

MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Total number of surveys distributed: 624. Total number of surveys returned: 231. Return rate: 37%

1. How important to you are each of the following?

	very important		important		somewhat important		not important		# of responses
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
A. Quality of schools	108	47.6	75	33.0	25	11.0	19	8.4	227
B. Place to raise children	107	45.0	75	31.5	33	13.9	23	9.7	238
C. Job opportunities	93	41.2	80	35.4	31	13.7	22	9.7	226
D. Scenic beauty	133	58.3	72	31.6	21	9.2	2	0.9	228
E. Environmental quality	174	76.0	49	21.4	6	2.6	0	0.0	229
F. Natural areas	129	56.3	73	31.9	23	10.0	4	1.7	229
G. Social activities	22	9.6	86	37.6	83	36.2	38	16.6	229
H. Recreational activities	33	14.4	93	40.6	69	30.1	34	14.8	229
I. Cultural activities	20	8.9	67	29.6	95	42.0	44	19.5	226
J. Places to shop	36	15.8	78	34.2	76	33.3	38	16.7	228
K. Rural character	96	42.5	94	41.6	31	13.7	5	2.2	226
L. Overall quality of life	153	67.1	69	30.3	4	1.8	2	0.9	228
M. Cost of living	170	74.6	49	21.5	7	3.1	2	0.9	228

Number marked as most important.

	#	%
A. Quality of schools	56	10.0
B. Place to raise children	48	8.5
C. Job opportunities	43	7.7
D. Scenic beauty	46	8.2
E. Environmental quality	100	17.8
F. Natural areas	40	7.1
G. Social activities	3	0.5
H. Recreational activities	3	0.5
I. Cultural activities	1	0.2
J. Places to shop	17	3.0

K. Rural character	45	8.0
L. Overall quality of life	60	10.7
M. Cost of living	100	17.8
Total	562	100.0

2. Which BEST describes how the township has changed since you have lived here?

more desirable		less desirable		not changed much		not lived here long enough		# of responses
#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
25	11.1	51	22.7	136	60.4	13	5.8	225

3. Which BEST describes how you think the township will change in the next five to ten years?

more desirable		less desirable		stay same		# of responses
#	%	#	%	#	%	
60	27.4	64	29.2	95	43.4	219

4. Why do you choose to live in the township?

	#		#
Born or raised	75	Low crime rate	70
Close to work	30	Affordable housing costs	48
Close to friends or relatives	75	Low taxes	72
Rural lifestyle	157	Environmental quality	88
Quality of schools	31	Other (see below)	19

	# resp		# resp
family house is here	1	outdoor activities by the river	1
friendly people, peace & quiet	1	own property	1
good place to raise children	1	peaceful & restful	1
hunting, fishing, the river	1	quiet, low key, ideal for retirement	1
keep horses on own prop	1	river	1
marriage-husband lives here	5	scenic beauty	2
opportunity to buy a farm	1	too poor to move	1
		total	19

5. Please rate our area in terms of:

	excellent		good		fair		poor		# of responses
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
A. Quality of schools	43	20.8	125	60.4	29	14.0	10	4.8	207
B. Place to raise children	48	51.6	14	15.1	24	25.8	7	7.5	93
C. Job opportunities	2	0.9	29	13.5	111	51.6	73	34.0	215
D. Scenic beauty	120	53.6	92	41.1	10	4.5	2	0.9	224
E. Environmental quality	91	40.4	120	53.3	13	5.8	1	0.4	225
F. Natural areas	87	38.8	116	51.8	19	8.5	2	0.9	224
G. Social activities	6	2.7	58	25.7	118	52.2	44	19.5	226
H. Recreational opportunities	15	6.7	90	40.4	88	39.5	30	13.5	223
I. Places to shop	6	2.7	59	26.3	92	41.1	67	29.9	224
J. Rural character	69	37.5	110	59.8	4	2.2	1	0.5	184
K. Overall quality of life	38	16.5	158	68.4	31	13.4	4	1.7	231
L. Cost of living	19	8.4	82	36.1	103	45.4	23	10.1	227

6. Agricultural land, forest land, and other open land are critical to Manchester Township’s rural character and working landscape and quality of life.

strongly agree		agree		disagree		strongly disagree		# of responses
#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
132	58.9	84	37.5	7	3.1	1	0.4	224

7. Local government can encourage the preservation of rural character and the working landscape by enacting rules and regulations to preserve agricultural land, forest, and other open land.

	#	%
should take steps	181	80.1
should not take steps	45	19.9
TOTAL	226	100

8. The Upper Delaware Council is an organization of local townships that works in partnership with the National Park Service to manage the Upper Delaware National Scenic and Recreation River corridor. Should Manchester Township join the UDC.

	#	%
should join UDC	101	45.1
should not join UDC	84	37.5
not familiar with UDC	39	17.4
TOTAL	224	100

9. How compatible do you feel the following types of NEW residential development or commercial activity would be for the township?

	Compatible everywhere		Compatible some places		Not compatible anywhere		# of responses
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Single-family homes on large lots	97	43.7	113	50.9	12	5.4	222
Single-family second homes	50	22.7	137	62.3	33	15.0	220
Mobile home parks	6	2.7	72	32.6	143	64.7	221
Townhouses and apartments	4	1.8	75	34.1	141	64.1	220
Conservation subdivisions	11	5.3	91	44.0	105	50.7	207
Small Stores, shops and office	26	11.7	166	74.8	30	13.5	222
Tourism, hotels and motels	9	4.1	109	49.8	101	46.1	219
Large scale commercial development	4	1.8	57	25.9	159	72.3	220
Light manufacturing	15	6.8	155	70.5	50	22.7	220
Electronic/high tech firms	6	2.7	115	52.5	98	44.7	219
Industry	7	3.2	111	51.2	99	45.6	217
Mining	15	6.9	159	72.9	44	20.2	218
Timbering	35	15.8	163	73.8	23	10.4	221
Sawmills	26	11.8	171	77.4	24	10.9	221
Intensive livestock/poultry operations	26	11.9	139	63.8	53	24.3	218

10. Effective land use regulation protects and limits property rights to manage the impacts of development. The balance point is different for every community. If you were to write land use regulations for our Township where would you put the greater emphasis?

	#	%
Protecting private property rights	107	51.2
Managing development impacts	102	48.8
TOTAL	209	100

11. Zoning can be used to manage growth and development. Is zoning a good idea for Manchester Township?

	#	%
Yes	104	45.6
No	34	14.9
Need more information	90	39.5
TOTAL	228	100

12. Families of all sizes and incomes reside in Manchester Township, and adequate and affordable housing is available to meet the current needs of these residents.

strongly agree		agree		disagree		strongly disagree		# of responses
#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
21	10.1	115	55.6	59	28.5	12	5.8	207

If you disagree, what types of housing are needed.

Type	# resp
One-family	38
Two-family	7
Elderly housing	46
Mobile homes	9
Cluster housing	4
Apartments	13
Condominiums	0
Low cost housing	28
Middle income housing	27
Other (see following table)	6

Other:	# resp
have you ever been here?	1
lower taxes	1
not another suburb	1
reasonably priced real estate	3
total	6

13. Township residents rely on wells and springs for drinking water. In anticipation of increased development, the Township should adopt rules and regulations aimed at preventing contamination of wells and springs, and should encourage water conservation.

strongly agree		agree		disagree		strongly disagree		# of responses
#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
113	49.8	93	41.0	17	7.5	4	1.8	227

14. If you have a well or spring, have you had any of the following problems?

	#
gone dry	11
contamination	11
TOTAL	22

Type of Contamination	#
bacteria	1
bacteria after flood	2
hard water	1
road run-off	1
rodent in spring tank	1
sulfur	2
sulfur, iron	1

15. How important to you are each of the following?

	very important		important		somewhat important		not important		# of responses
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
A. Ambulance service	179	79.6	40	17.8	6	2.7	0	0.0	225
B. Fire and emergency protection	190	100	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	190
C. Police protection	116	100	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	116
D. Road and street maintenance	151	67.1	61	27.1	9	4.0	4	1.8	225
E. Youth recreation	21	9.4	91	40.8	83	37.2	28	12.6	223
F. Adult recreation	17	7.6	76	33.9	96	42.9	35	15.6	224
G. Senior recreation	22	9.9	75	33.6	93	41.7	33	14.8	223
H. Affordable housing	61	27.5	96	43.2	43	19.4	22	9.9	222
I. Elderly housing	49	22.3	89	40.5	61	27.7	21	9.5	220
J. Availability of medical facilities	137	60.9	68	30.2	11	4.9	9	4.0	225

Marked as most important.

	#	%
A. Ambulance service	170	28.8
B. Fire and emergency protection	170	28.8
C. Police protection	54	9.2
D. Road and street maintenance	96	16.3
E. Youth recreation	1	0.2
F. Adult recreation	2	0.3
G. Senior recreation	5	0.8
H. Affordable housing	14	2.4
I. Elderly housing	9	1.5
J. Availability of medical facilities	69	11.7
Total	590	100.0

16. Please rate the quality of the following public and community services:

	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		# of responses
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Ambulance services	74	34.1	104	47.9	35	16.1	4	1.8	217
Fire and emergency protection	82	37.4	114	52.1	21	9.6	2	0.9	219
Police protection	5	2.1	55	23.1	90	37.8	88	37.0	238
Health care services	10	5.7	55	31.1	68	38.4	44	24.9	177
Township road maintenance	21	9.3	83	36.7	72	31.9	50	22.1	226
State road maintenance	6	2.7	74	33.2	74	33.2	69	30.9	223
Recycling	21	9.7	119	54.8	49	22.6	28	12.9	217
Overall local gov. services	12	5.6	98	45.4	77	35.6	29	13.4	216

17. Recreation facilities and programs available to Manchester Township residents are adequate.

strongly agree		agree		disagree		strongly disagree		# of responses
#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
13	6.3	99	47.6	77	37.0	19	9.1	208

Please mark the types of recreation facilities and programs needed.

8	Soccer fields
12	Skateboard/skating areas
12	Tennis courts
13	Football fields
25	Basketball courts
30	Baseball fields
41	Bicycle routes
42	Adult recreation programs
46	Pool
51	Community center
53	Playgrounds
57	Picnic areas
60	Youth recreation programs
63	Trails

Other	# resp
again, ever been here?	1
ATV trails	1
don't know	1
finish what has been started	1
library	2
none	1
park	1
senior outdoor	1
recreation for disabled	1
too much emphasis on sports	1
walking trails	1
total	12

18. Should Manchester Township actively work to establish cellular telephone service in the area?

	#	%
Yes	186	83.4
No	37	16.6
TOTAL	223	100

19. Please rate the following in terms of funding with tax revenues.

	Increase		Continue as is		Decrease		# of responses
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Recreation facilities and programs	44	19.5	139	61.5	43	19.0	226
Road maintenance/improvements	158	69.6	64	28.2	5	2.2	227
Fire protection	93	41.7	129	57.8	1	0.4	223
Ambulance service	101	45.3	120	53.8	2	0.9	223
Police protection	84	38.7	123	56.7	10	4.6	217
Township buildings	38	17.4	166	76.1	14	6.4	218
Recycling	31	14.1	178	80.9	11	5.0	220

20. How old are you?

	#	%
18 to 24	7	2.3
25 to 44	114	37.0
45 to 64	104	33.8
65 to 74	52	16.9
75 or older	31	10.1
TOTAL	308	100

21. Which of the following best describes your employment status?

	#	%
Administrative support occupation	12	5.3
Executive, administrative, manage	16	7.1
Farming, forestry, mining	7	3.1
Handler, cleaner, helper, laborer	11	4.9
Homemaker	17	7.5
Machine oper, assembler, inspect	6	2.7
Precision production, craft repair	0	0.0
Private household occupation	3	1.3
Professional occupation	19	8.4
Retired	94	41.6
Sales occupation	8	3.5
Service occupation	14	6.2
Student	1	0.4
Technician or material moving	2	0.9
Transportation or material moving	9	4.0
Unemployed or unable to work	7	3.1
TOTAL	226	100.0

22. How long have you lived at your current residence?

	#	%
less than 1 year	5	2.2
1 -5 years	47	20.5
6 - 10 years	30	13.1
11 - 15 years	23	10.0
16 - 20 years	18	7.9
20 years plus	106	46.3
TOTAL	229	100.0

23. If you are employed, which best describes where you work?

	#	%
Home based business	20	15.9
In the township	16	12.7
Elsewhere in Wayne County	38	30.2
Elsewhere in PA	8	6.3
New Jersey	10	7.9
New York	30	23.8
Elsewhere	4	3.2
TOTAL	126	100.0

24. Where is the last place you lived prior to your current home?

	#	%
Always lived where I do now	21	9.3
Elsewhere in Manchester Twp	36	15.9
Elsewhere in Wayne County	40	17.6
Elsewhere in PA	30	13.2
New Jersey	31	13.7
New York	54	23.8
Elsewhere in US	13	5.7
Outside United States	2	0.9
TOTAL	227	100.0

**25. If you own property in Manchester Township,
how large is it?**

	#	%
Do not own property in twp.	19	8.4
Less than 1 acre	19	8.4
1 to 2 acres	30	13.3
2+ to 5 acres	36	15.9
5+ to 10 acres	36	15.9
10+ to 50 acres	50	22.1
50+ to 100 acres	19	8.4
More than 100 acres	17	7.5
TOTAL	226	100.0