

# STANTON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY RECREATION SURVEY

## Final Draft Results – Township Residents

May 19, 2023

### Introduction

In 2022, the Stanton Township Board of Supervisors approved the preparation of a *5-Year Recreation Plan* in order to better manage recreation opportunities at Township properties and facilities. In addition, the Plan is required to apply for several different grants administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. A community survey is a key component in this Plan to enhance recreation opportunities for residents, property owners, and seasonal visitors to the Township.

**This report provides background and final draft results of the recreation survey of Stanton Township residents, administered during March – April 2023.** Non-resident property owners will be surveyed in Spring 2023. The final draft results of these community surveys will be posted on the Stanton Township website for review and comment.

### Questionnaire Design

Questions for the community recreation survey were prepared by the survey coordinator, in consultation with the Stanton Township Board of Supervisors, and after review of *Guidelines for the Development of Community Parks and Recreation Plans* (MDNR 2021) and other professional recreation surveys. This included a pre-test of questions with Township Board members in August – September 2022. The final version of the questionnaire was prepared with desk-top publishing software and copied to Adobe Acrobat for two-sided printing on one 8 1/2" x 11" piece of recycled paper. The questionnaire includes general questions about the respondent, several park and recreation-related questions, three questions about support for certain actions by the Township Board, and space for additional comments.

A number code was placed on the questionnaires in order to breakdown the results by post office (i.e., Atlantic Mine, Houghton, Toivola). This approach assumes that residents with Atlantic Mine postal codes are in relatively close proximity to the Freda Honor-Roll Park, Redridge Dams Site, and the Stanton Ballfield. In turn, most residents with Houghton postal codes reside along Canal Road and North Superior Road, and are in relatively close proximity to the North Canal Township Park, North Canal Boat Launch, and Kenner (Oskar) Dome. Lastly, residents with Toivola postal codes are in relatively close proximity to Agate Beach Township Park and the Toivola Recreation Building.

## Survey Administration

The method chosen for administering the survey was a mail questionnaire delivered by the U.S. Postal Service (USPS). This survey method was preferred due to the lack of reliable Internet access in many locations of the Township, and because 2020 U.S. Census data indicates that a relatively large percentage of the Township's total population are seniors (42.1% age 55 or older), many of whom may not be comfortable with responding to online questionnaires.

The mailing list for adult residents of Stanton Township was derived from the 2022 voting list for Stanton Township. "Adult" is defined as voting age of 18 years or older. Other residents *not* included in the initial resident mailing list were identified from the Stanton Township property owner list, or contacted the survey coordinator.

The mailing envelope to residents included a half-page introductory statement and instructions, full-page copy of the questionnaire, and a return envelope with an attached first-class postage stamp. Actions taken to increase the survey response rate included the following:

- The mailing envelopes were embossed with color stamps of the Upper Peninsula and the words IMPORTANT COMMUNITY SURVEY ENCLOSED.
- Each resident at a particular address were mailed separately, instead of "bulk" mailings to a general household address.
- A notice was posted on the Stanton Township website on March 1 alerting residents to the community recreation survey.
- Public service announcements were provided by two local radio stations during the last week of March to remind Stanton Township residents about returning their questionnaires.

The first mailing of the recreation questionnaire to 525 residents was completed on February 27 – 28, 2023 from the Kingsford, MI Postal Service Center. The second mailing to 423 residents was completed on March 6 – 7, 2023 from the Kingsford, MI Post Office. The final mailing to 130 residents on the initial mailing list was completed on March 8 – 9 from the Sagola and Kingsford Post Offices. An additional mailing to 61 residents *not* included in the initial mailing list was completed on April 5, 2023 from the Sagola Post Office. The mailings were staggered to make the processing of returned questionnaires and data entry more efficient.

The majority of questionnaires were returned by the original requested deadlines in late March. However, the deadline for all resident questionnaires was extended to May 1, 2023 to accommodate the additional mailing on April 5 as well as residents returning from seasonal winter residences or vacation rentals.

## Discussion of Results

The response rate for the recreation survey of Stanton Township residents was an impressive 42% (472 returned questionnaires / 1,112 adjusted mailings). *Adjusted mailings* was calculated as 1,139 total mailings – 27 mailings returned by the USPS = 1,112. The primary reason for about 2% (27) of total mailings being returned by the USPS was “Not Deliverable As Addressed; Unable to Forward.” Eleven of the 472 questionnaires (2%) were returned anonymously.

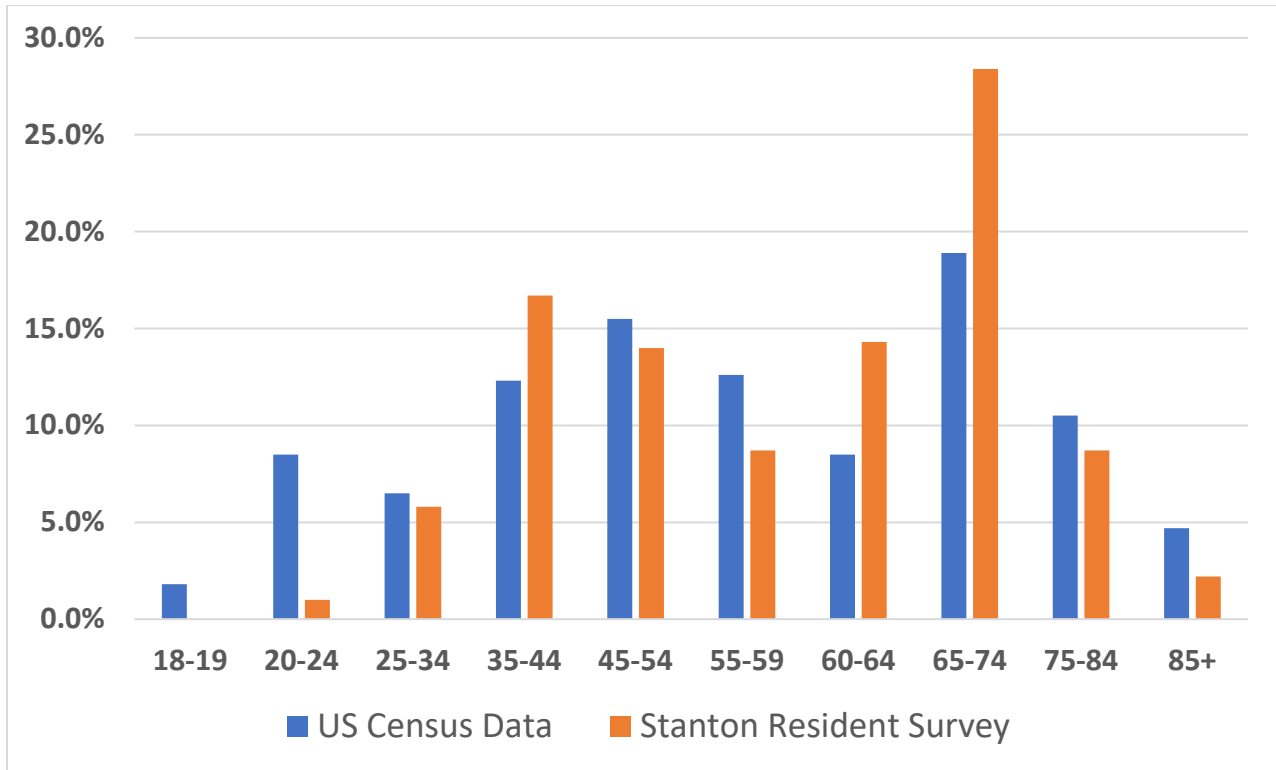
The age profile of respondents is consistent with data from the 2020 U.S. Census for Stanton Township (**Figure 1, page 4**), with the following exceptions:

- Ages 18 through 24 are underrepresented by about 9.5% (only four questionnaires were returned from this age group).
- Ages 65 through 74 are overrepresented by about 9.5% (i.e., 28.4% of questionnaire returns compared with 18.9% for this age group in U.S. Census data).
- Ages 55 through 59 appear slightly underrepresented. However, when combined with the 60 through 64 age group, there is little difference between questionnaire returns and U.S. Census data (i.e., 23.0% compared to 21.1% in U.S. Census data for ages 55 through 64.)

Findings in social research commonly indicate that decision-makers can confidently generalize the results of mail surveys with return rates over 35% to the entire target population. In this case, the adult residents of Stanton Township. The confidence to generalize survey results to the entire resident population is enhanced when respondents’ age and sex profiles are consistent with data from the 2020 U.S. Census.

An Excel worksheet was created to record the survey results, including basic formulas for analyses of data from the questionnaires. Returned questionnaires were processed on a regular basis – about one hour was required to process 20 questionnaires. Data entry onto the Excel worksheet was completed with two people to reduce transcription error. All questionnaires were processed on a confidential basis (respondents can’t be directly identified, and individual results will not be disclosed to anyone).

The final interpretation of results from the community recreation survey will be based on an inventory of Township recreation properties and facilities (completed in 2022) and other information needed to prepare the 5-Year Recreation Plan as well as a review of U.S. Census Bureau data for Stanton Township, regional recreation plans, and additional comments from the Township Board, residents, and property owners. After a final draft of the 5-Year Recreation Plan is completed, a public hearing will be scheduled for final public review and comment. The public hearing is required by the Michigan DNR for final approval of the Recreation Plan.



**Figure 1.** Age Profiles of Respondents to the Recreation Survey of Stanton Township Residents compared to 2020 U.S. Census Data for Stanton Township.

### Limitations of Research

**These survey results are limited to the adult resident population of Stanton Township.** The total population of Stanton Township is listed by the 2020 U.S. Census as 1,383 ± 234 persons. Approximately 76.6% of the Township’s total population is 18 years of age or older, and 23.4% is under the age of 18. The median age of the total population was estimated by the U.S. Census Bureau at 49 ± 8.7 years of age.

Based on a comparison of survey results with U.S. Census data (**Figure 1**), the opinions of young adults (ages 18 through 24) are underrepresented. Other survey methods should be considered to better reach this important age group, who are making life decisions about career and where to call home. Recreational amenities are often an important factor in such decisions.

In addition, a more complete understanding of the needs and issues associated with the Township’s recreation properties and facilities requires a separate survey of non-resident property owners. This survey will be completed in Spring 2023.

## Where to Send Comments:

Comments on the final draft survey results of Stanton Township residents can be sent to Ken Vrana, Survey Coordinator, at [kjvrana@mtu.edu](mailto:kjvrana@mtu.edu).

## Profile of Report Preparer:

Mr. Vrana is a retired MTU Professor of Practice, who specialized in outdoor recreation and tourism systems, and community outreach. His academic training (MS and ABD) in social survey and public resource management was from the Department of Park, Recreation and Tourism Resources at Michigan State University. Mr. Vrana is now engaged in selected consulting work, doing business as Maritime Heritage Consulting. His most recent consulting on a community recreation survey and 5-Year Recreation Plan was for Chassell Township in 2017-18.

## Attachment

- Copy of Stanton Township Recreation Survey Questionnaire

## Appendices

- |    |  |                    |
|----|--|--------------------|
| A. | Aggregate Results and Responses/Comments         | (See separate PDF) |
| B. | Results Broken Down by Atlantic Mine Post Office | (See separate PDF) |
| C. | Results Broken Down by Houghton Post Office      | (See separate PDF) |
| D. | Results Broken Down by Toivola Post Office       | (See separate PDF) |

## **STANTON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY RECREATION SURVEY**

**Final Draft Results – Township Residents**

**May 19, 2023**

# Stanton Township Community Recreation Survey

Please complete and return by **May 01, 2023**

A pre-addressed, stamped envelope is enclosed.

## General Information

Please check all the following that apply to you, or write-in your answer:

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_  
Single \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_ Head of Household \_\_\_\_\_ Family Member \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Persons in the Household \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark with a "P"(primary residence) or "S"(second/vacation home) one of the following locations, or write-in the general location and type of your residence in Other:

Canal Road \_\_\_\_\_ Liminga Road \_\_\_\_\_ Larson/Obenhoff/Harma Roads \_\_\_\_\_  
North Superior Road \_\_\_\_\_ South Superior Road \_\_\_\_\_ Coles Creek Road \_\_\_\_\_  
Rauhala/Niemi Roads \_\_\_\_\_ Redridge/Beacon Hill/Freda Locations \_\_\_\_\_  
Agate Beach - Misery Bay Area \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Park and Recreation Questions

For questions 1 - 3, please refer to the Township property listing below.

1. What Township property do you use **the most** for recreation? (Please write #1 in the space to the left of the property name.)
2. What other Township properties do you also use? (Please **check** the space to the left of **any** properties that apply).
3. In the space to the right of the Township properties you identified in #1 and #2, please write the **number of times** you visited these properties **in 2022** for purposes of recreation. (We don't need exact numbers, just your "best guess.")

_____ Agate Beach Park _____	_____ Toivola Recreation Building _____
_____ North Canal Park _____	_____ North Canal Boat Launch _____
_____ Kenner (Oskar) Dome _____	_____ Stanton Ballfield _____
_____ Redridge Dams Site _____	_____ Freda Honor-Roll Park _____
_____ Other _____	_____

For questions 4 - 5, please refer to the listing of recreation activities below.

4. What **three** outdoor recreational **activities** do you **most often** participate in Stanton Township?  
(Please write #1 in the space to the left of **three** different activities.)
5. What other recreational activities do you participate **frequently** in Stanton Township?  
(Please **check** the space to the left of **any** activities that apply.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Walking \_\_\_\_\_ Running/Jogging \_\_\_\_\_ Day Hiking \_\_\_\_\_ Biking \_\_\_\_\_ ATV Riding \_\_\_\_\_ Boating \_\_\_\_\_ Canoeing  
\_\_\_\_\_ Kayaking \_\_\_\_\_ Overnight Backpacking \_\_\_\_\_ Tent Camping \_\_\_\_\_ RV Camping \_\_\_\_\_ Fishing \_\_\_\_\_ Hunting  
\_\_\_\_\_ Target Shooting \_\_\_\_\_ Horseback Riding \_\_\_\_\_ Pickleball \_\_\_\_\_ Sight-seeing \_\_\_\_\_ Wildlife Viewing  
\_\_\_\_\_ Bird Watching \_\_\_\_\_ Snowmobiling \_\_\_\_\_ Cross-country Skiing \_\_\_\_\_ Snowshoeing \_\_\_\_\_ Ice Hockey  
\_\_\_\_\_ Ice Skating \_\_\_\_\_ Visiting Historical Sites \_\_\_\_\_ Watching Community Baseball \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

6. What should be the focus of future park and recreation development by Stanton Township? **(Select One)**  
 Attracting tourists to increase economic impact in the region.     The needs of residents and property owners.  
 Finding a balance between tourism opportunities and development based on community needs.  
 Leave things like they are - I don't favor additional development.

7. What do you consider the **most important current needs** for North Canal Township Park? **(Select Two)**  
 Re-open the North Canal Park Campground.     Pave the entry road to North Canal Park.  
 Create a walking trail from the North Canal boat launch to the North Canal Park.  
 Prepare a Master Plan for the North Canal property (Park area and associated lands).  
 Protection of the beach and shorelands.     Other \_\_\_\_\_

8. What do you consider the **most important current needs** for Agate Beach Township Park? **(Select Two)**  
 Renovate the boat launch.     Improve the current primitive camping sites.  
 Renovate the kitchen, dining, and meeting buildings.     Pave the entry road to Agate Beach Park.  
 Prepare a *New* Master Plan for the Agate Beach property (Park area and associated lands).  
 Protection of the beach and shorelands.     Other \_\_\_\_\_

9. What do you consider the **most important current need** for the Township's Redridge Dams Site? **(Select One)**  
*Note: The Redridge Dams are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.*  
 Retain the property, resolve current dam safety issues, and prepare a Master Plan for the Site.  
 Transfer the Redridge Dams Site to another governmental agency or nonprofit organization willing to assume current dam liabilities.  
 Sell the property to a private entity willing to assume current dam liabilities.  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

10. What other needs do you consider important for the Township properties and facilities? **(Select Two)**  
 Purchase a public easement or lands for access to the mouth of the Salmon-Trout River.  
 Create a safe, public access to the Township's Lake Superior shorelands in Freda.  
 Replace the asphalt floor with concrete in the Toivola Recreation Building.  
 Pave the Kenner (Oskar) Dome parking lot and entry road.     Pave the road to North Canal Boat Launch.  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

11. In general, do you support more attention to the maintenance and repair of Township properties and facilities?  
Yes     No     No Opinion

12. Do you support the hiring of additional staff for management of Township properties and facilities?  
Yes     No     No Opinion

13. Do you support the creation of a Township *Park and Recreation Committee* to guide future operations and development at Township properties and facilities?  
Yes     No     No Opinion

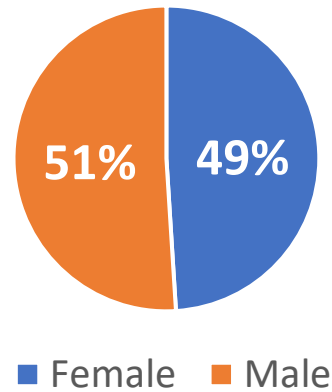
14. Lastly, what other improvements do you recommend for Township properties and facilities? This can include maintenance as well as construction. **Write your comments below or attach another piece of paper.**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Stanton Township Recreation Survey Final Draft – Resident Questionnaire

## Aggregate Results

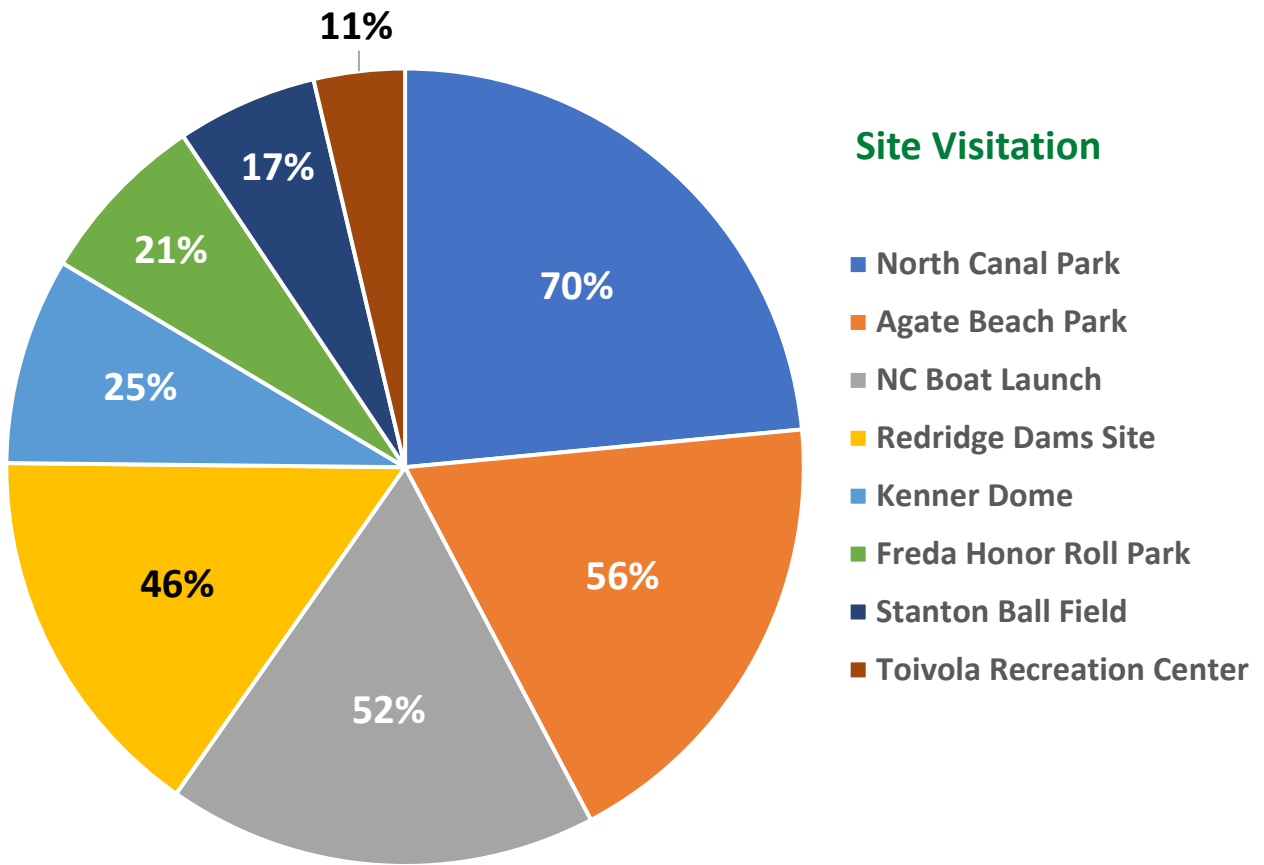
### General Information

<b>Total Number of Respondents:</b>	472
<b>Adjusted Return Rate:</b>	42% (472 returns/1,112 mailings)
<b>Average Age of Respondent:</b>	58 years old
<b>Married:</b>	84%
<b>Single:</b>	16%
<b>Head of Household:</b>	31%
<b>Average Size of Household:</b>	3.0 persons
<b>Primary Residence:</b>	
Canal Road	19%
Larson/Obenhoff/Harma Rds.	12%
Agate Beach/Misery Bay	11%
Liminga Road	11%
North Superior Road	10%
Redridge/Beacon Hill/Freda	7%
Coles Creek Road	7%
Rauhala/Niemi Roads	6%
South Superior Road	3%
Other:	14%





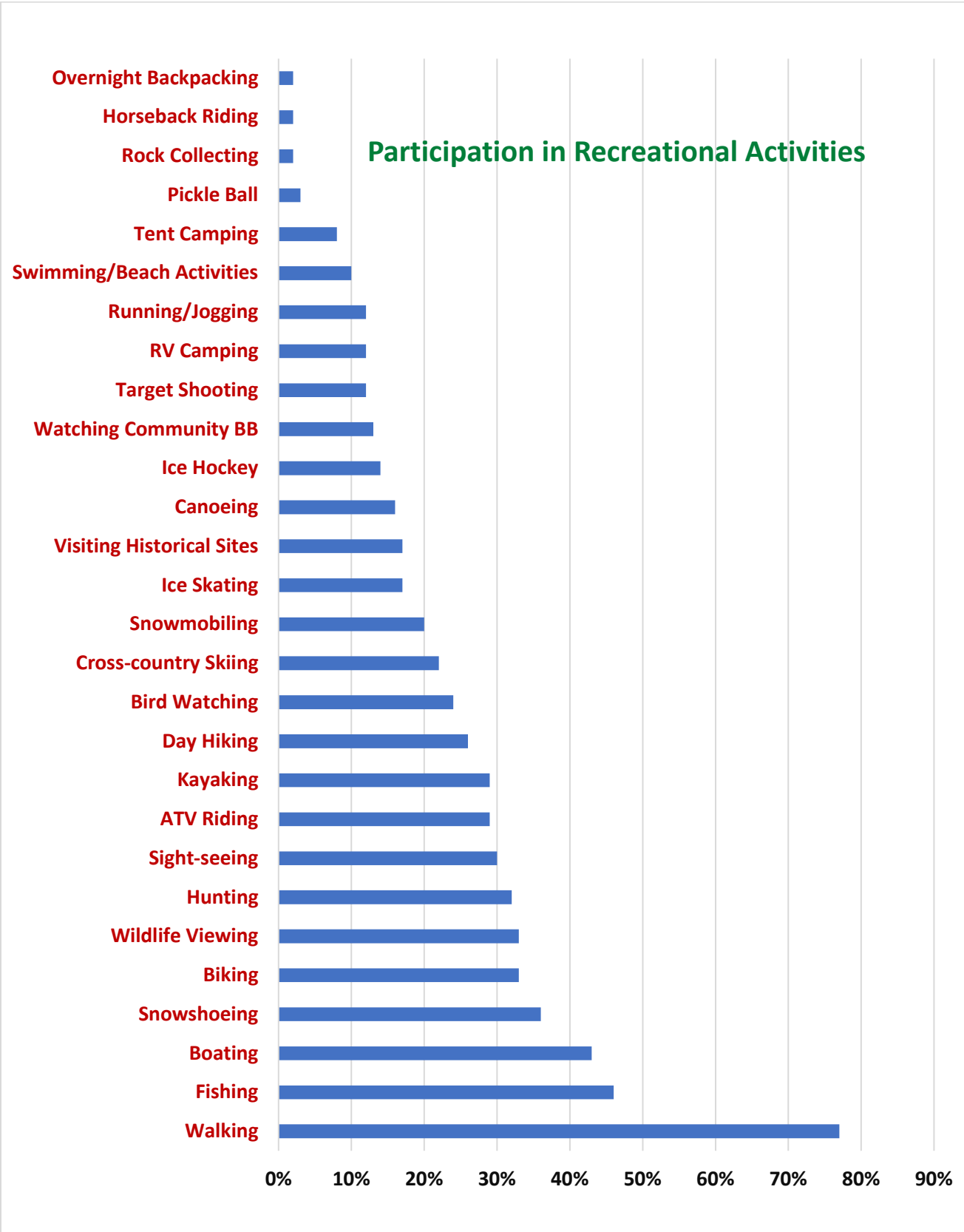
## Park and Recreation Questions



**Percentage of respondents who visited certain Stanton Township park and recreation sites in 2022**

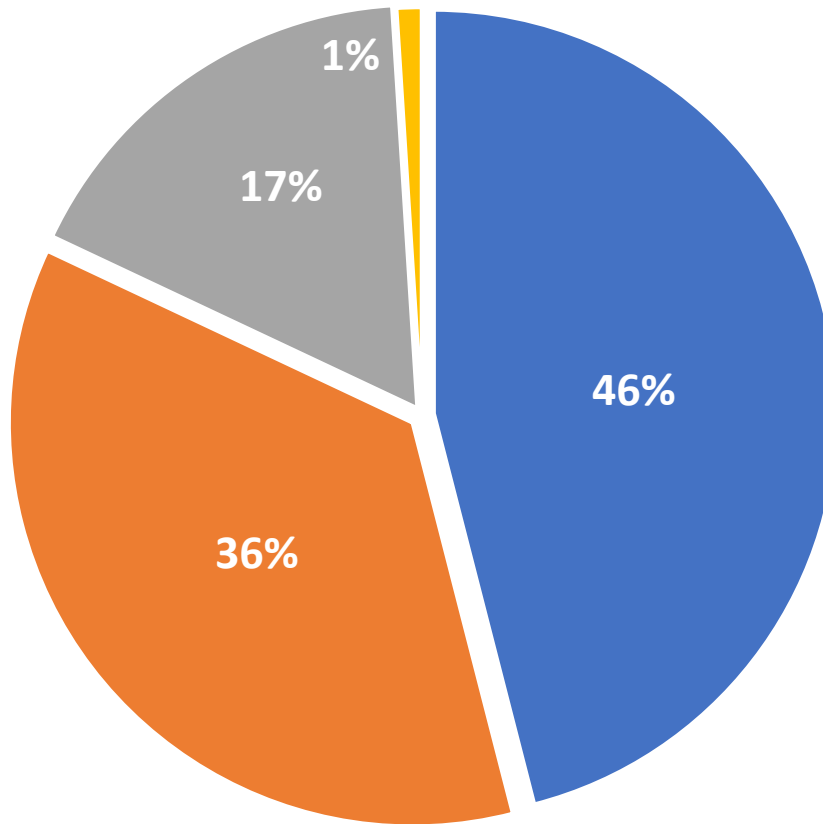
### Average Annual Visits in 2022

North Canal Park	13.0	Kenner (Oskar) Dome	8.5
Agate Beach Park	11.0	Freda Honor Roll Park	8.1
N. Canal Boat Launch	9.1	Stanton Ballfield	6.3
Redridge Dams Site	6.1	Toivola Rec. Building	6.9



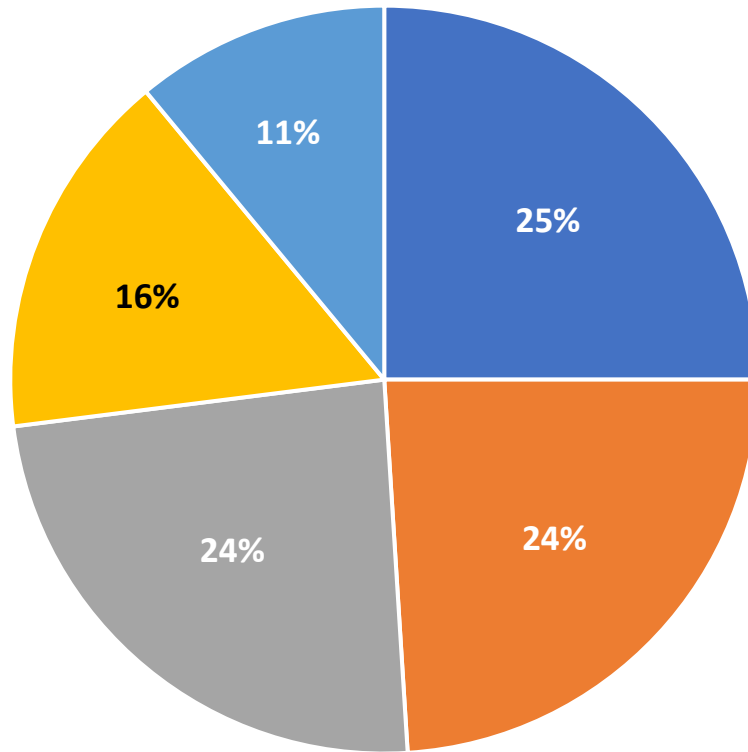
**Percentage of respondents selecting recreational activities in which they participate frequently in Stanton Township.**

## Focus of Future Park And Recreation Development



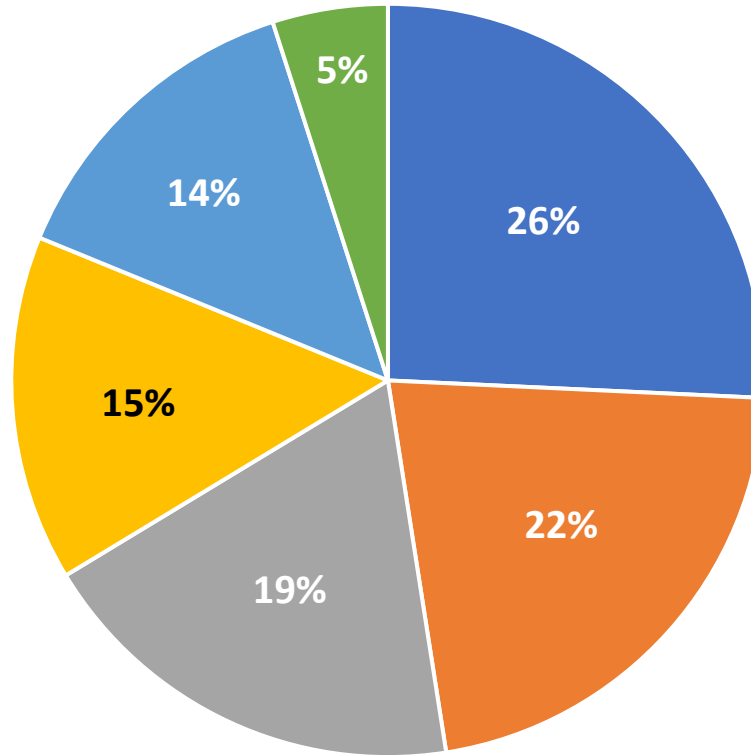
- The needs of residents and property owners
- Finding a balance between tourism opportunities and development based on community needs
- Leave things like they are - I don't favor additional development
- Attracting tourists to increase economic impact in the region

## Most Important Needs for North Canal Park



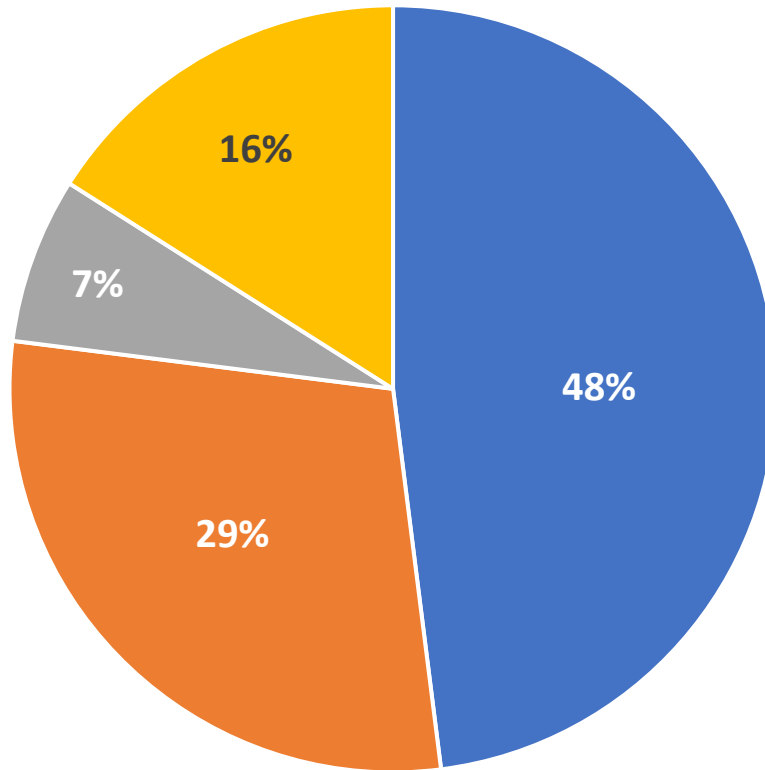
- Prepare a Master Plan for the North Canal property
- Re-open the North Canal Park campground
- Protection of the beach and shorelands
- Create a walking trail from NC boat launch to NC Park
- Pave the entry road to North Canal Park

## Most Important Needs for Agate Beach Park



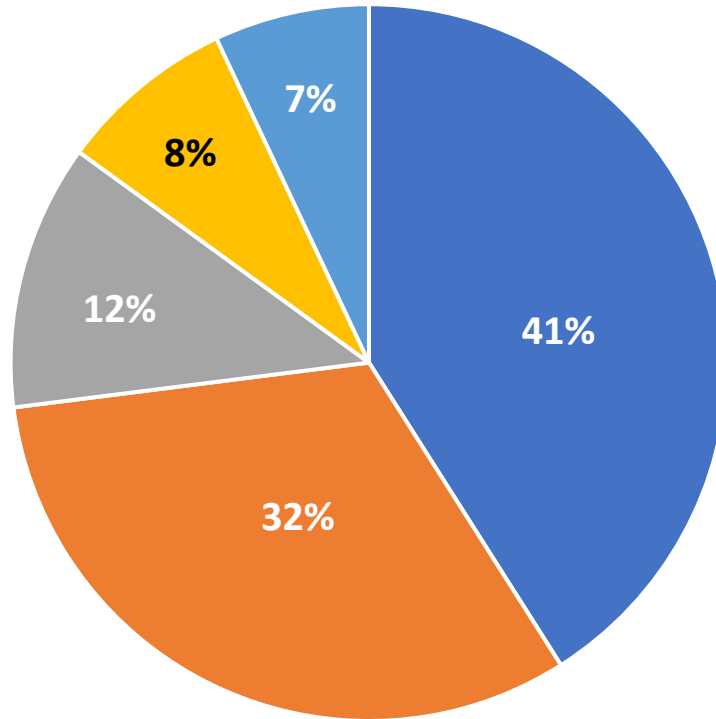
- Protection of the beach and shorelands
- Prepare a New Master Plan for the Agate Beach property
- Improve the current primitive camping sites
- Renovate the boat launch
- Pave the entry road to Agate Beach Park
- Renovate the kitchen, dining, and meeting buildings

## Most Important Need for the Redridge Dams Site



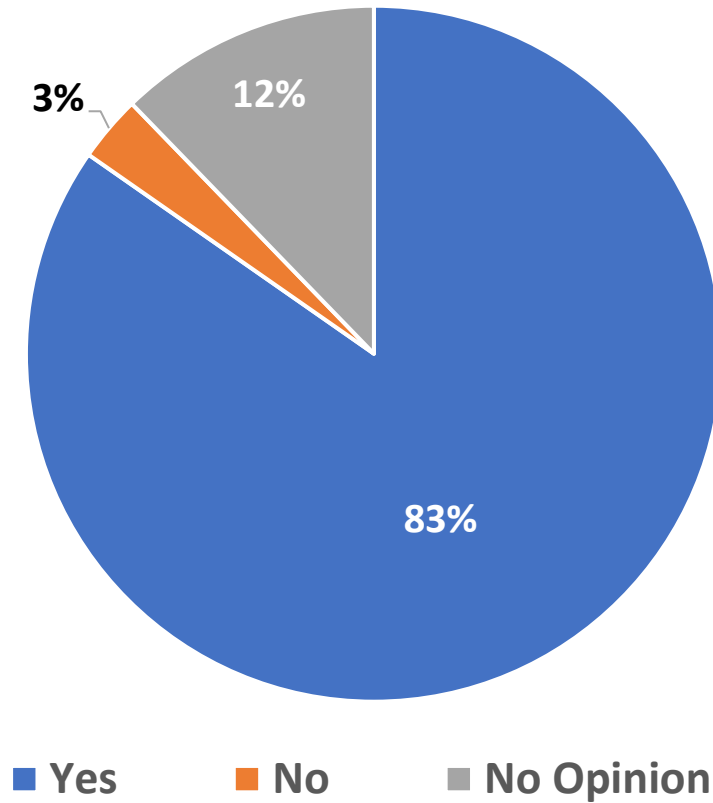
- Retain the property, resolve current dam safety issues, and prepare a Master Plan
- Transfer the Site to another governmental agency or nonprofit organization willing to assume current dam liabilities
- Sell the property to a private entity willing to assume current dam liabilities
- No response

## Other Important Needs for Township Properties and Facilities



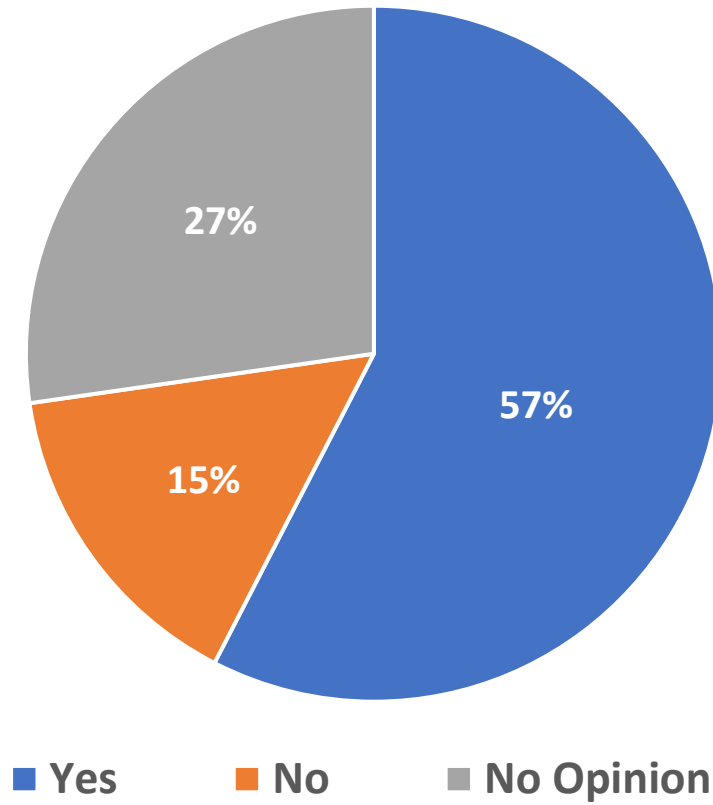
- Create a safe, public access to the Township's shorelands in Freda
- Purchase a public easement or lands for access to the mouth of the Salmon-Trout River
- Pave the road to North Canal Boat Launch
- Replace the asphalt floor with concrete in the Toivola Recreation Building
- Pave the Kenner (Oskar) Dome parking lot and entry road

**In general, do you support more attention to the maintenance and repair of Township properties and facilities?**

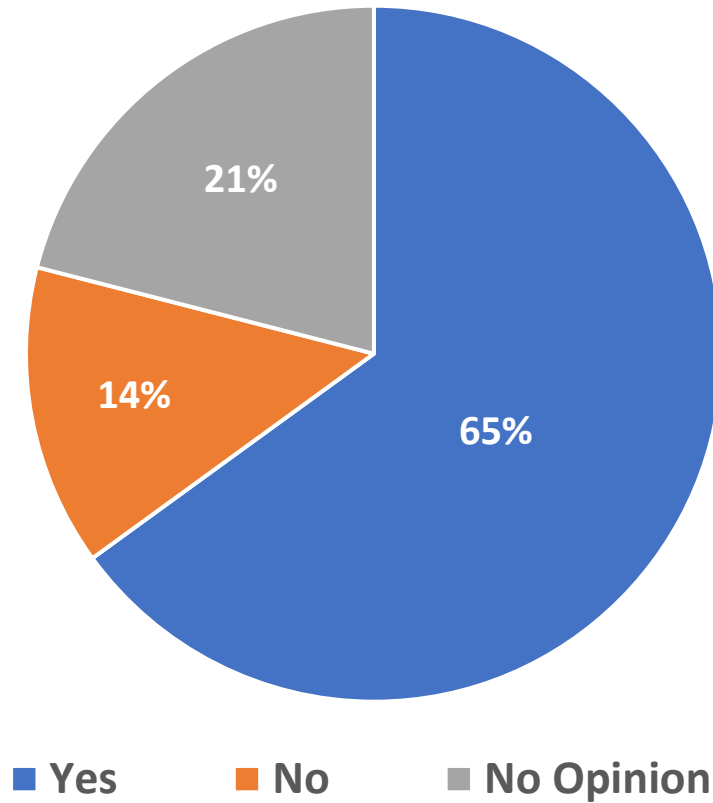




**Do you support the hiring of additional staff for management of Township properties and facilities?**



**Do you support the creation of a Township *Park and Recreation Committee* to guide future operations and development at Township properties and facilities?**



**ATTACHMENT: Written Responses / Comments on Questions 7 - 14**

**Final Draft Results  
Stanton Township Recreation Survey  
Resident Questionnaire  
Administered March – April 2023**

Prepared by:  
Ken Vrana  
May 11, 2023

## Stanton Township Recreation Survey Responses/Comments on Questions 7 – 14

**NCP = North Canal Park      ABP = Agate Beach Park**

**Introduction:** All of the responses/comments below were transcribed verbatim from the recreation questionnaires returned by Stanton Township residents during March – April 2023. They are not listed in any particular order. Clarifications are shown in square [brackets]. Six respondents also attached letters with additional information. The content of these letters is included under Question 14.

### **Question 7 (Other): What do you consider the most important current needs for NCP?**

Leave as is • No opinion • No opinion • Develop Canal Park into a campground • Fire pits • Nothing • No messy fires that leave nails, etc. • Clean restrooms • Park is fine • Would rather have sand beach access in Freda or Redridge • Park is fine • Want sand beach access in Freda or Redridge • Improve road - not necessarily pavement • Pave the road to N. Canal boat launch • [Add] fire pits to contain nails and other trash; large metal rings • Pave entry road to NCP • Regular garbage pickup - garbage containers • Better bathrooms closer to beach • Modernize bathrooms • Need zoning • Control of Tech students fires and garbage left behind • Open N. Canal to overnight camping • Supervisor should stop pallet/furniture burning • Repair Canal Rd from Coles Creek Rd to NCP • Police the park on a regular basis • Charge nonresidents; fine the fire-builders • Grade the entry road to NCP • Make big fire pits on beach • Better management of park to prevent vandalism, late-night parties, glass and nails left in sand, etc. • Stop pallet burning - there are piles of nails and metal all over the beach; furniture, mattresses and tires too. Don't open campground! • Repave road between Oskar cemetery and Kenner Dome • Pave road / Oskar curve • Restore clear cut area NCP campground • Keep as is - no development. Maintain fences! Clearly establish parking areas back from beach • Pave the boat launch road • Opportunities for neighboring communities (share resources) • Close at night after sunset; garbage and nails are horrible • Leave as pristine as possible • Unsure about what they need • Improvement of roads into and in the parks • I don't use it • More funds for Agate Beach boat launch.

### **Question 8 (Other): What do you consider the most important current needs for ABP?**

Rarely go • No opinion • No opinion • Campground host • Make it a day use park • Make it a day use park • No opinion/it'd be a cool place to go if all the drunks, druggies didn't hang out there • Electricity and clean bathrooms • Improve road but don't pave • Management create clean, safe place • Make all power sites; dump station also • Raise the rates and clean it up • Access to beach area for seniors • Fly control • Update bathrooms • Restore power • Install

power at some sites • I don't use Agate Beach • Create hike-in camping sites • More camping sites • Let the people of that area decide • Beautiful park • Parking • Put electric back at sites • It's fine as it is • Restore electric at sites • Not at all familiar with it • Pre-pay for campsite reservations online • Leave as pristine as possible • Pump outhouses more; collect from campers regularly • Pave all of Agate Beach Rd • Do not replace power to RV sites • RV power • Keep control by Township residents • Fix main road • Fix entire road • Repave AB road for better road to park • Sell to County or State.

**Question 9 (Other): What do you consider the *most important current need* for the Redridge Dams Site?**

Trim trees to see the dam from the road • Prefer more information before decision • Limited info upon which to make recommendation • Clear it out for fishing • Do whatever doesn't cost dollars • This year didn't trap dam; too hard to get to with canoe and gear • Which ever option above will preserve the site • Provide access to water for kayaks & canoes (fishing) • Open a usable boat launch • We use Redridge all the time, and worry that other entities will limit access • Would rather spend dollars on sand beach access at Freda or Redridge • Remove dam and allow natural flow of river • Leave things as they are • Pave the parking area and make a walkway to bottom of dam • Let someone else (governmental agency) pay for updates or fix • UPPCO could use to generate energy • Does UPPCO have any interest? • Maintain property as is • Retain property as is • The wooden crib dam should never have been removed • Do not sell property • Perhaps a small boat launch into the lake • Safety issues are over-emphasized • Don't sell • I don't go there • I don't go there • Stock it full of fish and have fishing piers • Worry about selling to a private entity - dam must be made safe somehow • Don't sell to private entity • Fix the dam • Do what's best for Township • Not educated enough on this one • I'm not informed about this area to make a decision • Improve fishing, kayaking, canoeing access • Get rid of it; any way to get out of future liability (\$) • Remove dam and restore river flow.

**Question 10 (Other): What other needs do you consider important for the Township properties and facilities?**

No beach - dangerous cliffs only • Pave residential Township roads; no rec roads • Secure and protect all • Maintain our paved roads • Maintain all roads! • Provide port-a-johns • No preference except no paving • Create more continuous walking / biking trails • Make the breakers/NCP beach friendly • Improve Kenner Dome for hockey • Pave Superior Shores Rd and as many roads as possible • Pave and finish paving Superior Shores Rd • Improve Kenner Dome; establish recreation hockey league • Fix roads before paving parking lots • Make improvements to road into Oskar Cemetery. (Even if its privately owned) • Pave the road to N. Canal boat launch • Better maintenance and construction of NCP pavilion and property • Create trail from

boat launch to North Entry beach • Pave Puuri Rd • Bike lanes along paved main roads - H. Canal and Liminga Rds. • The property in Freda is private • Need zoning; blight or neglect should be prohibited and removed • Repave Canal Rd past Schmidt's Corner • Grade/dust control the road to NCP • Need lights at NCBL dock (maybe solar) • Need lights at NCBL dock (maybe solar) • Redo the Canal Rd around Oskar Bay with proper drainage to help preserve the pavement • Playground structure at Oskar Dome • Maintain roads; fix road in Oskar • Shut Kenner Dome for 2 years to get bad people out • Better toilets and more grass, picnic tables, playground near the beach of NCP • Walking trails/paths in Liminga area • Playground equipment at Oskar Dome (pickleball, sand volleyball) • Don't use these areas • Don't use these areas • Repave N Superior Rd from Canal to Petersons corner • Restrooms at NCP • Develop walking/hiking trails on Township properties • Better bathroom facilities at NCP • More parking spaces at NCBL • More parking spaces at NCBL • Make safer to the ground area of natural spring faucet at Kenner Dome - dangerous in winter! • Repave the Canal Rd. between Liminga and NCP focusing on Oskar area • Pave N. Canal Rd • Pave road from Coles Creek to the end of the road • Install metal siding on Kenner Dome • Repair, repave roads that give access to these properties • These are not important needs • Improving parking lot spaces at N. Canal boat launch - more spaces • Develop cross-country ski trail along Portage Canal • Pave N. Canal Park Rd. • Put in Pickleball courts at Oskar • Pickleball courts in Oskar • None of the above • Pave/repair road to ABP • Pave road to ABP • Add a disk golf course at ABP and open snack stand, or build overlook platform to right of boat launch area • Create an online prepay system for camping • Repave Agate Beach Rd • Upgrade Agate Beach Rd • In the Toivola rec building pave strip of N & W ends of asphalt. Repaint surface white, repair boards. • I'm not informed about the need of these areas • Maintenance of current facilities and build a fund with tax dollars/park fees • Pave Agate Beach Rd - Karanen Corner to beach • Improvement of roads to and in the park • Pave road to ABP • Renovate Agate beach boat launch! • Purchase more lakeshore and riverfront property for public access and use • New power for RV campground • Proper management of ABP • Pave the road to Agate Beach • Pave Agate Beach Rd. to Agate Beach Park.

**Questions 11: In general, do you support more attention to the maintenance and repair of Township properties and facilities?**

Let's have a plan first • I'd rather not see tax dollars go to seasonal township parks before our residential road is paved.

**Questions 12: Do you support the hiring of additional staff for management of Township properties and facilities?**

Let's have a plan first • If needed and helpful, but I'd rather have the money go to the facilities • If cost wise, it is feasible • How much staff do we have now as a Township? NCP should be addressed. We or most of us grew up there. Make it usable for residents. • Get a new staff and crew to take over!

**Questions 13: Do you support the creation of a Township Park and Recreation Committee to guide future operations and development at Township properties and facilities?**

Depends on whether they help or drain resources • Needs to be a mix of people, not friends or relatives • Yes, with new board of directors and recreation committee!

**Question 14 (Other Comments): Lastly, what other improvements do you recommend for Township properties and facilities? This can include maintenance as well as construction.**

Fix the big dip/bump in the road near the Coles Creek / Harma intersection on Coles Creek.

Further development of currently owned properties, with better maintenance

Home is a hub for extended family to engage in recreational activities

We always show friends who visit the historic dam. It needs a picnic area and viewing site, fishing site too. Staff should be educated in management.

Clean the Breakers bathrooms, or replace; more toilet paper; allow camping at Breakers again.

Why are lakeside camping spots at ABP blocked off now? Best spot to camp! Charge!!

Fixing any safety issues

We worry about losing access to Redridge Dam Site if the dam gets given to someone else. We are there all the time; it's why we bought our house. Soccer field at EB Holman or ballpark. Sandy place with good swimming in Redridge or Freda.

Reopen/grade [snowmobile/ATV] trail - 120/121, which was damaged with the Father's Day flood. Help with assisting this happens.

Develop Canal Park into a full-out campground like McClain State Park

Secure public access sites to rivers/streams, and make/maintain hiking trails

Develop walking/biking trails; seek volunteer support for maintenance

There is so much junk in Freda that township properties are hard to get to. I will give you a tour.

Future changes in Lake Superior water levels needs to be considered when a boat launch on shoreline is renovated.

I think there is a Rail Road easement (Salmon-Trout River)

I support maintaining fishing access at the Redridge Dam and Salmon-Trout River

Residential roads should be paved first - no roads to recreation areas

Concerns with safe pedestrian/biking safety on North Canal Road, especially with new campground/rentals along Canal Rd; need more pedestrian/biking safe space (shoulders) along the primary route to Stanton amenities.

Maintain and improve Township roads

Pave all Township roads

Playground equipment at NCP (swings, slides, etc.) like there used to be. New bathroom facilities also.

Canoe and kayak launch sites, such as near Kenner Dome. Safer walking paths - Liminga roadside is hazardous due to traffic. Altogether I am pleased with the recreational improvements that have been made in the Township

Adopt zoning to protect residential property values and our way of life, 4th generation Stanton resident

Maintain what we have through better maintenance

Agate Beach is a beautiful campground, but needs to be supervised. The rules should be similar to state parks so families could be comfortable using the campground.

Need a caretaker for parks

The Covered Drive is a positive tourism attractant; fire hall activities related to a color tour

I feel the Kenner Dome could be an asset to the Township if improved. However, something would need to be done about the young people who constantly vandalize it.

More trails to hike on; get rid of trees and get rid of rocks and debris

Create community access to school gym, perhaps one night a week; adult league basketball or volleyball

Township properties and facilities should be maintained and updates to the level of use by Stanton residents and landowners only. The Township should not become an attractive recreational opportunity for "out of Township" users.

Community access to school gym

Support creating safe public access to shorelands in Freda

Open NC campground to camping with RVs. Get Redridge Dam so you can get to it with a canoe easily. Make it safe for public use. Figure out how to raise level up at least half of what they took down.

Assume maintenance of Sunset Place Rd.

Maintain our paved roads!! Board members are overpaid.

Please fix the corner road in front of Marty Rajala's house and maintain all roads.

NCP is used by so many people, not just members of our community. New bathrooms, clean beachfront, and reopen the campground to bring in revenue.

How many staff for management of Township properties and facilities are there now?

Marked trails and signage where feasible for walking, cross-country skiing, etc.

I use Redridge Dam, NCP, and ABP for picnics, swimming, and fishing.

Better bathroom facilities

Better bathroom facilities

Supervision at ABP campground or sell to the State for another state park. The same people camp and party there the whole entire summer. Enforce and up the rates for a more family friendly camping experience.

Spend money on contractors, not hiring staff; Wi-Fi / Internet access at Township Hall.

If we are serious about maintaining, we must fund for staff

Open the dam area for boating and recreation

Create access to Redridge lakeshore

Speed bumps on Liminga Rd; paving/maintenance of Canal Rd.

Signs on Liminga Rd; repave Canal Rd/maintenance

Soccer field - we have to go all the way to Houghton, but there are plenty of places to put one in. Also, I'd like a sandy place for swimming in Redridge or Freda. Agate and NCP are all rock and not fun for kids

If the hiring is supported by good management; park charging daily fees. First, maintenance of Kenner Dome and rink. Second, NCP developed with good facilities similar to a State of Michigan park, with appropriate fees. Third, maintain N. Entry boat launch and road.

I would love to see more continuous trails throughout the whole township. They could be used for running, walking, biking, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing.

Would like to see both parks accessible to the general public, with at least basic upkeep (grass mowed and toilets kept up).

Maintenance and repair only if deemed absolutely for safety reasons; additional staff only if person(s) were voted on by all Stanton Township residents and answered to committee; recreation committee to consist of township taxpayers and voted on.



No camping at breakers! They trash it!!

Better access to Redridge dam "lake," and access to the snowmobile/ATV trail near Redridge dam. Thanks! Happy there is a boat launch near N. Entry. Also please help with facilities at baseball field; it's a really good thing.

Develop access road from boat launch to Bayshore Rd with day use picnic spots along the lakeshore.

Pave Larson and Rova Roads. There are many homes on them, the roads are terrible, many complaints neighbor to neighbor on dust; the dips and potholes are terrible on vehicles.

Demolish or renovate buildings at Agate Beach. Restore Salmon-Trout river to free-flowing.

Only elected officials should guide and set policy [regarding parks and recreation]

I think what the Township already has should be maintained with the least amount of cost

Recognize the importance of retaining and expanding our access to lakeshore! Over time, there are fewer and fewer places to get to the lake or on the lake, as people who can afford lake frontage buy it up and fence it / post it – shut out all of us who care about the lake and the natural flora/fauna and the ecosystem! Thank you!

When paving heavily used Township roads, add a 2' bike shoulder on each side

Fish cleaning station at boat launch

Fish cleaning station is a must for the N. Canal boat launch!

Would like more tent camping options; would like to participate in pickleball

Maintaining what we have and improve if possible

Maintain what we have; finish paving Superior Shores Rd

Maintaining structures and beaches at the breakers [NCP]; infrastructure is already there - fix it.

Maintain the [NCP] beach and keep it safe. Drag it for nails.

Simple family-oriented, human powered or "silent sports" should be the focus of recreation development. Access to "The Lake" for all. Freda Mill site has become widely known and used for public recreation and should be purchased for public recreational use by some consortium able to promote fund-raising and legal efforts.

First see if there are volunteers (before hiring staff)

For all Township parks - plant nice grass, pave lots and walkways, install outhouses and nicer benches and tables. With exception of Canal boat launch, nothing is nice or inviting. Everything is ratty and uninviting.

Get camping down at breakers and clean up the lots. For money coming in - more camping, down on Agate beach. No to zoning [in parks].

Cross county / walking trails

Camping and day use at NCP period. Charge non-residents for day use and boat launch use.

Paved roads need repair where potholes have been created

Re-paving of roads that are already paved, but full of potholes

Get the ATV trail re-opened from Salmon-Trout bridge to Redridge Dam

Enforce lease law on N. Canal Park. Regulate N. Canal Park so burn sites leaving dangerous materials (nails, staples, etc.) aren't allowed.

Take care of the roads

Better regulate and monitor both ABP and NCP. I think many residents would support creating a position of a person to stop or manage the unauthorized camping and parties at both locations. This ruins the parks for families, and these parties are usually non-residents.

NCP could benefit from new outhouses

Bathrooms at ABP and NCP would be great. Better monitored camping at ABP; also would be nice to camp at NCP again. Would camp at ABP more if there weren't so many parties.

Clue MTU into advising student population re: huge parties and hazardous remains. Maybe no alcohol! You can't go barefooted because of broken bottles.

Blacktop the roads with potholes - ASAP!

Redo the boards at Oskar Dome (lots of nailheads that rips clothing)

Fix snowmobile trail to Redridge

Open the Redridge snowmobile trail

Start taking better (care) of what we have, and build for that. It can be done if we care now, not later.

General maintenance and security of facilities (cameras)

Enforce lease law at N. Canal Park, and regulate burning materials.

Law enforcement visits at facilities will cut down drunks and drug addicts. Charge for entry.

Zoning will clean up the many dumps that litter the Township.

Please see if Houghton Co. Road Commission can redo Erickson Dr. to Obenhoff Rd. The road is literally all potholes, with a few smooth patches. It is horrible! Also, I am concerned with the increase of traffic that the Keweenaw Waters Resort will bring to Canal Rd. There will be an increase in pedestrian / bike traffic along Canal Rd. with the Resort, and the road shoulders aren't significant. People travel too fast, and I worry about accidents - add speed bumps?

Road maintenance for biking

I would like to see more multi-use trails connecting Township properties and areas of interest.

Repair Redridge Dam memorial.

NCP would have more use if it was better maintained.

I think maintenance should trump new projects.

Better maintenance of the Covered Rd. Better maintenance instead of purchasing more properties.

Pave N. Superior Rd

Set-up timber harvest management plans (where possible) to harvest timber off Township properties, to create revenue instead of raising taxes to pay for improvements.

Stanton Township has no zoning, and many properties are junk yards or abandon with blight, so no "community recreation plan" would be successful until the properties and parks are cleaned up of blight ... The Township could create a Zoning Ordinance which could include anti-blight where abandonment, blight, or neglect properties are prohibited and must be removed by the owner...Then a second phase could be a "community recreation plan." An example is the Zoning Ordinance for the Charter Township of Portage, Houghton County, MI

Fix Canal Rd! Especially Oskar Bay corner! We have been forgotten past Schmidt's Corner.

An improved barrier to prevent vehicles from driving onto stamp sand areas of NCP

Agate Beach and N. Canal Park need to be private operation; privatize operations at Township properties and facilities

Pave N. Superior Rd

Get camping back at the Breakers [NCP] with an attendant on site! No parties, no garbage on the beach! Turn the Breakers into an RV park; take the fence down and develop the area. Stop the parties and the garbage on the beach. Tons of potential with that area, especially with Coles Creek being developed.

Better supervision of property

Update and maintain outdoor volleyball court at Oskar Dome

Maintenance of our Canal Rd would be more beneficial to our community than working on the parks.

Well done and thank you -- it's a lot of work!

Upkeep on outhouses

Primary concerns about condition of Canal Rd around Oskar Bay (Oskar Curve). Also concern about burning pallets at Township parks. Willing to serve on the Recreation Committee and provided phone number.

Purchase new road signs. Current signs are faded and many are unreadable. Find road signs that do not fade. The current sign poles can be reused

Remove junk on Township property on the end of Bayshore Drive. It is a liability and is blocking access to Township property. Improve trail to NCP.

Playground at NCP

The Kenner Dome has serious mis-use and abuse from users both local and non-local people. Can't even take my family to enjoy it.

Kenner Dome needs better maintenance and supervision; young kids trash the place and make it less family-friendly; NCP is also trashed - big party people. If the beach area was more developed and family-friendly, and maintained, then maybe it would be respected more? I am all for opening back up the NCP campground too. Thank you for making a survey !!!

Widening the road to NCP to 2-lanes to prevent traffic issues

I would like to feel comfortable walking in our area. Currently, we drive to town to walk because the speed of traffic makes it unsafe to walk here.

North Canal Park could use new bathrooms

Paved path to Bay Shore Rd from North Canal Park

Construct a convenience store at Schmidt's Corner with or without fuel pumps

A cleaning station at NCBL for fish, as well as an outhouse structure

I'd like to see a paved bike trail to the NCP. It's a bit scary for cyclists - runners now as well as motorists.

Develop hiking trails on Township properties for site seeing, bird watching, and enjoying nature. Continue to manage and utilize our property for recreational use and possible timber harvest.

Less or no committees, more workers

Get MTU involved in cleaning the NCP, because the students are the ones' hauling truckloads of pallets and furniture out there nightly and burning it all over, so there is piles of nails and springs all over. Have them make some huge metal fire rings to burn in

The roads are bad

Make ABP into a RV park and campground like McClain State Park, same with NCP. It would generate a ton of money for the Township.

Construct RV sites with power and water hook-ups at both parks [NCP and ABP].

Take care of Canal Rd to Rocky Shores intersection, allowing safer winter access and emergency access, including possible fire access via Fire Station Rd.

Proper management of Kenner Dome and using the property not only for hockey, but multi-sports (volleyball, baseball, basketball), and picnic area. A community center/sports complex.

A dog park at NCP, remove fencing that is unnecessary

More parking spaces at NCBL

More trailer parking and single vehicle parking at NCBL

Playground/swing set at NCP

Would love public pickleball courts

Improve bike/walk trails (handicap access), lighting?

A nice playground for kids at the Kenner Dome

Don't go far away from "natural." "The UP is special." Man made is everywhere.

Build a biking/walking path to the side of Canal Rd., from Coles Creek Rd. to the NCP.

Pave Canal Rd. from Schmidt's Corner to NCP

Mountain bike trails

Clean bathrooms/changing rooms at ABP and NCP. More hiking paths on Township properties. I'm sure many residents would volunteer labor and equipment to do this.

The curves in the Oskar area of the Canal Rd are in desperate need of serious repair. The potholes and poor patching job are damaging vehicles and making travel dangerous for drivers in both directions, because they are having to try to dodge the potholes. The road is very narrow in that area. I think the whole section needs to be replaced regardless of what some people in that area seem to think. It's dangerous in its current condition for the drivers and the residents.

Please pave Firehall road; renovate firehall.

Trails to connect easier to other trails. Usually have to trailer snowmobile or ride on road.

Canal road repair / Rajala corner. Holes in Red Brick Rd pavement. Different lighting on Kenner Dome - bright for North bound traffic.

Use volunteers. No burn at NCP beach. Please fix the N. Canal Rd. or no one will come and damage their cars and trucks.

Create pickleball courts where they are suited best. Pave N. Superior Rd.

Bathrooms at NCP. Indoor pickleball and basketball. Outdoor volleyball. Playground and picnic area at NCP.

Picnic pavilion area at Kenner Dome

Kayak launch area somewhere in the Township (maybe near Kenner Dome). Would like to participate in pickleball if possible. Also, would enjoy more walking trails.

Maintain what already exists, nothing fancy, just routine maintenance and upkeep

Pave the road past Schmidt's bar to the end [NCP]

Avoid adding items that will require more maintenance

Better supervision at Kenner Dome. Shouldn't just be for hockey!

Keep up to date and accessible

Some potholes are huge and dangerous, especially on corners with poor visibility (Oskar). I am excited to know all these places exist and hope they are maintained to the benefit of all. Thanks for all you do!

Add more parking spaces at N. Canal boat launch

Add dusk to dawn lights and more parking at N. Canal boat launch

Handicap fishing access at the NC boat ramp. Another section of dock added to the existing dock would allow more fishing access and boaters. There are state grants available for handicap access to beaches and docks. Ontonagon is working on one now.

Put work out on bids

Close the EB Holman School - send all children to Houghton - use that money to fund these projects.

Make it a community for everyone.

Shooting range

Toilet vault at NCP

Why is the Kenner Dome not kept clean? Do you have someone doing this?! Also at Kenner Dome, why are parking lot lights on all night long?

Avoid developments like Keweenaw Resort that takes away from the natural beauty of the area, and/or significantly increase traffic on Canal Rd.

Need road in Oskar paved. Too many cars are getting wrecked in the potholes, year after year. Holes are so bad you go on other side, could be cause of accidents.

What is the point of increasing economic impact when there is no economy (other than the bar)? Corner store gone; restaurant gone; and Sandy's gone.

Please do not add camping to NCP. It attracts people who have destroyed property and make recreating there dangerous. Overnight sleeping already happens there. Making camping there makes it worse. Let's make Agate Beach campground work.

I wish in the winter they would leave a small section of road on one side for snowmobiles to safely get to the trail down Canal Rd.

I would like to see the road paved going into the NCP.

More walking / snowshoeing trails open to public. Advertise about the Marsden Center [trails on Canal Rd].

Build trails for non-motorized access.

Make sure all properties and facilities have good signage and they are advertised to all parties. Build a gun range for target practice - encourage residents to use it rather than practicing on other properties.

Avoid development like Keweenaw Waters Resort.

Make the NCP and Agate Beach into RV sites.

Make the NCP and Agate Beach into RV sites.

Recreation committee with balance of members from both precincts. Attention to existing facilities and roads to the parks need to be addressed. Poor roads keep people away.

Favors Recreation Committee as long as residents have a say in decisions. Winter plowing issues seems like there are days when we don't get plowed on Arctic Circle Rd. Elderly residents can't get out. Also, the spring melts render this end almost impassable at times. Thank you

Agate Beach park attendant, full time in summer. If the Agate Beach Park area is improved a better group of people will come to camp here. You can charge more [and] the lesser campers are less likely to want to camp there. Also need a new well dug, and septic for hall, with bathrooms for events like a jamboree, etc.

Keep the overcrowding of our parks downstate. The natural beauty of this area is far better than the asphalt parks to the south. Screw Tourism

Outside people already know about our parks -- improve and upkeep what we have. Hire local people that want work, not companies to exploit us. Keep the outhouses pumped; collect from campers often, campground host and bring back the electric [at ABP]. ABP is well-known and can support itself with the right attention. I'm sure the northside [NCP] would benefit from the campground reopening. After this one, ABP is up and working properly.

Upkeep to current facilities. Putting our tax dollars/camping fees back into the parks. Making provisions for campground host. All questions seem heavily weighted toward needs of north end of Stanton Township.

Dust abatement for unpaved primary routes.

Why even ask for a master plan [ABP] - you already have one. Township can't afford to maintain what we have.

Starting from Misery Bay Rd, pave to ABP

Upkeep of the existing facilities would be great, but mostly I suggest paving the Agate Beach Rd. It is in horrible condition and there is a lot of people visiting in the summer.

Replace 1.6 miles of Agate Beach Rd from Misery Bay Rd toward park paving

Pave the road to ABP. It is very bad now. What is life about anyway? Work hard and retire, I like going to Agate Beach.

Make ABP only day activities or close the park

Daily staff person at ABP

A renovated boat launch at Agate Beach is really needed for the Agate Beach/Misery Bay area. The Misery Bay boat launch is not always open at the mouth of the river - too shallow. A non-resident fee could be implemented at Agate Beach launch.

I've enjoyed ABP for over 38 years. Don't make it so big that it's not enjoyable. I didn't like when there was the big Finn Festival. I enjoy the small community events where the locals come together and visit.

Purchasing more lakefront property. In my opinion, a desirable community allows access to its best features to everyone. Not just the privileged few. Do not limit just to lakefront and riverfront, but any other extraordinary areas.

Pave all roads. Fence separating recreation area from campers at ABP.

Fix and maintain power at ABP. Also, maintain the primitive campsites. ABP is our jewel in Stanton Township that locals and tourists visit the most.



Repair electrical issues at ABP for RV camping.

ABP is a beautiful place enjoyed by many people. However, the camping gets out-of-hand, and it is not properly managed.

[Renovate] ABP boat launch 100%

Keep control of Township properties by Township board and residents. Repair fencing at NCP to keep vehicles off beach.

Pave the road to Agate Beach and fix the boat launch

Dust control on the dirt roads

Purchase some new tables for the Toivola Recreation Building. Upgrade the Agate Beach buildings - kitchen in Agate Beach hall and windows in concession building

Fix two bridges on Agate Beach Rd.

Pave the road from Misery Bad Rd to Agate Beach Park.

The township needs to sell/donate ABP to the county or state so it can be properly run as a park, and not a private campground for whoever the caretakers are and their friends. It's a magnificent property, worthy of state park status, and the way it has been run for years and years is unacceptable.

Dump stations in both campgrounds [NCP and ABP] would possibly create more revenue for the Township as people like to be able to empty campers before traveling home. Most of the other options in this survey will not bring in revenue, will only cost the taxpayers money.

Stanton Township is small and beautiful as is – isn't that horrid new RV park on the Canal enough?! Quit inviting dirtbags into the area to make noise and trash the spectacular solitude. We are the ones paying to live here and we deserve to enjoy the peace and relative solitude, which characterizes this special place – into which we have invested our lives and our fortunes. If the Township wishes to truly enrich the area, let's find a way to eliminate property blight. Can the Township start fining property owners for trashing their front yards? Can the township find less punitive ways to help residents of Stanton Township clean up their properties? I'm also interested in our drinking/ground water. We've not had our water tested yet. If the area is heavily contaminated, will we be receiving filtration systems/discounts? Can you please keep the roads in better condition? The area between Oskar cemetery and the Kenner Dome is dangerous. I blew a tire on that corner last fall. I would urge the Township against blowing money on methods/schemes to attract tourists. This beautiful farmland is perfect as is. Let's clean up what we already have before we invest in building MORE. Thanks!

I love that Marsin Nature Area and Retreat! I would throw tax money at that lovely place. Nice little hikes and I love that outdoor fireplace.

I met with John C. of the Houghton County Road Commission and walked the OSKAR Curve to determine the best fix. He claimed they were broke, but then miraculously coughed up >2M to remake Canal Road up to Coles Creek. They could have used some of that for the OSKAR section. We watch Canal Road when there are seasonal activities for the North Canal Boat Launch and NCP. The road section from Oskar Bay Cemetery to Stoltz Creek is horrible and unsafe. How can we attract tourists and usage of these facilities if the road damages vehicles and trailers. Need to post a sign at Parks where there have been fires, *not* to burn pallets. The leftover nails are a tetanus hazard for people and maybe pets. We cleaned up 5 lbs. of nails in one hour. MTU ROTC is always looking for community service opportunities. Contact them for recreation projects, cleanup, and painting.

One reason for [our] not using the amenities isn't directly tied to Stanton Township oversight, though it is certainly a factor. If the Township facilities and properties are enhanced, it can be assumed there will be an influx of motor vehicle travel to/from those locations, especially with the new campground/rentals along Canal Road. The lack of safe pedestrian/biking space due to speeding and unsafe driving habits by vehicle operators on Canal Road is a major concern. This is especially concerning once pedestrians/bikers are approximately .8 miles south of the Liminga/Canal Rd intersection, and then the distance to the NCP. While there is a small shoulder on Liminga Road, Michigan law states that motor vehicles are required to allow a 3-foot buffer when passing pedestrians, which is rarely followed. If the Stanton Township amenities are to be enhanced, Liminga Road and Canal Road (south .8 miles of the Stanton Township Hall) need a shoulder like the southern part of Canal Road. We are predominantly commuter bikers to Houghton on Liminga Road and Canal Road. If there were more pedestrian/biking safe space (shoulders) alongside the primary routes to Stanton amenities, we would be more apt to use them. Thank you!

BONFIRES: This park [North Canal Park] has problems with evening bonfires. I am not against visitors enjoying a bonfire on the beach, but I am very concerned about the items that are being burned. Pallets are routinely burned on the beach, and this leaves piles of nails and other metal. During the course of a summer, there are many areas of nails on the beach. Also, I have seen places on the beach where furniture, tires, and mattresses were burned. Bottles and aluminum cans are often thrown into the bonfires, and this leaves broken glass and scorched cans. MICHIGAN DOG LEASH LAW: I have had barking dogs run towards me on my morning walks on the [NCP] and Stanton Township Beach. This is scary. CANAL SIDE: Please keep the chain link gate that was closed and locked last summer, *locked*. I am hoping this will help curtail the burning of illegal items on, at least, that side of the NCP. NATURE CONSERVANCY LAND: Last summer, there was vandalism on the adjoining Nature Conservancy property. Trees were cut and signs were burned. CAMPGROUND: I am against a campground (with hookups or primitive) at this park [NCP]. I am concerned that if camping is encouraged, there will be more overnight destruction at this park and on the beach. SUGGESTIONS: (1) In the parking areas, place receptacles for 10-cent deposit cans and bottles collection. A special container with a sign

might be needed, because from my observations people routinely mix garbage in with recycling. It could be a chicken wire box with a sign that explains that the money collected from the deposits will help out the park or go to another charity. This might discourage the burning of cans and bottles. (2) Hire a nighttime caretaker to keep an eye on the park and report illegal activities. They could help curtail the burning of pallets and other illegal items. And also, monitor any other destructive behaviors in the park. (3) Contact the MDNR. Maybe they would help to put up signs to educate the public about the importance of keeping Lake Superior clean. The signs could also inform visitors that it is against the law to burn items like pallets, mattresses, furniture and tires on the beach. I had contacted the MDNR about the routine burning of pallets and they said to call them when it is in progress (1-800-292-7800). A nighttime caretaker could contact the MDNR when there are problems on the beach. (4) Contact Michigan Tech and the high schools and inform them about the problems at the beach and ask them to educate the students.

**Assembled and prepared by:**

Ken Vrana  
Community Survey Coordinator

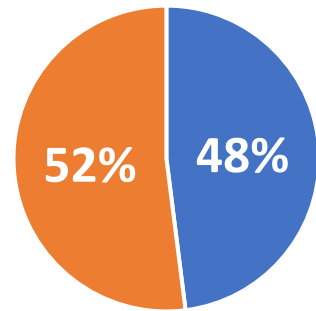
**Final Document**  
**May 16, 2023**

# Stanton Resident Recreation Survey Results Broken Down by Zip Code

## Atlantic Mine Zip Code Responses

### General Information

<b>Total Number of Respondents:</b>	239
<b>Average Age of Respondent:</b>	55.6 years old
<b>Married:</b>	81%
<b>Single:</b>	19%
<b>Head of Household:</b>	31%
<b>Average Size of Household:</b>	3.4 persons

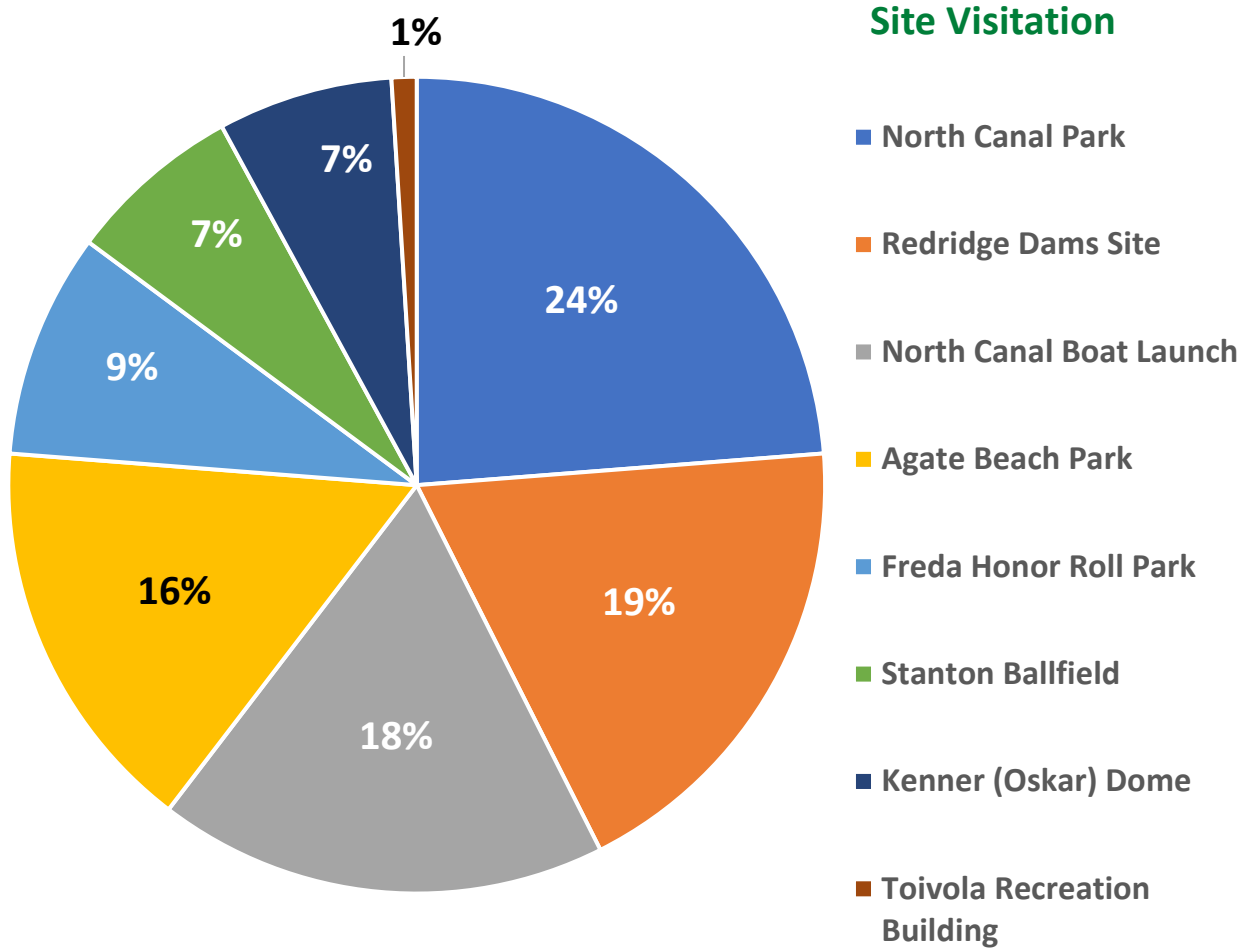


■ Female ■ Male

### Primary Residence:

Larson/Obenhoff/Harma Rds.	23%	Gagnon Road	1%
Liminga Road	17%	Covered Drive	1%
Redridge/Beacon Hill/Freda	14%	Other	2%
Coles Creek Road	11%		
Rauhala/Niemi Roads	11%		
South Superior Road	6%		
Sunset Place	3%		
Wall Street	2%		
Superior Shores Road	2%		
Rova Road	2%		
North Superior Road	2%		
Puuri Road	1%		

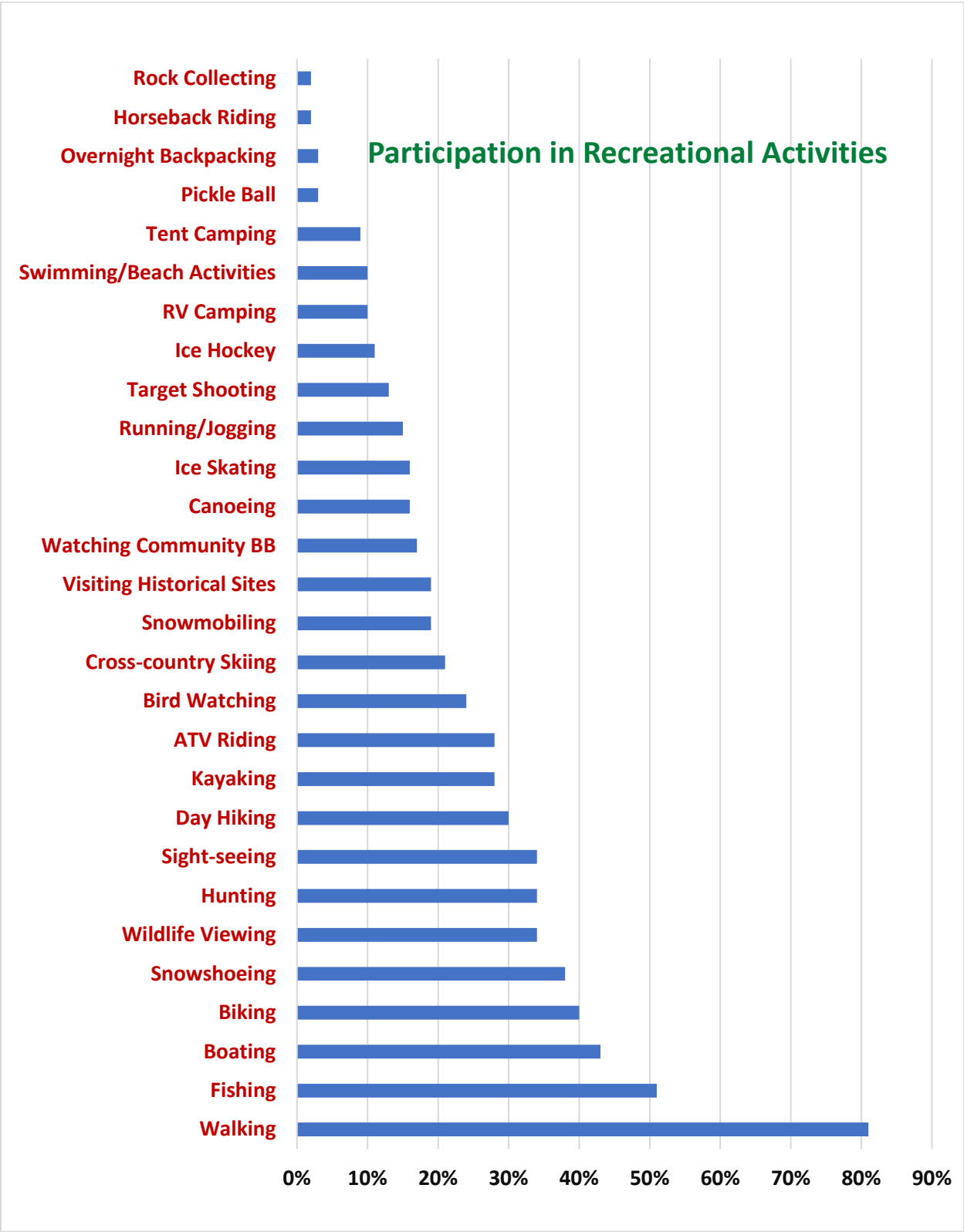
## Park and Recreation Questions



**Percentage of respondents who visited certain Stanton Township park and recreation sites in 2022**

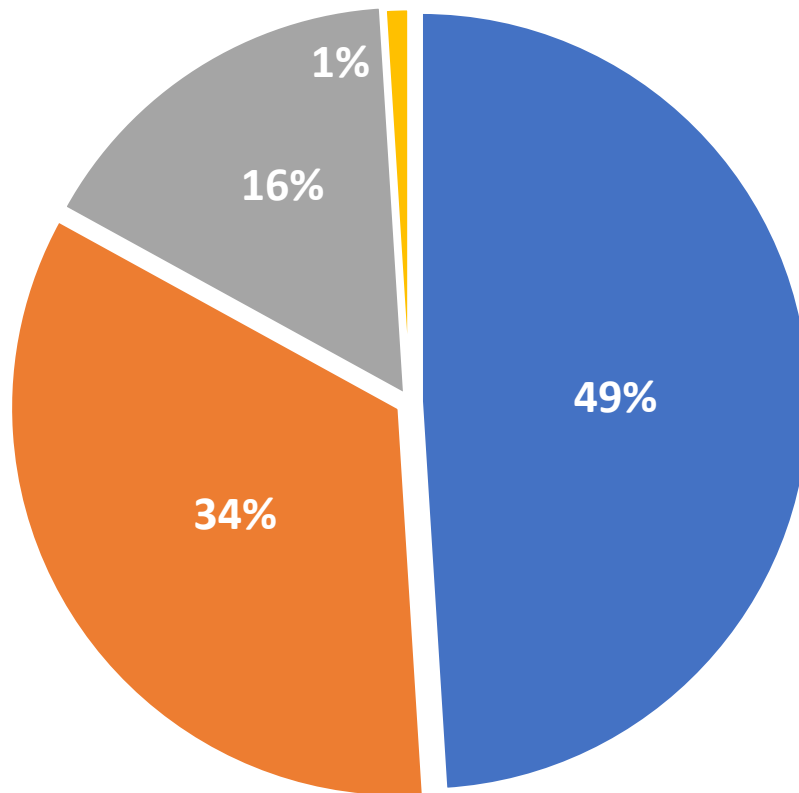
### Average Annual Visits in 2022

North Canal Park	10.0	Freda Honor Roll Park	10.2
Redridge Dams Site	7.1	Stanton Ballfield	6.3
N. Canal Boat Launch	7.5	Kenner (Oskar) Dome	9.2
Agate Beach Park	4.2	Toivola Rec. Building	1.8



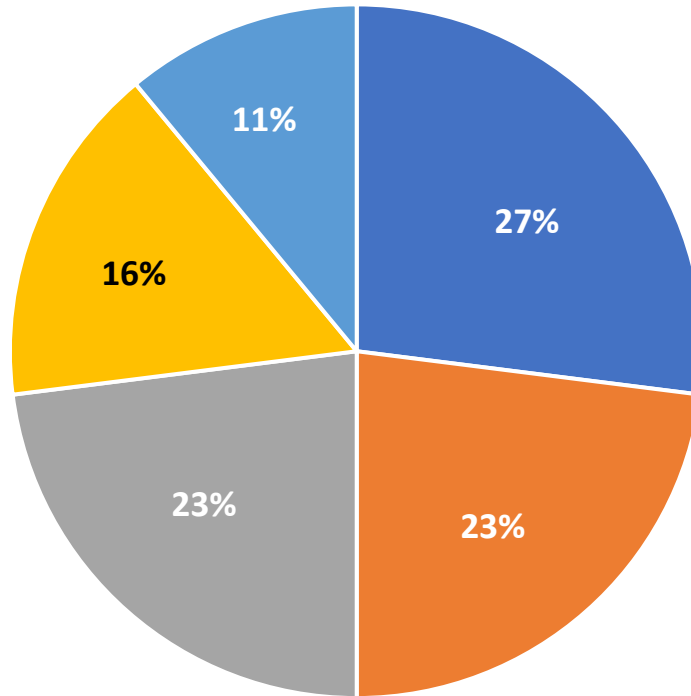
**Percentage of respondents selecting recreational activities in which they participate frequently in Stanton Township.**

## Focus of Future Park And Recreation Development



- The needs of residents and property owners
- Finding a balance between tourism opportunities and development based on community needs
- Leave things like they are - I don't favor additional development
- Attracting tourists to increase economic impact in the region

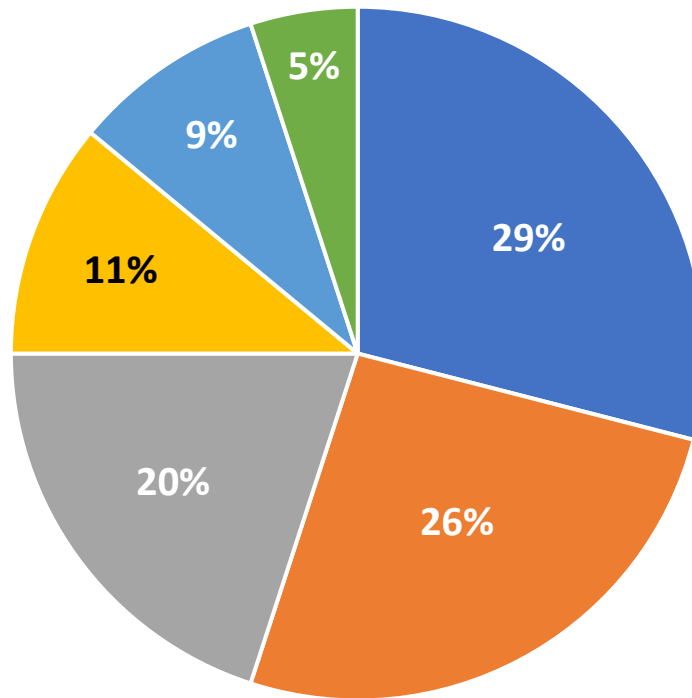
## Most Important Needs for North Canal Park



- Prepare a Master Plan for the North Canal property
- Re-open the North Canal Park campground
- Protection of the beach and shorelands
- Create a walking trail from NC boat launch to NC Park
- Pave the entry road to North Canal Park

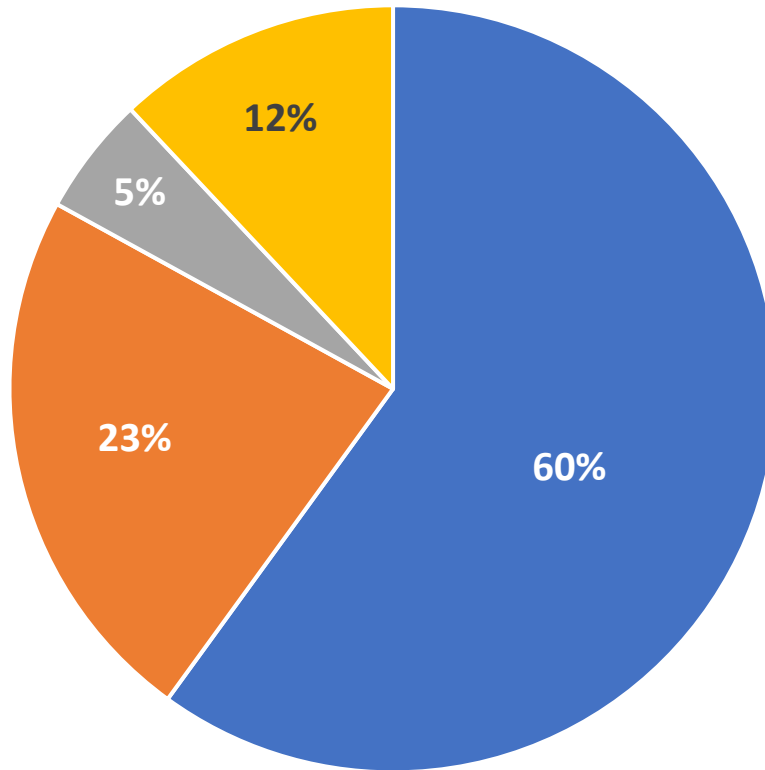


## Most Important Needs for Agate Beach Park



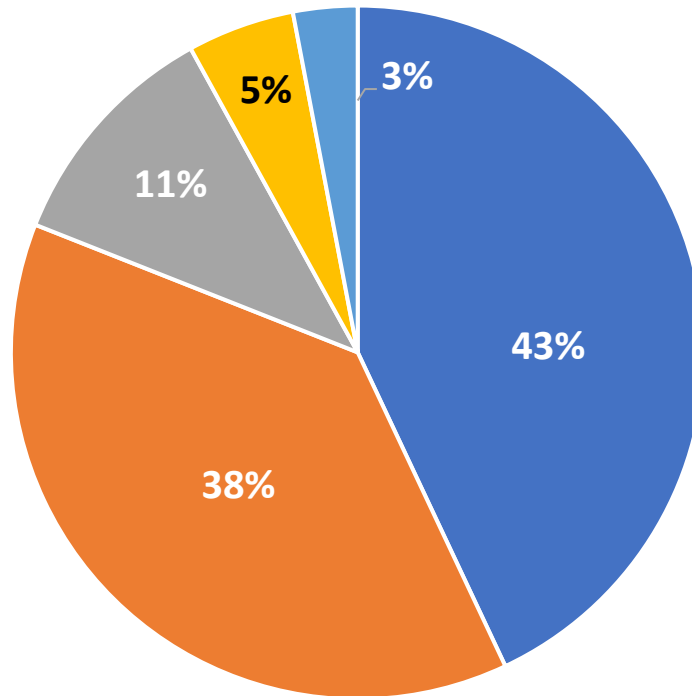
- Protection of the beach and shorelands
- Prepare a New Master Plan for the Agate Beach property
- Improve the current primitive camping sites
- Renovate the boat launch
- Pave the entry road to Agate Beach Park
- Renovate the kitchen, dining, and meeting buildings

## Most Important Need for the Redridge Dams Site



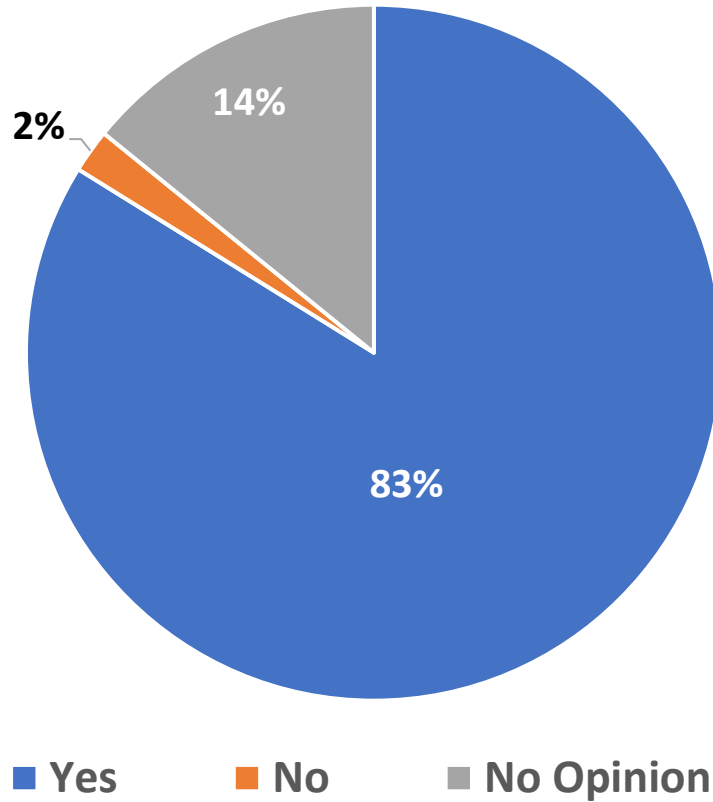
- Retain the property, resolve current dam safety issues, and prepare a Master Plan
- Transfer the Site to another governmental agency or nonprofit organization willing to assume current dam liabilities
- Sell the property to a private entity willing to assume current dam liabilities
- No response

## Other Important Needs for Township Properties and Facilities

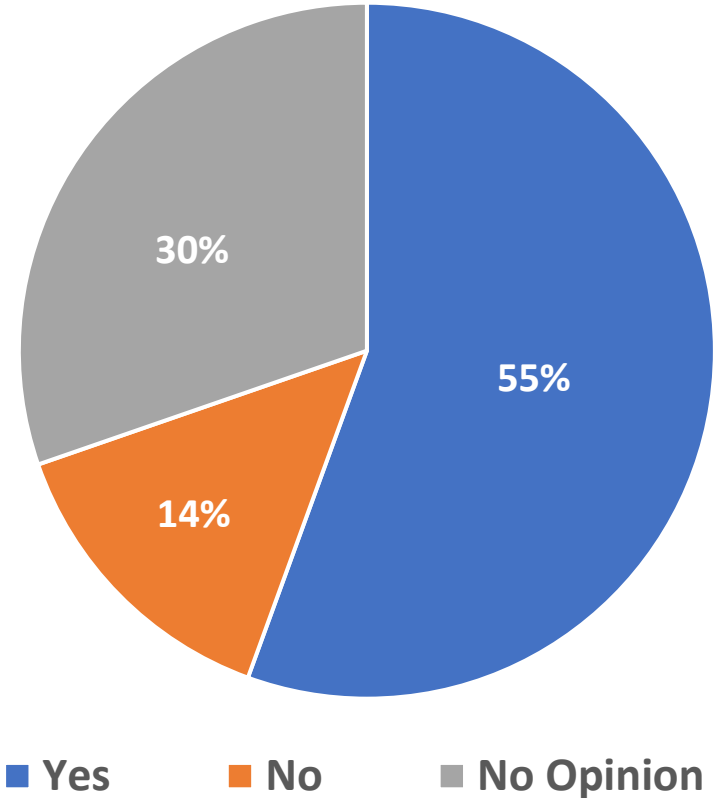


- Create a safe, public access to the Township's shorelands in Freda
- Purchase a public easement or lands for access to the mouth of the Salmon-Trout River
- Pave the road to North Canal Boat Launch
- Pave the Kenner (Oskar) Dome parking lot and entry road
- Replace the asphalt floor with concrete in the Toivola Recreation Building

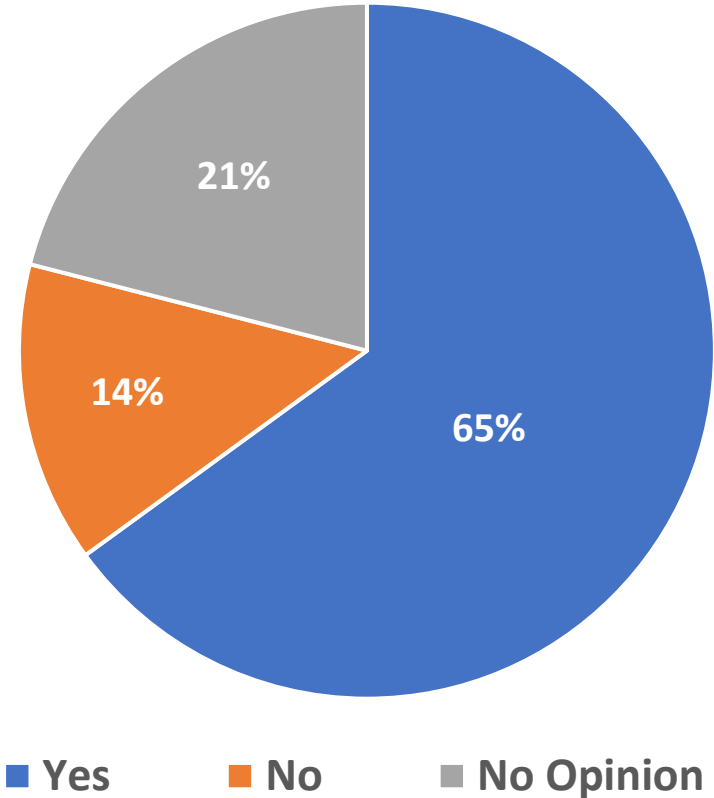
**In general, do you support more attention to the maintenance and repair of Township properties and facilities?**



**Do you support the hiring of additional staff for management of Township properties and facilities?**



**Do you support the creation of a Township *Park and Recreation Committee* to guide future operations and development at Township properties and facilities?**



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**Administered March – April 2023**

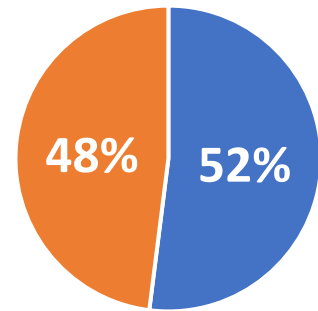
Compiled by:  
Ken Vrana  
May 11, 2023

# Stanton Resident Recreation Survey Results Broken Down by Zip Code

## Houghton Zip Code Responses

### General Information

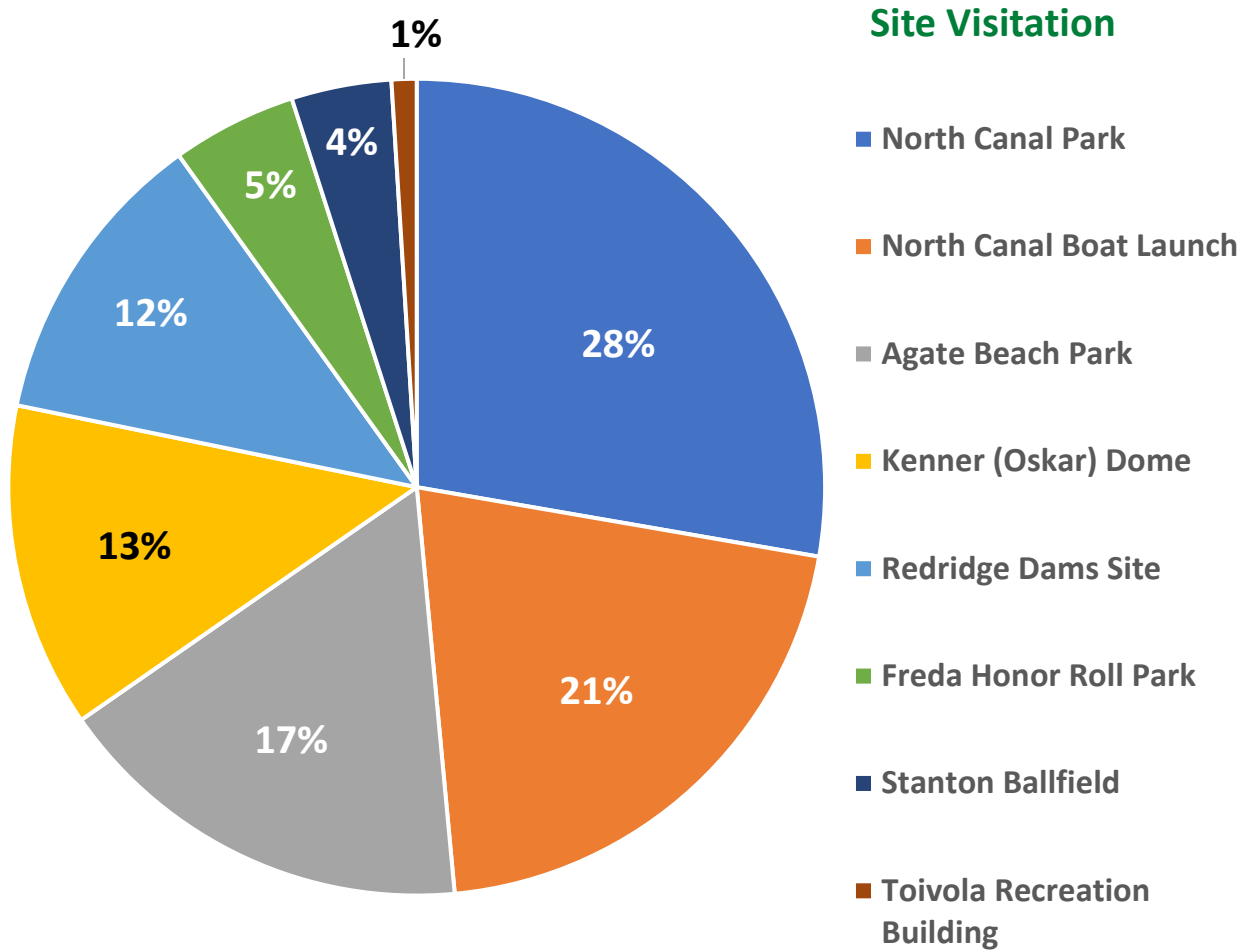
<b>Total Number of Respondents:</b>	173
<b>Average Age of Respondent:</b>	59.8 years old
<b>Married:</b>	92%
<b>Single:</b>	8%
<b>Head of Household:</b>	31%
<b>Average Size of Household:</b>	2.9 persons



■ Female ■ Male

<b>Primary Residence:</b>	
Canal Road	51%
North Superior Road	24%
Liminga Road	6%
Coles Creek Road	4%
Blue Top Cabin Road	2%
Osma Plat Road	1%
Rocky Shores Rd.	1%
Red Brick Road	1%
Bayshore Road	1%
Bayshore Farm Rd.	1%
Ruohonen Road	1%
Firehall Road	1%
Other	5%

## Park and Recreation Questions

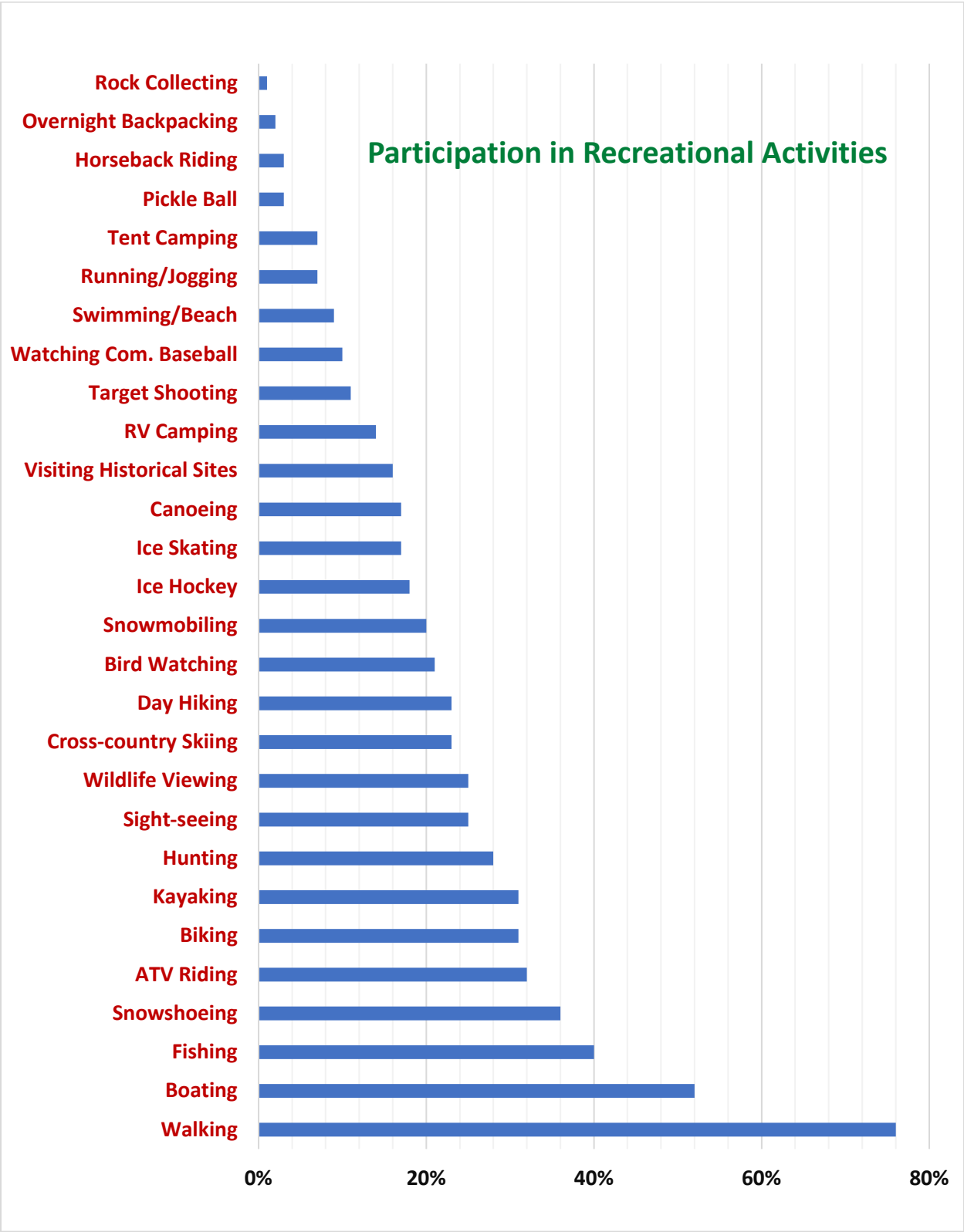


**Percentage of respondents who visited certain Stanton Township park and recreation sites in 2022**

### Average Annual Visits in 2022

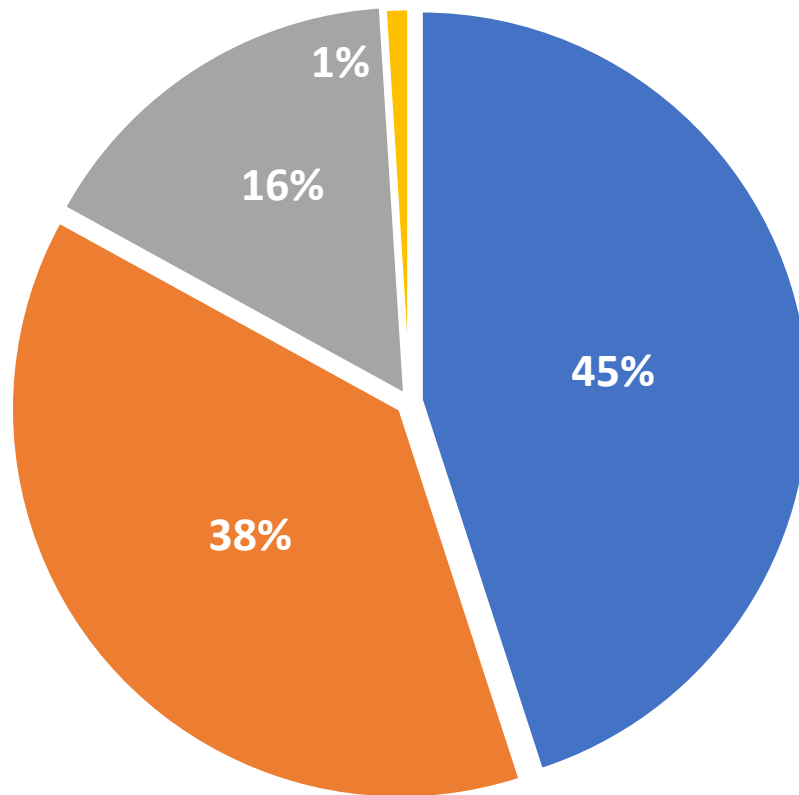
North Canal Park	17.6	Redridge Dams Site	3.8
N. Canal Boat Launch	11.3	Freda Honor Roll Park	3.6
Agate Beach Park	5.9	Stanton Ballfield	6.5
Kenner (Oskar) Dome	7.9	Toivola Rec. Building	1.0





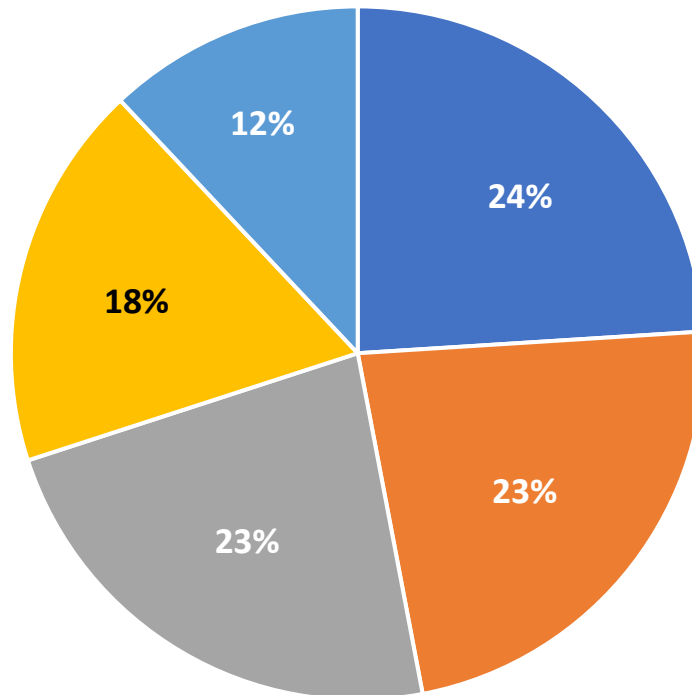
Percentage of respondents selecting recreational activities in which they participate frequently in Stanton Township.

## Focus of Future Park And Recreation Development



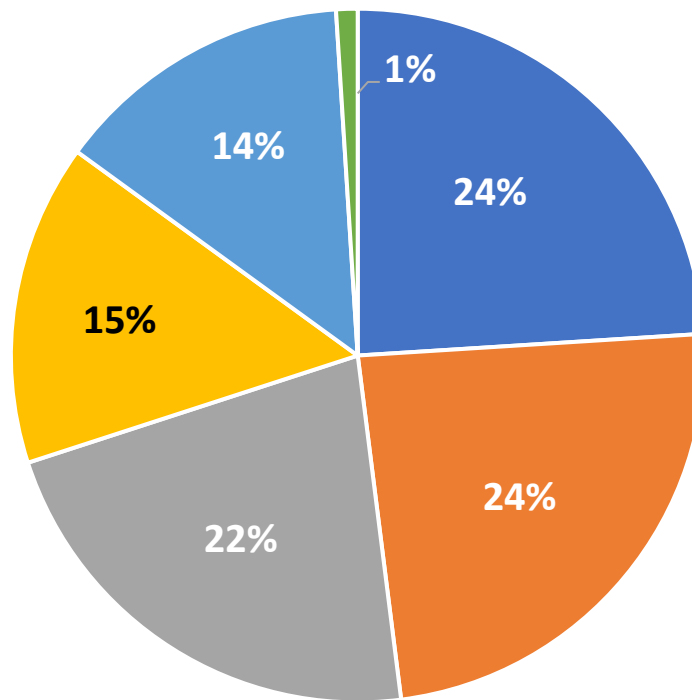
- The needs of residents and property owners
- Finding a balance between tourism opportunities and development based on community needs
- Leave things like they are - I don't favor additional development
- Attracting tourists to increase economic impact in the region

## Most Important Needs for North Canal Park



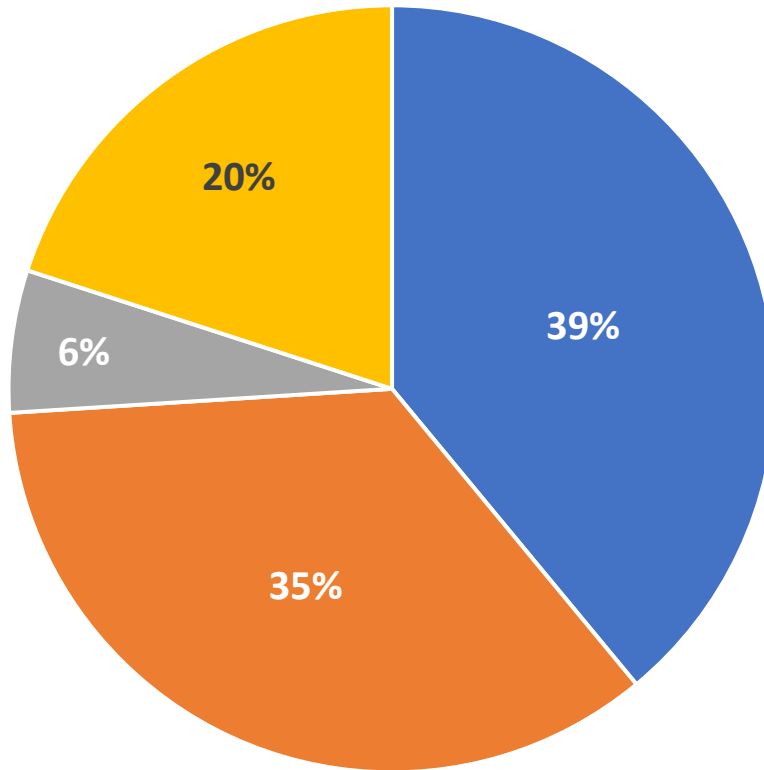
- Re-open the North Canal Park campground
- Prepare a Master Plan for the North Canal property
- Protection of the beach and shorelands
- Create a walking trail from NC boat launch to NC Park
- Pave the entry road to North Canal Park

## Most Important Needs for Agate Beach Park



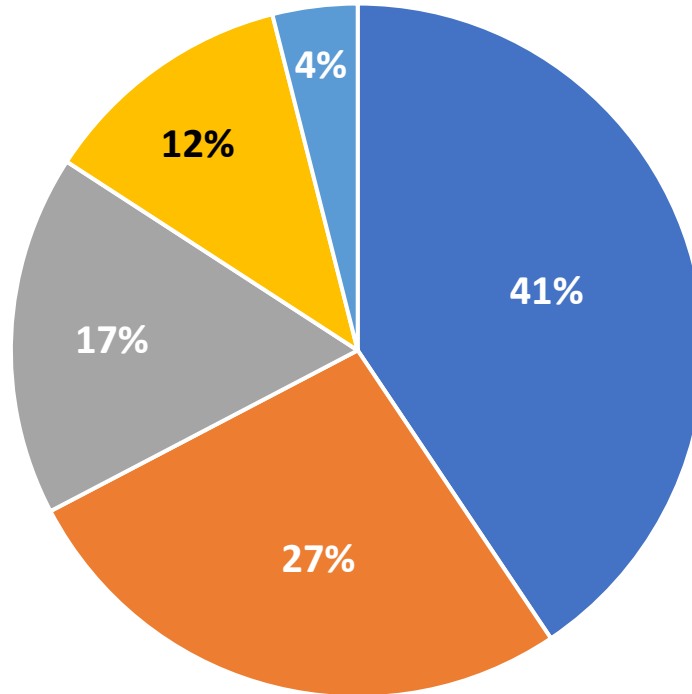
- Protection of the beach and shorelands
- Improve the current primitive camping sites
- Prepare a New Master Plan for the Agate Beach Property
- Pave the entry road to Agate Beach Park
- Renovate the boat launch
- Renovate the kitchen, dining, and meeting buildings

## Most Important Need for the Redridge Dams Site



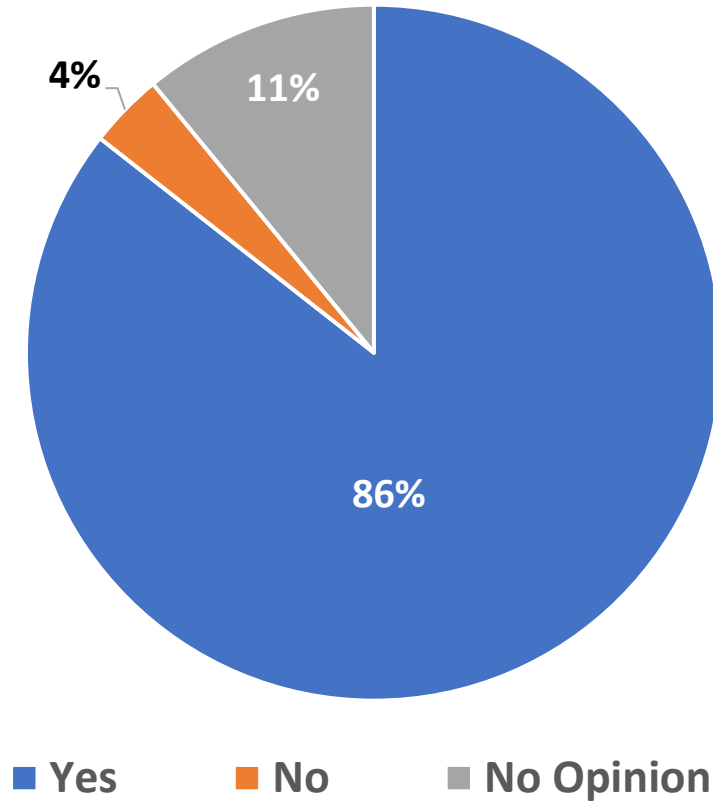
- Retain the property, resolve current dam safety issues, and prepare a Master Plan
- Transfer the Site to another governmental agency or nonprofit organization willing to assume current dam liabilities
- Sell the property to a private entity willing to assume current dam liabilities
- No response

## Other Important Needs for Township Properties and Facilities

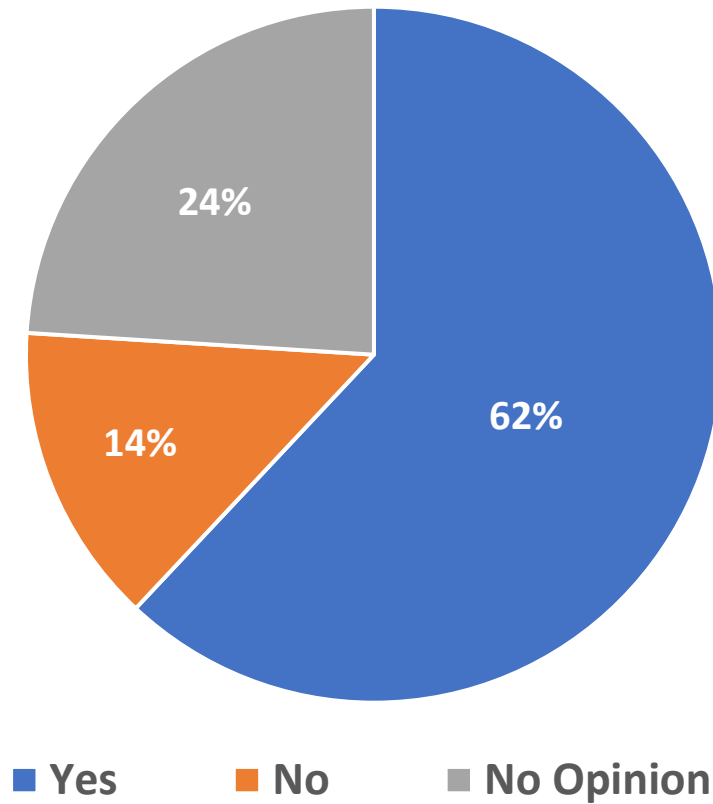


- Create a safe, public access to the Township's shorelands in Freda
- Purchase a public easement or lands for access to the mouth of the Salmon-Trout River
- Pave the road to North Canal Boat Launch
- Pave the Kenner (Oskar) Dome parking lot and entry road
- Replace the asphalt floor with concrete in the Toivola Recreation Building

**In general, do you support more attention to the maintenance and repair of Township properties and facilities?**

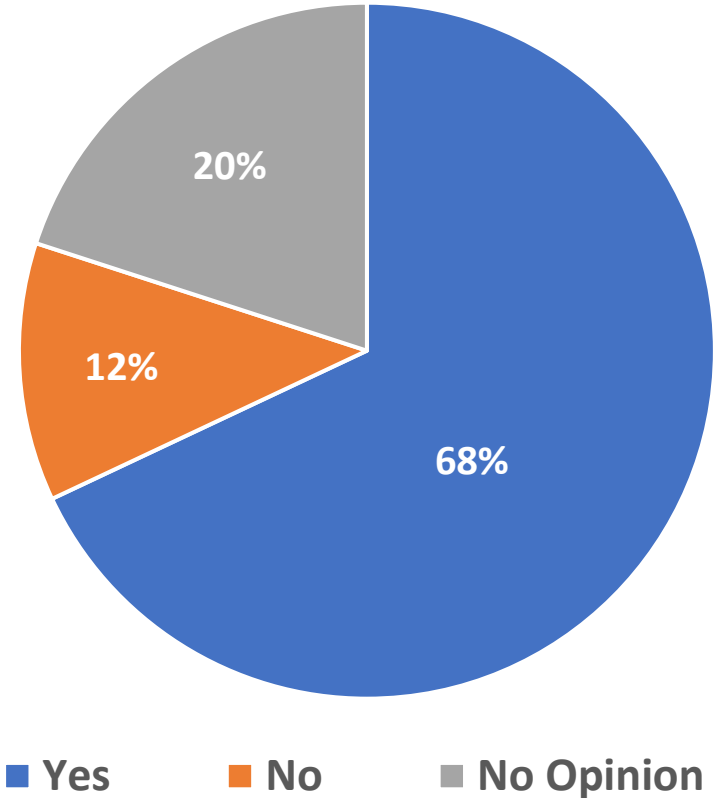


**Do you support the hiring of additional staff for management of Township properties and facilities?**





**Do you support the creation of a Township *Park and Recreation Committee* to guide future operations and development at Township properties and facilities?**



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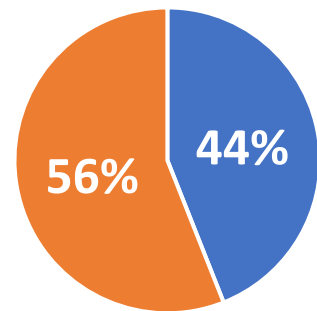
Compiled by:  
Ken Vrana  
May 11, 2023

# Stanton Resident Recreation Survey Results Broken Down by Zip Code

## Toivola Zip Code Responses

### General Information

<b>Total Number of Respondents:</b>	57
<b>Average Age of Respondent:</b>	61.4 years old
<b>Married:</b>	70%
<b>Single:</b>	30%
<b>Head of Household:</b>	30%
<b>Average Size of Household:</b>	2.3 persons



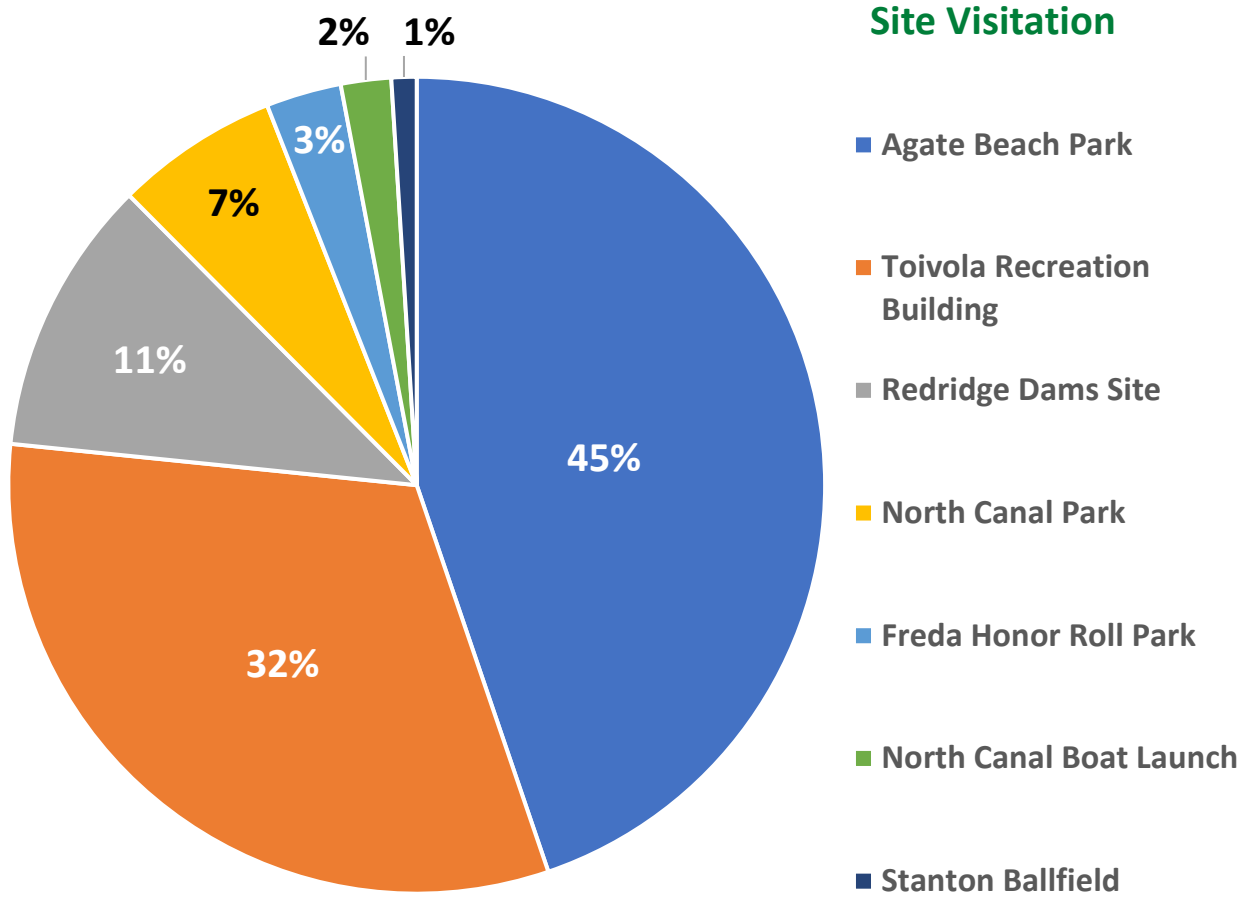
■ Female ■ Male

### Primary Residence:

Agate Beach – Misery Bay Area	89%
Heikkinen School Road	4%
Lakeview Road	4%
Toivola	4%

Other described locations were Old Rink Road, Church Road, North Road, South Stanton, Southeast Stanton, and Mikkola Road.

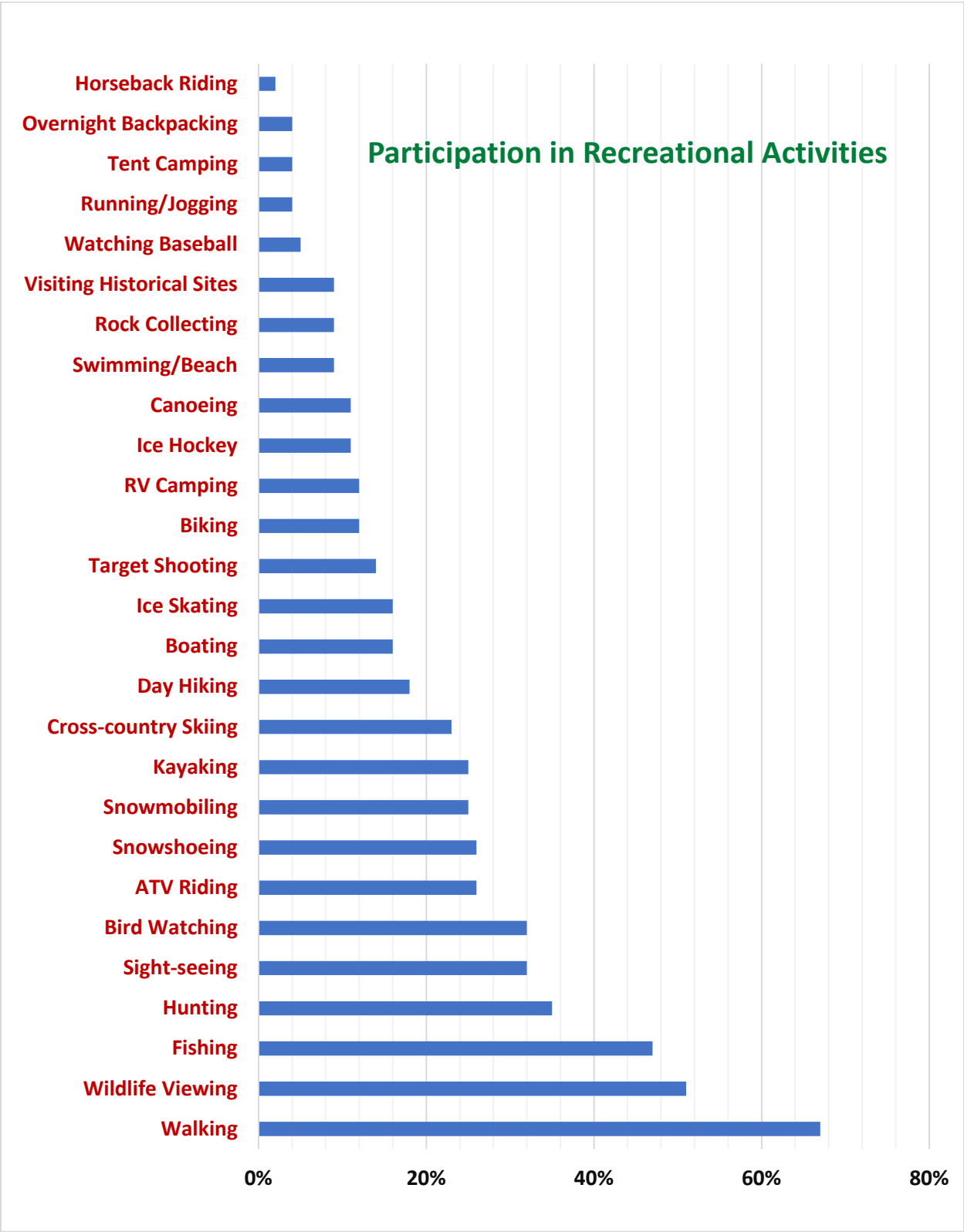
## Park and Recreation Questions



**Percentage of respondents who visited certain Stanton Township park and recreation sites in 2022**

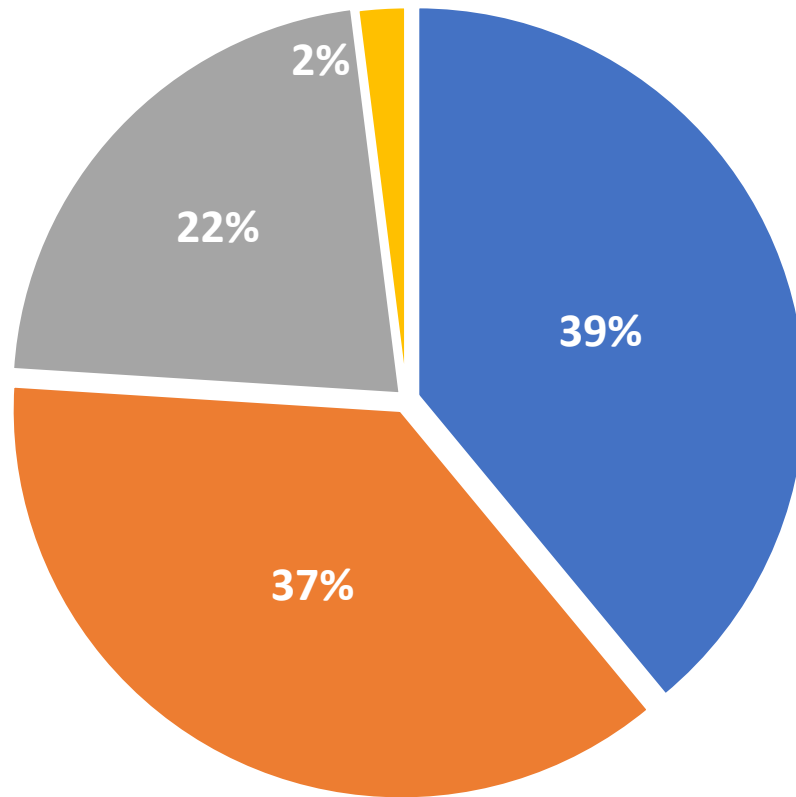
### Average Annual Visits in 2022

Agate Beach Park	31.3	Freda Honor Roll Park	4.3
Toivola Rec Building	7.8	N. Canal Boat Launch	7.0
Redridge Dams Site	4.2	Stanton Ballfield	5.0
North Canal Park	3.1		



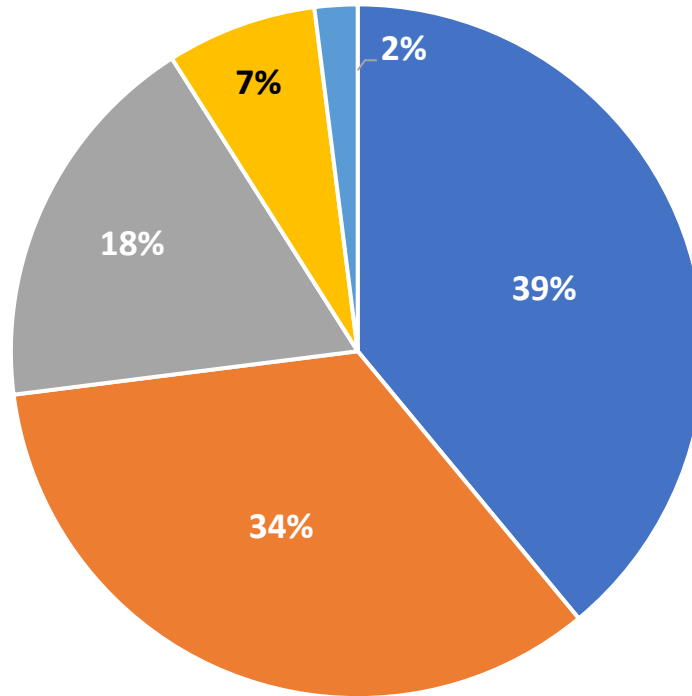
Percentage of respondents selecting recreational activities in which they participate frequently in Stanton Township.

## Focus of Future Park And Recreation Development



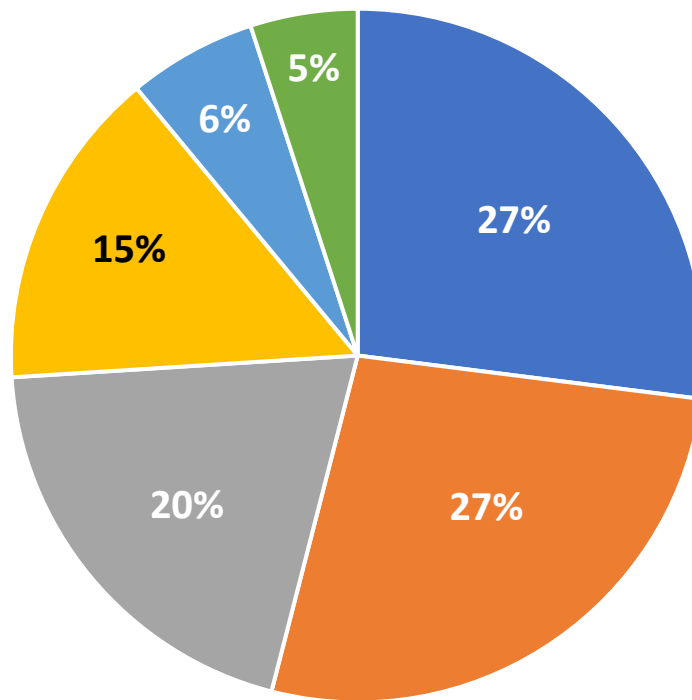
- Finding a balance between tourism opportunities and development based on community needs
- The needs of residents and property owners
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- Attracting tourists to increase economic impact in the region

## Most Important Needs for North Canal Park



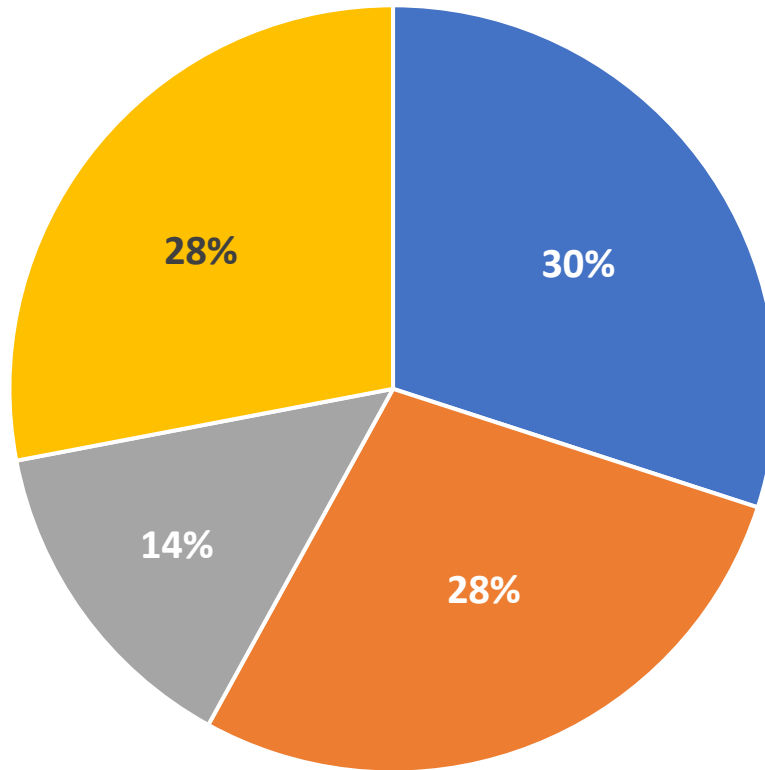
- Protection of the beach and shorelands
- Re-open the North Canal Park campground
- Prepare a Master Plan for the North Canal property
- Create a walking trail from NC boat launch to NC Park
- Pave the entry road to North Canal Park

## Most Important Needs for Agate Beach Park



- Renovate the boat launch
- Pave the entry road to Agate Beach Park
- Protection of the beach and shorelands
- Renovate the kitchen, dining, and meeting buildings
- Prepare a New Master Plan for the Agate Beach Property
- Improve the current primitive camping sites

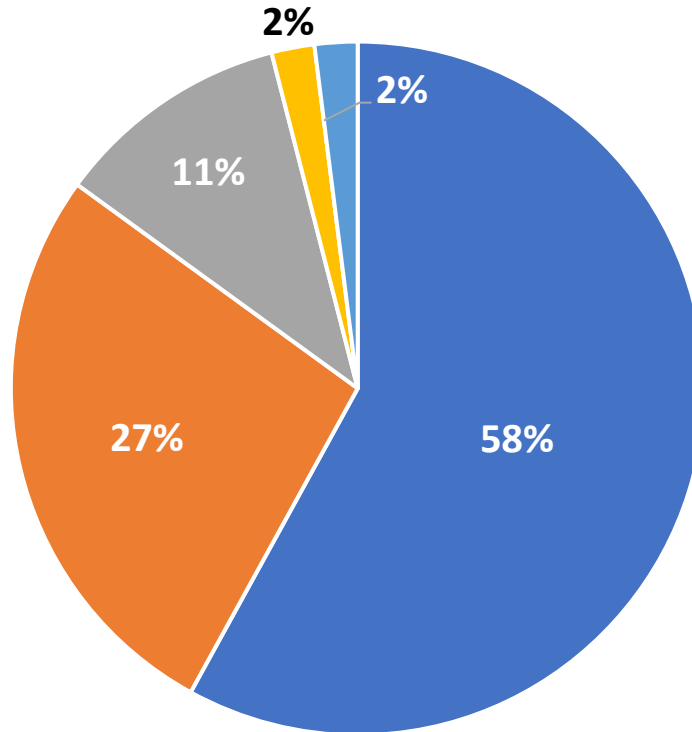
## Most Important Need for the Redridge Dams Site



- Transfer the Site to another governmental agency or nonprofit organization willing to assume current dam liabilities
- Retain the property, resolve current dam safety issues, and prepare a Master Plan
- Sell the property to a private entity willing to assume current dam liabilities
- No response

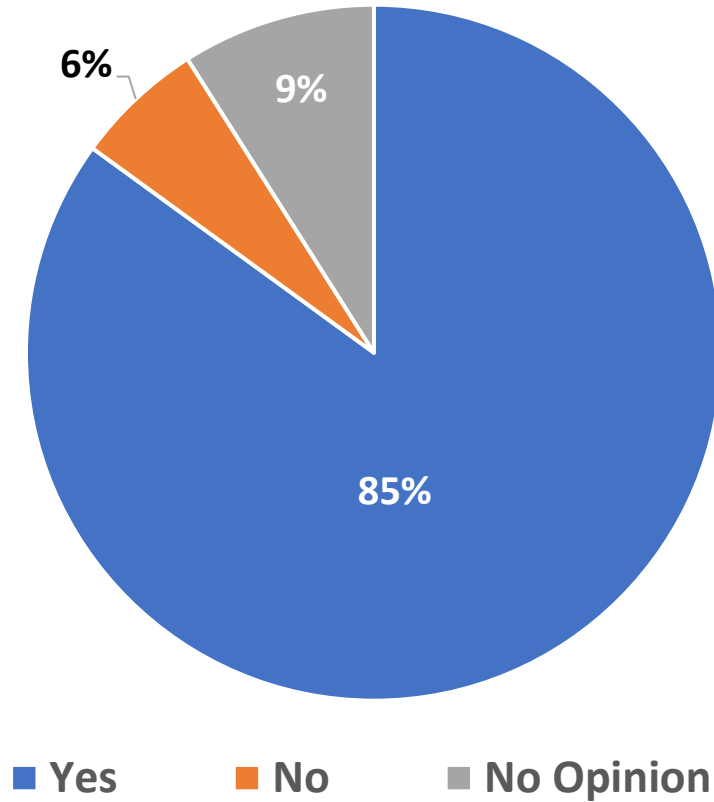


## Other Important Needs for Township Properties and Facilities

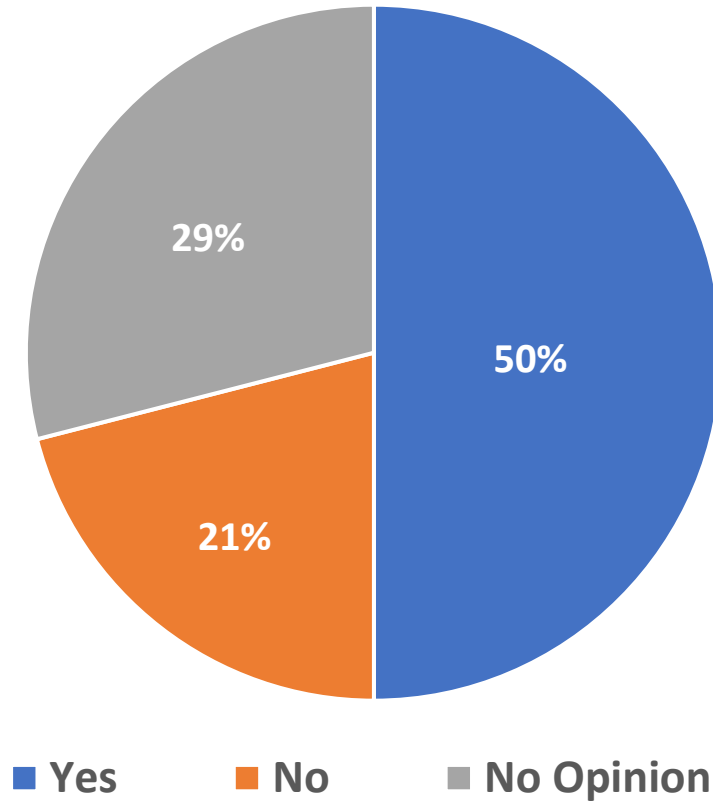


- Replace the asphalt floor with concrete in the Toivola Recreation Building
- Create a safe, public access to the Township's shorelands in Freda
- Purchase a public easement or lands for access to the mouth of the Salmon-Trout River
- Pave the road to North Canal Boat Launch
- Pave the Kenner (Oskar) Dome parking lot and entry road

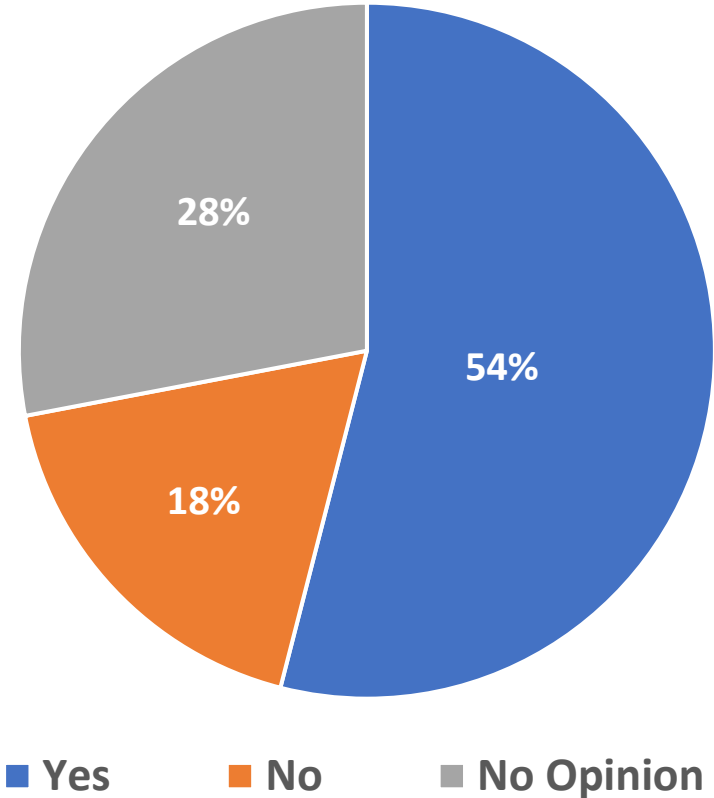
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