

LOWER MCKENZIE LAKE USER SURVEY

SECTION 1 – Residency

These first few questions will help to determine who is responding to this survey and how those people would like to use Lower McKenzie Lake. If you have more than one property on the lake, please comment on the one property that you have had the longest.

1. What type of property do you have on Lower McKenzie Lake? If you have more than one type of property, please report on only the property you have had the longest. *(please select one)*

3	Permanent Residence		Business
10	Seasonal Residence		undeveloped land
14	Weekend visits	1	other

2. How long have you owned your property on Lower McKenzie Lake? *(If less than 1 year, please write '1' in the space provided. If you own multiple properties, please comment on the one you have owned for the longest period of time.)*

Years owned	
0-10	9
11-20	4
21-30	9
31-40	2
41-50	3
>50	1

3. During a 12-month period (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31) how many days are you, members of your family, or guests at the property indicated in Question 1? *(please provide your best estimate in the space below)*

There are people at the property approximately 104 (average) days a year.

4. On average, about how many people are at the property each time it is being used?

3.5

SECTION 2 – Lake Use

The purpose of this section is to gather information on how Lower McKenzie Lake is used by its residents.

1. From the list below, check all activities on Lower McKenzie Lake that you, your family, or guests participate in.

25	A. fishing from the shore	26	G. viewing wildlife	22	M. canoe/kayak/paddle boat
23	B. fishing from a boat	5	H. speed boating	1	N. other (please list)
12	C. pontoon boating	3	I. jet skiing		O. I do not use the lake <input type="checkbox"/> Skip to Section 3
25	D. rest/relaxation	0	J. wild rice harvest		
26	E. swimming/wading	1	K. sailing		
12	F. ice fishing	12	L. water skiing/tubing		

2. Which 3 activities from the above list do you or members of your family or guests participate in most often? (*write the letters of the corresponding activities in the spaces below*)

I (We) participate in B most often, E second most often, and D & G third most often.

3. During the open-water (no ice) season, how frequently do you use the lake for the activities listed in Question 1, this section?

5	daily	11	once or twice per month
10	several times per week	0	once or twice per open-water season
1	3 or 4 times per month		

4. What type(s) of watercraft do you own, rent, or use on Lower McKenzie Lake? (*Check all that apply. If you do not use any watercraft on Lower McKenzie Lake, please check the last box.*)

14	motorized boat (0-50hp)	21	canoe or kayak
11	motorized boat (greater than 50hp)	1	sailboat
10	paddle boat	0	other (please specify)
11	pontoon boat	1	I do not own, rent, or use a boat or other
3	personal watercraft – PWC (jet-ski)	0	watercraft on Lower McKenzie Lake

SECTION 3 – Lake Stewardship

This section of the survey will provide information about the lake stewardship practices of lake property owners and renters.

1. Which of the following do you consider the most desirable shoreline for your property? (*please check one*)

4	mowed/manicured lawn to shoreline	9	managed natural vegetation along shoreline
4	mowed lawn with landscaped shoreline	3	unmanaged natural vegetation along shoreline
6	mowed lawn to sand beach	0	other (<i>please describe</i>)

2. Which of the following water quality/landscaping practices are you familiar with? (*check all that apply*)

8	rain garden	9	natural shoreline restoration
9	shoreline buffers	8	septic system upgrade
8	native prairie restoration	7	runoff reduction practices
23	not fertilizing	10	native flower/tree planting
12	using zero phosphorus fertilizers	0	other (<i>please describe</i>)
6	diversion of surface water runoff away from the lake		
2	not familiar with any of these		

3. Which, if any, of the following water quality/landscaping practices have you installed or that you follow on your property on Lower McKenzie Lake? (*check all that apply*)

0	rain garden	2	natural shoreline restoration
6	shoreline buffers	3	septic system upgrade
1	native prairie restoration	0	runoff reduction practices
20	not fertilizing	5	native flower/tree planting
10	using zero phosphorus fertilizers	0	other (<i>please describe</i>)
1	diversion of surface water runoff away from the lake	0	I have not installed any of the above water quality/landscaping practices.
5	not familiar with any of these		

4. Which, if any, of the following outcomes do you consider a motivator to install a water quality/landscaping practice on your property? (*check all that apply*)

17	increasing the natural beauty of your property
20	improving the water quality of Lower McKenzie Lake
17	improving the water quality around your property's shoreline
18	providing better habitat for fish
18	providing better habitat for birds and wildlife
6	setting an example for other lake residents
10	less lawn mowing time
9	a property tax rebate
10	financial assistance that pays a portion of the cost/installation
8	technical assistance that would evaluate my property for water quality concerns
8	technical assistance that would identify appropriate practices to install
0	other (<i>please describe</i>)
4	I have no interest in installing a water quality/landscaping practice on my property

5. What type of septic system do you have on your property? (*select all that apply*)

0	mound system	7	holding tank	3	other (<i>please list</i>) /cess pool
1	at-grade system	0	lift pump system		
14	conventional system	1	none (<i>skip to Section 4</i>)		

6. How many years ago was your septic system last inspected? (*please provide your best recall*)

17	1-5 years
3	6-10 years
0	11+ years
1	Never
4	Not Sure

7. When was your septic system last 'pumped' or 'sewered'? *(please provide your best recall)*

22	1-5 years
1	6-10 years
0	11+ years
0	Never
1	Not Sure

SECTION 4 – Lake Issues

The questions in this section pertain to various issues in Lower McKenzie Lake including water quality, lake level, and aquatic plant growth.

1. Below are numerous issues that may negatively affect your use of Lower McKenzie Lake. From the list below, please mark all of the issues that are of concern to you.

14	A. poor quality fishing	2	M. not enough wild rice
4	B. too much public use	19	N. introduction of undesirable aquatic
1	C. not enough weed growth		
6	D. poorly maintained boat access	5	O. nuisance wildlife (please specify) / Geese and Muskrats
6	E. low water level in the lake	3	P. other (please specify) / Noise & Swimmer's itch
5	F. foul or offensive odor	0	Q. not concerned about any of these issues
21	G. too much weed growth		
4	H. overdevelopment of the shoreline		
6	I. "icky" or "green" water		
2	J. too much shoreline lighting		
0	K. high water level in the lake		
0	L. too much wild rice		

2. Which **three** issues from the above list are of the most concern to you? *(write the letters of the corresponding issues in the spaces below)*

I am most concerned about issues G, N, and A.

3. In this survey, clean and clear water is considered *good* water quality while green (algae) water is considered *poor* water quality. In your opinion, the water quality in the summer (June – September) in Lower McKenzie Lake is:

Excellent	good	fair	poor	very poor	I don't know
7	16	3	1	0	1

4. Please check the answer that best completes the following sentence: "In my opinion, the overall level of the lake, given fluctuation with rainfall, seems to be"

too high	just right	too low	I don't know
0	19	7	3

5. Has low water ever prevented you from using Lower McKenzie Lake?

yes	no	I don't use the lake
3	24	21

6. Aquatic plants (rooted and floating) are an important part of any healthy lake system. In the time that you have owned/rented the property indicated in Section 1, Question 1, would you say the amount of visible aquatic plant growth in the lake, **excluding algae**, has:

	stayed the same		
increased		decreased	unsure
5	0	0	2

7. Aquatic plant growth varies throughout the open water season. Which month(s) of the season do you consider aquatic plant growth, excluding algae, to be problematic in Lower McKenzie Lake? (*check all that apply*)

						never a problem	I don't know
May	June	July	August	September	October		
1	7	17	21	15	6	0	0

SECTION 5 – Aquatic Invasive Species in Lower McKenzie Lake

This section of the survey seeks to determine how much lake residents know about aquatic invasive species. Aquatic invasive species are plants and animals that are foreign to Lower McKenzie Lake and do not belong there.

Curly-leaf pondweed (CLP)

Curly-leaf pondweed has not been documented in Lower McKenzie Lake but could be a threat in the future. CLP can create nuisance levels of plant growth and negatively impact water quality in a lake.

1. How much do you know about CLP and the problems it can cause in a lake?

			Just what I have read here
a lot	some	very little	
2	6	12	8

2. Do you think you would recognize CLP in the lake if you saw it?

definitely yes	probably yes	unsure	probably not	definitely not
0	6	7	7	8

Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM)

Eurasian watermilfoil has not been documented in Lower McKenzie Lake but could be a threat in the future. EWM can form dense beds of vegetation that interfere with many lake uses.

3. How much do you know about EWM and the problems it can cause in a lake?

a lot	some	very little	Just what I have read here
4	13	6	5

4. Do you think you would recognize EWM in the lake if you saw it?

definitely yes	probably yes	unsure	probably not	definitely not
0	12	6	6	4

Purple Loosestrife

Purple loosestrife, an invasive shoreline/wetland plant species, has not been documented in Lower McKenzie Lake but could be a threat in the future. Purple loosestrife can take over shorelines and wetlands displacing more beneficial native plants.

5. How much do you know about purple loosestrife and the problems it can cause in a lake?

a lot	some	very little	Just what I have read here
3	13	4	8

6. Do you think you would recognize purple loosestrife in the lake if you saw it?

definitely yes	probably yes	unsure	probably not	definitely not
0	11	6	6	5

Other Aquatic Invasive Species

7. Below is a list of additional aquatic invasive species. Please check all of those that you have heard of before.

zebra mussels	Chinese Mystery snail	New Zealand mudsnail	Japanese knotweed	Rusty crayfish	Banded mystery snail	Freshwater jellyfish	carp	Spiny waterflea	Hydrilla	Phragmites	I have not heard of any of these
28	1	1	0	4	1	3	25	4	3	2	0

8. In order to gauge potential interest, would you be willing to take part in a training session to help you identify aquatic invasive species in the lake?

definitely yes	probably yes	unsure	probably not	definitely not
6	10	7	4	1

SECTION 6 – Aquatic Plant Management

Currently aquatic plant growth in Lower McKenzie Lake is not managed. Algae growth is also not managed. A benefit of aquatic plant management strategies is that they can help reduce algae growth. Aquatic plants in a lake can be managed in many different ways. Sometimes no aquatic plant management may be the best option.

1. Do you think that management of aquatic plants in Lower McKenzie Lake is necessary?

definitely yes	probably yes	unsure	probably not	definitely not
9	11	5	2	0

2. Which type(s) of aquatic plants do you think should be managed on Lower McKenzie Lake? (*check all that apply*)

grow below the water's surface	stick out of the water	float on the surface of the water	grow on the shoreline, out of the water	other	comments
18	18	18	8	2	Only invasives and all too much

Common Aquatic Plant Management Methods

If plant management is recommended for Lower McKenzie Lake, what methods might you support? Please assume that the following management methods are safe and legal, and would only be performed by professionals and only be used if approved by the State of Wisconsin. Total removal or eradication of aquatic plants is not possible.

3. Please mark whether you would support, oppose, or need more information about the use of these aquatic plant management methods on Lower McKenzie Lake.

Small-scale (less than 10 acres) mechanical harvesting:

Support	Oppose	Need more info
12	3	10

Large-scale (10 acres or greater) mechanical harvesting:

Support	Oppose	Need more info
12	4	9

Hand-pulling and raking in shallow waters:

Support	Oppose	Need more info
20	2	4

Small-scale (less than 10 acres) of chemical herbicide application:

Support	Oppose	Need more info
7	6	14

Large-scale (10 acres or greater) of chemical herbicide application:

Support	Oppose	Need more info
8	5	13

Biological control (using one live species to control another):

		Need more info
Support	Oppose	
6	6	14

No Management:

		Need more info
Support	Oppose	
3	10	10

4. Have you made any attempts to remove or control aquatic plants in Lower McKenzie Lake by your shore property? (*check one*)

			yes, I did some myself and I hired someone
no	yes, I did it myself	yes, I hired someone	
13	15	0	0

5. What have you done to remove aquatic plants from the lake by your property? (*Check all that apply*)

hire someone to hand- pull or rake	hire someone to apply chemical herbicide	mechanical plant removal with boat and motor or other apparatus	self hand pull or rake	self- application of chemical herbicide	other	Other comments
					1	remove dead leaves
0	0	3	15	0	1	0

SECTION 7 –Community Support

Local, county, state, and federal resources will be sought in addition to Lake Association funds to implement management recommendations for Lower McKenzie Lake. Donations of volunteer time, services, materials, and equipment can be used as match funding for many grant programs reducing the overall financial burden to the Lake Association. The following questions will help to determine your willingness to support future projects involving the implementation of aquatic plant and lake management recommendations.

1. Following are activities that lake residents could participate in. *Please check all those activities you might be willing to volunteer your time if additional assistance is needed. This is not a commitment but rather a measure of possible assistance if needed.*

watercraft inspection at the boat landings	on the water monitoring for aquatic invasive species	shore land monitoring for aquatic invasive species	raising beetles for purple loosestrife control	native aquatic plant monitoring and identification	water quality monitoring	wildlife monitoring	I am not interested in volunteering any time
4	10	9	2	5	11	8	12

2. How much time would you be willing to contribute to support any of the activities in Question 1 above?

a few hours a year	a few days a year	longer periods of time
9	4	2

3. Donated service needs are varied and somewhat unknown, but could include any of the options listed below. Do you think you would be willing to provide any of the services that may be necessary? This is not a commitment but rather a measure of possible assistance if needed. *(check all that apply)*

GPS use	grant writing	printing services	physical labor	sewing	graphic design	legal services	construction service
2	2	0	7	1	0	1	1
gardening /landscaping design	gardening/ landscaping implementation	web development	scuba diving	outdoor sign design	I am not interested or not able to provide assistance	other	
2	1	0	1	0	16	1	

4. Have you ever attended a McKenzie Lake Association (MLA) meeting?

yes	no
14	10

5. If you answered "no" in Question 4, why haven't you attended a MLA meeting?

not interested	I don't have time	I never know when they are occurring	other	comments
1				
			1	works Saturdays
			1	Conflicting activities
			1	not at lake during those dates
2	4	3	3	

6. The McKenzie Lake Association annual meeting is generally held in the morning on the Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend. *In the following list of meeting dates and times, please check up to three meeting dates that would work for you.*

The current date and time works for me	Hold the meeting in the afternoon on the Saturday of Memorial Day	Hold the meeting in the evening on the Saturday of Memorial Day	Hold the meeting the Saturday before Memorial Weekend	Hold the meeting the Saturday after Memorial Weekend	Hold the meeting a different day	I am not interested in the McKenzie Lake Association annual meeting	comments
			1	1	1		Not on a Holiday Weekend
					1		any other than memorial day
12	2	3	5	6	2	3	

7. What is your affiliation with the McKenzie Lake Association?

current member	former member	I've never been a member
15	5	6

8. If you are not a member of the MLA, please indicate why. (check all that apply)

not interested	dues are too high	I did not know it existed	I do not have enough time	I disagree with what they are doing	I haven't been asked to be a member	I feel there is no benefit for being a member	Other	comments
							1	out of state - hard to make meetings
							1	need to turn in paper work
							1	Lake assoc. want to privatize the lakes
0	0	1	2	0	1	2	3	

9. How satisfied are you with the following aspects of Lake Association activity?

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Unsure	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Communication with community	7	6	4	1	1
Meeting frequency					
Meeting atmosphere (parliamentary procedure)	8	5	4	0	1
Executing Lake Association business	8	2	5	0	1
Promoting cooperation to achieve goals and objectives	6	5	7	0	1
Management of Association finances	7	5	7	0	0
Listening to property owners' needs and concerns	7	3	9	0	0

10. How would you prefer to be contacted by the MLA? (please check one)

mail	email	phone	in person	I do not want to be contacted
12	13	0	0	1

11. If there are any additional issues you would like the Lake Association to address, please use the space below to explain.

Additional comments
weed control/removal and erosion
noise, large bonfires, too fast boats, loose dogs on the road
More active participation from Lower McKenzie property owners
High property taxes be used for this terrible weed issue
Limited free time - willing to give extra money to the cause
control weeds and lake shore erosion