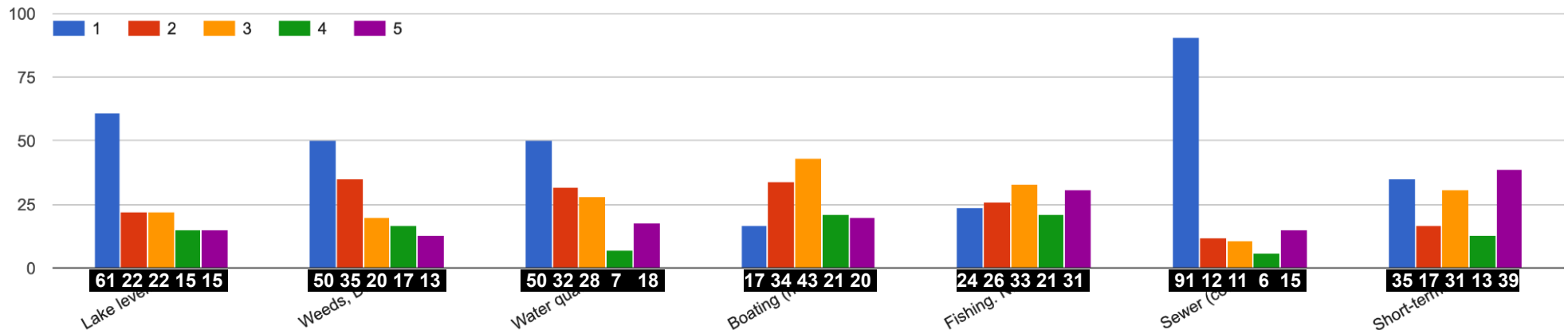


## 135 Total Responses

The Survey: 1. Please rank your top five issues in order of importance to you.



## Specific Feedback:

### Lake levels, Dam Management

- Dam repair (hole in dam)
- Our beaches/shorelines have been eroded by the change in lake level in the fall. We have lived in our lakeside house for 46 continuous years. Former lake level managers allowed the lake levels to lower naturally in the fall, and the ice formed close to the lake bottom sand. As the ice froze and expanded, it pushed the sandy bottom up on our property/seawalls/shorelines. Also, when the ice thawed in the spring, the winds blew it up against the east side shorelines, digging more sand from the lake bottom onto our beach/shoreline/yards. This protected our yards/sandy beaches/seawalls, etc. The summer storms were not able to wash much back into the lake. Because a minority of boat owners have bought boats with hulls too deep for our shallow lake and complained, we and much of the Lake Mitchell property owners have lost

**many feet of property plus our sandy beaches that our kids used to play on. This has caused homeowners to lose trees, beaches, and land making lowering the beauty and value of our property to less than it could be. I am urging you to return to the former practices of the 70's, 80s, and early 90s. We used to have frogs on our beaches, plus more water life. Let nature return our habitat. You see the same effect on North boulevard.**

### **Weeds, DNR issues**

- **The seaweed needs to be controlled more.**
- **Lack of respect of private property during fishing tournaments.**
- **Sewer and weeds are priority!**
- **Who approves the hydroplane races in big Cove we have nesting swans loons and probably a variety of other animals. The day the races were on, our Martins did come back to their house.**

### **Water quality**

- **Light Pollution at night - I would like Lake Mitchell to be a dark sky area.**
- **Large rock buoys or markers would be nice.**

### **Boating**

- **Don't allow boats that create big wakes.**
- **Dock size and length: it would be nice to slow the creep towards bigger and bigger docks.**
- **Back lot members not being able to put a dock on our access.**

### **Fishing**

- **Lack of respect of private property during fishing tournaments.**

## Sewer (cost, reliability)

- Sewer: Specifically future funding for the remaining portion of the \$20 million.
- Sewer rates at top of the list!!!
- SEWER OVER PRICE.
- Sewer costs are unbelievably TERRIBLE!!!! It's a disgrace what your charging the people that want to enjoy your lake!!! Very upset and disappointed property owner!!!!
- The cost of the sewer is 3 times as high as other communities down state... why is this?
- By far the most important to me is the sewer functionality and cost.
- Sewer cost.
- Quality of roads arounds the lake as the result of these sewers being installed.
- Sewer rates are terrible. What can you do to fix this issue.
- Joanne Welsh-sewer should be county issue.

## Short-term-rentals (property use)

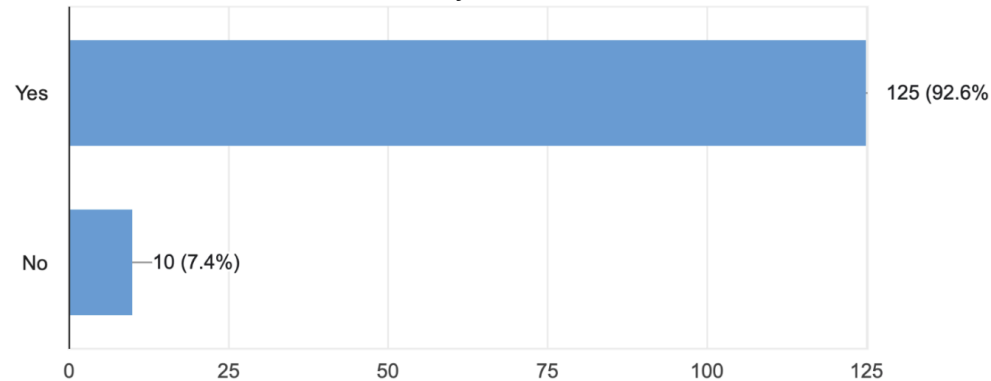
- The short-term rental is an upcoming issue and is a wonderful issue to have. We need more tourism in our area and it helps our local economy. We have an over abundance of second homes in our township/county that do not have any rules for them as far as number of guests who can be there, fire inspections, parking, noise, etc. Why do the short-term rentals get the bad rap? We live on a lake. There are going to be people who enjoy the lake at different times and in different ways. At least the short term rental people are gone in a few days, but your seasonal home people may/are creating havoc for the whole summer. What are we doing about that? People can purchase Driveway markers so people know where they can park, turn on a fan if you are bothered by the noise and treat people the way you would like to be treated when you're on vacation.
- If regulations for short-term rentals are put in place, we want them to be fair and not cost prohibitive.
- Out of control rentals are not acceptable, unreasonable rental restrictions are not acceptable either. Local taxes (non homestead) are extremely high and rental income should be allowed.
- Very concerned about so many and non or under regulated short term rentals.
- Mine isn't blocking but allowing short term rentals with appropriate regulations.

### Other

- **2nd Vacation home owners.**
- **None.**
- **Why was the question even asked if we are “ year round “. We “pay taxes “ just like you do... year round...**
- **Disturbing new building regulations deems my lot un buildable. Zoning board pricks would not let me keep the same footprint. So angry especially since my neighbors are all on board.**
- **All of these issues are very important to me.**
- **This question is impossible to answer properly because only five answers are requested but seven answers are required.**

## Survey Results

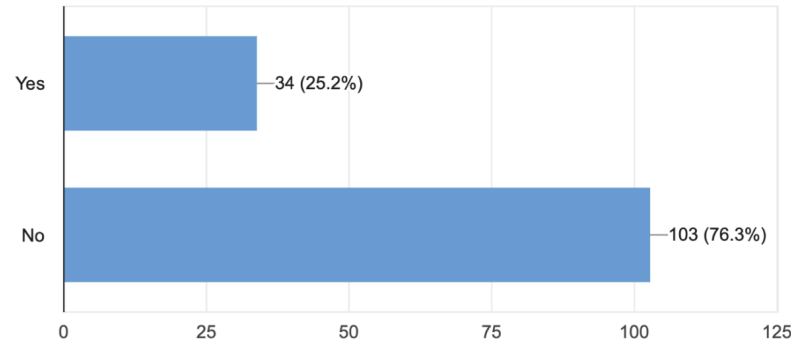
2. The LMPOA reaches out to its members and all property owners through its website ([lakemitchellpo.com](http://lakemitchellpo.com)), its Facebook page (**Lake Mitchell property Owners Association Facebook**), its Annual Membership Meeting (usually in June each year) and its “Meet & Greet” social gathering (to be held this year on July 13th at Camp Torenta). Do you feel that these efforts are adequate to keep you informed about the Association’s efforts on your behalf?



If No, please provide other ideas for sharing information:

- **Email newsletter**
- **It would be fun to have more “meet and greets” but I realize it’s a lot of work and expense.**
- **Potentially a newsletter or simple website?**
- **Maybe some emails or letters?**
- **Monthly or quarterly email to members?**
- **Email list**
- **news email that seems to be the future in keeping in touch**
- **I attended the 2023 meet and greet. There were no speakers from the Association while I was there**
- **Would like to get info more than 1 day prior to cleaning canal so we can move boats. But I work Saturdays out of town so can’t make meetings**
- **Not everyone has Facebook, if there is something important i.e. any of the top 5 listed above, please send an email/letter to the owners.**
- **More frequent posts and emails about issues**

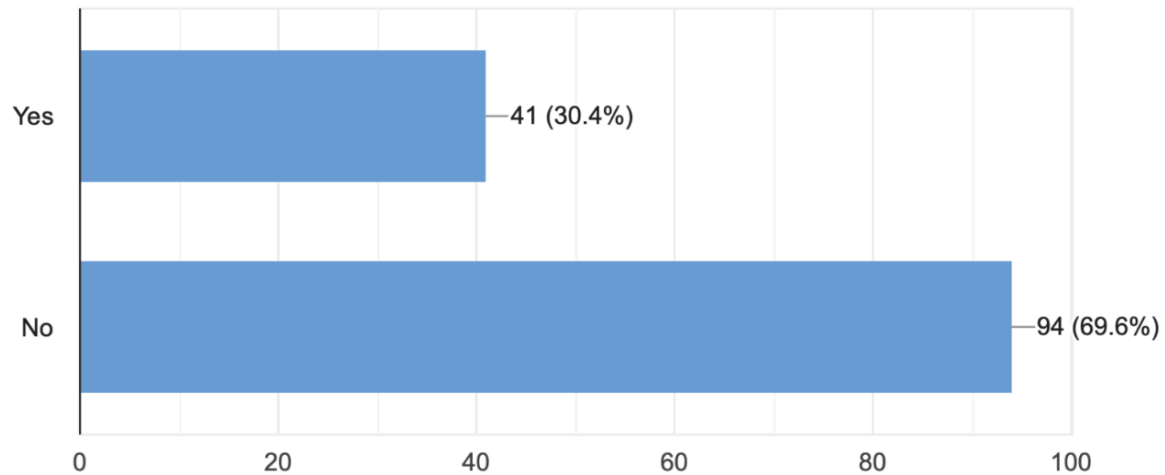
3. Did you attend either the Annual Membership Meeting on June 24, 2023 or the Meet and Greet event on July 22, 2023: **Are there other activities you would like to see?**



- Boat parade on a holiday
- Boat parades/community events
- Canal harvest, clear out beavers dam at corner
- Community yard sale
- Could the membership meeting be viewed virtually or recorded?
- Fireworks show on Lake Mitchell
- I will attend this year
- I'd be happy to make calls or write letters/emails to politicians or board reps concerning sewer rates and low lake levels
- Less activites save money. My bill has over doubled since I bought my property in 2019
- No / None at this time / Not that come to mind. You are doing a great job! / None
- Send reminder to membership renewals
- The access points opened for all...not just the 2 lots next to the lake access lots
- WHY SHOULD I PAY THAT RATE AS A SEASONAL OWENER
- Would like to see a social committee (separate from the board) established to design and implement one summer social activity
- Air shows laser light shows

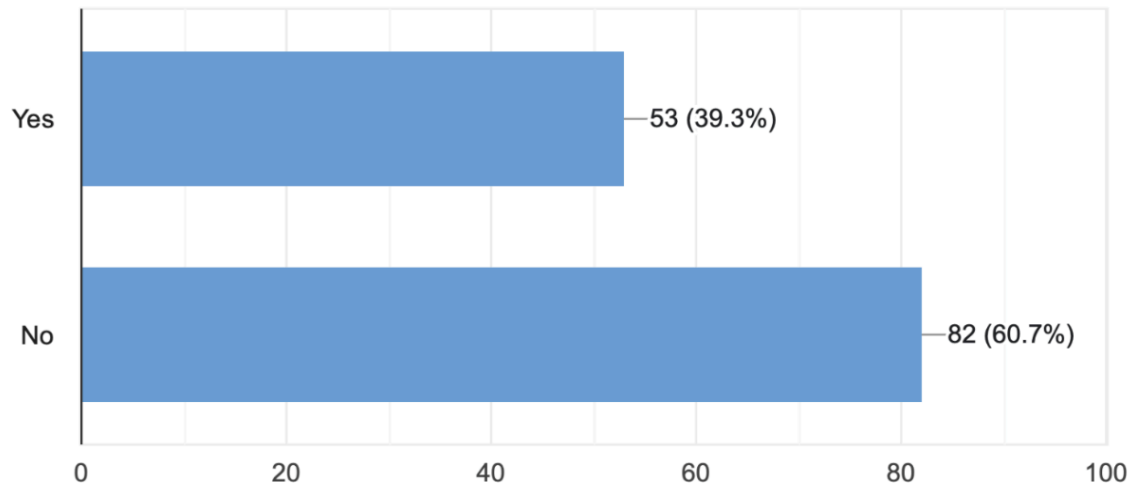
## 4. Sewer issues: Do you feel that the Lake Mitchell Sewer Authority board is adequately representing your interests as a property owner and customer?

135 responses



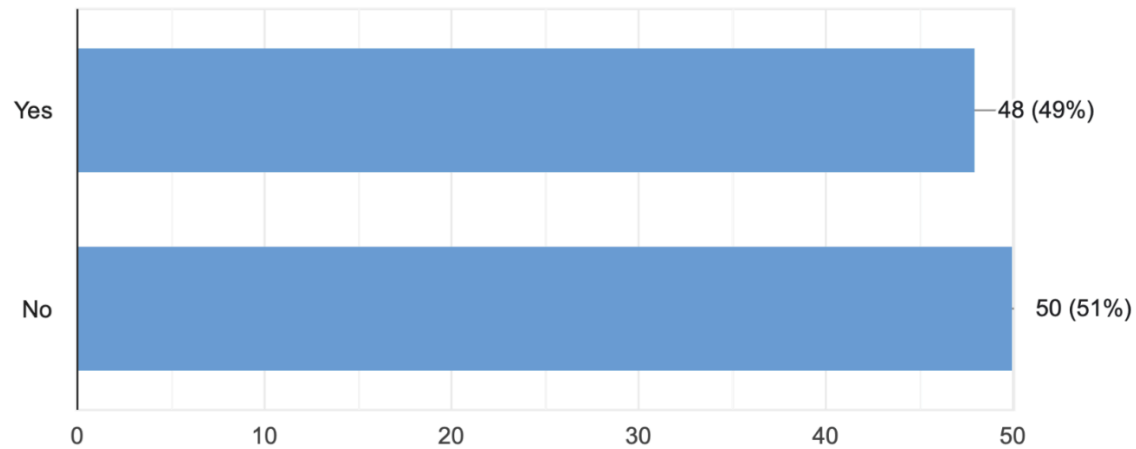
## 5. Cherry Grove and Selma Townships: Do you feel that your Township Board is properly addressing Lake Mitchell property owner concerns and issues?

135 responses



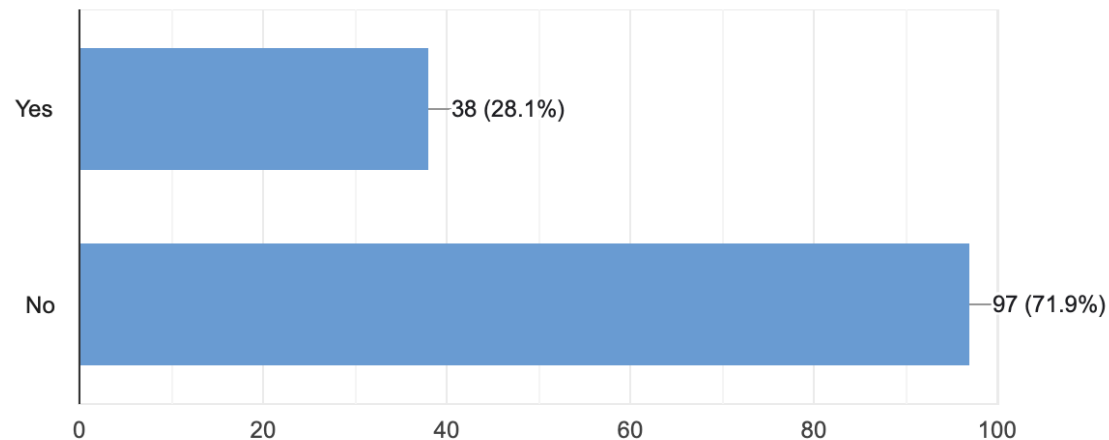
6. If you answered “no” above, are you willing to help identify and elect new township board representatives?

98 responses



7. Short-term rentals: Last year, Cherry Grove and Selma Townships established a property owner subgroup to study and make recommendations to address short-term rental problems. They disbanded this group without stating a reason. The two townships also posted a short-term rental survey on their website last year. Were you aware of either of these two efforts?

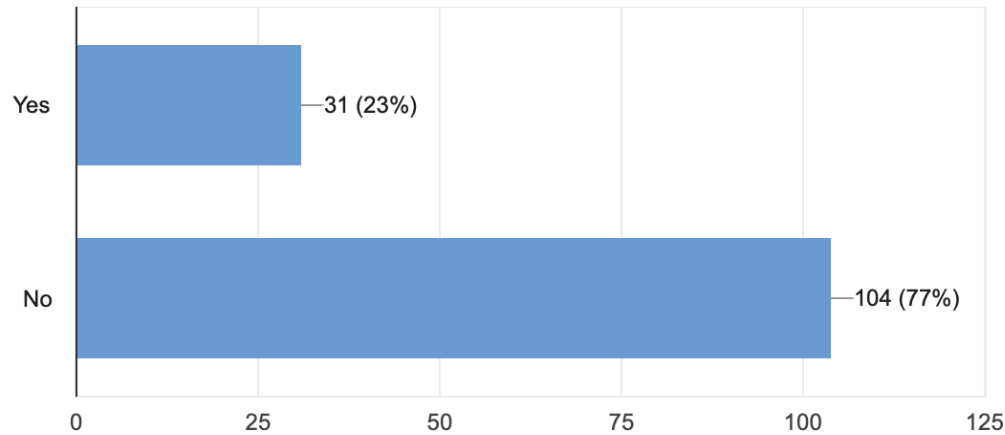
135 responses





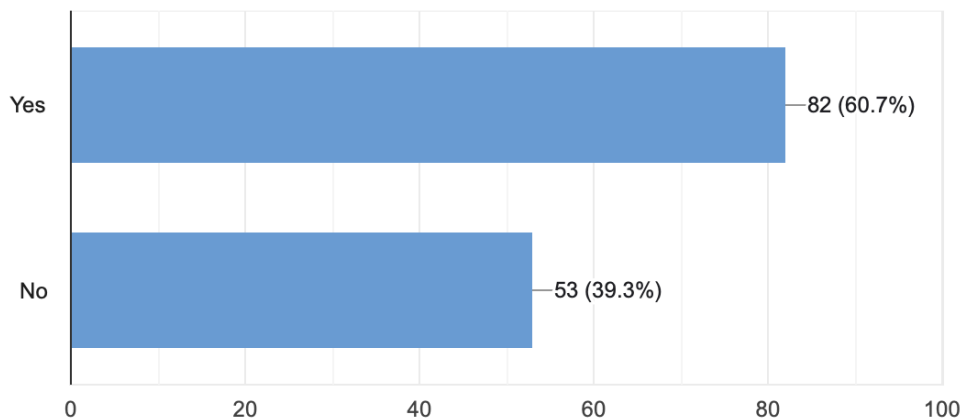
8. The LMPOA board is now considering establishing its own subgroup (of 8-12 property owners) to study and make recommendations on short-term rentals to the two townships. Would you be willing to serve on this subgroup?

135 responses



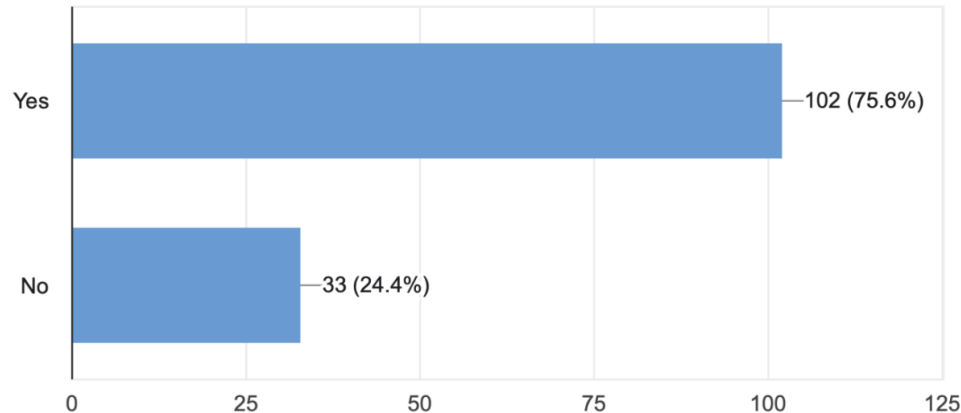
9. Rock marking: Do you think the LMIB annual assessment should also be reasonably increased to create a property owners operating fund for improvements other than weed control, eg marking or relocation of rocks in shallow areas of the lake that damage boat propellers?

135 responses



10. Your knowledge: Do you ever attend meetings or read the minutes of (1) the LMPOA board, (2) the LMIB board, (3) the Lake Mitchell Sewer Authority (LMSA) board, or (4) your Township Board?

135 responses



**Q11: Do you have any other concerns, suggestions, or comments that you would like to mention?**

### **Lake Mitchell Sewer Authority (sewer related comments)**

- **Just reinforce sewer costs are crazy and you all doing great work trying to raise awareness**
- **Litigation of former sewer leaders who certified that the system was in good order**
- **Biggest concern is the cost of sewer.**
- **The staggering increase of sewer fees has a negative effect on property values**
- **Sewer cost keeps going up and not justified. Haven't made meetings, but read minutes. We feel there is a conflict of interest when it comes to the sewer and sewer bill**
- **Concerned about the sewer overflow that goes into the lake as well as the increased cost of the sewer bill, but have not seen any changes or updates.**
- **Stop with the sewer costs!!!!!!**
- **Just the cost. My property does not have access to the lake directly yet I am paying to maintain it. It's quite expensive relative to my other properties coming in at well over 2-3 times the price per month.**

- Replace the drain commissioner & Selma township supervisor
- Appreciate the work and attention given to the sewer cost situation. The increase in cost is outrageous, and hope this can be a priority. We are also sad about the zebra mussels that have made their appearance, and will only get worse. I haven't seen anything about this subject in any communications. Walking in the lake has now become horrible. I realize there isn't much that can be done now?
- Sewer costs should be shared by the county as lakes support the entire county

### Lake Mitchell Improvement Board (weeds and treatment related comments)

- Personal ideals are greatly influencing the weed treatment decisions. Not in Our best interest.
- Are we fighting a losing battle with the weeds? It seems like they are still everywhere.
- I would like different service providers to be hired for weed control to exclude any current or future board members' businesses from profiting through this service.
- The lake bottom on Lake Mitchell and the zebra mussels off Peninsula Dr are the worst we have seen in a decade. Also, the weeds are getting worse each year.

### Lake Mitchell Property Owners Association Board (lake living comments, sharing information ideas)

- share phone numbers or emails of city/twp/state officials we can lobby on sewer rates and lake levels
- Illegal storage around the lake!
- Would like to see a...
- Does LMPOA have any input on getting Woodland Drive and Birch Drive paved and if so will they be able to report on the status at the next meeting?
- Fishing quality needs to be improved. Fishing tournaments need to be managed so they do not harm resident fishing. Boats being brought into the lake from other lakes need to be washed first.
- Although I am not opposed to financially supporting initiatives to maintain or improve the quality of Lake Mitchell, I question if there are not other avenues. As the lake is public, can the state help out with items such as clearing rocks or marking rocks in shallow areas? Additionally, we are at a time in our lives overseeing the care of elderly parents. We hope to become more active at a time in the future. We live out of town, thus we are unable to vote on local issues.

- I feel like we're finally getting proper representation (and things are finally starting to get done) on the LMSA.

### Lake level and suggested improvements (rocks and markings, dredging, canal, etc.)

- The lake levels have been a big topic of discussion within our neighborhood. Keeping the lake level higher throughout summer would be a great for recreation, fishing, and tourism. By the end of August, we can barely use our boat.
- The canal off the Big Cove needs to be dredged.
- Remove large and dangerous rocks/boulders in the Lake
- The canal underpass needs to be widened to allow two boats to pass at the same time.

### Property owner participation (attend various board meetings, volunteer opportunities, etc.)

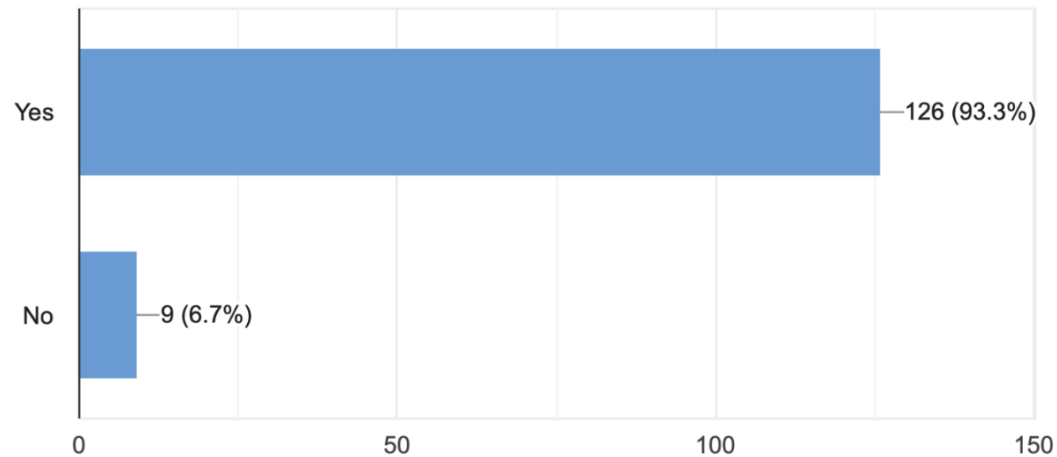
- Need volunteers to serve whether it's board positions or committees as well as attend meetings. Turnout is abysmal.
- Meetings should have a virtual opt-in and should be recorded for those unable to attend.
- I try to attend meetings but I'm usually not out of work and home until 6-6:30 pm so I resort to having to read the meeting minutes.
- Some of the time I attend the meetings, but I don't always know when they are - that's why emails or letters with the info would help instead of relying on people to have Facebook.
- In question #4 I answered "no", but I do believe that great strides have been made in getting better representation on the board.
- Our property is not our permanent residence and it's hard to attend the meetings when scheduled.
- We are willing to help where we can, we live full-time in Ohio but are frequently at the lake all times of the year but especially during the summer months. (That is why the answer is no to some of the above questions.) We share these concerns and want the lake to stay nice and keep our property values up.
- There seems to be 1-2 issues in all of the boards mentioned in #10, 1) conflicts of interest and board members not being transparent and abstaining from the decision-making process when this occurs 2) lack of transparency when a board is not knowledgeable on a topic or when a mistake is made.

## Short-term rentals

- **Tourism will only continue to grow in upper Michigan, especially as southern climates become so hot in summer. Reasonable solutions must be found for short-term rentals ensuring proper accountability for everyone. Not having the ongoing time to be part of the committee, I would be more than willing to provide support to members. Note: Some owners create just as many issues as short-term renters.**

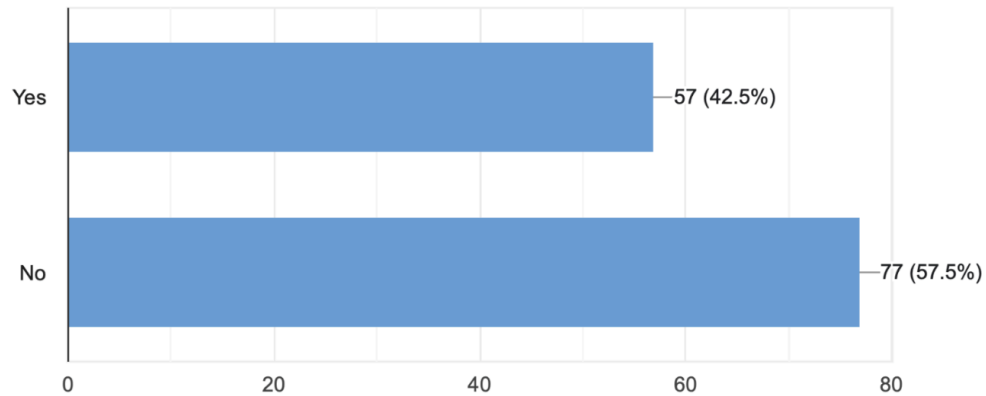
12. Would you like to receive periodic email updates from the Association and provide input on lake issues in the future (via occasional "pop-up" surveys)?

135 responses

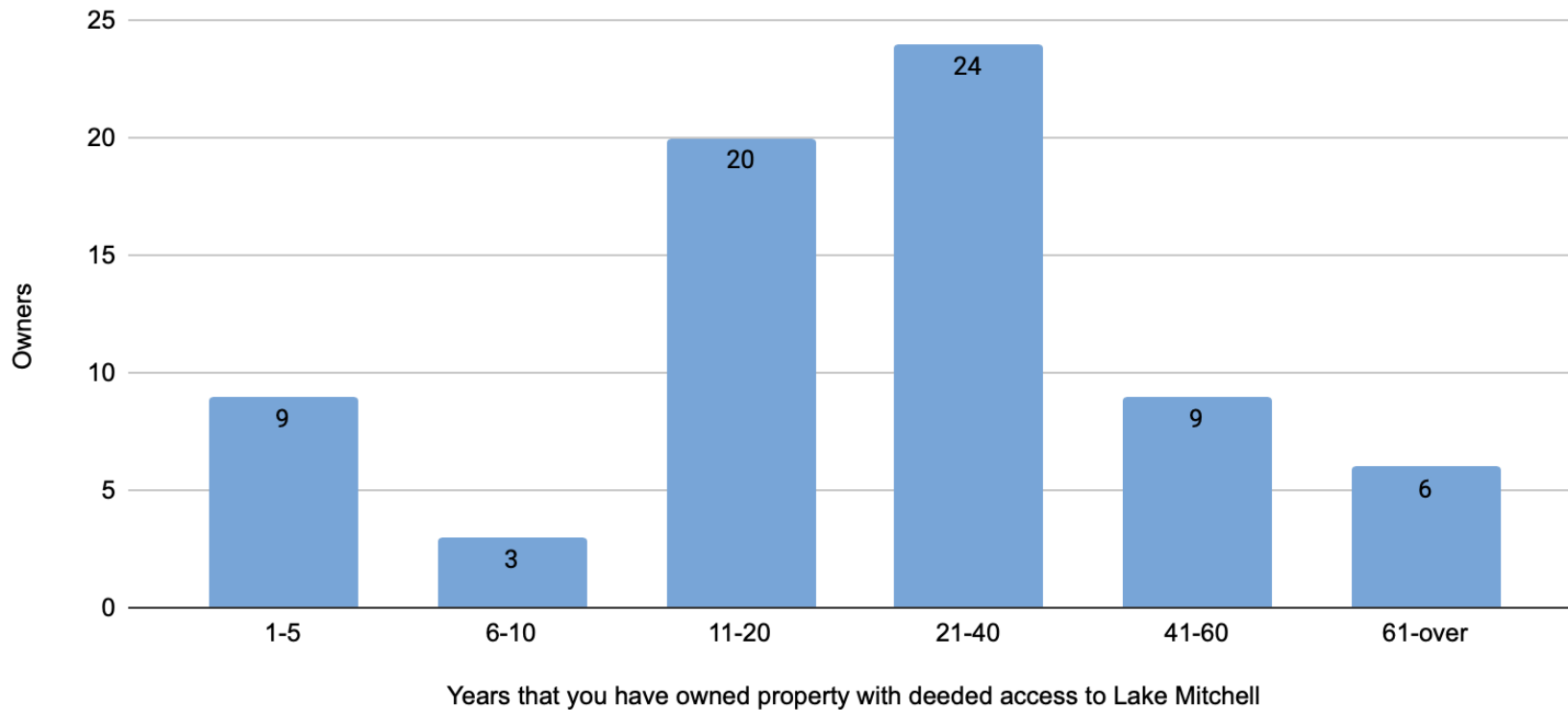


## Full-time resident at the lake?

134 responses



## Years that you have owned property with deeded access to Lake Mitchell:



Are you a member of the property owners only Facebook page?

132 responses

