

## Long Lake Improvement District, Isanti County

P.O. BOX 91, ISANTI, MN 55040

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July 11, 2010

To: LLID Members

From: LLID Board

Subject: LLID Satisfaction Survey

These are the results of our 2009 Lakeshore Owners Satisfaction Survey.

27 members of our 226 residents completed the survey, which is only 12%. Let us begin by thanking our members that have taken time to complete our annual survey.

The Long Lake Improvement District (LLID) will use these results to guide us in our planning and actions to fulfill our mission to improve the overall quality of Long Lake.

Thanks in advance for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Robert Shockman - Chairman

The Long Lake Improvement District

## Mission and Goals

100% of our respondents agree with the mission and goals of the Long Lake Improvement District (LLID). In fact, no one responded in disagreement, but a few clarifying comments were offered.

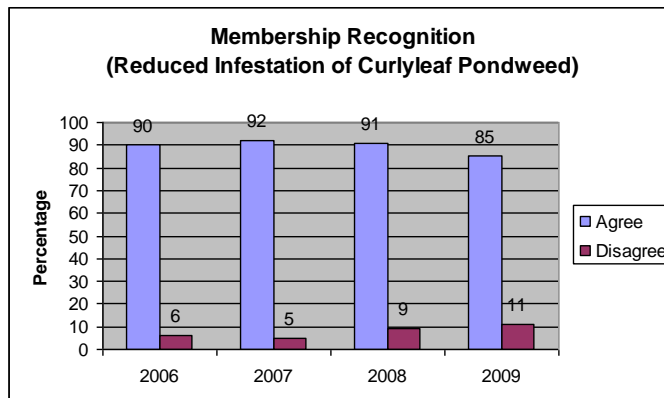


Comments:

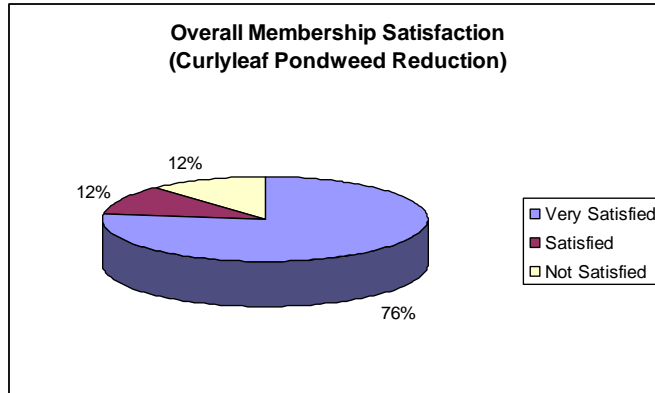
- Keep up the good work - I am proud to be part of a vibrant community
- Continue on the proposed goals. Thanks for all of the work.
- Stay the course - It is working.
- Keep reminding people of the importance to build buffer zones to manage run-off.

## Curlyleaf Pondweed Treatment

Our residents continue to agree that we have achieved a reduction in Curlyleaf Pondweed infestation over the past years. As we have achieved repeatable control of this invasive species, some say that they have not seen improvement.

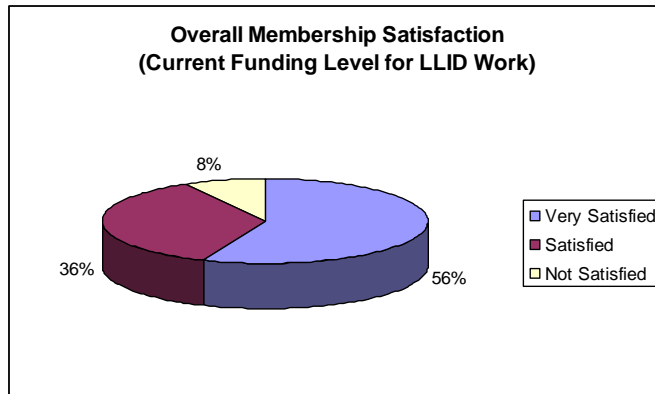


In fact, 76% of our members are “Very Satisfied” with the reduction in Curlyleaf Pondweed in Long Lake, and a combined 88% of our members are “Satisfied” with our progress.

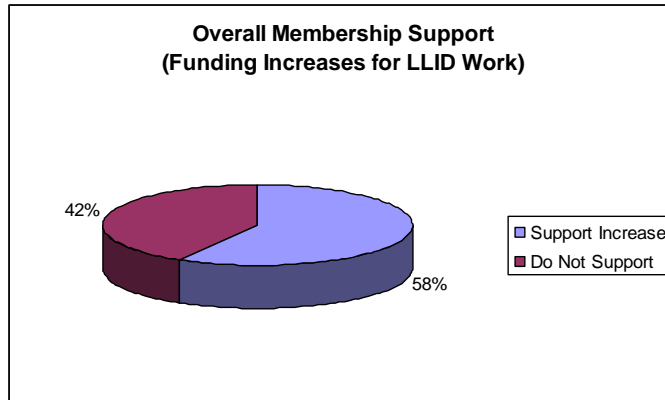


### Annual Tax Assessment

Over half our members are very satisfied with the current funding level for LLID work and 92% are satisfied or very satisfied. Only 8% of our members said they were not satisfied with the current funding levels.

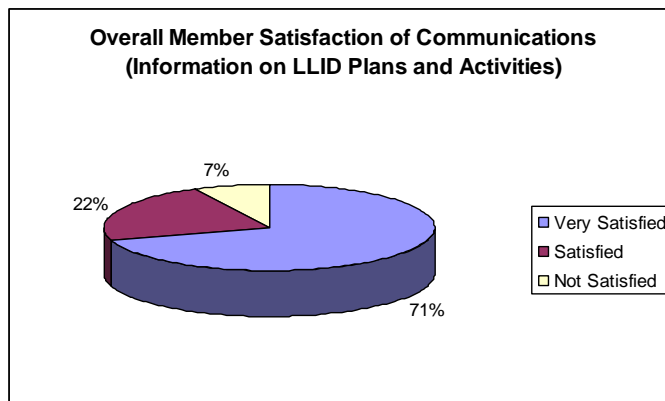


Our members are mixed in their opinions as to whether they would support an increase in spending to improve the quality of Long Lake.



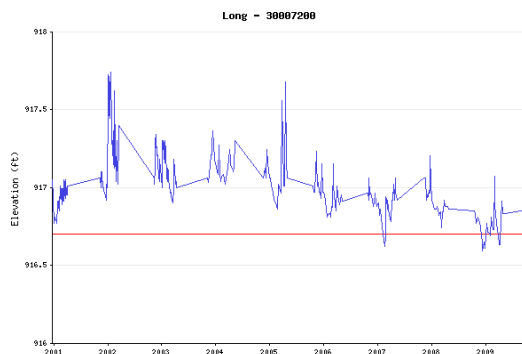
### Communications

Our residents are quite satisfied with the LLID communications program as 93% are either Very Satisfied or Satisfied with our communications.



## General comments from Members and Responses from the LLID Chairman

- Keep reminding people of the importance to build buffer zones to manage run-off.
  - The LLID Board is in full support of Buffer Zones and has initiated a Grant Program, which has funded three resident pilot sites in 2009, and has approved three more for 2010. This is one of the most powerful things our residents can do to control nutrient run-off, which will improve the water quality of our lake.
- Explore Community Sewer
  - We have met with the County and discussed Sewer Inspection and Management practices for lakeshore properties, but the County has limited resources and was not in a position to implement or manage change at this time. We did not however discuss or investigate a community sewer system, so we do not know the feasibility of this concept.
- Have the Lake Association pay for treatments, not Dinner for their Volunteers
  - This is not an issue for the LLID, but let me share that the Volunteers in the Long Lake community work very hard and the LLIA uses this forum to say thanks to all of those that volunteer and support Long Lake. I for one appreciate this. By the way, the LLIA has made donations to the LLID for weed treatments.
- Please address why the Lake is 1 foot or more lower and why did the elevation of the outlet dam change.
  - First, the dam control level was not changed, but minor repairs were conducted to address shifting and leaks. In response to the lake level, our lake level is dam controlled at the outlet, and inlet sources are from German Lake, springs, and natural run-off. There are minor variations to our lake level, but as you can see from the DNR chart below, the year over year variations are measured in inches as opposed to many other regional lakes that are down many feet due to the drought we have experienced.



- We have had assessments for several years and the water quality is still very poor. Is there a treatment or control for the green/pea soup algae?
  - Yes, we have only experienced minor changes in the water quality. Weed treatments unfortunately add nutrients to the lake in the summer which affects water quality. We also experience a severe drought last summer which did not help our cause. We are beginning work with water quality experts to develop a plan in efforts to improve water quality. It is a primary agenda item for us. Stay tuned for further updates.
  
- Shoreline should be sprayed - not just down the center of the lake – We had better weed control when I contracted direct with Lake Restoration. Improve inspection and spraying of weeds within 50 feet of shoreline - where fishing and swimming take place.
  - We are engaged in a DNR sponsored “Lake-wide program to control Curlyleaf Pondweed”, a ferocious invasive weed that can ruin lakes. The aim of this program is to control Curlyleaf Pondweed, while enabling the natural vegetation to return. Therefore, we are not permitted to treat native vegetation, only Curlyleaf Pondweed. Yes, you are correct in that much of shoreline is no longer treated. In fact, only two home areas inside of 150ft. from shore was treated this year, which means we have done a good job reducing the growth area of this invasive species. What you are experiencing is a healthy return of native vegetation, which is good sign. We need to eliminate Curlyleaf Pondweed and restore native vegetation which will absorb nutrients in the lake, which also provide for a healthy habitat for our fisheries and a clearer lake.
  
- Eliminate 1 of the 2 Landings, or, work with State and County to minimize parking spots. Become selective, not convenient.
  - I appreciate the thought that we should minimize traffic on our lake as a means to improve quality. Unfortunately, we do not have that authority as Long Lake is in the public domain; we simply own a piece of the lake shore. What is impressive is that we all care enough to be good stewards of the lake and we are investing to make it a better place.
  
- A tax increase is ok as long as it is a small increase. Tax assessment should stay the same or reduce it.
  - The LLID agrees that we should invest and spend wisely. Now that we have reached our planned level of reserve funds, we will minimize assessments to meet only those funding needs approved by our members. A reduced assessment level for 2011 will be proposed at the July 2010 annual meeting.