

2011 Coon Lake Watershed Survey

The Land and Water Resources Department (LWRD) obtained a grant from the DNR to conduct a water quality and biological integrity study on Coon Lake. The watershed was sampled and surveyed in 2010. To meet the goals of this study we would like to have your input on the lake and invite you to participate in future activities related to Coon Lake. Following is a survey designed to gather information about residents owning property near Coon Lake, the lake's current condition, and its intended use to direct future management decisions. The survey should take approximately 5-10 minutes to complete. For every question, please check only one response unless directed to "check all that apply." Please fill out this survey and return it to LWRD. The results will be compiled in the final lake report available in 2011 from LWRD. If you have questions, feel free to contact Katelin Holm, Information and Education Coordinator and Water Quality Specialist at LWRD, at 485-8637 or katelin.holm@co.polk.wi.us. Surveys should be returned by August 1st, 2011 to:

LWRD
100 Polk County Plaza- Suite 120
Balsam Lake, WI 54810

The results of this survey will help guide future land and lake management decisions. Thank you again for your participation in this survey!

1. How many years have you owned property in Frederic, Wisconsin? If less than 1 year, please write 1. *Note: If you own more than one property, please answer all questions for the property you have owned the longest.*
_____ years

2. What type of property do you own in Frederic (from question 1 above)?
Year-round residence
Seasonal residence (summer only)
Weekends throughout the year
Undeveloped land
Rental property
Resort
Other (please specify) _____

3. How many days in a typical year is your property used by you or others? Just provide your best estimate.
_____ days per year

4. Land use generally falls into one of the following four categories: open space, shrub/grass/sedge community, woods, and impervious (hard) surfaces. Please use **estimated percentages** to describe the amount of each land use on your property. (The total should equal 100%.)

____ % Open space (lawns or mowed areas)

____ % Shrub/grass/sedge community

____ % Woods

____ % Impervious surfaces (buildings, driveways, sidewalks, patios, gravel paths and driveways)

5. Using your best guess, how many days per month during the **spring/summer months (April-September)** do you and/or your family visit Coon Lake? If you never visit Coon Lake, please write "0".

Visit Coon Lake _____ **times per month** from April through September

6. Using your best guess, how many days per month during the **fall/winter months (October-March)** do you and/or your family visit Coon Lake? If you never visit Coon Lake, please write "0".

Visit Coon Lake _____ **times per month** from October through March

7. Which activities have you and/or your family done along the shoreline or in Coon Lake within the past year? Please check all that apply.

Fishing (any season)

Swimming

Non-motorized water sports (birding, canoeing, hiking)

Motorized water sports (PWC, boating, water skiing)

Non-motorized winter activities (skiing, snowshoeing)

Motorized winter activities (ATV, snowmobile)

Hunting

I have not been to Coon lake within the past year

Other, please describe _____

8. How many of the following watercraft are kept on your property for use on/in Coon Lake? If none, please write 0.

____ Jet skis

____ Motorboats/pontoons between 1-20 HP

____ Motorboats/pontoons between 21-50 HP

____ Motorboats/pontoons more than 50 HP

____ Canoes and kayaks

____ Paddleboats/rowboats

____ Sailboats/ windsurfing

____ Other, please describe _____

9. From the list below, please rank your top three concerns for Coon Lake.
(Please list your top three concerns in order of importance, with 1st being most important)

1st _____
2nd _____
3rd _____

- A. **Pollution** (chemical inputs, septic systems, agriculture, erosion, storm water runoff)
- B. **Development** (population density, loss of wildlife habitat)
- C. **Quality of life**
- D. **Property values and/or taxes**
- E. **Water recreation safety** (boat traffic, no wake zone)
- F. **Water clarity** (visibility)
- G. **Aquatic plants** (not including algae)
- H. **Invasive species** (Eurasian water milfoil, zebra mussels, buckthorn, purple loosestrife)
- I. **Harmful algae blooms**
- J. **Quality of fisheries**
- K. **Water levels** (loss of lake volume)
- L. **Other**, please describe _____

10. How would you describe the current water quality of Coon Lake?

- Poor
- Fair
- Unsure
- Good
- Excellent

11. How has the water quality changed in Coon Lake in the time you've owned your property?

- Severely degraded
- Somewhat degraded
- Remained unchanged
- Somewhat improved
- Greatly improved

12. How would you describe the amount of current shoreline vegetation at the park on Coon Lake
(starting at the water and going landward)?

- Too much
- Just right
- Not enough
- Unsure

13. During open water season, how often does aquatic plant growth, including algae, negatively impact your enjoyment of Coon Lake?

- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Often
- Always

14. Considering your answer to the above question, do you believe aquatic plant control is needed on Coon Lake?

- Definitely yes
- Probably yes
- Unsure
- Probably no
- Definitely no

15. How would you describe the importance of wetlands to Coon Lake's water quality?

- Not at all important
- Not too important
- Unsure
- Somewhat important
- Very important

16. From the list below, please check all of the management practices, if any, that you do which help protect the Coon Lake watershed. (Please check all that apply.)

- Not using fertilizer
- Installing rain gardens
- Planting natural grassland and flower species
- Implementing projects to slow runoff
- Roadside cleanup or other attempts to stop pollution
- Using no wake near shorelines
- Removing plant material from boats after leaving a lake
- Other, please describe _____
- I do not do any of the above

17. Are you aware that there is a ban on using fertilizers containing phosphorus within shore land areas (1000 feet from a lake or 300 feet from a stream) in Polk County?

- Yes
- No

18. Stormwater runoff can become a problem when it does not soak into the ground after rain events. How much of a problem, if at all, would you say stormwater runoff is in the Village of Frederic?

- No problem at all
- Little problem
- Unsure
- Moderate problem
- Large problem

19. Would you be willing to provide financial support to maintain or improve the quality of Coon Lake and its associated land resources?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure, I would need more information

20. **If you answered yes to question 19**, how much would you be willing to contribute each year? *This question is only designed to give an indication of possible support. It is not intended to act as a commitment for financial support.*

\$ _____

21. Please provide your age. I am _____ years old.

Thank you for your participation in this survey!

Please use the remaining space to add any additional comments or concerns you have regarding Coon Lake and its surrounding land resources.