

Town of Prairie Lake Community Opinion Survey

The Town of Prairie Lake adopted a Comprehensive Plan on March 21, 2006. The Plan is due for updating and your input is being sought as part of that process.

Although we know that completing the survey will take some time, we would appreciate your response as it gives the Plan Commission the ability to incorporate your thoughts and ideas into creating the guidelines that will be used to govern the Town of Prairie Lake into the future.

Please return the survey by refolding the pages so that the Town of Prairie Lake address is evident, tape it closed and place a 1st class stamp on it before placing it in the mail before **8/31/2015**. Thank you for helping plan for our future.

General Information

1. What do you like about living in the Town of Prairie Lake?
Rural environment/small town atmosphere; Lakes; People; Central location
2. What don't you like about living in the Town of Prairie Lake?
Green lakes; taxes
3. What would you like to see change in the Town of Prairie Lake?
Clean the lake; Site for Brush; Lower taxes

Transportation

4. The condition and general maintenance of the Town road systems in the Town of Prairie Lake are satisfactory. *Check one.*
29 Strongly Agree **117** Agree 16 Not Sure 18 Disagree 6 Strongly Disagree
5. Winter snow removal and maintenance on Town roads is satisfactory. *Check one.*
49 Strongly Agree **93** Agree 24 Not Sure 11 Disagree 4 Strongly Disagree
6. If you think the conditions and maintenance of the road system is not satisfactory, what changes are needed?
Nothing in particular – several roads get one mention
7. Are there areas where the Town should consider additional signage or place speed limits? *Check one.*
41 Yes **117** No

If yes, where? Nothing in particular, several sites get one mention
8. What, if anything, should the Town do to accommodate or limit pedestrian, bicycle, or horse traffic?
Nothing; Add bike/pedestrian lanes
9. What, if anything, should the Town do to accommodate or limit the size and weight of large agricultural vehicles and implements?
Nothing; Follow state standards

10. What, if anything, should the Town do to accommodate or limit snowmobile or ATV/UTV use?
OK now; Allow more
11. There should be Town standards for advertising sign placement, size, and design. *Check one.*
43 Strongly Agree **65** Agree **45** Not Sure 8 Disagree 6 Strongly Disagree
12. What, if anything, should the Town do about roadside advertising that detracts from the scenic beauty of the Town?
OK now; Town should develop standards

Public Services

13. The police protection from the Barron County Sheriff's Department is adequate. *Check one.*
42 Strongly Agree **96** Agree 35 Not Sure 5 Disagree 3 Strongly Disagree
14. The Town's efforts in providing Recycling and Solid Waste management services are adequate. *Check one.*
23 Strongly Agree **77** Agree **46** Not Sure 21 Disagree 10 Strongly Disagree
15. The Town currently encourages recycling by placing a bin for glass, aluminum/tin/steel and plastic recyclables, as well as allowing a company that recycles appliances, many household items as well as most digital equipment to place a container on the grounds. Do you think that the Town should do more? If so, what do you suggest?
OK now; Have brush site; Advertise location of recycling site

Housing Development

16. The rate of new housing construction in the Town of Prairie Lake is: *Check one.*
15 Too Fast **138** About Right 15 Too Slow
17. The Town should plan for and manage the locations of new multi-family housing units or apartments in the Town of Prairie Lake. *Check one.*
54 Strongly Agree **70** Agree 32 Not Sure 12 Disagree 10 Strongly Disagree
18. The Town should plan for and manage the location and density of new single-family houses. *Check one.*
41 Strongly Agree **72** Agree 29 Not Sure 26 Disagree 14 Strongly Disagree
19. As the Town grows, new housing should be concentrated in subdivisions. (*A subdivision is a housing development of 5 or more lots that are all one and one-half acres or less in size.*) *Check one.*
22 Strongly Agree 35 Agree **51** Not Sure **48** Disagree **23** Strongly Disagree

20. The cost for new roads required by more concentrated development should be borne by the developers. *Check one.*

71 Strongly Agree **80** Agree 20 Not Sure 4 Disagree 4 Strongly Disagree

21. The town should encourage Barron County to promote and use the Wisconsin Fund in the town to help residents fix or replace failed septic systems. *Check one.*

64 Strongly Agree **64** Agree 34 Not Sure 8 Disagree 12 Strongly Disagree

22. The town should plan for and manage the location and density of mobile homes. *Check one.*

79 Strongly Agree **58** Agree 19 Not Sure 8 Disagree 6 Strongly Disagree

23. The town should plan for and manage the location and density of campgrounds. *Check one.*

77 Strongly Agree **68** Agree 20 Not Sure 9 Disagree 9 Strongly Disagree

Commercial and Industrial Development

24. The town should plan for and manage the future development of light industry and warehousing. (*Light industry is generally defined to be manufacturing that does not require high volumes of water, does not generate air or water pollutant discharges, and strictly controls hazardous substances. Examples of light industry include metal fabrication, plastics, lumber and woodwork processing, and manufacturing assembly.*) *Check one.*

56 Strongly Agree **88** Agree 20 Not Sure 11 Disagree 8 Strongly Disagree

25. If light industry is permitted in the Town of Prairie Lake, it should be limited to locations where it now exists or to areas designated by the Town for this purpose. *Check one.*

63 Strongly Agree **78** Agree 22 Not Sure 14 Disagree 3 Strongly Disagree

26. If industrial areas are planned, where should they be located?

Near City of Chetek; Away from residential areas; SS & D corridors

27. What kinds of industry should not be allowed in the Town?

Frac sand mining; Anything that pollutes

28. The Town should plan for and manage the future development of new commercial enterprises and new businesses. *Check one.*

40 Strongly Agree **867** Agree 24 Not Sure 14 Disagree 7 Strongly Disagree

29. If new commercial development is planned, what type of businesses or commercial services would you like to see in the Town? *Check all that apply.*

- 70 Highway commercial services and retail to meet the needs of the traveling public along major roads.
- 100 Neighborhood retail and services to meet the needs and convenience of local residents.
- 71 Recreational businesses such as resorts, retreats, camps, and campgrounds.
- 112 Home occupations (Small-scale, low-volume commercial activity provided from a permanent residence that will not adversely impact neighboring properties; i.e. home office, insurance, beautician, real estate, craft assembly).

9 Other:

- 30. The Town should maintain its policy of prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages within the town. *Check one.*

35 Strongly Agree 30 Agree **40** Not Sure **49** Disagree **25** Strongly Disagree

- 31. A commercial landfill should not be allowed to be located in the Town. *Check one.*

94 Strongly Agree **43** Agree 23 Not Sure 14 Disagree 8 Strongly Disagree

- 32. Metallic mining should not be allowed to be located in the Town. *Check one.*

87 Strongly Agree **37** Agree 34 Not Sure 16 Disagree 6 Strongly Disagree

- 33. Non-metallic mining should not be allowed to be located in the Town. *Check one.*

85 Strongly Agree **35** Agree 36 Not Sure 18 Disagree 6 Strongly Disagree

- 34. Town standards should be developed and rules should be applied to regulate the number, location and appearance of wind and solar farms. *Check one.*

37 Strongly Agree **77** Agree 30 Not Sure 19 Disagree 16 Strongly Disagree

Agricultural Use and Farmland Protection

- 35. It is important to maintain open space in order to retain the rural character of the Town. *Check one.*

82 Strongly Agree **69** Agree 15 Not Sure 12 Disagree 3 Strongly Disagree

- 36. Productive agricultural areas should be protected by limiting the location and density of non-farm residential development. *Check one.*

60 Strongly Agree **64** Agree 30 Not Sure 16 Disagree 10 Strongly Disagree

- 37. Measures should be taken to limit potential conflicts between existing livestock operations and non-farm residential development. *Check one.*

47 Strongly Agree **79** Agree 25 Not Sure 18 Disagree 9 Strongly Disagree

- 38. Current regulatory efforts to control runoff from existing livestock facilities and farm fields are adequate. *Check one.*

10 Strongly Agree 26 Agree **53** Not Sure **38** Disagree **54** Strongly Disagree

39. Proposed rules for controlling storm water run-off and pollution discharge from livestock facilities:

a. Should be limited to new facilities, or to circumstances where an existing livestock operation chooses to expand. *Check one.*

21 Strongly Agree **48** Agree 19 Not Sure **31** Disagree **38** Strongly Disagree

b. Should affect all farms, including existing operations. *Check one.*

71 Strongly Agree **72** Agree 18 Not Sure 12 Disagree 6 Strongly Disagree

Environmental Quality

40. To protect lakes, rivers and streams, runoff from development should be managed on site so that there is no more runoff leaving the site after development than was leaving before the development of the site. *Check one.*

100 Strongly Agree **60** Agree 5 Not Sure 3 Disagree 3 Strongly Disagree

41. With regard to water resources, a higher level of protection should be encouraged for lakes and rivers which have not yet been developed and those that may be more sensitive to development. *Check one.*

92 Strongly Agree **59** Agree 23 Not Sure 7 Disagree 4 Strongly Disagree

Land Use Issues

42. The Town should require that developers of subdivisions set aside land or funds for Town parks. *Check one.*

46 Strongly Agree **64** Agree **44** Not Sure 20 Disagree 4 Strongly Disagree

43. The Town should explore land use management tools that provide for, both the protection of agricultural and environmentally sensitive lands, and compensation to landowners to mitigate or lessen the effects of such regulation. *Check one.*

32 Strongly Agree **76** Agree **42** Not Sure 14 Disagree 7 Strongly Disagree

44. *What do you see as the major land use issues facing the Town of Prairie Lake in the next five years?*

Fracking; Cleaning up lakes; Protecting water quality; Irrigation; Development pressure

45. How should the Town of Prairie Lake address these issues?

Protect environment by regulation & enforcement

Survey Participant Information

Please complete the following questions so we may better compile the results.

46. How long have you lived in the Town of Prairie Lake? *Check one.*

25 One to five years 37 Eleven to twenty years 38 Own property but don't
29 Six to ten years 62 Over twenty years live in Prairie Lake

47. Where do you work? *Check one.*

24 Chetek 2 Bloomer
18 Rice Lake 4 Cameron
9 Barron 12 In Prairie Lake
48 Elsewhere 87 Not employed/Retired

48. Which of the following best describes where you live? *Check one.*

24 Farm 94 Shore land or near lake/river 23 Don't live in Prairie Lake
30 Rural non-farm 13 Rural subdivision

49. Which of the following best describes your situation? *Check all that apply.*

121 Live in your own home 112 Full-time resident of Prairie Lake 119 PLake landowner
2 Rent your dwelling 36 Part-time resident of Prairie Lake 9 Don't live in Prairie Lake

50. How many people in each age group live in your household? *Write in the number.*

(18 or under) 43 (19 – 24) 12 (25 – 44) 42 (45 – 64) 124 (65 & over) 147

We would appreciate any additional comments or ideas that you would like to provide:

Thanks for asking; Need to clean up lakes