it clean as we can

### **Leisure/recreation**

Access to the water  
 Beaches open to public  
 beautiful lake for swimming or fishing  
 Because of fishing, swimming  
 Because it is at the edge of the village. lots of fishing  
 Because we live on the lake - we use it to fish-  
 swim, boat and enjoy the beauty of the plant and wild life.  
 Boating & swimming  
 Boating, Swimming(lake)+enjoyment of its beauty  
 Boating/ Fishing  
 Canoeing  
 Canoeing resources-  
 need more Landings though

Canoeing, Fishing, wild life, park etc .  
 Clear clean water for swimming/boating/fishing  
 Enjoy being on water  
 Enjoy having it there  
 Enjoy the outdoors/ lake and it's easily accessible  
 Fishing  
 Fishing & Boating  
 Fishing, boating + Beauty  
 Fishing, Boating, Walking along  
 fishing, canoeing, beautiful  
 Fishing, canoeing, recreation  
 Fishing, dog walking  
 Fishing, Swimming, Boating family fun  
 Fishing, Swimming, Hunting  
 For its walk/bike path  
 For skiing, boating & beauty  
 Fun to walk in and water different fish, see  
 different wildlife  
 Great summer outdoor activity  
 Hunting  
 I fish different lakes  
 I fish, swim + ski there  
 I grew up fishing + swimming  
 I have 2 kayaks - do several river trips-  
 each year on river  
 I kayak on it  
 I like ice skating and running my dogs in winter  
 I live on it Boat + Fish, Plus tons of wildlife.  
 I love water + live on beach  
 I use it constantly for viewing & recreation  
 It has a lot of wildlife & provide many areas for  
 recreation  
 It is a quite place to go  
 It is nice to visit and it has nice beaches  
 It is something I grew up around canoeing-  
 swimming, Walk or hiking around  
 It's beautiful great for outdoor water sports/fishing  
 It's native and it gives my children-  
 Something to enjoy  
 It's where I went & fish  
 I've have deeded access & use the lake regularly  
 Lakes nearby to take children fishing, but  
 availability of public boat ramps is becoming an  
 issue, and may take away that opportunity.  
 Like to fish/ boat  
 Love to swim, tube, fish

Place to swim+ fish with Driving+ long ways  
 Pleasure, fishing, Boating, family memories  
 Provides entertainment & relaxation  
 Recreation  
 Recreation, Beauty, Wildlife  
 Recreation/aquatic life  
 recreational fishing & boating  
 Recreation-Fishing/Swimming/Sailing  
 Ride Pontoon  
 Swim & boat  
 Swim, fish, relax  
 Swimming & Fishing  
 Swimming + fishing spot  
 These lakes need to remain clean far recreation-  
 and other safe use.  
 They are a unique and largely undeveloped-  
 chain of mud bottom fishing lakes-  
 to my disappointment the next.  
 this one landowning allows you to fish 5-  
 different lakes - all species x-cept trout.  
 To fish or water ski or simply cool off  
 Tourism, beauty, recreation  
 Use it often fishing swimming  
 Visits  
 Water and Beach  
 We have property on West end of lake where-  
 we fish + swim with our children.  
 We look at it. We swim in it, Kayak + canoe on it  
 We used to inner tube down it all the time before-  
 they changed the clam at Pucker st.

**Natural beauty**  
 Aesthetically pleasing  
 Beauty  
 Beauty all can enjoy  
 Brings beauty- tranquility- and visitors  
 It is essentially undeveloped with no houses on it  
 Its the largest and pretty blue water/sunsets  
 nature appreciation  
 Nice to look at and drive around  
 Scenic  
 The far shoreline is not yet developed, and  
 it's a beautiful lake  
 They often have fairy rare water birds on it.  
 Views  
 Views & wildlife  
 We like the landscape

### **Solitude/spiritual/mental**

No motors are allowed - a quiet lake  
Peaceful enjoyment  
Relaxing to quiet park area  
Small, quiet  
Weekend retreat home is there, Peace + quiet  
natural habitat  
Because it is neat & clean & speed boats are restricted  
Beside there like the ducks-geese-swans-herons etc  
Conservation of nature & lake law on Lake  
Feed our wetlands & determines our water quality  
For animal habitat  
History animal reservoir  
I enjoy wildlife in and around it  
I feel we need to preserve natural area on future generation  
It's a very important "natural" fresh water resource  
it's natural  
Natural habitats along river beds  
Natural wildlife habitat, good clean water  
Nature  
Quality of the resource and plant + animal life  
The wildlife drink from it  
Very good for wildlife aquatic life  
We need to preserve land and water-  
from it all living developed.  
Keep are lakes clean.  
Wild life

### **Convenience/proximity**

Because I own it  
Borders my house  
close to home  
Close to home for canoeing  
friends home situated on lake  
Goes through my property  
Home  
Home is on it - we enjoy it year around  
I have access to lots of water  
I live on it  
I live on it I hate see trash dumped on sides of road  
I live on it. It is filling up more every year with  
weeds that come up to the top + Lily pads.  
I live on the Lake  
Indian Lake - The closer lake to me would like  
to see fewer houses built on the lake shore.

It is across the street from us+ we have lake access  
It ran through the farm I grew up on  
Its close to our home represents our community  
I've always lived by the river  
Joins my property  
lake front summer house  
Lake home  
Live on the channel to the lake  
Local  
My house fronts big twin lake  
My property borders it  
On my property  
Own Cottage on this lake  
Own land on it  
Parent live there  
Property owner on lake  
Runs through my home town, which leads form  
Dowagiac, miles, eventually the St. Joe River.  
Seasonal home  
Summer Place on Lake  
Travels turn my property  
We have control of 3/4 of lake  
We have had a cottage there since 1918  
We have property on the lake

### **Important to community**

Add value to the area  
Drives building market  
Edwardsburg is known for its lakes and if something-  
bad where to happen that would be sad and more-  
personally my grand father fished them –  
all the time as do many others.  
Helps Everyone of the town  
Income the residents bring to the area  
It is the whole community  
Properly value as a homeowner with lake rights  
Supports our convenience store  
They serve different areas of the community &-  
seem to be switching ( and we don't mean first naturally)  
Water Quality

### **Nostalgia**

Always went w/ family as kids  
Grew up there  
Home on Eagle Lake owned by my family since 1928  
I grew up in the area  
I have been visiting the lake my entire life

I have had family & friends who live there  
I used to swim there as a child  
It reminds me of my home on hand Rd.  
My family has be enjoying these lakes since the 1920's

### **Other**

Cabin or Lake  
Connects to 4 other lakes  
It's being filled in so building can be done on it-  
what a shame!  
It's done by and needs to be cleared  
Only major Creek or River  
Park of town  
They want to shut the public out  
We have lake + want it to stay clean

### **Van Buren County**

#### **Leisure/recreation**

All the activities you can do plus the tourism-  
money it brings.  
All the fresh water fun it provides property owners  
Beaches Lake for swimming, boating  
Beauty + Swim  
Beauty, enjoyment, exercise  
Beauty, family activities  
Blue Gill Fishing  
Boating  
Boating & fishing  
Canoeing  
Canoeing, fishing, tranquil spots  
Children have place to go of enjoy the lake +  
be supervised  
Drinking water + recreation  
Enjoy beach picnic & swimming  
Fish, recreation& God gave them to us  
Fishing  
Fishing - it feeds many small local lake & pond  
Fishing, camping, boating  
Fishing, canoeing  
Fishing, swimming  
For the view especially early morning +  
at sunset and for swimming  
Frequent use for swimming + fishing  
Great Inland Lake, sandy bottomed good-  
fishing/swimming

I grew up water skiing, walking on the beach-  
enjoying the water.

It is a beautiful area with abundant fishing  
It is beautiful and quiet here, and a nice-  
place to fish & swim.

It is used for fishing year round by area  
It provides for recreation for our rural community –  
swimming, water sports + fishing  
It's one of the few available for public fishing  
It's part of the west branch PawPaw river, and for fishing  
Lake we swim the public swimming area lake of the woods  
Like fishing it. its close  
Local beach and park access  
Nice Parks, fun for picnicking  
Offers a variety of activities  
Own water comes from Lake Michigan + recreation  
People can fish and kayak on the river  
People, canoe it, fish it, travel it  
Played & swim there everyday in the summer growing up  
Quality of life, family recreation  
Quiet lake for kayaking  
Recreation  
Recreation & drinking water  
Recreation and local water table  
Recreation, natural beauty  
Source of water park by leisure activity & exercise  
Swim  
Swimming , Fishing  
Swimming is important and free  
Swimming water skiing tubing  
Swimming, Camping  
The fish are very good  
The ones that I fish on, close to my home  
Tourism  
Use the lake for boating, swimming \$ fishing  
Variety of outdoor activities - boating/ fishing/ etc.  
Water Activities  
Water recreation  
We camp & fish there  
We have picnic there  
We live & boat & swim on Saddle Lake  
We use it all summer long for entertainment  
We use it every summer  
We use it often  
We use the lake daily

Wildlife recreation

### **Natural beauty**

Appreciate got its natural beauty

Beautiful

Beautiful & very clean

Beautiful place

beautiful, ecological importance, recreation

Beautiful, natural feature making PawPaw - a more pleasant community

Beautiful, see changing weather, setting sun

Changing seasons it is quite beautiful

I work near it. It's pretty to look at.

It is small but pretty land, we don't want a subdivision built there.

It is the view off my patio, absolutely beautiful

It's a beautiful & peaceful

It's beautiful, and it supplies our fresh water

Its strong influence on the character of the area. and the nice view.

### **Solitude/spiritual/mental**

Completes need to survive relax live

It is a place I can walk to and unwind

It is tranquil & enhances the value of my home

Relax + watch nature

### **Natural habitat**

Birds, wild animal swamp plants and mosquitoes

Close to my home; supports wildlife

Closest lake. Important to all wildlife &- ecosystem, like to fish there.

I enjoy the wildlife in and around the water

It affects the entire eco oyster, transportation industry + arm economy

It provides a habitat for all type of wildlife

It's important to all surrounding states- the environment; birds; fish.

Natural beauty + public water source

Nature

Place to appreciate nature

The life it supports

To preserve wildlife. much has been displaced thru recent residential development.

Water, we need to keep the environment free

Wildlife

Wildlife fowl use there and need there.

Wildlife personal pleasure

### **Convenience/proximity**

Borders back yard

close, clean

Easy access

Family lives there

Flows through our property

Has public access

I am living on this lake

I live by it

I live by it enjoyed it all my life

I live in a subdivision on the lake and here spent 17 spent on the lake.

I live on a lake

I live on it

I live there

I own it & am a conservation

It my N.W. Boundary

It's part of my community

Lake in front of my house

Live across the street from it + have access to it

My house/ property has lake frontage on it.

My property is on shoreline

My son lives there

Nearest to home are community

Our subdivision has an access to the lake

Parent own home on lake

Proximately to my home + the water fowl + other wildlife it attracts to the areas.

Very close to home

We have a camper on the lake

We like having fresh water flow by our back yard

### **Important to community**

An important amenity of the region

Because everyone enjoys it

Clean water

Clean water, right size, home owners take care or lake

Get all water from here

Gives area its character. makes area feel clearer

Great for Mich economics

It has always b part of the village

It provides us with water for washing clothes, and dishes, as well as drinking + sparkling

It's a clean lake & the public access

Many cities long for a wetland green space have - one others are trying.

to develop it for commercial use.

need to preserve for future generation  
Only source of water  
Public access. Save everyone of them  
Scenery, brings tourists to town  
Supplies our water  
Water is basic for life  
We all need and enjoy the great lakes

### **Nostalgia**

As a child & swim + fished in it.  
( Lake it keeps it clean & free of pollution).  
Have been using these lakes for over 40 yrs.

### **Other**

Access to water open spaces  
Because they are there  
Great open space  
Help control contamination  
It is an inlet  
It needs attention  
It should be cleaned up / passable  
It's not family along time lived in the area has  
Pushed a tax to others and are medically harming  
people that refuse to pay.  
Keep it clean  
kids  
Lake Michigan  
PawPaw River, Van Buren Trail  
Survival  
Trout stream  
Uncrowned few power boats  
Uniqueness of the lake  
We need to protect at all costs  
you can enjoy it in a lot of different ways

❖ Survey question 20-1: what is  
the one land or water area in the  
county that is most important to  
enhancing your quality of life?

### **Berrien County**

#### **Lake**

Barren Lake  
Clear Lake

Fishing  
Inland Lakes  
Jarvis Lake  
Lake  
Lake Chapin  
Lake Michigan  
Lake Michigan and Beach  
Lake Michigan and inland lakes  
Lake Michigan and my pond  
Lake Michigan, St. Joseph River  
Lake Michigan/Farmland/Open space  
Lake, Park  
Madron Lake  
Paw aw Lake  
Public free access to lake Michigan  
Small lake, St. Joseph River  
Wagner Lake

#### **River**

Dowagiac Creek  
Galien River, New Buffalo  
Galien River  
Love Creek  
McCoy Creek  
PawPaw River  
River  
St. Joe River and Fernwood  
St. Joseph River

#### **Beach**

Beach  
Beach walking  
Beach, and our ravine  
Beaches/Lake Michigan  
Lake Michigan Beach  
Lake Michigan beach and shoreline  
Lake Michigan Beaches  
Lakeshore  
Large beach area  
Lyons Park Beach  
Piers on Lake Michigan  
Sidewalks and Beach  
Silver Beach  
The beaches along lake MI

Walking the beach and new ramp that goes-  
to above street and paved walkway to ramp.

Weko Beach

Weko Beach, Lake Michigan

### **Parks & recreation including golf**

Baseball fields

Golf and our lake

Golf courses

Grand Mere State Park

Hays Park

Jean Klock Park

Lincoln twp. park

Park District programs

Parks and waterfront parks

Picnic area, play park (children) Lake

Public Parks

Public parks and beaches

Riverfront

Riverfront Park on St. Joe River

Riverview Park, all beaches

Shamrock Park, St. Joseph River

Warren Dunes State Park

Warren Woods Forest Preserve

### **Trails/Greenways**

Area we can walk around

Place to walk

Trails in the parks/walking in community

Walking

Walking trails

### **Outdoor Landscapes**

Country

Forests and lakes

Just the open fields and wooded areas

Rural setting

Woods

### **Own Property/Home**

My farm/pond across the road

My own property

My property

Our farm and woods

Wetlands behind my house

Farmland

Farmland and Forest

Local farms

### **Other**

Wildlife

Wildlife viewing, place for family picnics

### **Cass County**

### **Lake**

all lakes

all lakes & farm

Any of the lakes with public access

Area Lakes & streams

Baldwin lake

Barron Lake

Being near Diamond Lake in Camopolis

Big fish Lake

Big Twin Lake

Bunker Lake

Cable Lake

Carver Lake

Christina Lake

Clear Lake areas

Corey Lake

Cranberry Lake - Cass county

Crook Lakes

Diamond Lake

Dowagiac Creek/ River

Driskell lake

Eagle Lake

Garver Lake

Garver Lake + parks

great lake all of them

Harwood Lake

Hemlock Lake

Indian Lake

Indian lake + surrounding area

inland lakes

Inland Lakes/river

Juno Lake

Kelsey Lake

Kinger Lake

Lake Donnelle

Lake Michigan

Lake, woods

Lakes+ Creeks to kayak in

Lakes in southwestern MI



Lilly Lake where I live  
Little crooked lake  
Local lakes + forests  
Long and Baldwin Lakes  
Long Lake  
Mallen Lake  
Michigan Lake  
Mill Pond  
Mill Pond back water  
Paradise Lake  
Priest Lake  
Robbin Lake  
Shavehead  
Shavehead Lake  
Ski lakes area  
Taking grandchildren to lake  
The lake  
The Lake I live on  
The pond in my subdivision  
Tranquility of lake & country living  
Twin Lakes  
View of lakes, eagle, pine, graver

### **River**

Christiana Creek  
Dowagiac mill park  
Dowagiac River  
River+ Creeks  
Rocky River  
St. Joe river  
St. Joseph river/ stone Lake

### **Beach**

Silver Beach St. Joseph

### **Parks & recreation including golf**

Community holly treat  
Dr. Law loss park  
Gunn Park Lake MI  
Hampshire Golf courses  
Kengie Creek Park  
Lawless Park  
Lyon's park

### **Park**

Park in Niles  
Potatp Creek state park  
Riverfront Park  
Russ Forest  
Russ forest Park  
School parks  
state ground  
warren dunes state park

### **Trails/Greenways**

Bike path + lake MI  
River trail  
SMC Trails  
The nature trails in Berrien springs

### **Outdoor Landscapes**

Fresh air + moisture to enhance safe health  
Open country spaces  
Open land

### **Own Property/Home**

My farm  
My farm property  
My land & the lake  
My own back yard  
My own land  
My parents property  
My pond  
My property  
My woods  
Own farm& little fish lake  
Own land on river

### **Farmland**

Farm area with woods, ponds, streams  
Farmland  
Open farmland used to ski +inland lakes

### **Other**

All of them move needed.  
Haybridge Rd Bridge  
Keeping fit  
low population density  
Peace + beauty  
Peaceful area

Protecting the wetlands  
Public access  
Water  
Water pool of waking on our dead end street  
Wetland preservation  
Where I live, Rural community

## **Van Buren County**

### **Lake**

Ackley Lake  
Any lake or open spot to swim  
Any public water access  
Baker Lake  
Bankson Lake - Lake Michigan  
Boat Launches/fishing sites  
Cedar Lake  
Eagle Lake  
Fishing  
Fishing & boating  
Fresh water lakes  
Huzzy Lake  
Inland Lakes  
Lake  
Lake Brown wood  
Lake Michigan  
Lake Michigan, Deerlick Creek  
Lake mill access  
Lake of the woods  
Lake of the woods & lake Mich.  
Lake swimming, boating & picnics  
Lakes  
Little cedar lake  
Little crooker lake  
Maple Lake  
Mill Lake  
Muskrat Lake  
PawPaw Lake  
Pine Lake  
Private lake we live on  
Public Lake access  
Public Launches( Jephtha Lake)  
Saddle Lake

Scott Lake  
Shafer Lake - our home  
Surface water - Lakes, streams, wetlands  
Swimming Access  
The lake I live on  
Van Auken Lake  
Walking to the lake

### **River**

Ausable area  
Black River  
Black river, Mill pond area  
Kalamazoo river basin  
PawPaw river  
The black River  
W. Branch PawPaw River

### **Beach**

beach at S. Haven serenity  
Beaches on lake Michigan  
North beach  
North Point beach in South Haven  
Van Auken Lake Beach

### **Parks & recreation including golf**

Bangor Lives Park  
Ely Park  
Fish Hatchery  
Grand Mere State Park  
Park & a body of water  
Park and recreation are fun  
Portage Creek bicentennial park & my home  
Raider Ramp Park  
State Land

### **Trails/Greenways**

Bike Trail, Lake MI beaches  
Home Kal have trail  
Home trails  
Kal Haven Trail  
Kal Haven Trail - Maple Lake  
Kal- haven Trail, although I try to visit many  
Trails

### **Outdoor Landscapes**

Any woods or lake  
Environmental setting

Open green spaces to walk  
Open land areas from my home  
Trees  
Wetlands  
Woods

### **Own Property/Home**

My 2 acre backyard  
My 29 acres  
My 40 acre farm- I love it  
My farm  
My garden  
My Lake I live on  
My open acres  
Our own property  
Our personal rural property  
our woods & property we live on

### **Farmland**

Farm - blueberry  
Farm field where birds & deer frequent

### **Other**

Activity  
All hand not needed for every day living  
CR 388 and near by fire lanes  
Fish got to swim + birds got to drink + float  
I mostly walk the streets  
In portage, but it's for from  
Local care to walk. etc  
Recycling over building elimatory access to the worth  
Waterway & farming

❖ Survey question 20-2: what aspects of your life are enhanced by the presence of the land or water resource?

### **Berrien County**

#### **Activities/Recreation**

Ability to boat and ski  
Able to walk the paths around silver beach

Activity and preservation of a wetland area- on our property

Availability, recreation  
Availability to relax or exercise in a nice environment  
Awesome natural resource = peaceful feelings-- also good activity for kids.

Beach, walking, swimming

Beach walks, beautiful sunsets, eye appeal, fishing

Boating

Boating, fishing, gardening, and land beautification

Can do more walking

Canoeing, fishing

Drinking water, beautiful surroundings, and exercising

Family time

Family time, emotional wellness, exercise

Family Use

Fishing

Food, recreation, water

For fishing, swimming, boating, etc...

Freedom to use park and have picnics

Fresh air/exercise/family fun

Fun for swimming, boating and watching the sunset

Getting outdoors

Good place to bring up family

Great place for outdoor activities, to spend time-relaxing with family and visually pleasing.

Health, Family time, relaxation

Health, recreation

Healthy, exercise, peace of mind and stress relief

Helps me relax, viewing, swimming

Hunting, walking, enjoying the outdoors

Just enjoyment, it is peaceful to go fishing

Leisure, aesthetics

Local produce fields to walk in

Less stress and more relaxation while in a boat on the lake

Not able to walk much at all. Able to go there-- to participate with friends and family.

Outdoor swimming

Physical activity

Physical activity, appreciation of nature, enjoying scenic beauty

Provides exercise and relaxation

Recreation

Recreation and enjoyment and family life

Recreation and relaxation

Recreation, Aesthetics

Recreation, fishing  
 Recreation, fishing, wildlife  
 Recreational activities  
 Source of drinking water, daily walks, swimming-  
 Recreation.  
 Spending time w/ loved ones there  
 The areas main resource and attraction  
 Use for exercise, beauty, sunsets and storms  
 Walking  
 Walking alone or near the lake helps both-  
 physical body-and mental attitude.  
 Walking and bird watching  
 Walking, beauty  
 Walking, sailing, swimming  
 Walking, swimming, boating  
 We go out to the outdoors  
 We have fun at the beaches  
 We play and swim and camp at the beach  
 Would like to go kayaking if river was not  
 contaminated  
 X-country skiing, hiking, the beach-  
 swimming, sunsets-relaxation, physical activity.

### **Environmental Quality**

Air quality  
 Air quality is much better  
 Clean air, health  
 Fresh food  
 If we clean it up, it would be a good source of food  
 Just fresh outdoor air  
 Nature, groundwater protection impedes  
 development  
 Safe Water  
 Temperature Moderation

### **Aesthetics**

Aesthetically pleasing, calm in; well maintained  
 playground—and walkways well.  
 Aesthetic and spiritual  
 Aesthetic Beauty and relaxation  
 Beautiful scenery, supports wildlife  
 Beauty  
 Historical and aesthetic value  
 I enjoy the beauty of nature  
 I like watching the lake and its ever changing colors  
 Sunset view

### **Access to Nature**

Animals such as deer frequent the area and-  
 live there also cranes and ducks.  
 Back to nature  
 Nature  
 Nature at its best  
 Open spaces  
 Protects animal and plant life  
 Relaxing, seeing and hearing all the birds/animals/  
 frogs etc...  
 The wildlife  
 Trees, plants, wildlife  
 Working to preserve and enhance area

### **Health/Spiritual/Mental**

A sense of serenity and harmony  
 Better attitude by viewing the river  
 Brings one peace, quiet place for thought  
 Calming effect from enjoying the beach with my family  
 Calming, stress-free  
 Calmness, serenity  
 daily life is more peaceful  
 Emotional and physical  
 Emotional health  
 Emotional well being  
 Emotional/Spiritual  
 Enjoyment  
 Enjoyment of beach walks and sunsets  
 Enjoyment of beauty  
 Feeling completely relaxed  
 Health  
 Health , spirit  
 Health and wellness  
 Health, social  
 Health, stress reducing  
 I feel good when I'm outside watching my grandchildren play  
 It is relaxing to visit the lake  
 It's spiritual  
 Just love it, good for you  
 Mental and Physical well being  
 My mental and physical health is improved every-  
 Weekend I spend on the lake.  
 My physical, mental and spiritual health  
 My sanity  
 Peace and tranquility because of natural beauty

Peace of mind, very "zen" and that's our-water source  
 Peace of mind, happiness, general well being  
 Peaceful and serene  
 Peaceful setting  
 Peace of mind, seeing God's work up close-as season change.  
 Personal enjoyment, economic value to community  
 Physical  
 Physical activity, stress relief physical and mental  
 Physical and mental  
 Physical and mental relaxation  
 Physical, mental and emotional health-both individually and collectively as a family.  
 Physical, spiritual, emotional  
 Relaxing  
 Restful  
 Sense of well being, attitude  
 Serenity  
 Social and Physiological  
 Spiritual, emotional, physical  
 Spiritually, physically, mentally, even at-times my family life .  
 The tranquility of it  
 When I sit by the lake, I feel calm and peaceful

**Other**

Don't have to travel far  
 I live on the River  
 It's the only reason I would live here  
 Love of outdoors  
 Nice places to go  
 Quality of life  
 Quiet neighborhood  
 The easy access to fishing water  
 Unique Lake, Provides economic stability

**Cass County**

**Activities/Recreation**

A chance to walk + enjoy outdoor wildlife  
 Ability to get out in lake + enjoy it  
 Ability/ opportunity to canoe  
 Activity + view  
 Aesthetics, boating, kayaking

Boating, swimming, enjoying nature  
 Brings family together  
 Canoeing  
 Enjoy swimming + beauty of lake Michigan  
 Enjoy the water fowl  
 Enjoyment of being on  
 Enjoyment, exercise  
 Enjoyment, physical activity  
 Exercise  
 Exercise & Fresh air  
 Exercise In water swimming's and for kids  
 Exercise, relaxation, aesthetic beauty  
 family time  
 Family time, stress reducer  
 Feel better, exercise  
 Fishing + Boating  
 Fishing- bird watching  
 Fishing, contentment, peace  
 Fresh air, trail- snowmobiling, walking+ swimming+ boating  
 Fresh water for fishing + swimming  
 Fun activities on + in the lake + the beauty of watching-the water + birds + squirrels etc.  
 Good place for hiking  
 Great for nature watching & Kayaking  
 Health, exercise, relaxation, happiness  
 Hunting/fishing boating  
 I like farming, seeing birds, wildlife, production  
 In Family- personal place to go  
 Kayak  
 More activities  
 My family uses the lake all summer  
 Outside more  
 Outside working & doing things outside a lot  
 Peaceful beauty can walk or swim  
 Physical activity- recreation  
 Physical Fitness  
 Physical health of family  
 Physical exercise/Family like  
 provides a pleasant place for walking  
 Quality of like better, physical activity  
 Recreation  
 Recreation - boat rides, swimming, sunning, fishing  
 Recreation + activity

recreation, aesthetic view  
 Relaxation - physical activity  
 Relaxation, beautiful views, swimming-  
 boating, ice skating.  
 Safe hunting & outdoor privacy  
 Scenery- recreation-exercise  
 Skiing, bird watching  
 Social Activity  
 Spend a lot of time outside  
 Spending time with family  
 Sports + relaxation  
 Swim  
 Swimming - health - peace calming  
 Swimming, beautiful view  
 Swimming, boating, Fishing  
 Take the kids, attend functions, socialize peaceful  
 Taking swimming  
 Time spent with family fishing  
 Time with my son's  
 To get out + be active  
 Use for sailing, swimming, kayaking  
 walking more  
 walking trails, someplace to go  
 Water Recreation  
 water sports  
 water sports and swimming

### **Environmental Quality**

Beauty & water quality  
 Drinking water  
 Ecological aspects health and wellness-  
 and habitat balance.  
 Environmentally better for all  
 Fresh clean air  
 Open space clean air? water ways  
 Our water quality; condition of our wetlands  
 Peaceful & good fresh air

### **Aesthetics**

Beauty  
 Aesthetics  
 How beautiful + peaceful it is  
 It is a beautiful lake and I take walks near it  
 Scenery  
 Sights & Sounds

the scenery is lasting

### **Access to Nature**

Ability to farm/make a living  
 Like woods & water  
 No subdivisions  
 Quiet, animals, peace  
 Relaxation & wildlife observance  
 Viewing nature  
 Watching wildlife, birds, animals

### **Health/Spiritual/Mental**

Calmness - wanting to live I enjoy  
 Creation & Relaxation  
 Emotionally, health  
 Gives on an inner peace  
 Health  
 Health benefit  
 Health, fitness  
 Health, water access to beach  
 Healthy Lifestyle  
 Increased Tranquility  
 It brings peace, serenity, wholeness of mind, body-  
 & soul when spending quiet time in a natural-  
 environment free from litter, traffic noise.  
 It's always so calm & peaceful to be by it  
 It's scenic- relaxing  
 Just pleasure  
 Mental quality  
 Mood, joy, happiness, scene of well being-  
 appreciation of life/ nature.  
 My happiness, my soul is filled up.  
 My sanity  
 My spirit  
 Overall health + well being  
 Peace + tranquility  
 peace of mind  
 Peace of mind, family, scout troop  
 Peace, beauty, education  
 Peaceful and relaxed mood  
 Peaceful area  
 Peaceful, spend time & friends+ family  
 Physical + emotional health benefits  
 Physical + mental health  
 Physical health, mental stability  
 Physical/mental/spiritual well being

Relax + enjoy  
Relaxation  
Relaxation & enjoyment  
Sanity  
Spiritual  
The beauty of nature makes me happy and-  
less stressed.  
The free feeling to visit and relax  
Tranquility- mental happiness

### **Other**

Access & Desire  
Enjoyment of seeing the next generation  
Food  
Having the lake program  
Level  
Living  
Mine  
Personal Enjoyment  
Place to get away  
There's different areas/ a couple  
We live here

### **Van Buren County**

#### **Activities/Recreation**

A place to go to for walking, Enjoying the river-  
seeing animal hard life.  
Ability to walk to it and unwind  
Access to beaches + fishing  
Activity  
Aesthetics & swimming & boating  
An area for water recreation  
Areas outdoor to run/ jog  
Beautiful to look at plus we fish in it  
Beauty. peaceful, swimming  
Bird watching, foraging, exercise  
Bloomingdale the walking makes me feel young  
and healthier  
Boat- fish-swim  
Boating, swimming, family, fishing  
Community activities + events  
Enjoying view, water sports  
Environment walking animal it  
exercise + peace of mind

Exercise, aesthetic value ( peacefulness)  
Exercise, entertainment  
Extended family recreation  
Family recreation, relaxation  
Family water sports activities  
Fishing & relaxing  
Fishing + boating  
Fishing and the ability to use the lakes  
Fishing, swimming opportunities  
Fishing, swimming, hunting, social gatherings  
Fitness, ascetics, etc  
Four wheeling in area  
give me a place to go in the woods  
good walk  
Great for recreation, water quality - drinking  
Great place for the family  
H2O activated skiing & tubing, swimming  
I enjoy hunting + getting outdoors  
It is our social place, sitting on the beach or –  
out on the boat.  
keep daughter busy in summer, we enjoy eating-  
blueberries, and is physical labor.  
Kids can play in water safety  
Lake swimming, boating & picnics  
lot of wildlife + human recreation  
Mental attitude, exercise  
Outdoor activities for family  
Peaceful recreation  
Physical activity  
Physical activity, overall feeling of well-being  
Physical fitness  
Place for exercise  
Recreation  
Recreation/ exercise  
River & lake -fishing  
Sailing  
South enjoy nature, fitness, swim, hike  
spending quality time with children  
Swimming  
Swimming - walking beautiful sunsets  
Swimming & fishing  
Swimming exercise  
Swimming, beach, community-festivities  
The availability of it to use then everyday  
Time outdoors with family

To keep active by swimming or running with my child  
Visually appealing- fishing- recreation  
Walking - scenic  
Water skiing, swimming  
We camp and fish there  
We exercise, learn about nature, clean air  
Wildlife, fishing

### **Environmental Quality**

Aesthetic, lower utility bills, oxygen  
Air  
Rainfall weather  
weather, looking + enjoying

### **Aesthetics**

Beauty opportunity, community enhancement  
Living near water and its beauty  
Places to drive to for relaxation + scenery  
Scenic & relaxing  
The beauty of gods sunsets the freedom to enjoy the beach  
The beauty of it cases my stress level.  
The beauty of the farms and open land  
The lake it clear + beautiful, it makes you want to enjoy it.  
Visual

### **Access to Nature**

Ability to garden and grow fruit trees and own horses  
all my farm related activities  
Being able to enjoy nature near our home.  
being in touch with nature  
Enjoying wildlife  
I see animals and growing crops  
Love of nature  
Makes it feel like I live in the country  
puts extremely close to nature  
Variety of life it produces

### **Health/Spiritual/Mental**

Ability to relax  
Calming affect  
Cardiac health  
Find peace and enjoyment  
God's creation

### **Health**

Health, mental, economic  
Health, relaxation, friendships  
I am happier knowing it's there  
I can let my mind wander very great for my soul  
It enhances my humanity to be a follow creature-of nature.  
It makes me happy to see things grown and-to work the land and walk through the woods.  
It provides an optional place to relax  
Just getting away from everyday problems  
Life its self  
Mental well being- relaxation, stress reduction  
Mental  
Mental & physical health  
Mental health, physical health  
mood; health  
More physical fit  
my health  
My physical + mental health  
nature enhances feeling of well-being, connectedness-and health, reduces stress.  
Overall feeling of well being  
Peace of mind  
peacefulness, pleasure, relief for stress  
Personal well being  
physical  
Physical & Mental health  
Physical + mental health  
Relaxation  
Relaxation - stress  
Relaxation spot  
Relaxation, stress reduction  
Relaxing watching/ water  
relieves stress  
Removes stress  
Serenity & health  
Spiritual

### **Other**

A place to came with few power boats  
Agricultural lands being transformed to subdivision.  
Fresh fruits and vegetable  
fresh produce  
Friendships



Home property value  
 I love to be there  
 Income  
 It is tasteful  
 It's why we live here  
 Lake of the woods  
 Living on a lake pleasant 9 months out of the year  
 Mal Park  
 More income due to tourists coming to visit beaches  
 Move pleasant  
 natural drain, resource

❖ **Survey question 21: The greatest concern about conservation in the community**

**Berrien County**

**Sprawl**

A housing development being put in. Farmland-sold off for that reason.  
 About the amount of new housing developments  
 Agricultural lands being turned into subdivisions  
 Animals need the rural areas, land is-being developed for housing.  
 Any Lake area has been bought up at big money  
 Becoming too commercialized  
 Building homes  
 Business and commercial use of resources-and land that is a natural resource.  
 Continued building  
 Development around inland lakes that-offer no public access  
 Development of wetlands, lakes, rivers  
 Development will reduce or eliminate farms  
 Developments, Residential and commercial  
 Farmland continues to be encroached upon by housing developments  
 Farms being converted to subdivisions  
 Harbor Shores Development and if long-term the woods wetlands and beaches-will really be preserved.  
 Having land available with no houses-on it, forever.  
 I am concerned that open areas of land-are being used more and more for subdivisions.

Increase development, both residential and-commercial  
 It's disappearing to subdivisions at an alarming rate-and local government is ok with it.  
 Lakefront property taken up w/ private residences-and sand mining taking away from the dunes.  
 Losing currently open views and green space-to condo and home developers that only benefit-the new owners, some of the development must-be dedicated to the public and views-and parks protected.  
 Losing open land to houses and subdivisions built-and not occupied.  
 Losing public green space, pollution in water-(Lake Michigan)  
 Losing your land  
 More and more houses replacing farms, very sad to me.  
 More subdivisions  
 New subdivisions, building on beaches and river  
 Over development  
 Overbuilding  
 Overbuilding of areas that should be considered-for conservation  
 Over commercialization, golf course  
 Overcrowding  
 Overdevelopment  
 Overdevelopment of farmland  
 Overpopulation and building  
 Rapid growth without concern for future generations  
 That some people want to make it into a golf course  
 That they are building new homes around the lake-and disrupting the view and wildlife.  
 The farmland and green spaces are rapidly being-converted--to subdivisions. Not enough people recycle.  
 The loss of farmland  
 The new golf courses  
 The selling of farmland  
 Three is too much building  
 Too many new subdivisions with only one agree, road near us  
 Too many subdivisions are taking up the wide open acreage  
 Too many subdivisions being built  
 Too much land being developed for housing  
 Turning wetlands into golf and housing, some community's-not turning areas of urban blight into green space.  
 Urban Development  
 Urban sprawl  
 Urban sprawl, commercial development plus acres-of blacktop.  
 Urban sprawl, condos

## **Leadership/political process**

A shaky is not conducive to active-conservation projects.

Actually getting it done

Can't afford more tax dollars

Community is not involved enough

Community needs to be educated on what –

Conservation needs to be done

Environmentalists who don't take into-account the effect policies have on the-economy and jobs .

Going too far

Human resources, ordinances, funding

It might be privatized

Low priority

My community should not legislate my-private use of my property

Needs to be balanced to protect rights of landowners

Our township/city public servants have given –WAY too much to developers.

( Developers appear to be the priority even when they are from other states).

Over control

Restrictions on private property

State governing private land

Taking private property without just compensation

That government gets involved in more projects than- are already in place.

That it be properly regulated

The city will give/sell all of our parks eventually-

They are already started with the most beautiful

One of them all.

The DEQ is getting bogged down and slow-

in processing and the are getting extreme-

in not issuing permits.

The McCoy Creek water temp. Changes being-

discussed to return the mill to working order.

The village's inconsistency in zoning and building.

(The DEQ's overzealousness).

Those with authority to regulate need to show-

better judgments in balancing benefits and costs-

there are inadequate checks and balances to this authority.

## **Pollution**

Abusive and intrusive water polic<sup>7</sup> of various agency

Chemical run off into rivers and lakes

Chemicals

Cleanliness

Conserving the Lake, River, keeping the clean-E.Coli Free

Landfill which may cause environmental-

contamination of groundwater/air.

Landfills filling up, we need to recycle

Litter, I have to see trash on the road and in lakes

Needs to recycle

Our water quality and quantity

Pollution

River pollution

Streams and rivers coming into PawPaw Lake that-have fertilizers coming into lake and silt.

The pollution of Lake Michigan and rivers running-into it.

## **Quality/quantity of environmental resources**

Amount of protected land

Animals to have a place to live

I have not found the parks/playgrounds as easily.

I can't walk or bike to them.

Improve Township parks

Improving water quality of St. Joseph River, so we-can swim or use the water for recreation and fish.

Is that our area is preserved for next 74 years

It will be too late before action is taken

It will shrink

Just keeping it clean and enjoyable for the next-Generation.

Keep Margaret Upton Arboretum Green, not a marina

Keeping areas clean and safe for children

Keeping it safe for fish and people and animals

Keeping some open space, safe bike and walk trails--clean beach space.

Lack of walkways and sidewalks to get to lakes and-Parks.

Lake water quality

Lakes, River, streams

Less farm land

Less farming in area's where wildlife used to live

Low lake levels

Maintain open space with trails for hiking and bike riding

Maintaining the current areas, all are fairly new and--in good shape my concern is how these areas are

going to be maintained throughout the years.

Needs to continue to be available and accessible to-everyone.

Open areas for biking/walking children's play areas

PawPaw Lake Cleanness

Protecting the quality and quantity of Lake Michigan & all the Great Lakes.

Sarrett Nature Center wants to flood lower ground rather than keeping water ways open.

That farmland, open space, access to Lake-

Michigan and Inland Lakes and River be-  
there for generations to come.

That it will decrease or stop  
That land will not be protected. Wetlands will-  
be built on and trees all chopped down.  
The dirty brown St. Joseph River flowing-  
into Lake Michigan.  
(Standing on the bluff its appalling to witness).

The disappearance of farms and open spaces

The preservation of wildlife

The sand dunes

The special land around Lake Michigan so-  
Important to our agriculture.

The water quality

The wetlands, lake, river, and all else stay the same

Water quality in Lake MI

We do not do enough to preserve

Wildlife

Wooded areas are decreasing, less area for wildlife  
habitat

### **Human behavior**

Apathy and short sightedness of community  
members especially-older ones who don't want to  
see or acknowledge need for change

Everyone is needed to apply

Greater population in New Buffalo has led to  
Greater use of Natural Resources, not everyone  
practices conservation.

Have a recycling program  
(pick up every other week)

Many choose not to participate.

Lack of interest and participation in using-  
available community assets.

Lack of knowledge

Lack of support

Lethargy

No commitment to recycling or assistance-  
in yard waste removal.

No Hunting

Other people do not respect it

Out of state people will invade and overrun--  
community

Over use of lake

Over used

People don't seem to care

People don't think they need to participate in it.  
("Someone else will do it").

People will choose to let conservation downgrade--  
if the quality of their lifestyle is affected

People with money and lawyers getting special-  
permits for land use.

Public misuse, trash along roadways and--  
in public areas, seems to be getting out of control  
Public areas will become more of a tourist attraction and-  
too crowded to be enjoyed by residents.

Recycle centers needed

Recycling

Recycling, more people should recycle

Recycling, pollution of Lake Michigan

That the rest of the country is going to try and-  
steal the water from Lake Michigan.

Too crowded

Wasteful people

### **Cost/expense**

Cost

Economic features will take over Nature!

Expenses/taxes

I don't want to be taxed for it

I strongly oppose any taxes for county parks

Imposed controlled fee based spaces

Keeping parks, beaches open to public-  
without raising entrance-fees so much that people-  
can't participate.

Lose of funds to upkeep, money talks and average-  
Person loses use of or access to lake.

Money, people causing harm and lack of the best-  
Choices to do a good job - or poor planning.

Overspending, then going into disrepair like the-  
fishing platform at River (Iand M).

### **Other**

Conservationist being stupid, everything is-  
economically driven.

I believe there is a good conservation effort for-  
PawPaw Lake.

It is not fully appreciated

Jobs, food, comforts for all

Lack of time

McCoy Creek

Our community is pretty rural, I don't have-  
a concern because I don't think about it much.  
(Not aware of issues).

But I'm sure there are soil conservation issues-  
water distribution issues, etc.

That is gets done

The geese making a mess to walk in

Very Little is done on a consistent basis

We don't do enough

We need good balance. Too much of an-  
extreme can destroy our future too.

We need more of it

## Cass County

### **Sprawl**

Agricultural lands being purchased + developed on-- as well as public parties + taken + for public use--

Building come in a use up all the land for-- subdivision apt complexes.

Businesses are building their companies-- or pristine soil of hotels/motels/large apartment-- complexes in wetlands.

There are plenty of older neighborhoods-- that could be revived to make room for businesses-- or apartments without virgin soil.

Conservation is needed, but to the point-- of it preventing housing business etc. -- from coming to the community.

Deforestation due to construction

Development it is taking to reach of farm-- production and beauty of open land

Developer " Paul Delano" is a threat to the-- wetlands and preservation. Also Troy treat-- is filling wetlands located on the corner-- of us12 + m-62.

Developers buying land around lake &-- building houses

Development of farmland

Development housing a negative effect-- on ground water.

Excess Building - losing the wildlife

Farm land being eaten up by homes no farms-- no food.

Farmland used for housing developments

Homes taking over any open land

Housing Developments

Housing developments commercial construction-- housing sprawl

In that the area isn't over developed plant and-- wild life we'll be diminished also having-- the homes built so close together.

Land use, suburban sprawl - time and people-- change & their Ideas.

Losing it all to subdivision and shopping malls-- Loss of farmland. We need our farmlands for-- food and we need to educate people/ children-- on the value of our farmland.

Loss of ground

my biggest concern is urban sprawl, large-- amounts of farm land we lost

Not losing farmland to more housing development

Over building of subdivisions

Over crowding

Over development

over development or misuse to land develops

Over population, Decreasing wildlife-- overbuilding on Eagle lake and loss of Marsh/ Wetland 20 development.

overbuilding on my lake it will be too crowded-- People build to many houses and not putting-- commercial industrial building in Industrial park.

Responsive development of open land farm land

Subdividing & selling parcels for home development

The land is being bought up for housing and-- not being used for farming etc.

The loss of open lands due to sell off to developers-- for subdivisions

The our building and lack of country in the wetland-- area of the lakes

To many subversion eating up natural spaces

Too many housing developments consuming-- farm lands and natural wildlife + wetland areas.

Too many people, too small of an area

Too many strip malls & homes

Too much land developed in to housing.

(Do not use state and county facilities because-- they use too much area for home own).

Urban sprawl

Utility companies tearing things up.

We are growing too fast

### **Leadership/political process**

Access properly used funds education about conservation-- of all things in this survey

DEQ okes little to preserve what is their mandate-- by caving to developer and individual self- interest.

Enforcement- education

Going over board+ proposing stupid polices.

(Run away Radical Environmentalist are dangerous).

Government taking more open spaces such as us131-- for St. Joseph country

Government, Involvement

Is how our local government would handle it

Keep government out of private owned land

Late coming into recycle in the area spent in hunting-- & fishing licenses is directed to the slate to spend-- see side of own area.

Little or no enforcement

Little governmental support - local & county

Local ordinances changing

No doing enough to preserve/ protect the-- lakes in our area.

Nobody cares - especially local gov't

Not enough of it

Our township doesn't appear to be involved in it  
Over zealous conservationists. Re: oil explanation-  
etc. of land use.

Small towns usually don't have the same power-  
to conserve as big cities.

Stop selling all public accesses to local lakes to-  
out of towners, keep public ways to the public-  
not just lake property home owners.

That it does not become overly intrusting-  
to be enjoyment fuses of private property.  
the lack of long term planning of goals for-  
any conservation issue. (Other economic-  
necessities usually are higher priority).

The abuse of power to sings land/ And

The closing off of public accesses

The government telling me what I can do or-  
not do in my woods.

The lake of a recycling program

Too much government control combined-  
with soaring taxes & living expenses-  
makes ownership prohibitive.

Too much government control

Wacko environmentalist groups influence-  
public policy

### **Pollution**

Abuse of Ecosystem by selfish users. Pollution.  
plastics(litter)

Camp ground on Lilly Lake sewage farm chemicals,  
hog Farms

Contamination of water + land fertilizers/dumping

Clean water

Clean water & air

cleanliness, conservation of lake water  
contaminants, pesticide, overuse of some areas-  
loss of indigenous animal & plant species.

Farm run off

Lake pollution- increase of lawn fertilizer-  
run off into lake farm fertilizer also.

Littering roads

Littering/ pollution

Not enough recycling

People littering, lack of environment and people

Pollution

Pollution of ground water

Pollution too many people

Pollution, dumping

Pollution of natural areas. Every time we camp-fish  
Or hike we pick up other peoples garbage.

That our lake quality will deteriorate + overuse/  
pollution-will take over.

That people who own property on the lake take are-  
quit to throw trash in other item in lake also not to  
over-fertilize the yard.

The local farmers use of chemical; standing water;  
And cutting down trees.

There are too many landfills

Water - farm irrigation

Water Contamination

Weeds. zebra mussels, Pollution in the Lake

### **Quality/quantity of environmental resources**

Ain + waton- wildlife

continued green spreads for over future

Environment, overall health issues

How long will it last

I am concerned that corporate farms are depleting-  
water sources +land quality.

I love wildlife; bird, deer, etc. leave them alone with-  
their habitat.

Invasive species as garlic mustard

Invasive species human encroachment

It won't be there for my kids. If the wildernesses are-  
gone...how will they learn.

Keeping our Inland Lakes/Rivers clean and-  
accessible for public use - swimming/boating.

Keeping water clean

Lack of Public beach is on Inland Lakes- only one -  
not very accessible.

Lake access & police patrols to keep the lake safe  
Letting kids experience the same things in life that-  
I have .

Loss of natural shore line on lakes

Losing Park's Launches not being taken care off

Lost

More public beach

One of my concern is beavers destruction on Lily-  
Heetchers Lakes in newborn twp. & lake filling up-  
with Lily pads + weeds.

One wetlands ahs been enhanced, but poolside in-  
a road very slippery.

Preservation of hunting balanced with habituate-  
maintenance + restoration.

Preserving it

Preserving quality of Robbin Lake

Preserving wet lands yet providing access to them-  
via trails.

Public accesses to lakes

Small late around farms + state land

Sring coming into Lakes need to be cleaned-  
for Bella water flow to lakes.

Sucking rivers dry from irrigating crops

That the trails are maintained  
 That it would be nice to have a nice park to go to.  
 (It would be nice to have a place to just get away).  
 That outdoor life may be done away with-  
 their own children would not know about-  
 it or enjoy it.  
 The conservation, but there needs to be trails  
 The depletion of wildlife + natural habitats  
 The quality of the water in Magician Lake  
 Too many boat of houses allowed of lakes –  
 sprawl need farm & nature.  
 Too much field Irrigation, too much confident-  
 farming  
 Tree cutting  
 Water quality  
 Water sources -sewer  
 We chose to live in the country I will arrive to-  
 the city to visit or shop- I want to keep it that way.  
 Weed control of the lake  
 Wetland and woodland  
 Wetland are being filled and it makes it difficult-  
 for the animals that live there.  
 What will be left for future generation

### **Human behavior**

Anti hunting & guns  
 attempts to misuse the lake and woods of the area  
 Campground on Cranberry Lake is way-  
 too big Over crowded-for this sizing lake(40 acres)-  
 109 spots for campers/trailers.  
 Greed:catos, development, unsustainable-  
 Life styles  
 I feel that Dowagiac could be a great place-  
 to live if people would get off their lazy butts-  
 and fix it up.  
 Lack of knowledge & public support  
 Lack of respect of nature  
 Most people do not claim ownership +  
 work outside community  
 Not enough is happening  
 Not everybody will have the same views  
 People don't understand importance  
 People moving into Rural area and have no-  
 respect for land/ neighbor/community.  
 People take food & water for granted-  
 we need both to survive  
 Recycling  
 Removal of trees on farm land for the little extra yield  
 That no one really cares  
 The area lakes are over crowded and access is  
 limited or- not available unless you own property

on lakes or own a boat  
 They are over looked by most of the community-  
 except the Edwardsburg Lake.  
 To many people  
 To much high speed boat + jet ski traffic.  
 (It very much need to be cut back).  
 Too many boat

### **Cost/expense**

Cost  
 Cost are cut back so everything suffers  
 Cost to property owner  
 Economic impact  
 Expense  
 Funding sources  
 Higher Taxes- more government interference  
 I don't want to have to pay for at our age  
 It not being done right & costing  
 Money to fund  
 Not enough money to support it  
 Taxes  
 The cost to the tax payer  
 The cost will outweigh the benefits  
 Use of space/ and cost

### **Other**

Conservation is fire for those who are interested--  
 Makes no difference to me.  
 For the future  
 No concern  
 Not enough recreation in southern Cass county  
 that we are not doing enough  
 The lack of it  
 The loss of it  
 There is not enough done for kids  
 They take it to far  
 Things may get overlooked to keep it updated  
 Too much over kill  
 Up coming Generation-  
 wildlife is running rapid, too many zebra

### **Van Buren County**

#### **Sprawl**

All the building - condo's etc.

All the subdivisions being put in  
 A lot of farm land is being sold to build houses on--  
 farmers should be able to make a decent  
 living in order to continue on.

Commercial development  
 Developers profit from it but think-  
 They don't have to contribute to it.  
 Don't start chopping down the trees to make room--  
 for more homes. Trees give oxygen.  
 If we want to breathe, we surely need them.  
 Elimination of natural areas in exchange-  
 for development.

Farmers are selling out to subdivision buildings  
 Farms being sold for new housing  
 Housing + taking over of beaches etc

Increase in housing projects such as trailer parks etc.  
 Land development because this areas income in-  
 Largely based on tourism.  
 Land development, new video stores, dollar stores-  
 one land is developed, hard to undo.

Land use  
 Larger private farms are decreasing due to cost of-  
 farming and  
 becoming neighborhoods.

Losing farmland ( I am not a farmer)  
 Loss of agricultural land  
 Loss of farm & forest land to development  
 Loss of open spaces + fear of trespass due to-  
 Urban sprawl + housing development.  
 Mattawan is small to much building takes-  
 away nature. (We like turkey's foxes, raccoons-  
 birds, turtles, rabbits etc.)

New development  
 Not sure overcrowding  
 Our building  
 Over population in my community & the world  
 People building houses & taking the fields/  
 Woods.  
 Places like North Point beach being purchased-  
 for development  
 Pressure from development  
 That all of the natural beauty and wildlife sill-  
 disappear –due to new un-needed subdivision  
 and commercial extension.  
 That development of farms of green space  
 into housing & commercial areas change-  
 the environment.  
 That too many housing developments  
 (especially gated communities will destroy-  
 much of our natural landscape).

The entire area in turning into plats  
 The hurry to develop commercially without

weighing the cost. (i.e.- the black river along  
 base line + 68<sup>th</sup>).

The loss of the family farm  
 Too many condo's + apartment being built on--  
 every square inch of space.  
 Too many housing & apt. complexes  
 Too many subdivisions  
 Too many subdivisions + new homes - seeing  
 farm land disappear  
 Too much planned building (i.e. subdivisions)--  
 They are taking land and animals have no place to go.  
 Too much housing development  
 Turning viable farmland into subdivisions& condos-  
 too much development.  
 Urban sprawl  
 Urban sprawl into farm communities  
 Urban sprawl, development  
 Urban sprawl. too many subdivisions.  
 (County needs money and wants to sell green spaces  
 to fund other projects).  
 We are losing the farms. You can't blame the farmers-  
 because yard can't make a living on the farm.

### **Leadership/political process**

CAFO and the popularity in other communities  
 Gov. control  
 Government land garbing  
 Keeping the DNR of parks and other place they don't belong  
 Lack of vision or plan for the future  
 No recycling program  
 Not having a choice in these matters  
 Nuts messing it up more because they think conservation  
 means- Don't use.  
 Our government (state & federal) waste's to much money.  
 ( If federal would take a few billion they-  
 waste over sea and put in our country-  
 we would be in good shade)  
 Restrictions on farming  
 That there is to much regulation on what you can or-  
 can't do to your own land that we pay taxes on.  
 The balance that has to be struck between-  
 agriculture, balanced reason seem to be-  
 in short supply when conservation is the topic.  
 The one wetland we have left will be taken-  
 along with north point property being taken.  
 There will not be enough or programs may not-  
 conserve for the people but rather for the going-  
 for the program itself.  
 Treat it sill be politically driver  
 We cannot plant a new tree in village of Decatur-  
 without permission.  
 Zoning - Do not need it and do not want it

## **Pollution**

A clean + stable water table. No build up-  
of pesticides or chem. Etc.

Air & water pollution

Building & water quality

Chemical pollution - heavy agricultural use of-  
chemicals for crops.

Clean ground water and other water sources-  
like lake Michigan .

Clean water & air

Cleaning up Maple Lake

Contamination & water run off

Don't leave garbage in public areas

Fertilizer

Lake pollution / clean lake water

LK. MI. User contamination

Not polluting these areas

over pollution

Over use of pesticides/ herbicides - bees during-  
to many subdivisions being built –  
why there are plenty of homes for sale everywhere.

People throwing thing out their car windows

Pesticides being used

Pollution

Pollution - urban sprawl

Pollution in water

Pollution, + access for all people

Pollution, over crowding, and over development

They mix garbage + trash together at bump site

Waste

water guiltily

water pollution and littering

well drinking water - sanitary sewerage demands

## **Quality/quantity of environmental resources**

Access to parks

All people cannot enjoy recourses that must-  
be paid for in order to enjoy them-  
(i.e. beach parking fees-  
at Lake Michigan - South Haven ).

Amount of weeds in lake of the woods

Blueberry farmers deforesting low + wetlands  
conserving forest land

Consumption of agricultural land

Digging of gravel next farm. I hope my land never-  
becomes a gravel pit.

Easy availability

Great Lakes being drained for the west

Invasive species

It its needed for now & for future generations

It will disappear overtime

Keeping it green and no more unnecessary  
developments

lack of walking, biking trails

Loss of or quality at most public boat launch site  
their-not enough parking.

more farm land and farmers needed, healthier food

Park of interest

Quality of water in Scott Lake and fishing

Running out of open field

Saddle Lake over fished and boats bring in foreign  
species

Saving the natural resources sites which haven't  
been-invaded by land developers.

Shrinkage

That it will not be kept up; being thrown all over etc.

That shore's not enough of it.

That we will lose green space + trees + there's no  
water- to fish or swim on for public use, a space is  
shrinking.

The decrease is wetlands because of building homes,-  
apartments, condos etc.

The proper and continued use of these areas-plus the  
importance to physical health that these provide.

The River, leave in alone

There is not enough resources or concern

There will be nothing left to conserve

To keep it rural. keep the farmland

Water activities restrictions

Water levels, disappearing farm land to subdivisions, wildlife

We have muddy water

## **Human behavior**

Apathy

Chicago people buying up stuff at Lake MI

Clear cutting wetland to put crops in

crowded ( too many people)

I am not pure enough people are

In Bloomingdale some of the people in the rural-  
neighborhoods abuse the animals.

(Whether snakes, and deer. They poach for deer).  
increased use by visitors who abuse/ show-  
lad of respect for the resources.

Lack of public concern

Lack of anyone taking care of the natural resources-  
picking trash, supervision usage, etc.

Lack of community concern



Largely population by farmers-  
 Nobody cares  
 not enough effort, not a priority  
 Not important enough to most people  
 People don't really care nor the government  
 People don't recycle enough  
 People from out of state dying & developing-  
 take over the resources.  
 People just don't care anymore  
 People misusing our lakes ( such as bathing)  
 People will neglect it, and stop maintaining it  
 Personal / community apathy  
 Recycling  
 recycling prevention littering/ trash in public-  
 area stop smoking in public areas.  
 Recycling, I would like to , don't know who-  
 to contact.  
 Recycling. De forestation  
 Reduce of farmland for subdivision  
 The effect that greedy capitalists will have-  
 exploitation. I want growth non exploitative.  
 The lack of interest of community members  
 Too much traffic down our road (Van Kal Ave.)  
 Us against them attitudes  
 We aren't doing enough to conserve our-  
 natural resources.  
 We care about the water quality but county has-  
 never shown concern.  
 We need recycling centers  
 We need to educate more and get more involved-  
 in environmentalism.  
 Wee need more people to take care of-  
 the environment.  
 Young people  
 Young people today - tons + 20's soon loss-  
 involved in outdoor activities - they are over future.

**Cost/expense**

Cost  
 Cost, getting someone knowledgeable in charge  
 High taxes, Low's school  
 I do not use Kal-Haven Trail because of the user fees  
 it would be a safer bell trail then having them on  
 the roads. (We need more free trails).  
 I don't make enough money to help  
 Money to support it  
 My taxes going up  
 Near by in Hertford - The Cow CAFO-  
 very detriment to quality air, water-

so far two contamination trout streams.  
 On going funding  
 Our taxation and lack of courses for the environment  
 Taxes  
 That it is done properly, tastefully and the cost is-  
 to great for low income to use.  
 The cost ( in today's poor economy in Michigan)  
 The trade off of environment and public resources  
 For economic development.  
 They have changed it 5 times and I have just lost  
 millions of dollars and my husband split my children  
 dreams.  
 Too much money is spent on the sand sifter  
 Unnecessary costs  
 We who are poor will have our taxes raised in a  
 window –work a low paying job.  
**Other**  
 Future generations  
 Home none  
 Hope South Haven doesn't lose its small town  
 change and charm  
 Lack of recycling center access no 24/7 anymore  
 Lack of recycling  
 Lake of ability of growth  
 No concern for people who like to enjoy outdoor  
 activities-such as walking and biking.  
 None (live in the country)  
 The lack of it  
 There is none  
 Too much preservation and net enough conservation

❖ **Survey question 22: Changes needed to be done in the community to make green and open spaces and water resources better for future generations to have and enjoy**

**Berrien County**

**Do action**

A better understanding about the majority of-  
 ORV owners and how they provide and-  
 Support conservation.

A long bike/walking trail. Leave lake Michigan-beaches alone.

Be more concerned about Social

Become aware of the impotence and value of-Conservation.

Better river and lake management

Bike trails

City recycling/yard waste program, more public-access to PawPaw lake and River.

Clean out McCoy Creek "Raceway"

Clean up of our waterways

Clean up the lake and rivers

Clean up the St. Joseph River

Clean up water resources and fix up existing house-limit new building

Clean water and more access

Commit \$ and effort to upgrading beach amenities (toilets are disgusting, so we don't use our local beach), planning for all age members of community

Communicate more opportunities publically-to be involved.

Connected pathways for walking

Connected trail system , public assess to-inland lakes and river.

Continue awareness of situation

Continue to improve outdoor land use

Easier access, lighting, and safety

Everyone should help take care of the park

Everyone should recycle

have a clean up the river annually

I would like to see the incorporation of volunteer-maintenance groups to do simple things like-pick up trash, paint picnic tables, rake lawns.

Increase land and water and its access

Long term plan for clean water in Lake Michigan

Long term planning

Make bike trails along EVERY road in Berrien Springs, look at the Netherlands for inspiration. (Encourage fewer cars more bikes, good-for exercise and less fuel dependency).

More connected walking/biking trails

More DEQ policing

More emphasis on promotions and-maintenance of areas

More federal aid for dredging

More involvement

More launch sites, more hunting areas

More parks and access to Riverfront park

More people to help clean up the waters and air community

More sidewalks and more parks

Offer free recycling

Open to public

PawPaw River needs to be free of log jams and safe for-canoe and boats.

Sidewalk down replant Lane and into Berrien Springs. (Bike Lanes on roads).

Spend more time maintaining parks and waterways

The city water is undrinkable, that needs to be addressed

The PawPaw River needs to be opened from county line to St. Joseph

To be safe from harm

To be willing to back or stand being changes needed

To continue to clean up small inland waterways-decontaminate open land.

Township park improvements

Tree trimming on Township street, plant more flowers- maintain lawns.

Trees must be planted to replace ANY cut down-PUBLIC or PRIVATE- Reverse the mega home trend-harsh penalty for polluters.

Upgrade water system, pressure waterways

### **Stop or limit action**

Abide by deeds and agreements already standing

All river communities need to protect rivers and lakes! (Drinking water)

Already changed too much

Avoid overdevelopment

Better policies of zoning and use laws

Better quality humans, or fewer human, limit population

Build less

Conservation committees w/ local government involved-also state and federal involvement will prove beneficial.

Continued proper disposal of all waste

Develop plans for local areas that already exist

Effort to reduce water & are pollution

Enforce laws, regulations already n place regarding-recreational areas, land and water

Enforce the building and land use laws instead of-worrying about being taken to court.

Housing developments with larger lots and-playgrounds in subdivisions for kids.

I don't agree with the high density recommendations-of "planners."

I don't trust my local government, but the state-should step in.

Keep as much as possible open to the public

Keep green areas green, not commercial

Keep it clean

Keep open the water ways  
 Keep out the subdivisions  
 Keep river, waterways (Hickory Creek) and-Lake Michigan cleaner. Promote more recycling.  
 Keep things clean, Everyone to pick up own trash.  
 (Be happy and leave things better than before you came).  
 Keep up with what they are doing.  
 (We need to make sure they have funds).  
 Keep/make them clean again recycling and-Conservation.  
 Less Development  
 Limit development of Marsh and wetland  
 Limit expansion of landfill activity  
 Limit the amount of housing developments-enhance St. Joseph River leading out to lake-Michigan to become more boater friendly.  
 (More restaurants on water and close to lake).  
 limit the number of subdivisions coming in  
 Maintain all existing areas  
 Maintain and improve quality  
 Make sure the lake is protected  
 Make these more important than build buildings-that will be vacated in the future.  
 More conscientious about preserving the world-i.e., recycling should be mandatory  
 More difficult to change zoning  
 More preservation of existing green spaces and-natural habitats.  
 More restrictive codes for lot sizes and more-clustering of houses to permit more open space  
 Moratorium on housing and developments  
 Need a comprehensive plan  
 No commitment  
 No discharge from lawn and garden and farms into-the lake.  
 Not let big companies come in and change by-neighborhood by adding apartment complexes.  
 Pick up trash and punish those who litter the – roads and lakes.  
 Plan subdivisions better  
 Planning  
 Planning! Also need to control developers  
 Pollution  
 Preserve more agricultural land, forests and waterways  
 Preserve more of the land and waters  
 Preserve open farmland  
 Protect farmland from development by purchasing-development rights.  
 Proper training for individuals responsible for cleaning up-

Jean Klock Park.

Prosecute litterers enforce laws more, let violators pay  
 Protect green spaces from development  
 Protect our lake and rivers, stop building so many homes  
 Protect the coastline  
 Protecting farm land where to be protected  
 Quit building  
 Quit putting many farm wells in for irrigation  
 Recycling, pollution control  
 Reduce erosion, more buffer zones near streams, floodplains  
 Some types of pretreatment of streams and river fertilizer-before coming into lakes.  
 stop building new homes around the lake  
 Stop polluting the rivers. Cow farm in Hartford, MI  
 Stop selling off farmland  
 Stop urban sprawl  
 Stop building more places and use the ones available  
 Strict enforcement of laws against littering and polluting  
 Stricter zoning laws, provide free recycling center  
 Take care of it and donate if you use it  
 Tighter zoning rules, and people following them  
 Too much new housing developed, beauty of area is-being diminished.  
 Tough development laws  
 Try to keep open spaces we have plan conservatively-good access.  
 Zoning restrictions and lot size, building size, etc.

### **Other**

Don't know enough to comment  
 I would like one singular user fee for use of all county-parks and beaches.  
 Whatever it takes to get St. Joseph River clear/clean

### **Cass County**

#### **Do actions**

A better recycling program  
 Accept to difference between hunters and non hunters  
 Awareness+ funding for public parks + water ways  
 Balance private public pond relationship-in land ownership.  
 Be proactive about in evasive plants + animals-in-the lakes.  
 Better drainage of swamp made by roads +

caused by road building.  
 Better environmental +community planning – someone who has and overall plan or utility.  
 Better government representation  
 better use of it for river  
 Bike/waking paths on roads  
 Biking Trails  
 biking Trails in city limits  
 city sewer  
 Clean it up  
 Clean up outlet from Robbin Lake  
 Clean up stone lake- don't charge to put a boat on- the boater (i.e. Diamond Lake).  
 Clean use of open areas  
 Cleaner rivers (creeks) I've been down them. It's the optical course.  
 Cleaner Water  
 Community clean up woods cleaning to dead (for stoves).  
 community recyclable pick up  
 Conservancy agony at legal level, I have 2+ along the lake (of woods).  
 Create more open spaces for residents of Mich.  
 Educating people  
 Education + Enforcement of DEQ programs  
 Educational awareness to public of importance  
 extend all hiking trails  
 Farmers market every week so people can go organic  
 Increase # of green + open areas  
 Inform stakeholders of its plans  
 Jobs within community  
 Just need to keep options in wild when decisions-made education of green awareness  
 Make it a priority  
 Make it safe  
 Mandatory recycling for government from taking land etc  
 more + better lake + river access  
 more awareness  
 More city sewer  
 More community Involvement  
 More education  
 more education on conservation  
 More education, support use. They must stay open for our uses  
 More funding  
 More makes for kids swimming pool & public beach  
 More places in Cass county

More public access  
 more public access, public swimming areas  
 More public beach  
 More public info& education  
 more public swimming beaches  
 More publicly owned property  
 More trails  
 More trails a larger park area, promote what's-available to residents(resources)  
 More trails more advertisement or special events-to help awareness of parks.  
 My involvement by community members  
 Need more outdoor playground/ park recreation  
 Need more public accesses to lakes & beaches  
 Needs to be more attractive to wises of the people  
 New city council  
 Opportunities geared for children - that are safe and-to be just kids + have old fashion fun.  
 People need to be more aware  
 Plant more trees harvest seaweeds in Lakes for ethical-clean dredge Inland Lakes/ Rivers for top soils.  
 Play land, Biking or walking trails  
 Promote business, especially small business  
 promote these spaces, teach kids the importance of them  
 Public access to water  
 Public beaches on inland lake  
 Public beach's open to public in each inland lake  
 Recycle have more bike trails, develop a camp ground  
 Recycle more  
 Recycling  
 School system needs to improve  
 Sidewalk + trails  
 Spend more time & money at local meetings  
 Start caring  
 Support recycling  
 Take better care of all resources for future  
 Take responsibility to keep them clean-safe  
 Teach people that pollution is wrong  
 There needs to be a public beach for people for swim-that doesn't exist without public swimming pool.  
 to be more open for the positive develop of business + private land  
 To make people more aware of decision they make-in the community.  
 Too add more river trail or walk weep  
 We need a park or place to exercise in our town  
 We need more areas- there are too few

We need more green & open spaces & trails

We need more industry in

### **Stop or Limit Actions**

Cut down on pollution

Do not allow wetlands to be disrupted

Do not take away that we have for food/wildlife

Don't allow condos to be built

Don't allow more homes around lakes quit selling-off farm lands.

Don't put public schools in Farm areas-keep in town.

Enforcement of existing laws

Enough the laws we already have

Established rules police that users must follow-for conservation.

Housing Development in Rural farm areas-farm pollution in Lakes, rivers, streams.

Involved community member to make-recommendation based on environment factors.

Keep agriculture land & water purified

Keep as parks or free to everyone

Keep down urban sprawl - there are enough-developments.

Keep lake shore owners from fertilizing lawns-on the lake side.

Lake snow extent is preserving the wetlands-with snow restructures when it comes to future-development.

Land stewardship should be foremost in-concern of community.

Less Building

Less get skis & boats

Less housing

Less off - shore development

less suburban sprawl

Less Water pollution

Limit changes to lake surrounding land improve-litter/recycling.

Limit subdividing

limit urban sprawl, preserve portions of-shorelines of in land lakes

limits urban sprawl

Make sure quality off parks and water is safe

Make sure that all water ways have public access

Monitoring trash + pollution

More conservation of own natural resources

More enforcement of lake in place

More farms need to be in conservation program

more protection from over development. Teaching-

what needs to be done education/ nature classes.

More recycling, have fast-food stop using plastic cups  
More zoning less, mobile homes/trailers in Cass and-St. Joseph counties.

Need to stop take in farm land and turning it in to subdivision

No hunting on public lands, people need to stop using pesticides-of start using eu- sound products.

No irrigation systems sucking all the water out make pay tax- a lot

No more expanding new business buildings or parking lots-on virgin soil or farmland. Build within pockets of city-where revitalized neighborhoods could be made.

No walk on a lot of the smaller lakes, move active-concern about loose strike & why Lily pads are protected?

NOt allow big business to develop much areas

People should clean up their yards

People to quit littering and start to taking clear of natural resource

Planning of land use under the stoning law-to make things better

Private sector

Put power lines under ground- have under road tunnels by river

Quit building on the there

Quit buying out farm land for homes

Recycle & keep neighborhood Clean/safe for future generation

Recycling; water bottle deposit; water conservation

Reduce government control, use saved tax \$ to purchase-land from owners unable to pay taxes.

Reduce the number of water craft using lake

Refurbish the older homes or rebuild not start new areas.

regulate the sump of water of farm field

Remodeling houses and cleaning up lakes

Review and vote the master plan

See above DEQ needs to enforce current laws

Seiner systems on all area lakes and soil – conservation around lakes

Septic tank control

Shoreline is eroding

Stand up to land developers

Stop building track names

Stop expansion

Stop fertilizer use

Stop human invasion

Stop Irrigating from rivers

Stop moving to the country from city and-building houses.

Stop the destruction of the wetlands, where is the DNR

Stricter laws on what can be built on open land. The Inland lakes property are being pure land-by private individual and the private cannot-use them.

The state needs to central the spread of homes-in the county side.

Think long term - ease use of jet ski's think natural

To many new house

To much urban sprawl

To protect land form development

to take a more active rote and have well life-safe, pieces.

To watch its growth as we do not build homes-on precious farmland.

### **Other**

Don't know

I am not sure

Not informed enough to answer

I am not sure

### **Van Buren County**

#### **Do actions**

A canoe launch, park, hike trails

A very active push to retain the great green-spaces we have.

Activism a wake up call to preserve for the future  
Activities planned for children and adults to learn-about the animals.

All new subdivisions need sewers

And audit and to listen to me and stead of attack-me and pay back the money they have wrongly-taken attitudes + into about economic benefits.

Awareness

awareness, involvement

Better MGT or what they have

Better polices of the parks so the elderly feels safer-to go to the parks.

Better water management at water treatment facility

Bike Trail around Maple Lake

Buy privacy owned LK. MI frontage

Change the minds of community leaders

Clear algae, foreign species out of Inland lakes

Clean up PawPaw River & tributaries North of Maple Lake-& Control silt run off.

Cleaning, maintaining improving access.

Continuing education

Educate young about environment

Education about economic value

Elected person addressing the issues

Encourage - outdoor youth activities for those who's-families would not ordinarily encourage them.

Encourage downtown development + transportation-development.

every lake should have access sites.

(Some unused railways for bike trails).

Everyone needs more education on sustainable / organic/ nature

Family park

Fish & wildlife should be separate form the DNR

Free public recycling

funding + concern for the future

Get more involved in conservation & preservation

Increased publicity

Increased use of organic practices

It is so we can how good water in our homes

It needs bike trails and walking trails, often I walk

In the open street which could be very unsafe.

Let people know about what's available conserve them

M43 improved throw downtown Bangor - 2stoplights

Make more recreational part available

More Paths + sidewalk

More awareness of the importance of conservation-for everyone.

More bike trails

More dollars to purchase property and maintain

More education about positive aspects of these resources

More free trails & more trails

More public land

More public meeting for this concern

More public places

More trails

More community support for use of these areas.

Much more public accesses

Need more moneys to purchases

Open the water ways for canoeing

Positive role models

Public awareness via various media

Public education about the environment

Recycles pick up, environmental clean up/ awareness

Recycling

Recycling availability

Recycling center ( newspapers, bottles can-plastic etc..) education programs in schools – ( start young).

Roadside like accessibility

Side walks along and through the beach

Stay up dated with the changes

Tying into neighboring communities for-coordinated efforts.

Vested interest I think the do pretty well-but more support is always helpful.

Walking and bike trails around the lake

Ways to make lake water cleaner& safer

We need to have a public litter pick- up day

Organized planning where single-family homes-will not impact open space areas.

Support with restoration

### **Stop or Limit Actions**

Be sure industry, urban check, crouching and farm-fertilizer is held in.

Better health awareness. Snowmobile + ATV controls.

Better parks stop sprawl especially along the-black river. too many condos.

Better planning cut way back on developing

Better planning for future stop allowing-building permits.

Better recreation are as boats limited on lakes

Closely monitor of chemical in ground water

Consider town of the land and water usage-against exploitation and personal profit.

Develop a plan /goal/ for the future with-conservation being a crucial component.

Developers must fund it. If someone moves-into a new house, pay then.

Don't allow farm industries- or other industries-that contaminate haul & water-need strong legislation.

Don't burn leaves near the lake

Enact a no open burning ordinance

Fight to have public beaches remain public

Get out of the land business

Guidelines for development

Increased conservation for black & Pawpaw river

Keep areas of lake shore undeveloped

Keep land in as use

Keep more areas natural

Keep spaces available

Keep the lake clean

Keep the urban sprawl out of our area

Keep them clean

Keep Van Buren trail + PawPaw river area Clean

Land Use

Law Enforcement

Leave some open spaces

Less dope dealers and drunks

Less housing - subdivision

Less new residential development

Less regulation on private land ownership

Less tourism, better year-round jobs.

Limit new housing on Inland lakes

Limit subdivisions

Limit urban sprawl

Limit use of power boats + Auto

Lots are to small

Maintain the areas better

Make better use of resources

Make people more accountable for what they leave in public areas

Make sure all septic systems around Lakes do not pollute

millage or tax for conservation/recycling

Monitoring, irrigating systems & guiltily if water

Pumped into fields. Is this a major factor in the lowering of the water table?

More emphasis on conservation instead of development .

More litter law enforcement

More state + county support to control development

Move supervision of current parks& better city sidewalks

Need to constantly monitor

No more subdivisions

No more subdivisions I moved here 20 years ago to live in-the country, not live in a city.

on going maintenance land development that includes park &-lot trails for walking/ biking

Preserve the land & water quality - no more building

People have already over polluted, over crowded and-lover developed, how do you change that?

Preserve forest and make public forest easily accessible

Preserve green spaces, promote development of brown spaces

Prevent the loss of farm land, orchards/wooded area

Public take over of brackets + trails by developers

Quit taxes us so high

Recycling availability & reasonable restrictions-from sewage &-fertilizers etc. to reach our-lakes of streams.

Respect property

Restrict farm land for development must stay  
Safety regulations at area employers &  
maintenance of-the water resources.

Save more open space

Shoot the developers

Slow down

Slow down residential development

stop building so many condos they can't sell

Stop out of community development

Stop selling the land to real estate developers,

Stop subdividing

Supervised + free recreation areas - kid friendly

Think of things other they money

To have people are interested in farming and-  
farm preservation. No development of housing-  
or house trailers

To put people ahead of money

Update land use plan

Water quality + quantity farmers should not-  
irrigate- from lakes + streams

Weep control & water quality monitoring-  
of Scott Lake

### **Other**

Being a senior citizen I feel that I will  
have-

to rely on the county and township

Don't know

Hard to say

I don't know what protectors are in place

I felt very afraid speak out mine what conservation

Park in Porter



## Appendix H - Comparisons of Demographic Variables

### Study Samples and the U.S. Census

#### GENDER DATA

<b>Berrien</b>	<b>Census</b>	<b>Survey without missing</b>	<b>Survey with missing</b>
Male	48.5%	48.0%	47.1%
Female	51.5%	52.0%	51.1%
Missing			1.8%

<b>Cass</b>	<b>Census</b>	<b>Survey without missing</b>	<b>Survey with missing</b>
Male	50.0%	43.4%	41.9%
Female	50.0%	56.6%	54.5%
Missing			3.7%

<b>Van Buren</b>	<b>Census</b>	<b>Survey without missing</b>	<b>Survey with missing</b>
Male	49.6%	54.0%	52.5%
Female	50.4%	46.0%	44.7%
Missing			2.8%

## AGE DATA

<b>Berrien</b>	<b>Census</b>	<b>Survey without missing</b>
20-24	5.6%	0.4%
25-34	12.1%	4.9%
35-44	15.4%	16.2%
45-54	14.1%	25.9%
55-64	9.6%	24.1%
65-74	7.5%	19.5%
75-84	5.2%	6.8%
85 and over	1.2%	2.3%

<b>Cass</b>	<b>Census</b>	<b>Survey without missing</b>
20-24	4.8%	0.3%
25-34	11.6%	5.2%
35-44	16.0%	12.8%
45-54	15.2%	28.1%
55-64	10.7%	27.4%
65-74	7.7%	16.3%
75-84	4.5%	8.0%
85 and over	1.0%	1.7%

<b>Van Buren</b>	<b>Census</b>	<b>Survey without missing</b>
20-24	5.1%	0.7%
25-34	11.8%	7.0%
35-44	16.3%	9.6%
45-54	14.4%	30.6%
55-64	9.3%	21.8%
65-74	6.7%	17.0%
75-84	4.1%	9.2%
85 and over	1.0%	4.1%

## RACE DATA

Berrien	Census	Survey without missing
Euro-American/White	78.1%	92.8%
African American/Black	15.8%	3.6%
American Indian	0.4%	2.0%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.2%	2.5%
Hispanic/Latino(a)	3.0%	1.1%
Other	0.4%	0.4%

Cass	Census	Survey without missing
Euro-American/White	88.2%	95.3%
African American/Black	6.1%	3.4%
American Indian	0.8%	5.4%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.5%	1.3%
Hispanic/Latino(a)	2.4%	1.3%
Other	0.2%	0.7%

Van Buren	Census	Survey without missing
Euro-American/White	84.5%	96.1%
African American/Black	5.2%	1.4%
American Indian	0.9%	1.4%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.9%
Hispanic/Latino(a)	7.4%	0.0%
Other	0.1%	1.0%

## HOUSEHOLD INCOME DATA

Berrien	Census	Survey without missing
Less than \$25,000	32.1%	9.8%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	30.5%	25.5%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	28.6%	34.0%
\$100,000 or more	8.8%	27.8%

Cass	Census	Survey without missing
Less than \$25,000	27.7%	14.0%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	33.0%	21.7%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	33.7%	40.6%
\$100,000 or more	7.6%	23.8%

Van Buren	Census	Survey without missing
Less than \$25,000	29.4%	16.2%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	32.5%	26.3%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	31.5%	43.9%
\$100,000 or more	6.6%	13.6%