

2014

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**FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP PARKS
AND RECREATION SURVEY
REPORT**

August 15, 2014

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FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2014 Fallowfield Township contracted with Delta Development Group, Inc. (Delta) to conduct a resident survey in Fallowfield Township. The purpose of the survey is to better understand preferences, motivations, frequency of use, and satisfaction of parks and recreation activities in Fallowfield Township. A total of 117 people responded to surveys conducted online through Survey Monkey during the months of June, July, and August of 2014.

Fallowfield Township is a community with 4,321 residents (according to the 2010 US Census) with two (2) park facilities:

- Fallowfield Elementary Park (Upper Field)
- Municipal Park (Lower Field)

Fallowfield Township contracted with Delta to conduct online surveys specifically with Township residents. Online surveys were chosen as the survey mode because they are particularly effective at capturing perceptions of park users from their homes and provide for a calculated reporting of experiences, attitudes, and behaviors. Postcards, as seen below on Page 2, were sent out to each residence in Fallowfield Township to inform residents about the survey.

Questions for the survey were developed by Fallowfield Township with guidance from staff at Delta Development Group, Inc. A total of 117 people responded to surveys conducted over a 3-month period. Delta staff engaged potential respondents online. Summarized and complete results are available in the pages that follow.

- Fallowfield Township survey respondents were completed by households with 1-4 people (89.7%), with a high age distribution, and a long living tenure in the Township (68.7% have lived in the Township for 16 years or longer).
- 70.7% of survey respondents feel that Public Recreation is “very important” or “important” to their household, but 67.9% “seldom” or “never” used the Fallowfield Township facilities.
- “Baseball Fields” are the most utilized facility by Fallowfield Township Residents who utilize Township Parks at 86.1%.
- Satisfaction rates of the Township Parks and Recreation indicate that 48.6% of respondents were Very Dissatisfied to Dissatisfied, 21.6% are Neutral, and 29.7% are Satisfied to Very Satisfied.
- 65.6% of respondents report that they do not use the Township Parks and Recreation Facilities because they are not aware of the location of the Facilities.
- The top three (3) requested recreational facilities are:
 - Multi-Purpose Trail – 78.8%
 - Playground – 60.6%
 - Restrooms – 54.5%
- 78.9% of respondents requested “family oriented programs”.
- 83.3% of respondents supported committing public funds for recreation purposes in the Township.



FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP SURVEY NOTIFICATION POSTCARD

IT'S YOUR PARK - COME PLAY!

Fallowfield Township

The Fallowfield Parks & Recreation Committee needs your help to improve our Township parks. Your input will ensure that your parks and recreation system will meet the needs of the future. Please take a few minutes to answer a few questions about what is important to you. Surveys can be obtained by:

- Visiting the Township Building
- Calling the Township Office
- Going to www.fallowfieldtownship.org and take the survey on-line

Thank you for your input. See you at the park.

**THE FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD**

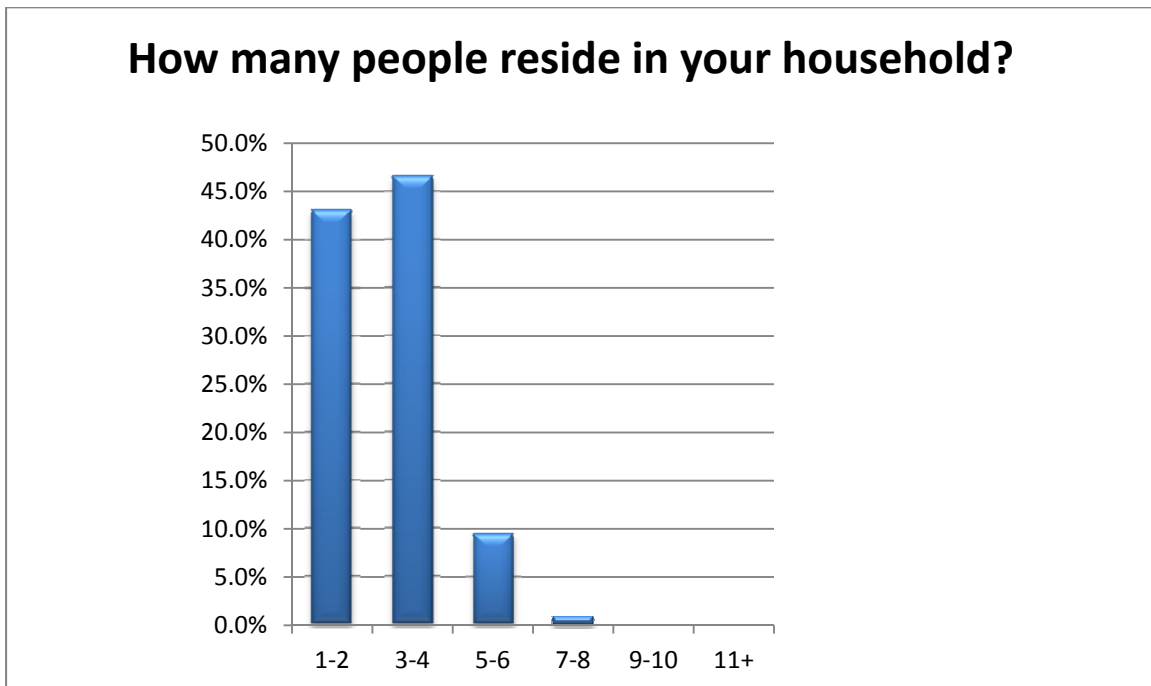
9 Memorial Drive,
Charleroi, PA 15022

Phone: 724.483.8700
Website: www.fallowfieldtownship.org



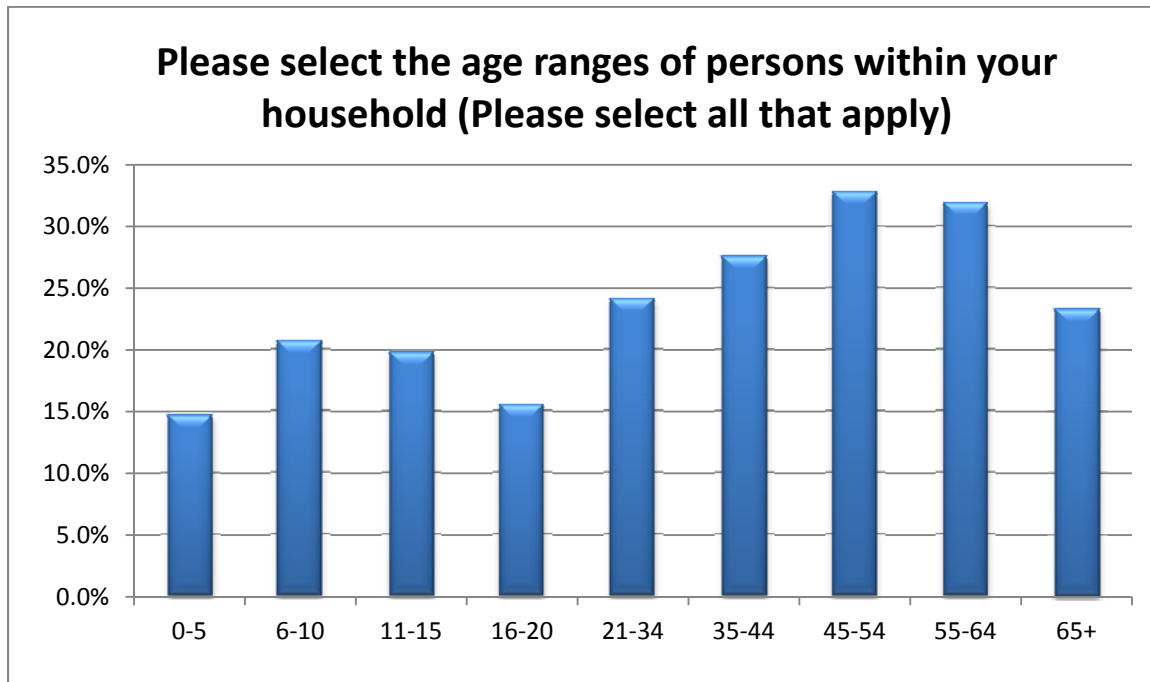
FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

| 1. How many people reside in your household? | | |
|--|------------------|----------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| 1-2 | 43.1% | 50 |
| 3-4 | 46.6% | 54 |
| 5-6 | 9.5% | 11 |
| 7-8 | 0.9% | 1 |
| 9-10 | 0.0% | 0 |
| 11+ | 0.0% | 0 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 116 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 1 |

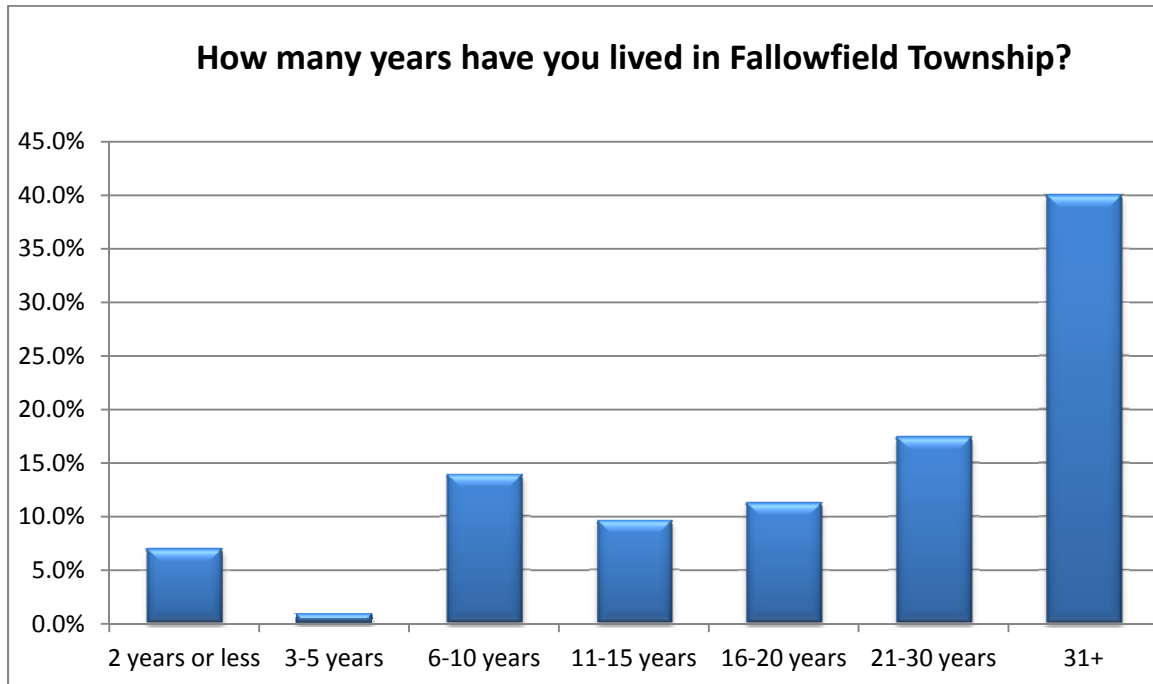


2. Please select the age ranges of persons within your household (Please select all that apply)

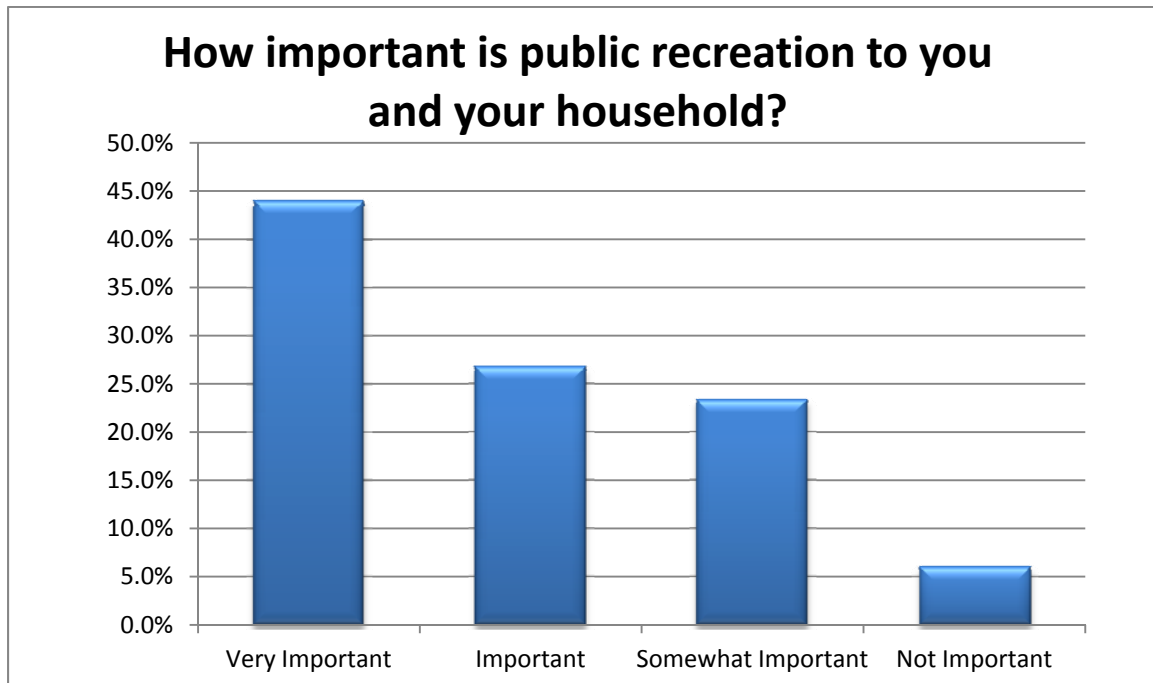
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 0-5 | 14.7% | 17 |
| 6-10 | 20.7% | 24 |
| 11-15 | 19.8% | 23 |
| 16-20 | 15.5% | 18 |
| 21-34 | 24.1% | 28 |
| 35-44 | 27.6% | 32 |
| 45-54 | 32.8% | 38 |
| 55-64 | 31.9% | 37 |
| 65+ | 23.3% | 27 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 116 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 1 |



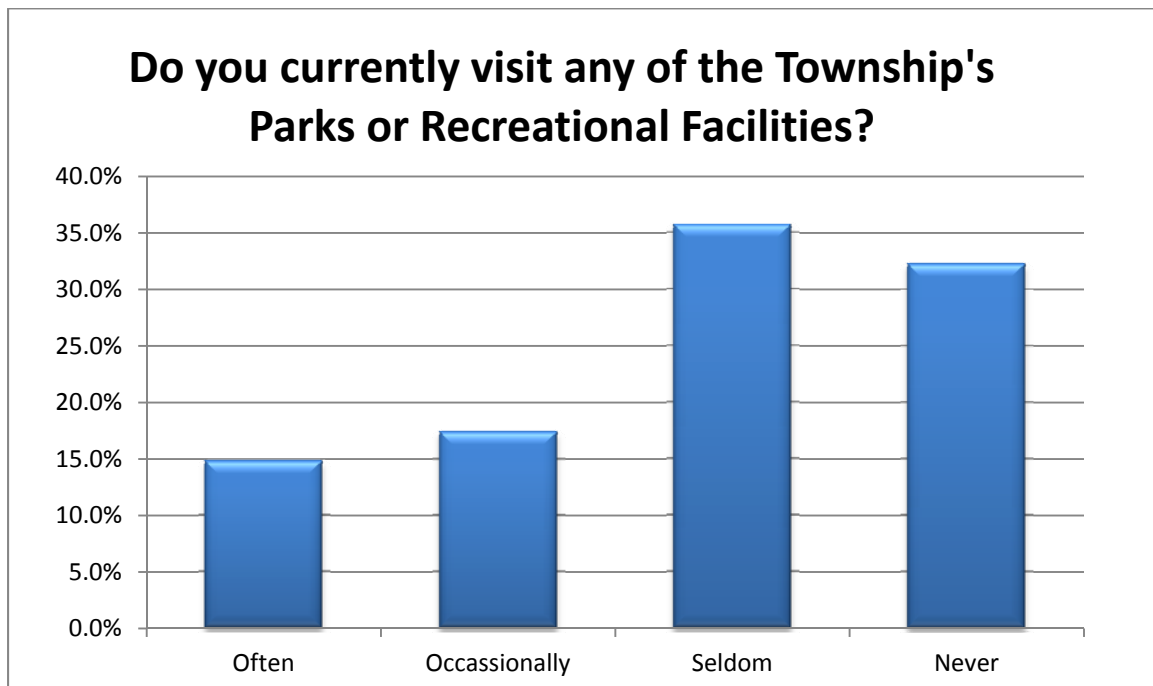
| 3. How many years have you lived in Fallowfield Township? | | |
|---|------------------|----------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| 2 years or less | 7.0% | 8 |
| 3-5 years | 0.9% | 1 |
| 6-10 years | 13.9% | 16 |
| 11-15 years | 9.6% | 11 |
| 16-20 years | 11.3% | 13 |
| 21-30 years | 17.4% | 20 |
| 31+ | 40.0% | 46 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 115 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 2 |



| 4. How important is public recreation to you and your household? | | |
|--|------------------|----------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Very Important | 44.0% | 51 |
| Important | 26.7% | 31 |
| Somewhat Important | 23.3% | 27 |
| Not Important | 6.0% | 7 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 116 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 1 |

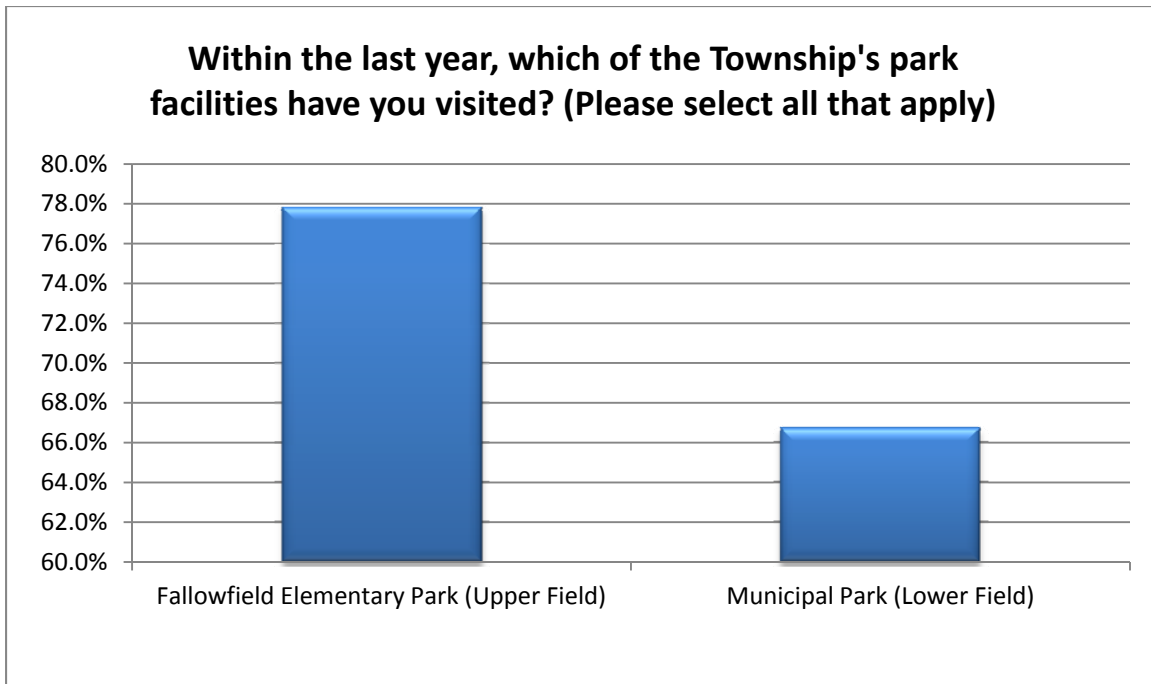


| 5. Do you currently visit any of the Township's Parks or Recreational Facilities? | | |
|---|------------------|----------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Often | 14.8% | 17 |
| Occasionally | 17.4% | 20 |
| Seldom | 35.7% | 41 |
| Never | 32.2% | 37 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 115 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 2 |
| Note - (Respondents who answered "Seldom" or "Never" skip Questions 6-10) | | |

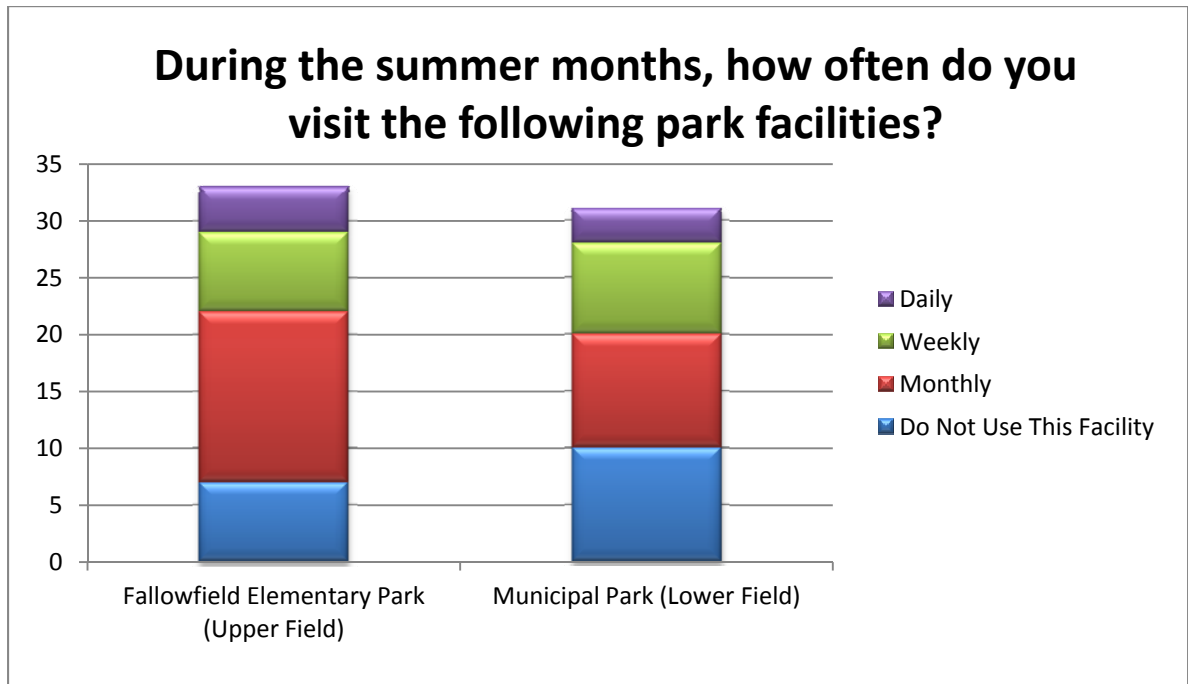


6. Within the last year, which of the Township's park facilities have you visited? (Please select all that apply)

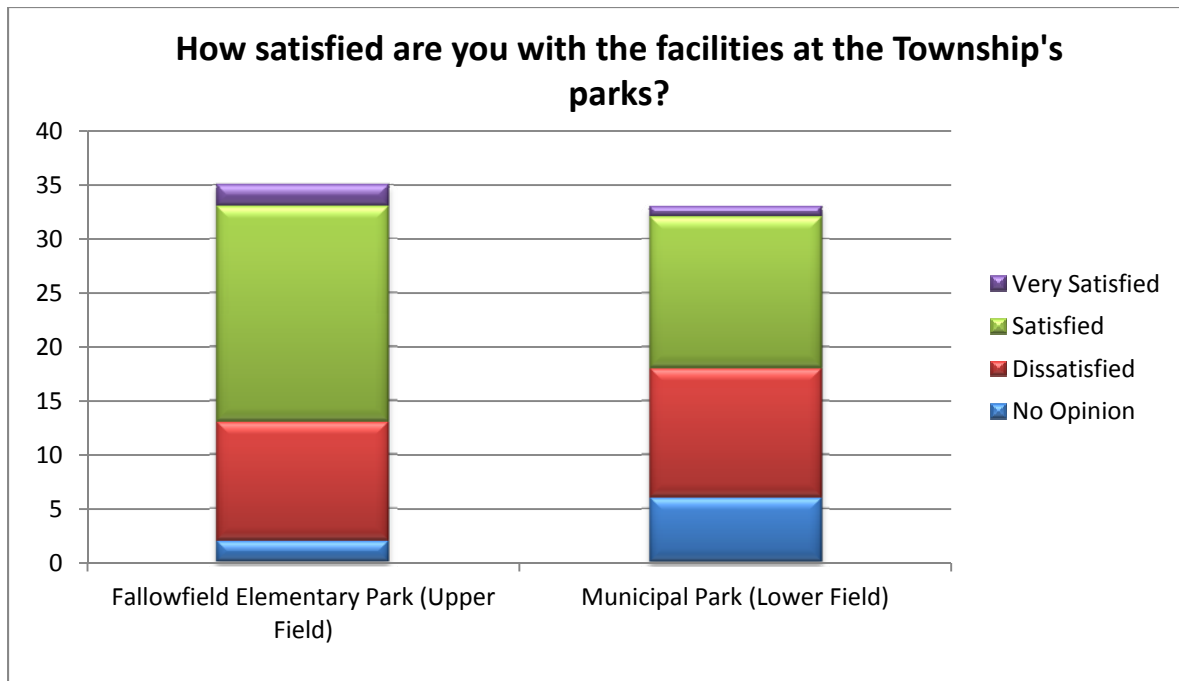
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|---|------------------|----------------|
| Fallowfield Elementary Park (Upper Field) | 77.8% | 28 |
| Municipal Park (Lower Field) | 66.7% | 24 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 36 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 81 |



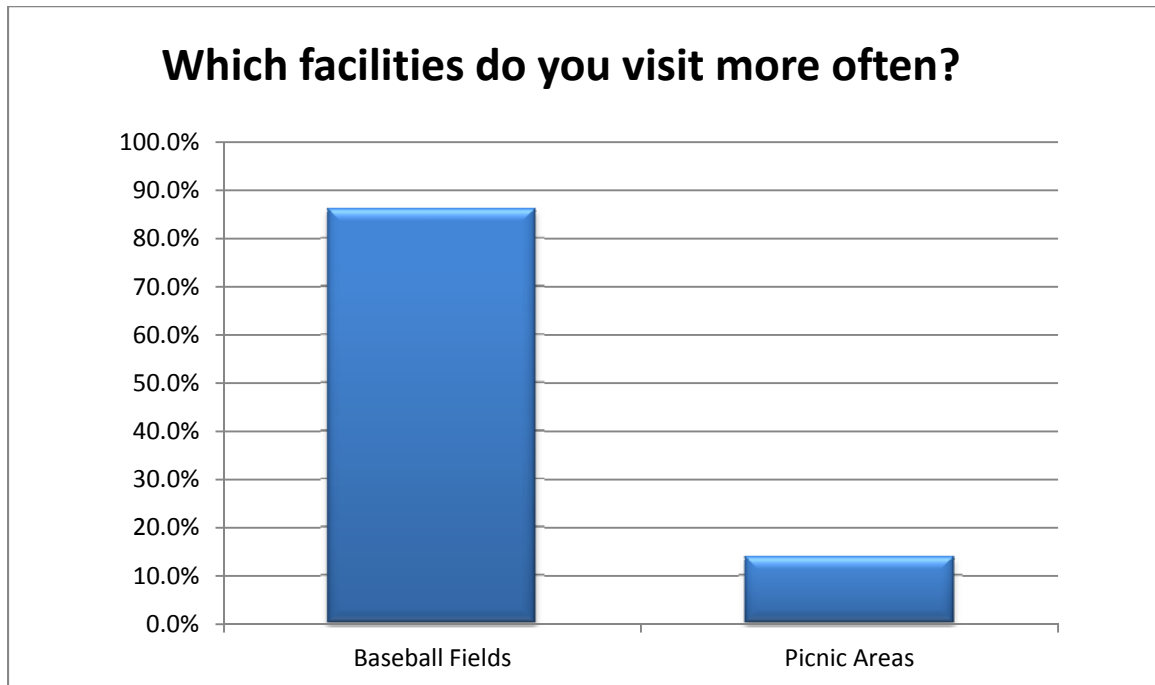
| 7. During the summer months, how often do you visit the following park facilities? | | | | | |
|--|-------|--------|---------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Answer Options | Daily | Weekly | Monthly | Do Not Use This Facility | Response Count |
| Fallowfield Elementary Park (Upper Field) | 4 | 7 | 15 | 7 | 33 |
| Municipal Park (Lower Field) | 3 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 31 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | | | | 37 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | | | | 80 |



| 8. How satisfied are you with the facilities at the Township's parks? | | | | | |
|---|----------------|-----------|--------------|------------|----------------|
| Answer Options | Very Satisfied | Satisfied | Dissatisfied | No Opinion | Response Count |
| Fallowfield Elementary Park (Upper Field) | 2 | 20 | 11 | 2 | 35 |
| Municipal Park (Lower Field) | 1 | 14 | 12 | 6 | 33 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | | | | 37 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | | | | 80 |

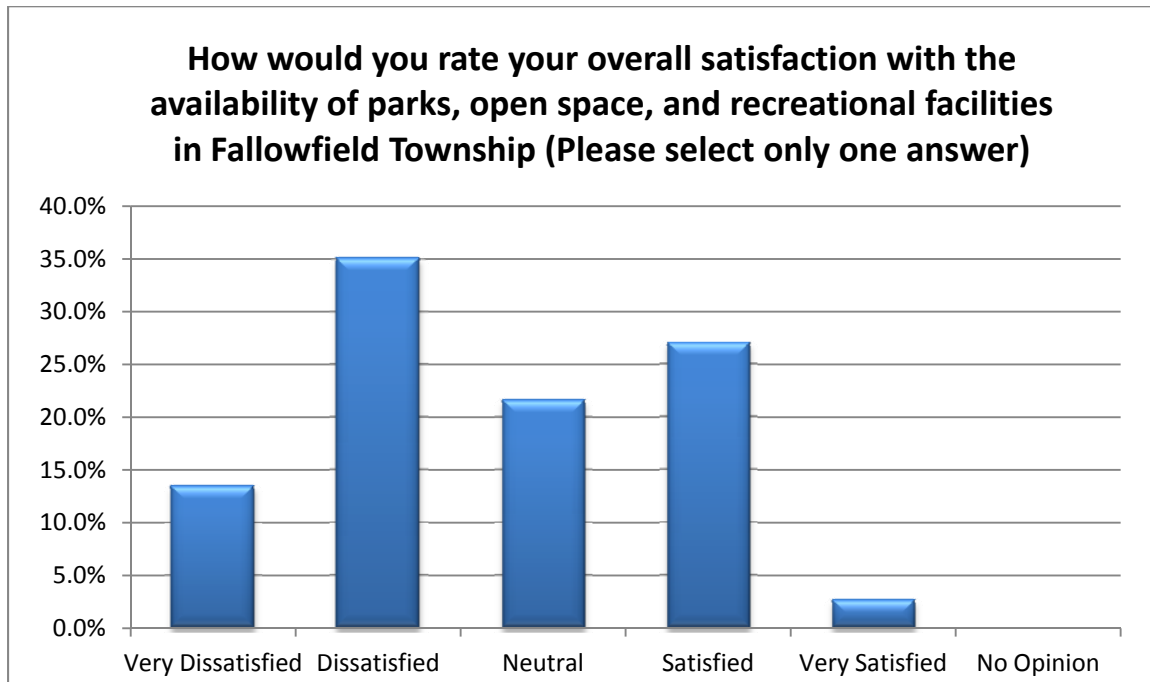


| 9. Which facilities do you visit more often? | | |
|--|------------------|----------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Baseball Fields | 86.1% | 31 |
| Picnic Areas | 13.9% | 5 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 36 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 81 |



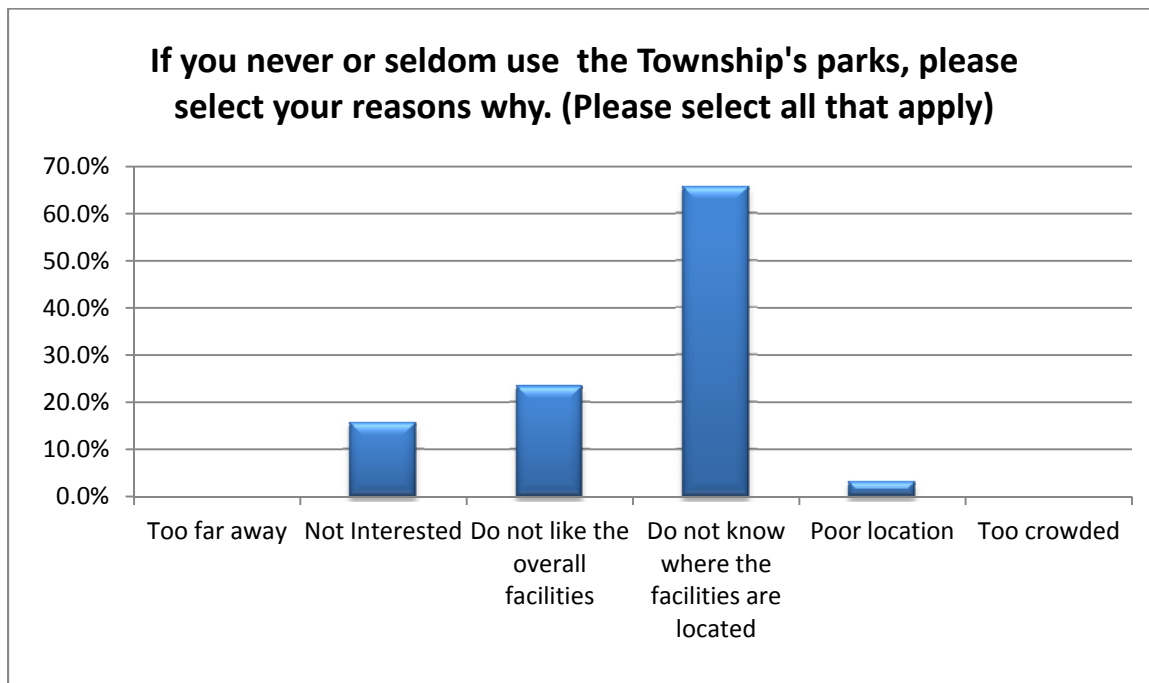
10. How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the availability of parks, open space, and recreational facilities in Fallowfield Township (Please select only one answer)

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Very Dissatisfied | 13.5% | 5 |
| Dissatisfied | 35.1% | 13 |
| Neutral | 21.6% | 8 |
| Satisfied | 27.0% | 10 |
| Very Satisfied | 2.7% | 1 |
| No Opinion | 0.0% | 0 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 37 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 80 |



11. If you never or seldom use the Township's parks, please select your reasons why. (Please select all that apply) - (See Resident written responses below)

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|--|------------------|----------------|
| Too far away | 0.0% | 0 |
| Not Interested | 15.6% | 10 |
| Do not like the overall facilities | 23.4% | 15 |
| Do not know where the facilities are located | 65.6% | 42 |
| Poor location | 3.1% | 2 |
| Too crowded | 0.0% | 0 |
| Other (please specify) | | 18 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 64 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 53 |



Resident Written Responses (Date/time of response included – responses appear exactly as written)

1. There is nothing there I would use and it would be scary with no police presence like other parks in the area. 8/2/2014 12:27 AM
2. Too busy 7/26/2014 9:53 AM
3. None appeal to what I am looking for. 7/24/2014 2:08 PM
4. Need additional development 7/23/2014 8:55 AM

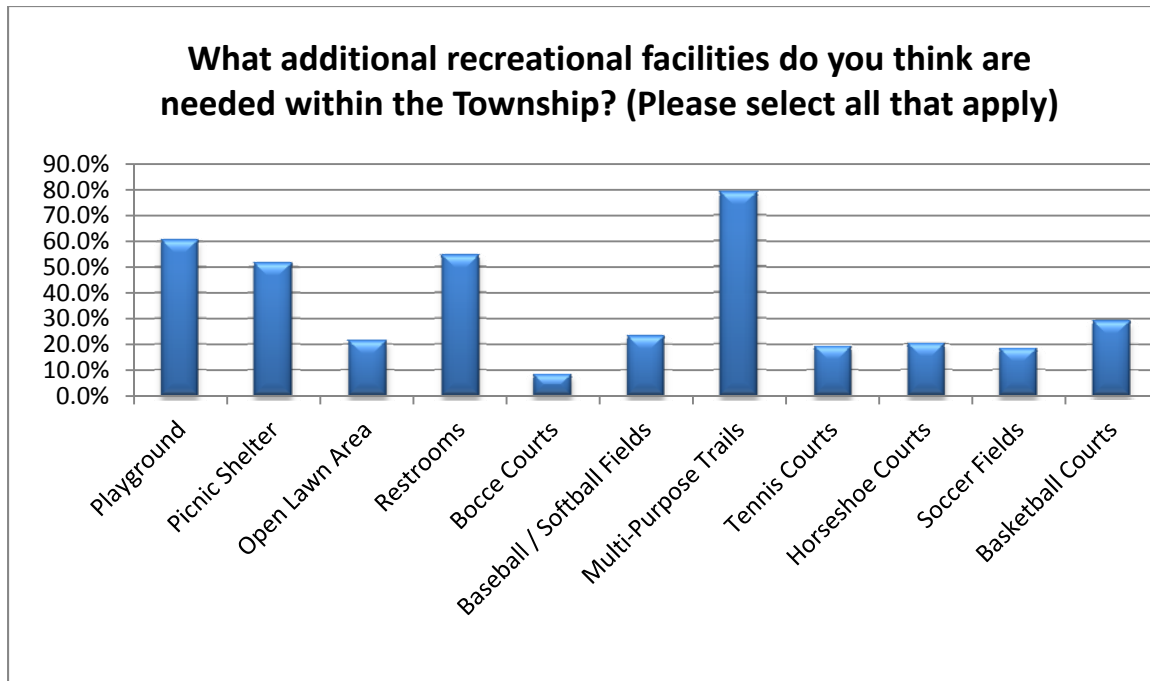


5. and what is there 7/13/2014 5:59 PM
6. There is nothing that attracts us to the parks 7/7/2014 3:54 PM
7. Other than multi use ball fields. What recreational facilities are available? Other than the school campus. 7/6/2014 10:17 PM
8. Limited knowledge - where are they? what's there? I've only seen a ballfield - is there something else? 7/5/2014 11:17 PM
9. Only when grandkids played ball games 7/5/2014 1:26 PM
10. Lack of knowledge of these facilities 7/2/2014 1:08 PM
11. Children grown so no longer need to sit in hot sun watching a game. 6/30/2014 1:53 PM
12. I didn't realize that we had any facilities except where the old Fallowfield school was located. I'm under the impression that's just a ball field for kids. 6/30/2014 10:10 AM
13. we are interested in a walking trail, we go to other places to walk. Like Richardson Park in Bentleyville, Palmer Park , Cedar Creek. 6/29/2014 9:59 AM
14. We are new to the township and don't know where the parks are yet. 6/28/2014 11:38 AM
15. Nothing for me there, but can see it would be important to Young families. Concerned about our money. Going into This and renting to outside people cheaply. 6/27/2014 4:24 PM
16. Just a little to old to play little league baseball. 6/27/2014 3:12 PM
17. Children are all grown up and living elsewhere 6/27/2014 2:03 PM



12. What additional recreational facilities do you think are needed within the Township? (Please select all that apply) - (See Resident written responses below)

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|----------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Playground | 60.6% | 60 |
| Picnic Shelter | 51.5% | 51 |
| Open Lawn Area | 21.2% | 21 |
| Restrooms | 54.5% | 54 |
| Bocce Courts | 8.1% | 8 |
| Baseball / Softball Fields | 23.2% | 23 |
| Multi-Purpose Trails | 78.8% | 78 |
| Tennis Courts | 19.2% | 19 |
| Horseshoe Courts | 20.2% | 20 |
| Soccer Fields | 18.2% | 18 |
| Basketball Courts | 29.3% | 29 |
| Other (please specify) | | 32 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 99 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 18 |



Resident Written Responses (Date/time of response included – responses appear exactly as written)

1. None of these unless the area was patrolled or they would end up being used by

junkies.8/2/2014 12:27 AM



2. fencing around the baseball fields outfields to make them more like baseball fields. 8/1/2014
8:39 AM
3. Sand volleyball courts 7/25/2014 6:13 PM
4. None, we need our own Police force more than any of the above. 7/24/2014 6:10 PM
5. Walking Track 7/24/2014 2:08 PM
6. wedontneedtheyparks 7/23/2014 10:42 AM
7. At both current locations 7/23/2014 8:55 AM
8. We (residents of the township) were "promised" by the supervisors many years ago that we would get a walking track around the Municipal field...we are still waiting. I lived within walking distance to the field, so I basically walked/ran around the field everyday for exercise, even through the uneven ground and around the puddles that would accumulate in the back by the fence. Now that I have a child, I would appreciate having a swing set (again) there as well as a slide, etc. There was one there when I was growing up and it provided hours of entertainment for me and my neighborhood friends. Thanks for listening, sorry this is late. 7/18/2014 3:37 PM
9. Just clean/spruce up the existing facilities. Make the procedure for renting them readily available. 7/15/2014 9:32 PM
10. Not sure what you already have in order to make suggestions. 7/14/2014 6:14 PM
11. Dog park/areas 7/14/2014 3:11 PM
12. Shelters with Electricity 7/7/2014 3:54 PM
13. would love to see some type of trail for walking,biking,running,as none available on a regular basis. Tracks at HS very limited,with no use 8-4 pm and then used by school for activities.
7/5/2014 2:55 PM
14. walking track. biking trails 7/4/2014 7:41 AM



15. water needs to be added to existing pavilions & restrooms need to be open for pavilion scheduling. walking track around municipal field is definitely a must 7/3/2014 8:21 AM
16. volleyball courts 7/1/2014 12:49 PM
17. Walking track 6/30/2014 11:55 PM
18. Deck hockey 6/30/2014 9:21 PM
19. We need police back in the township more than parks that residents don't use. Residents needs protection. Worry about crime instead of recreation 6/30/2014 10:41 AM
20. A lovely walking trail, such as they have in Peters & other suburbs, would be nice. 6/30/2014 10:10 AM
21. Need walking and bike trails 6/29/2014 6:41 PM
22. Lake for fishing 6/29/2014 10:45 AM
23. WALKING 6/29/2014 9:59 AM
24. do not know what facilities are presently available 6/28/2014 9:51 PM
25. Fully fenced in dog park 6/28/2014 11:38 AM
26. Walking/ running track 6/27/2014 9:03 PM
27. Who manages all this? Is it residents first? How much will it cost to keep all this up? 6/27/2014 4:24 PM
28. Biking and hiking trails 6/27/2014 3:12 PM
29. bicycle trails 6/27/2014 2:32 PM
30. Anything that can be easily maintained and is worth putting in to keep the kids out of trouble 6/27/2014 2:03 PM
31. Sprinkler Park Additional baseball/softball fields Lights for baseball/softball fields More bleachers/seating at fields Baseball fields at Fallowfield need to be wheelchair accessible Electric



at pavillion in Fallowfield Hold activities for the kids in the summer like Charleroi Parks do

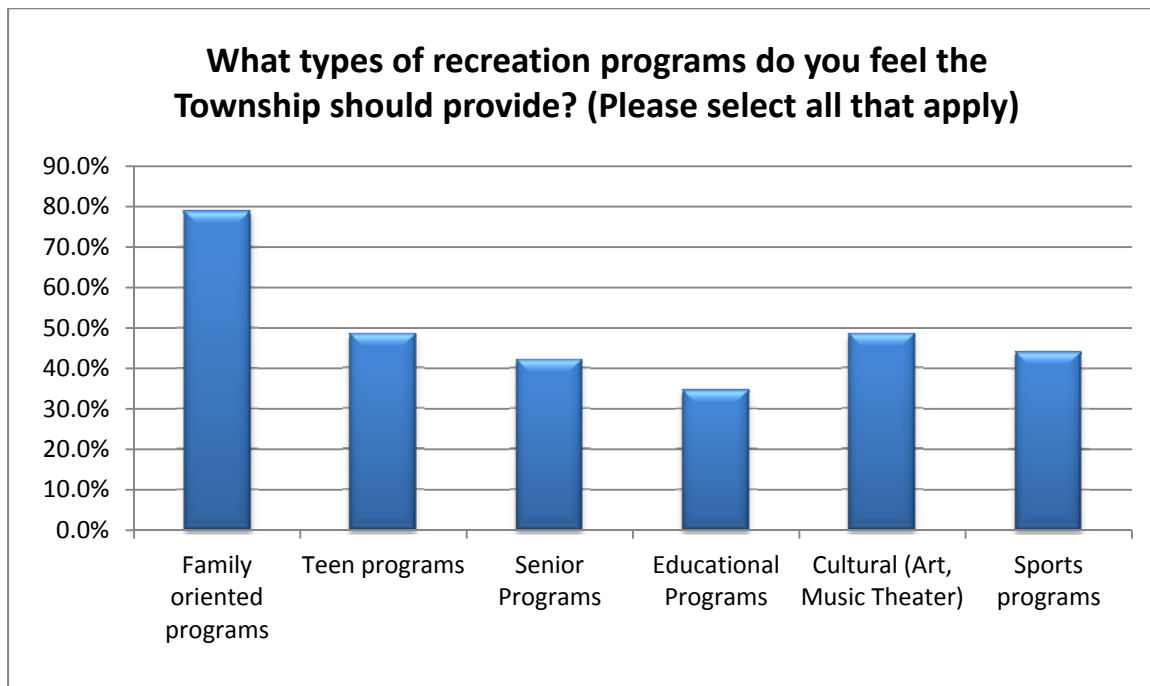
Water fountain for drinking 6/27/2014 1:59 PM

32. Walking and biking tracks 6/25/2014 2:22 PM



13. What types of recreation programs do you feel the Township should provide? (Please select all that apply)

| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Family oriented programs | 78.9% | 75 |
| Teen programs | 48.4% | 46 |
| Senior Programs | 42.1% | 40 |
| Educational Programs | 34.7% | 33 |
| Cultural (Art, Music Theater) | 48.4% | 46 |
| Sports programs | 44.2% | 42 |
| Other (please specify) | | 12 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 95 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 22 |



Resident Written Responses (Date/time of response included – responses appear exactly as written)

1. No programs per-say, just to provide the "general" family an outdoor outlet. The two current locations are tailored more for baseball, which is only used by an estimated 10% of the populous. 7/29/2014 6:55 PM
2. None, Not the role of government/ 7/24/2014 6:10 PM



3. Some concerts would be nice. But I really think people will use the parks to do drugs. What we really need is a police force. Mingo park and Cedar creek park have police there all the time. You want people to move here, get some police!

7/24/2014 3:09 PM

4. none 7/23/2014 10:43 AM

5. All of the above!!! 7/19/2014 2:51 PM

6. None at this time. Focus on infrastructure and disaster preparations. The "fluff" can come later. Put yourselves in a positive light. Stop the fighting and backstabbing! 7/15/2014 9:36 PM

7. Please don't let this process be a masked step in implementing any part of the united nations agenda 21. 7/6/2014 10:21 PM

8. would love to see the township get Cal University involved with music,drama,musical program. Many programs available and with the university so close should take more advantage of this opportunity 7/5/2014 3:00 PM

9. walking track. like in monessen pa and cal pa. also a connection to the youth river bike trail. 7/4/2014 7:41 AM

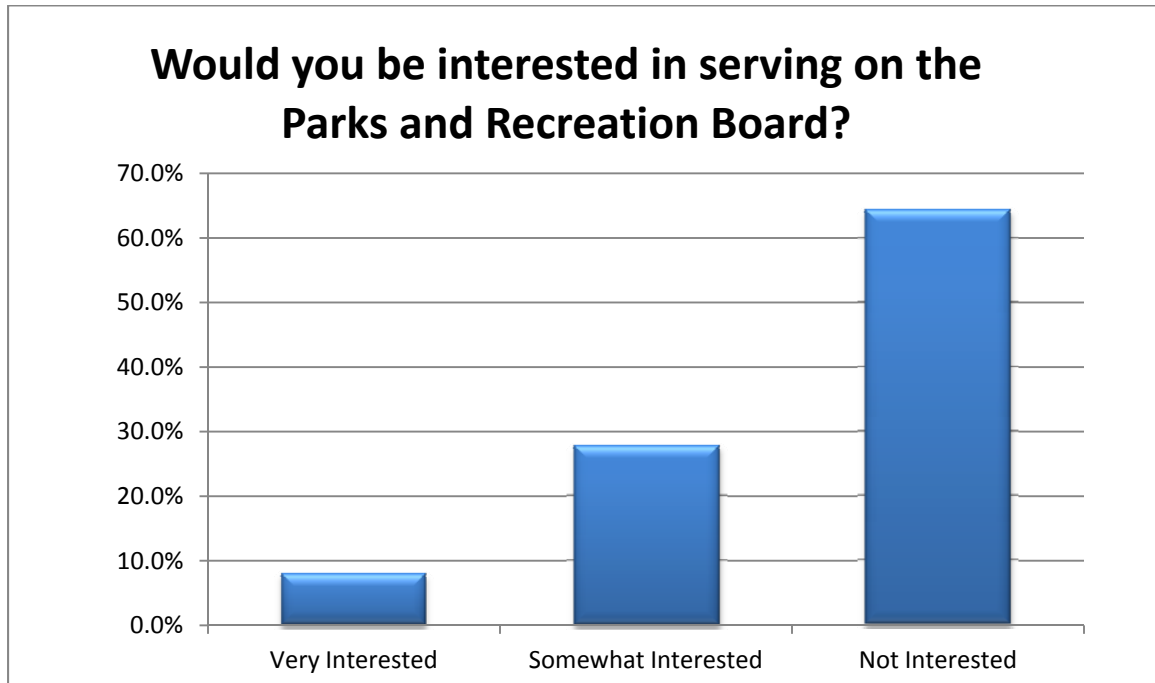
10. Farmers Market. Check out Ligonier Pa farmers Mkt. Every Saturday morning with many vendors. They do a great job and draw visitors from all over. Our Fallowfield roots are rural America and we should hold on to those values. 7/3/2014 1:22 PM

11. Community wide Halloween party for residents only instead of trick or treat 6/30/2014 10:43 AM

12. None 6/29/2014 10:45 AM



| 14. Would you be interested in serving on the Parks and Recreation Board? | | |
|---|------------------|----------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Very Interested | 7.9% | 8 |
| Somewhat Interested | 27.7% | 28 |
| Not Interested | 64.4% | 65 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 101 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 16 |



| 15. Would you support committing public funds for recreation purposes in the Township? | | |
|--|------------------|----------------|
| Answer Options | Response Percent | Response Count |
| Yes | 83.3% | 85 |
| No | 16.7% | 17 |
| <i>answered question</i> | | 102 |
| <i>skipped question</i> | | 15 |

