

## SURVEY 2003

1. How long have you lived in or owned property in Wabedo Township? 369 responded

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Less than 5 years - 64 responses = 18% | 2. 5 – 10 years - 58 responses = 16%    |
| 3. 11 – 19 years – 79 responses = 21%     | 4. 20 or more years – 168 responses 46% |

2. Do you own or rent your current residence? 365 responses

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Own - 364 responses = 99.9% | 2. Rent- 1 responses = 0.1% |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|

3. What is your current residential status? 423 responses

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Year-around - 140 responses = 33%       | 2. Seasonal – 7 responses = 54%                    |
| 3. Own parcel of land – 55 responses = 13% | 4. Public/non-profit organization – respond = .02% |

4. Approximately what year was this residence built? 333 responded

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. before 1939 - 39 responses = 12% | 2. 1940's- 23 responses = 7%           |
| 3. 1950's - 21 responses = 6%       | 4. 1960's - 28 responses = 8%          |
| 5. 1970's - 66 responses = 20%      | 6. 1980's – 68 responses = 20%         |
| 6. 1990's – 58 responses = 17%      | 8. 2000 to present – 30 responses = 9% |

5. Are you satisfied with the quality of life in Wabedo Township, as it presently exists? 349 responses

- |   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. Very satisfied - 138 responses = 40% | 2. Satisfied – 172 responses = 49% |
| 3. No Opinion – 30 responses = 9%       | 4. Dissatisfied - 7 responses = 2% |
| 5. Very dissatisfied – 2 = 1%           |                                    |

Comments:

- Our driveway has been a problem and no one wants to do anything about it.
- Wabedo Township should continue to take control in protecting its own lakeshores/wet land development – Cass County does not adequately protect our lake from unwise damaging developments.
- We need to protect our shore land from over development
- There are very few community activities
- Area is becoming to crowded and developed
- Our township is well run physically and financially.
- Love the lake and relaxing nature
- Leave it the way it is! Don't do a darn thing!
- I'm generally satisfied although I feel that planning/zoning must be aggressively for formulated and enforced to maintain quality of life.
- Why clip the grasses and flowers along the roads? They have cut blackberry bushes just as the berries were ripening and cut down many flowers. Also yard lights kept on all night, all year, make star gazing very difficult.
- Clean air and friendly people
- I just wish there were more pan fish in Lake Wabedo
- The lake shores are too crowded; however, the lakes are beginning to look like twin city lakes. Too many buildings and too close.
- Would prefer further restrictions on jet skies and the use of dirt bikes and ATV's on township roads.
- More vandalism & trespassing now than in earlier years.
- No benefits for taxes paid

## Survey 2003

### 6. What attracted you to Wabedo Township?

- Beautiful clear lakes with fish (6)
- We had been coming to Kee-Nee-Moo-Sha off and on since 1949. The lakes – relaxed pace
- Nice lake, clarity, low population, friendly people, air quality, small town atmosphere
- Lake quality, low taxes, person & property security
- Area outdoor opportunities
- Beauty & familiar with area (3)
- The ability and location to be self sufficient and to not rely upon the government and their attitude!
- Natural resources, i.e. lakes, stream, large tracts of woodlands, etc. Relative lack of dense population.
- We were looking for lake shore property with low population density and found it here. Lots of wildlife and woods.
- Nice people (3)
- Parents purchased a resort almost 50 years ago. It was beautiful – quiet, restful and a pleasant place to live. Now – it's too crowded, too busy in the summer with too much going on to make money. More relaxing to say out of Longville on Wednesdays & weekends and travel to peaceful, quiet & relaxing areas.
- My uncle was teaching in Pine River. Show developed Wabedo Springs and they cooperated in building three cabins on Wabedo in 1926, the first year I was here.
- Been going up to family cabin for years. Decided to have our own land and build someday.
- Land was available when we were looking to purchase. (3)
- Wanted to be on lake in northern Minnesota because of quality of lake water.
- Hunting, fishing, peace, tranquility, nature, good neighbors. “God’s country”.
- Serenity, water quality of the lakes, trees
- Site of cabin, spring fed lake, good fishing, and a place to relax
- It was a place to relax and fish away from the city. A good place to spend summers.
- Came up fishing in 1965 and ended up buying a place.
- Peaceful & quite living and we like the wild life.
- Sand beach, near Longville
- Wabedo Lake less crowded compared to Brainerd area.
- My grandfather built our cabin in the 1920’s. He would be very unhappy with the “civilization”. As for me I want the area to be protected from over-development so it can be a retreat for my children and grandchildren.
- My family has lived in or owned land in the township since the 1920’s.
- Becoming since 1947.
- Lakes and open forest land.
- Friends. The lake lot we found.
- Good fishing lake, cabin to fit our needs as well as good neighbors.
- Lakes Wabedo (4) Woman (4) Little Boy (4)
- Woods and water (2)
- Nature
- Family (9)
- Lived here all my life
- Business opportunities
- Cabin on a lake
- Inherited property (4)

## Survey 2003

### 7. Do you believe the quality of your drinking water is at risk? 346 responded

1. Definitely at risk - 12 responses = 3%
2. Probably at risk – 49 responses = 14%
3. OK at this time- 139 responses = 40%
4. May become at risk - 44 responses = 13%
5. Not at risk at all – 100 responses = 29%

- Drinking water quality is terribly important
- No opinion we drink bottled water
- Water was tested 2 years ago
- Had water tested in 2002
- Don't know really well long way from septic system 50 or 60'
- We have a Market America water purifier on the dinking water system.
- Not every body has a lot of money I feel that you will push people out our township
- Central purchase agreement with water testing lab where residents could have personal water supply checked periodically at a reduced price – often a central site where results could be gathered. Bottom line – monitor drinking water objectively.
- Not really their business (3)

### 8. Drinking water quality is dependent on septic functioning properly. Should Wabedo Township create an inspection program for septic systems and require failing systems to be brought into compliance when they are found? 397 responses

1. Definitely should - 150 responded = 38%
2. Probably should – 101 responses = 25%
3. May or may not- 58 responses = 15%
4. Probably not – 35 responses = 9%
5. Definitely not - 53 responses = 13%

- There are septic systems on Mule Lake that are 30+ years old and some are not functioning wells they need to be checked out immediately!!! Residents need to show proof of updated systems in compliance ASAP!!
- Not the township's business – this is a county or state issue (4)
- Should be under “grandfather” law – only when system fail completely
- Already provided by the county (8)
- Or combined with other townships
- Spend money wisely
- Depends on county/state activity
- Supposedly there is one taking place by Wabedo Lakes Association (3)
- Last winter, it's evident that current regulations & septic designs do not work
- At what cost
- No one qualified to do this
- Probably not only because I don't have confidence in the judgment of inspectors and bureaucrats

## Survey 2003

9. Are there services that you would like to have provided by the Township that are not currently provided? 312 responded

1. Yes - 61 responded = 20%

2. No – 246 responses = 80%

If yes, what service would you request?

- Garbage collection (8)
- Off highway mail, off highway road plowing
- Cable TV (2)
- A “spending reduction” program
- Enhanced emergency services, professional planning/zoning consultants
- Police protection
- Centralized security systems
- Police protection (3)
- Please do not create a bureaucracy/mini-governmental nightmare which requires personnel, funding, supervision and administration.
- Zoning board
- More education on protecting the environment esp. the lakes, rivers, streams and also the wildlife esp. the loons – for example – brochures, in services, videos, examples of types of soaps, shampoos, cleaning products to use etc.
- Township supported ambulance service – it’s not right that they need donations to provide the service.
- Continued calcium chloride on County Rd 120
- Repair road approaches where they are washing out on C road Blacktop on Shangri-La Dr. and other township roads – roads are becoming muddy when wet – not properly maintained
- Better gravel road maintenance
- Chloride on gravel on Shangri-la. I’m 1<sup>st</sup> place south of Kego, have them continue on for ¼ mile more
- Repair road approaches where they are washing out on C road
- Plow out South Little Boy Dr NE
- Update bridge of Lake Wabedo County Road
- Pine Crest Trail receives all services as township roads
- Gravel roads treated for dust, all. Not just selected roads. around lakes
- Apply calcium chloride to gravel roads around lakes
- Road maintenance poorly maintained county road. (Maybe negotiate fund transfer from county?)
- Black top roads
- Improved road maintenance drainage – drainage- drainage – brushing overhangs – washboards
- Road maintenance - or more of it
- Road dust control
- Tar Sioux Camp road!
- Chloride our road in summer month or when dust is a problem.

- I'm already paying for road maintenance which is not being done. (2)
- I live on Lake View Lane. My neighbors tell me there has never been any maintenance on our road since it was constructed. (There hasn't been a snowplow or grader since I've been there). I believe the township should maintain it or abandon it and we would maintain it as a private drive
- Eliminate planning commission
- Thank goodness we have a planning commission!
- Don't we pay enough already
- Would depend on service (6)
- It should come out of the property taxes we already pay
- Should delivered as part of township services already billed for
- Already are – to far away paying to utilize
- Taxes are exorbitant now
- As supported by R.E.Taxes
- I have updated my septic system & inspected
- Pay for own testing
- Community center for swimming, lake outs, and meeting
- Senior Center
- Septic are county business, NOT township. Do not add another layer of government.
- No, but would like the recycling drop off station to better maintained and more frequently emptied
- Parks, nice parks, bike paths and motor cycle trail area (marked ditches)
- No, Other than septic compliance
- Tennis courts/ recreation area community bldg.
- All around fishing, hunting, town for groceries, hardware, restaurants
- What services does township provide?
- Undecided at this time (4)
- I would like my taxes to be lower
- Planning & zoning monitoring – septic system monitoring
- Test water quality - black top Sarajac Road
- Septic inspections
- Grew up in Remer. My wife from Delaware preferred the Longville area, so we bough a vacation place on Woman Lake
- Everything seems okay now. I don't know what I would want
- Septic testing
- Why don't you have a "free garbage" spring clean up & fall clean up – let us haul out garbage for free twice a year? IT would help keep the garbage out of the woods.
- What services are already provided? Could you send us something
- No more money being spent on nonsense
- A community center
- A community center with room for exercise (not equipment but room for walking & exercise classes) & room for get together. Would the school have use for a pool if we built one? (they would pay for the service of course)

Survey 2003

10. Would you be willing to pay for the above improved or additional service? 207 responded

1. Yes - 61 responses = 29%                      2. No – 146 responses = 71%

11. Do you feel that person and property protection is becoming a problem in Wabedo Township - 358 responded

1. Definitely a problem - 5 responded = 1%      2. Becoming a problem – 40 responses = 11%  
3. No opinion – 82 responses = 23%      4. May/may not be a problem - 97 responses = 27%  
5. Not a problem – 134 responses = 38%

12. Should Wabedo Township jointly plan with adjacent local governments in order to promote more orderly development for the area? 345 responded

1. Very important - 83 responded = 24%      2. Important- 139 responses = 40%  
3. No opinion – 55 responses = 16%      4. Not important - 33 responses = 10%  
5. Low priority – 35 responses = 10%

13. Have you read the annual newsletter the township has distributed? 376

1. Yes – 292 responses = 78%                      2. No – 84 responses = 22%

If yes, how would you rate the information in the newsletter?

- 1- 4 (1%)      2-16 (5%)      3-91 (31%)      4-104 (36%)      5-71 (26%)

14. Do you have e-mail? 354 responded

1. Yes - 250 responses = 71%                      2. No – 104 responses = 29%

15. Over the past two years, the township has been discussing building a larger town hall or community center. Have you attended a meeting at the present town hall where there were people standing in attendance? 311 responded

1. Yes - 49 responses = 16%                      2 No - 262 responses = 84%

16. In the past years, have you had need for a larger community building to hold: 71 responded

1. Lake association meetings - 32 responses = 46%      2. Weddings, etc- 15 responses = 20%  
3. Public meetings - 24 responses = 34%

17. Should the community center be open to the surrounding township/cities/residents? 305 responded

1. Yes – 201 responses = 66%                      2. No – 103 responses = 34%

18. If built, should the township have other groups involved planning the community center? 273 responded

1. Yes – 124 responses = 45%                      2. No – 149 responses = 55%

19. Would you support, if necessary, an increase in township taxes to support a community building?

1. Yes – 104 responses = 31%                      2. No – 235 responses = 69%

## Survey 2003

### Other comments:

- If open to others, a fee should be assessed. (16)
- We are not in favor of building a community center. There are numerous facilities already available.
- Question 12 – We don't feel this is any of their business – 55% of this township is probably owned by county, state & won't be built on – ever. Way too much time on their hands – find a hobby.
- Question 8, not really their business
- We support a larger town hall, but not a community center with health fitness equipment – just a basic building as shown in the newsletter.
- Obviously, you all have made up your mind to spend more money!
- Why can't anyone associated with the government or public service entity even thank about reducing the amount they spend? This country is headed towards socialism via the DFL.
- I have not had a pay raise in 3 years! Yet my property taxes continue to sky rocket. When are you going to get a clue?
- There are septic systems on Mule Lake that are 30+ years old and some are not functioning well at all. They need to be checked out immediately!! Residents need to show proof of updated systems in compliance ASAP
- A moratorium should be placed on development in Wabedo Township.
- The township needs a dance venue. Don't put in carpet.
- Only if surrounding township/cities/residents help!
- If the building is a reasonable undertaking a small tax increase is okay.
- Community Centers should be run & operated by the private sector
- This possible increase is unnecessary. If anything money should be spent on the school system.
- If the center can generate revenue for the township
- This should definitely not be built we already have too much government
- There are private businesses with meeting areas. I don't feel the township government is big enough to justify a building.
- Taxes are too high for the services we get
- Not at this time, I'm too strapped
- I would move
- If a need is proven
- We already have ample facilities (churches, restaurants, etc) which are being under utilized
- It should support itself.
- Beauty of lakes – good fishing – nearby family
- Taxes are too high. Revenue needed should come from other reductions
- Only if suitable fees would in time cover the cost of the new building
- Rather not
- If there is a demonstrated need. Probably should be on area wide facility to avoid duplicating services.
- Absolutely
- Family owned property
- Budget current taxes
- Depends on the plan
- Absolutely not

- 12 years ago we attended a meeting at Wabedo Township and were made to feel that our input was not wanted. It was a month meeting.
- I bought my cabin in June 1990 for a place to go with my family on vacation, since then my taxes have gone crazy, I retire in 1998, I have no increase in wages, please try to keep my taxes down.
- In this time of budget deficits and a sluggish economy, think of alternatives. Perhaps a community center in Longville for the area, costs should be cities and township. Conduct meeting in churches, schools instead. Until economy improves, look for way to conserve – not spent.
- We don't need a "community center" in my opinion. Wabedo Township is too sparse. Use our money for land preservation or lake safety
- Taxes are high enough already and increasing uncontrollably
- No new town hall (5)
- You didn't ask if I ever wanted to build a new community center. If you did, I would have said no
- Combine with other communities and jointly plan for events and facility vs. Wabedo providing for other communities
- Depends on how much they are (tax increase) (4)
- Only if other township/cities/residents would pitch in
- As seasonal already paying premium taxes with less use & benefit
- Excellent vehicle for soliciting input concerning: life in Wabedo" & peoples thoughts and feelings. Look forward to the results and would be interested in the survey numbers – number distributed and returned
- A community center should be a community center not a township center wait & see what is to be done with the elementary school when the "Remer" school board takes away our school
- Build a township hall
- Community center not needed
- There are adequate non-government facilities available. It is not job of our township to compete with local businesses.
- No need
- Available churches & schools suffice
- If Wabedo pays for it. Then they should have to rent it.
- Rent Patrick's – it's cheaper
- No to all – Churches, school is sufficient
- As long as we don't pay for expansion
- Not sure one is needed
- Does each township really need its own hall? They are used so little, that it would be more cost effective for 2 or 3 township to pool resources for 1 good hall.
- Assumes its being build
- Whose community center for who concern: population & taxes cannot support one
- Yes, if financial support is given.
- Comments: I attended the township meeting and I think the coverage in the newsletter regarding the community center was biased. At the meeting a presentation was given regarding the building plan & projected cost. In your newsletter, the plan was shown but, as I recall, it did not contain dimensions and only the price per square foot was given so it was impossible for us taxpayers to compute the total cost. This is biased reporting. So my question – will the results of this survey also be biased?



# Survey Update

11/16/2003

	% for ?	% overall	responses
<b>1. How long have you lived in or owned property in WT</b>			356
Less then 5 years	17%	17%	
5-10 years	16%	16%	
11-19 years	21%	21%	
20+	46%	46%	
<b>2. Do you own or rent your current residence</b>			353
Own	99%	99%	
Rent	1%	1%	
<b>3. What is your current residential status:</b>			410
Year round	33%	38%	
Seasonal	54%	62%	
Own parcel of land	13%	15%	
Public/non-profit organization	0.002	0.002	
<b>4. What year was your rsidents built</b>			320
Before 1939	12%	11%	
1940's	7%	6%	
1950's	6%	5%	
1960's	8%	8%	
1970's	20%	18%	
1980's	21%	19%	
1990's	17%	15%	
2000 to present	9%	8%	
<b>5.Are you saisfied with the quality of life in WT</b>			337
Very	40%	38%	
Satisfied	49%	46%	
No opinion	9%	8%	
Dissatisfied	2%	2%	
Very dissatisfied	1%	1%	
<b>6. What attracted you to WT</b>			too many to count
recap will come later			
<b>7. Do you believe the quality of your drinking water is at risk:</b>			333
Definitely at risk	3%	3%	
Probably	14%	13%	
Ok	41%	38%	
May become at rish	13%	12%	
Not at risk	27%	27%	
<b>8. Should WT create an inpection program for Septic Systems...</b>			385
Definitely	37%	40%	
Probably	26%	28%	
May or may not	15%	16%	
Probably not	9%	10%	
Definitely not	14%	15%	
<b>9. Are there services that you would like to have provided by WT that are not currently provided?</b>			
Yes	19%	16%	298

No	81%	67%
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Survey recap page 2

**10. Would you be willing to pay for the above improved or additional services?** 197

Yes	29%	16%
NO	71%	39%

**11. Do you feel that personal & property protection is becoming a problem in WT** 343

Definitely a problem	1%	1%
Becoming a problem	11%	11%
No opinion	23%	22%
May or may not be a problem	28%	27%
Not a problem	38%	36%

**12. Should WT jointly plan with adjacent local governments in order to promote more orderly development for the area** 332

Very important	24%	22%
Important	41%	38%
No opinion	16%	15%
Not important	10%	9%
Low	9%	9%

**13. Have you read the annual newsletter from the township** 363

Yes	78%	79%
No	22%	23%

**IF yes, please rate**

Little value	1%	1%
Two	6%	4%
Three	31%	24%
Four	36%	28%
Useful	26%	20%

**14. Do you have e-mail** 341

Yes	70%	67%
No	30%	28%

**15. Have you attended a meeting at the TH with standing room only** 299

Yes	16%	13%
NO	84%	71%

**16. Have you had need for a larger community center** 70

Lakes association etc	46%	9%
Wedding etc	20%	4%
Public meeting	34%	7%

**17. Should the community center be open to surrounding people** 293

yes	67%	55%
no	33%	27%

**18. If built, should the township have other groups involved in planning** 264

Yes	45%	33%
no	55%	41%

**19. Would you support an increase in taxes** 327

yes	31%	29%
no	69%	63%