Your Views on Local Water Resources







University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension is conducting this survey in coordination with local government partners in order to identify the needs and concerns in your community <u>regarding water guality</u> for the Root-Pike Watershed.

We ask that this survey be completed by the person in your home that makes most of the yard care decisions and is at least 18 years old. Your participation in this survey is voluntary. Your answers will be kept confidential and will be released only as summaries where individual answers cannot be identified.

Unless otherwise instructed, <u>please check the circle that corresponds to the answer category that best describes you and your situation or opinion</u>. The survey should take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. Please read each question carefully.

1. Water Quality

Overall, how would you rate the quality of the water in your local rivers, streams, and lakes?

	Poor	Okay	Good	Don't Know
a. For canoeing / kayaking / other boating	0	0	0	0
b. For eating locally caught fish	0	0	0	0
c. For swimming	0	0	0	0
d. For picnicking and family activities near water	0	0	0	0
e. For fish habitat	0	0	0	0
g. For wildlife habitat	0	0	0	0

2. Your Water Use

2. Tour Water Ose
a. Of these activities, which is the most important to you?
O Canoeing / kayaking / other boating
O Eating fish caught locally
O Swimming
O Picnicking and family activities near water
O Fish habitat / fishing
O Scenic beauty / enjoyment
b. Do you know where the rain water goes when it runs off of your property?
O No, I don't know
O Yes, it goes to

3. General Water Quality Attitudes

What is your level of agreement with the following statements?

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. The economic stability of my community depends upon clean lakes, rivers, and streams.	0	0	0	0	0
b. The way that I care for my yard can influence water quality in lakes, rivers, and streams.	0	0	0	0	0
c. It is my personal responsibility to help protect water quality.	0	0	0	0	0
d. It is important to protect water quality even if it slows economic development.	0	0	0	0	0
e. What I do on my property doesn't have much impact on overall water quality.	0	0	0	0	0
f. Yard-care practices (on individual lots) do not have an impact on local water quality.	0	0	0	0	0
g. My actions can have an impact on lakes, rivers, and streams.	0	0	0	0	0
h. Taking action to improve lakes, rivers, and streams is too expensive for me.	0	0	0	0	0
It is okay to reduce water quality to promote economic development.	0	0	0	0	0
j. It is okay to reduce water quality to promote economic development.	0	0	0	0	0
k. I would be willing to pay more to improve lakes, rivers, and streams (for example: through local taxes or fees).	0	0	0	0	0
I would be willing to change the way I care for my yard to improve water quality.	0	0	0	0	0
m. The quality of life in my community depends on good water quality in local streams, rivers, and lakes.	0	0	0	0	0

4. Types of Water Pollutants

Below is a list of types of water pollutants that are generally present in water bodies to some extent. In your opinion, how much of a problem are the following pollutants in your area?

	Not a Problem	Slight Problem	Moderate Problem	Severe Problem	Don't Know
a. Dirt and Soil in local streams	0	0	0	0	0
b. Nutrients from fertilizers in local streams	0	0	0	0	0
c. Phosphorus in local streams	0	0	0	0	0
d. Bacteria and viruses in local streams (such as E. coli)	0	0	0	0	0
e. Salt in local streams	0	0	0	0	0
f. Toxic materials such as PCBs in local streams	0	0	0	0	0
g. Not enough oxygen in the water in local streams	0	0	0	0	0
h. Invasive aquatic plants and animals	0	0	0	0	0
i. Cloudiness of the water in local streams	0	0	0	0	0
j. Oil or antifreeze from cars and trucks	0	0	0	0	0
k. Trash and debris	0	0	0	0	0
Organic matter, such as fallen trees, branches, grass clippings	0	0	0	0	0

5. Sources of Water Pollution

The items listed below are sources of water quality pollution across the country. In your opinion, how much of a problem are the following sources in your area?

	Not a Problem	Slight Problem	Moderate Problem	Severe Problem	Don't Know
a. Discharges from industry into streams and lakes	0	0	0	0	0
b. Discharges from sewage treatment plants	0	0	0	0	0
c. Soil erosion from construction sites	0	0	0	0	0
d. Soil erosion from farm fields	0	0	0	0	0
e. Soil erosion from stream channels	0	0	0	0	0
f. Lawn fertilizers and pesticides	0	0	0	0	0
g. Grass clippings and leaves	0	0	0	0	0
h. Discharges from storm sewers	0	0	0	0	0
i. Improper disposal household waste (such as batteries, chemicals, florescent light bulbs, etc)	0	0	0	0	0
j. Improper disposal of used motor oil and anti-freeze	0	0	0	0	0
k. Manure from farm animals	0	0	0	0	0
Stormwater runoff from streets, highways, and/or parking lots	0	0	0	0	0
m. Street salt and sand	0	0	0	0	0
n. Droppings from geese, ducks, and other waterfowl	0	0	0	0	0
o. Pet waste (such as dogs or cats)	0	0	0	0	0
p. Agricultural fertilizers and pesticides	0	0	0	0	0
q. Land development or redevelopment	0	0	0	0	0
r. Large turf-grass areas (such as golf courses and sports fields)	0	0	0	0	0

6. Consequences of Poor Water Quality

Poor water quality can lead to a variety of consequences for communities. In your opinion, how much of a problem are the following issues in your area?

	Not a Problem	Slight Problem	Moderate Problem	Severe Problem	Don't Know
a. Contaminated drinking water	0	0	0	0	0
b. Polluted / closed swimming areas	0	0	0	0	0
c. Contaminated fish	0	0	0	0	0
d. Increase in water / sewage bill	0	0	0	0	0
e. Loss of desirable fish and wildlife species	0	0	0	0	0
f. Reduced beauty of rivers and streams	0	0	0	0	0
 g. Reduced opportunities for water activities such as boating, canoeing, and fishing 	0	0	0	0	0
h. Reduced quality of water activities	0	0	0	0	0
i. Excessive aquatic plants or algae	0	0	0	0	0
j. Fish kills	0	0	0	0	0
k. Odor	0	0	0	0	0
I. Lower property values	0	0	0	0	0

7. Practices to Improve Water Quality

Р	lease indicate which statement most accurately describes your level of experience with each practic listed below.	Never Heard Of It	Somewhat familiar with it	Know how to use it; not using it	Currently Use It
a.	Apply pesticides and herbicides at manufacturer's guidelines for your lawn	0	0	0	0
b.	Apply pesticides and herbicides at manufacturer's guidelines for your garden	0	0	0	0
c.	Use phophate free fertilizer	0	0	0	0
d.	Properly dispose of pet waste	0	0	0	0
e.	Using rain barrels	0	0	0	0
f.	Recycle motor oil	0	0	0	0
g.	Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces	0	0	0	0

8. Making Management Decisions

In general, how much does each issue limit your ability to change your household and lawn care practices (such as those in Question 7)?

	Not at All	A little	Some	A lot	Don't Know
a. Cost	0	0	0	0	0
b. My own views about effective lawn and yard maintenance	0	0	0	0	0
c. How easily a new action fits with my current practices	0	0	0	0	0
d. My own physical abilities	0	0	0	0	0
e. The need to learn new skills or techniques	0	0	0	0	0
f. Legal restrictions on my property	0	0	0	0	0
g. Not having access to the equipment that I need	0	0	0	0	0
h. Lack of available information about a practice	0	0	0	0	0
No one else I know is implementing the practice	0	0	0	0	0
j. Approval of my neighbors	0	0	0	0	0
k. Don't know where to get information and/or assistance about the practice	0	0	0	0	0
Environmental damage caused by the practice	0	0	0	0	0
m. Concerns about resale value	0	0	0	0	0
n. I do not own the property	0	0	0	0	0
o. Other (Please specify)	0	0	0	0	0

9. Constraints for Specific Practices

Rain Garden A rain garden is a garden that is design to absorb and filter stormwater. They are usually designed to collect stormwater from a house or structure. 1. Do you have or have you had a rain garden? Currently use Don't currently use Never used			☐ Ne ☐ So ☐ Kn ☐ Ha Are you w ☐ Ye	iar are you wever heard of mewhat familiow how to inve installed rilling to try to so or already aybe	it iliar with it stall one, no rain garden use a rain g	t doing it
How much do the following factors limit your ability to build a rain garden (or limited, if you already have one)?	Not	at All	A little	Some	A lot	Don't Know
a. Lack of information or skills		2	0	0	0	0
b. Time required		2	0	0	0	0
c. Cost	(O	0	0	0	0
d. The features of my property do not support it		C	0	0	0	0
e. Physical or health limitations	(C	0	0	0	0
f. Desire to keep things the way they are	(C	0	0	0	0
Yard Waste management. Yard waste management means keeping grass clippings and leaves out of the roads, ditches, and gutters. 1. Do you manage your yard waste? Currently do Don't currently do Never have done			managem Ne So Kn Cu Are you w	ever heard of mewhat fami ow how to mand irrently mana illing to mana as or already aybe	it iliar with it anage, not o ging yard wa	doing it aste
How much do the following factors limit your ability to manage your yard waste (or limited, if you already have one)? a. Lack of information or skills		at All	A little	Some	A lot	Don't Know
))	0	0	0	0
b. Time required c. Cost))	0	0	0	0
))	0	0	0	0
d. The features of my property do not support it e. Physical or health limitations		_		_	_	0
f. Desire to keep things the way they are))	0	0	0	0
			0	0		()

1. Do you manage your use of lawn fertilizer? Currently do Don't currently do Never have done 3. Are you willing to manage your use of lawn fertilizer? Yes or already doing Maybe No	Managing Lawn Fertilizer. Lawn fertilizers should be applied according to the guidelines from the manufacturer.	 2. How familiar are you with managing the use of your lawn fertilizer? □ Never heard of it □ Somewhat familiar with it □ Know how to manage, not doing it
	☐ Currently do☐ Don't currently do	 ☐ Currently managing lawn fertilizer 3. Are you willing to manage your use of lawn fertilizer? ☐ Yes or already doing ☐ Maybe

How much do the following factors limit your ability manage your lawn fertilizer (or limited, if you already have one)?	Not at All	A little	Some	A lot	Don't Know
a. Lack of information or skills	0	0	0	0	0
b. Time required	0	0	0	0	0
c. Cost	0	0	0	0	0
d. The features of my property do not support it	0	0	0	0	0
e. Physical or health limitations	0	0	0	0	0
f. Desire to keep things the way they are	0	0	0	0	0

10. About You and Your Property

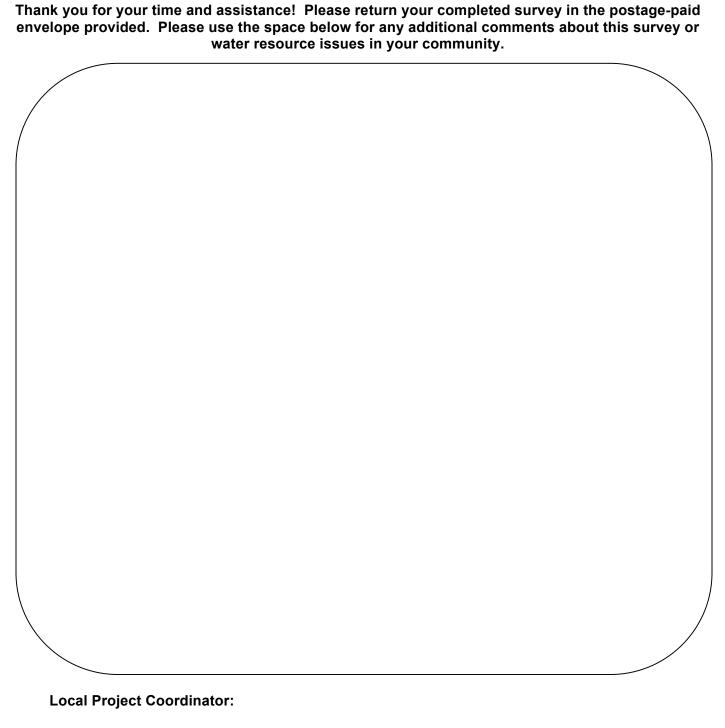
O Don't know

a.	Do you make the home or lawn care decisions in your household?	j.	How long have you lived at your current residence?
	O Yes		years
	○ No	1	Da a mosfe and law and
h	What is your gander?	K.	Do you use a professional lawn care
D.	What is your gender?		service?
	O Male		Yes, just for mowing
	○ Female		O Yes, just for fertilizing
	\A/\\		O Yes, just for pest control (including
C.	What year were you born?		herbicide)
			○ Yes, some combination of mowing,
d.	What is the highest grade in school that		fertilizing and pest control
	you have completed?		○ No
	O Some formal schooling		
	O High school diploma or GED	I.	Do you use pesticides or herbicides on
	Some college		your lawn?
	2 year college degree		○ Yes
	4 year college degree		○ No
	O Graduate degree		
		m.	Do you use fertilizer on your lawn?
e.	What was your total household income		○ Yes
	last year?		○ No
	O Less than \$24,999		
	○ \$25,000 to \$49,999	n.	If so, have you ever had your soil tested
	○ \$50,000 to \$74,999		to determine your fertilizer needs?
	○ \$75,000 to \$99,999		○ Yes
	○ \$100,000 or more		O No, it is too expensive
			O No, I don't know how
f.	What is your occupation?		O No, I didn't know soil testing was
			important
g.	What is the approximate size of your		O Other
	residential lot?		
	○ ¼ acre or less	Ο.	I've heard about local water quality
	O More than a ¼ acre but less than 1 acre		problems from the following (check all
	○ 1 acre to less than 5 acres		that apply).
	○ 5 acres or more		 Newsletters/brochures/factsheets
			○ Internet
h.	Do you own or rent your home?		○ Radio
	Own		O Newspaper/Magazine
	○ Rent		Workshops/demonstrations/meetings
			Television or Billboards
i.	Which of the following best describes the		O Schools
	street drainage where you live?		Conversations with others
	O Curb and gutter construction		Other
	O Ditch and swale construction		

11. Information and Activities

People get information about water quality from a number of different sources. To what extent do you trust the organizations listed below as a source of information about water quality?

	Not At All	Slightly	Moderately	Very Much	Am Not Familiar
a. Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network	0	0	0	0	0
b. City, village, or town government	0	0	0	0	0
c. US Environmental Protection Agency	0	0	0	0	0
d. UW Extension	0	0	0	0	0
e. Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection	0	0	0	0	0
f. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	0	0	0	0	0
g. County Government	0	0	0	0	0
h. Political organization, such as League of Conservation Voters	0	0	0	0	0
i. Local school or college	0	0	0	0	0
j. Local Home and Garden Center	0	0	0	0	0
k. Other (Please specify)	0	0	0	0	0



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