

**Three Lakes Association**  
Individual Member Opinion Survey - 2010

Periodically, the TLA Board of Directors turns to the general membership for feedback on how the Association is doing in its mission to preserve and protect our lakes and the watershed that feeds them. Please take the next few minutes to provide us with your thoughtful input. This questionnaire is also available on the TLA website: [www.3lakes.com](http://www.3lakes.com). You are free to make extra copies of this questionnaire if you need them. Please return the questionnaire by December 1, 2010 to:  
Tina Fields, TLA Secretary, 5860 Aarwood Road NW, Rapid City, MI 49676.

**Section 1 – TLA's Purpose and Presence in Our Community**

This section applies to TLA's functions within our watershed, your position on the importance of those functions, and your opinion of how well TLA is carrying out those functions.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the statement? Mark the appropriate box. To offer additional comments, circle the asterisk, then in the space provided in Section 2, indicate the question number and write your comments. 0 = strongly disagree 5 = strongly agree DK = don't know * = additional comments									
1. a	Ongoing monitoring of water quality is important.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
1. b	TLA's water quality monitoring program meets that need.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
2. a	Educating young people about water quality is important.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
2. b	TLA's school outreach and internship programs meet that need.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
3. a	Continuing education for adults about water quality is important.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
3. b	TLA's adult jointly-hosted education events meet that need.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
4. a	Ongoing discourse with public officials about matters that affect water quality is important.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
4. b	TLA's contact with public officials of the region meets that need.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
5. a	Ongoing attention to water safety is important.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
5. b	TLA's water safety programs, such as Star buoys and informational signs, meet that need.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
6. a	Collaboration with other environmentally protective organizations is important.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
6. b	TLA's collaborative efforts with other organizations meet that need.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
7. a	Keeping the general membership informed about significant environmental threats, challenges, and victories is important.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
7. b	TLA's information outreach to members via the newsletter, the web-site, email alerts, and direct personal contact meets that need.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the statement? Mark the appropriate box. To offer additional comments, circle the asterisk, then in the space provided in Section 2, indicate the question number and write your comments. 0 = strongly disagree 5 = strongly agree DK = don't know * = additional comments									
8. a	Boat size and traffic are relevant to maintaining healthy lakes.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
8. b	TLA should commence a program to track lake utilization.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
9. a	Sheriff's Marine Patrol effectively enforces existing boat laws.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
9. b	TLA members' participation in the Sheriff's Lake Watch program will enhance the Marine Patrol's effectiveness.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
10. a	TLA should be aware of shoreline development plans for Lake Bellaire, Clam Lake and Torch Lake.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
10. b	TLA's current shoreline development monitoring efforts are adequate.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
11. a	Membership growth and retention are necessary for TLA to continue to accomplish its environmental stewardship functions	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
11. b	Membership outreach to non-riparians, business members, and younger generations of current families should be expanded.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
12.	Maintaining the quality of fish and other aquatic wildlife is important.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
13.	Working to minimize invasive species and their negative environmental effects is important.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
14.	Public access to the lakes needs to be improved.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*
15.	TLA should pursue alternative funding sources for its projects.	0	1	2	3	4	5	DK	*

**Section 2 – Other Insight You Have to Offer**

(Please attach separate sheets if your thoughts won't fit in the space provided.)

16. How and why did you become a member of TLA? Why do you remain a member?

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17. Do you believe that TLA's mission is still appropriate? (*The mission of the Association is to provide leadership to preserve, protect, and improve the environmental quality of the Elk River Chain of Lakes Watershed for all generations with emphasis on Lake Bellaire, Clam Lake, Torch Lake, and their tributaries.*)

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18. Do you believe that TLA is succeeding in its mission?

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19. Where do you think TLA could improve its environmental stewardship.

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20. What do you see as potential threats to the waters of Lake Bellaire, Clam Lake, Torch Lake, and their watershed?

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21. How do you feel TLA should respond when questions of overly-dense shoreline utilization are encountered?

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22. Annual meeting of the membership is called for in the TLA by-laws. In recent years we have had a more-or-less formal dinner meeting catered at a resort restaurant. In the past we have had a less-formal potluck dinner meeting, to which members frequently brought their children and grandchildren. With the exception of special meetings, such as the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting in 2011, what is your preference for the style of the annual meeting and dinner?

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23. Please tell us about your boats – how many of each kind do you have?

Kayak	_____	Sailboat	_____
Canoe	_____	Power Boat	_____
Rowboat	_____	Personal Watercraft	_____
Pontoon Boat	_____	Other	_____

How many of your powered watercraft use 2-cycle engines? \_\_\_\_\_ 4-cycle engines? \_\_\_\_\_

24. What else do you think your organization needs to know?

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25. This space is for any additional comments.

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It will be very helpful to know what your areas of interest are and where you might like to be part of the TLA efforts.

26. Here are some candidate areas of interest. Please check all that appeal to you.

- |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water quality      | <input type="checkbox"/> Water safety      | <input type="checkbox"/> Research field work | <input type="checkbox"/> Summer interns      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boat washing       | <input type="checkbox"/> Special events    | <input type="checkbox"/> Golf tournament     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant writing      | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership        | <input type="checkbox"/> Annual meeting      | <input type="checkbox"/> Refreshments        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government watch   | <input type="checkbox"/> Media relations   | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter articles | <input type="checkbox"/> Occasional odd jobs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serve on TLA Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Other ideas _____ |  |  |
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### **Section 3 - Demographics**

To assist in analyzing the results of this survey, please answer a few questions about yourself. Your identity is not part of this survey, so all of your information remains anonymous and confidential. It will be aggregated with the information from other respondents according to demographic groupings and measurements.

27. Your gender, please

- Male  Female

28. Your age group, please

- |                                |                                |                                       |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18-19 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 25-34        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 35-44 | <input type="checkbox"/> 45-54 | <input type="checkbox"/> 55-59        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 60-64 | <input type="checkbox"/> 65-74 | <input type="checkbox"/> 75 and above |

29. Your TLA zone or township

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A – Clearwater   | <input type="checkbox"/> B – Milton      | <input type="checkbox"/> C – Torch Lake   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> D – Central Lake | <input type="checkbox"/> E – Forest Home | <input type="checkbox"/> F – Helena       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> G – Custer       | <input type="checkbox"/> H – Kearney     | <input type="checkbox"/> NZ – Other _____ |

30. How long have you been associated with TLA?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> One to five years      | <input type="checkbox"/> Six to ten years       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eleven to twenty years | <input type="checkbox"/> More than twenty years |

31. Do you reside here year-around?

- Yes  No

If **No**, how long do you reside here?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> At least 2/3 year  | <input type="checkbox"/> At least 1/3 year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1/3 year |  |

32. Do you own your home here, or rent?

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Own   | <input type="checkbox"/> Rent |
| If you <b>own</b> your home, is this your Michigan Homestead property? |                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   | <input type="checkbox"/> No   |
| If you <b>own</b> your home, is your property waterfront property?     |                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes   | <input type="checkbox"/> No   |

Thank you for answering these demographic questions.