

Iowa Lakes

# Survey 2002



Center for Agricultural and Rural Development  
Resource and Environmental Policy Division

Department of Economics

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

**I**n order to make sound decisions concerning the future of Iowa lakes, it is important to understand how the lakes are used, as well as what factors influence your selection of lakes to visit. The answers you give to the questions in this survey are very important. Even if you have not visited any lakes in Iowa, please complete and return the questionnaire. It is critical to understand the characteristics and views of both those who use and those who do not use the lakes.

**I**n this first section, we would like to find out which of the lakes on the enclosed map you visited and what you did there.

- Please indicate how often you or other members of your household visited each of the following lakes in the current and past year. Also, indicate the number of trips you anticipate making to each of the lakes in 2003. If you have not visited any lakes in Iowa, and do not plan to visit any in the upcoming year, please check this box and skip to question 2.
  - I have not, and do not plan to visit any lakes in Iowa

If you visited lakes in Iowa that are not on this list, please count them in the “other” category at the end of the list (page 7).

Name of Lake	County	Number of visits (January-December) in:					
		2002		2001		Planned for 2003	
		Single-Day	Over-night	Single-Day	Over-night	Single-Day	Over-night
Arbor Lake	Poweshiek						
Arrowhead Lake	Pottawattamie						
Arrowhead Pond	Sac						
Avenue of the Saints Lake	Bremer						
Badger Creek Lake	Madison						
Badger Lake	Webster						
Beaver Lake	Dallas						
Beeds Lake	Franklin						
Big Creek Lake	Polk						
Big Spirit Lake	Dickinson						
Black Hawk Lake	Sac						
Blue Lake	Monona						
Bob White Lake	Wayne						
Briggs Woods Lake	Hamilton						
Browns Lake	Woodbury						
Brushy Creek Lake	Webster						
Carter Lake	Pottawattamie						
Casey Lake (aka Hickory Hills)	Tama						
Center Lake	Dickinson						
Central Park Lake	Jones						
Clear Lake	Cerro Gordo						
Chatfield Lake	Lee						
Cold Springs Lake	Cass						
Coralville Lake	Johnson						
Crawford Creek Impoundment	Ida						
Crystal Lake	Hancock						
Dale Maffitt Lake	Madison						

Name of Lake	County	Number of visits (January-December) in:					
		2002		2001		Planned for 2003	
		Single-Day	Over-night	Single-Day	Over-night	Single-Day	Over-night
Deer Creek Lake	Plymouth						
DeSoto Bend Lake	Harrison						
Diamond Lake	Poweshiek						
Dog Creek (Lake)	O'Brien						
Don Williams Lake	Boone						
East Lake (Osceola)	Clarke						
East Okoboji Lake	Dickinson						
Easter Lake	Polk						
Eldred Sherwood Lake	Hancock						
Five Island Lake	Palo Alto						
Fogle Lake	Ringgold						
George Wyth Lake	Black Hawk						
Green Belt Lake	Black Hawk						
Green Castle Lake	Marshall						
Green Valley Lake	Union						
Hannen Lake	Benton						
Greenfield Lake	Adair						
Hawthorn Lake (aka Barnes City)	Mahaska						
Hickory Grove Lake	Story						
Hooper Area Pond	Warren						
Indian Lake	Van Buren						
Ingham Lake	Emmet						
Kent Park Lake	Johnson						
Lacey Keosauqua Park Lake	Van Buren						
Lake Ahquabi	Warren						
Lake Anita	Cass						
Lake Cornelia	Wright						
Lake Darling	Washington						
Lake Geode	Henry						
Lake Hendricks	Howard						
Lake Icaria	Adams						
Lake of the Hills	Scott						
Lake Iowa	Iowa						
Lake Keomah	Mahaska						
Lake Manawa	Pottawattamie						

Name of Lake	County	Number of visits (January-December) in:					
		2002		2001		Planned for 2003	
		Single-Day	Over-night	Single-Day	Over-night	Single-Day	Over-night
Lake McBride	Johnson						
Lake Miami	Monroe						
Lake Minnewashta	Dickinson						
Lake Orient	Adair						
Lake Pahoja	Lyon						
Lake Smith	Kossuth						
Lake Sugema	Van Buren						
Lake of Three Fires	Taylor						
Lake Wapello	Davis						
Little River	Decatur						
Little Sioux Park Lake	Woodbury						
Little Spirit Lake	Dickinson						
Little Wall Lake	Hamilton						
Littlefield Lake	Audubon						
Lost Island Lake	Palo Alto						
Lower Gar Lake	Dickinson						
Lower Pine Lake	Hardin						
Manteno Lake	Shelby						
Mariposa Lake	Jasper						
Meadow Lake	Adair						
Meyers Lake	Black Hawk						
Mill Creek (Lake)	O'Brien						
Mitchell Lake	Black Hawk						
Moorhead Lake	Ida						
Mormon Trail Lake	Adair						
Nelson Park Lake	Crawford						
Nine Eagles Lake	Decatur						
North Twin Lake	Calhoun						
Oldham Lake	Monona						
Otter Creek Lake	Tama						
Ottumwa Lagoon	Wapello						
Pierce Creed Lake	Page						

Name of Lake	County	Number of visits (January-December) in:					
		2002		2001		Planned for 2003	
		Single-Day	Over-night	Single-Day	Over-night	Single-Day	Over-night
Pleasant Creek Lake	Linn						
Poll Miller Park Lake	Lee						
Prairie Rose Lake	Shelby						
Rathbun Lake	Appanoose						
Red Haw Lake	Lucas						
Red Rock Lake	Marion						
Roberts Creek Lake	Marion						
Rock Creek Lake	Jasper						
Rodgers Park Lake	Benton						
Saylorville Dam	Polk						
Silver Lake	Delaware						
Silver Lake	Dickinson						
Silver Lake	Palo Alto						
Silver Lake	Worth						
Slip Bluff Lake	Decatur						
South Prairie Lake	Black Hawk						
Spring Lake	Greene						
Springbrook Lake	Guthrie						
Storm Lake	Buena Vista						
Swan Lake	Carroll						
Thayer Lake	Union						
Three Mile Lake	Union						
Trumbull Lake	Clay						
Tuttle Lake	Emmet						
Twelve Mile Creek Lake	Union						
Union Grove Lake	Tama						
Upper Gar Lake	Dickinson						
Upper Pine Lake	Hardin						
Viking Lake	Montgomery						
Volga Lake	Fayette						
West Okoboji Lake	Dickinson						
West Osceola	Clarke						
White Oak Lake	Mahaska						
Williamson Pond	Lucas						

Name of Lake	County	Number of visits (January-December) in:					
		2002		2001		Planned for 2003	
		Single-Day	Over-night	Single-Day	Over-night	Single-Day	Over-night
Willow Lake	Harrison						
Wilson Park Lake	Taylor						
Wilson Lake	Lee						
Windmill Lake	Taylor						
Yellow Smoke Park Lake	Crawford						
Yen-Ruo-Gis Lake	Keokuk						
Other Lakes in Iowa							

2. Please indicate how often you or other members of your household visited lakes or rivers in each of the following locations in the current and past year. Also, indicate the number of trips you anticipate making to each of these locations in 2003.

Name of Lake		Number of visits (January-December) in:					
		2002		2001		Planned for 2003	
		Single-Day	Over-night	Single-Day	Over-night	Single-Day	Over-night
Lakes in Illinois							
Lakes in Minnesota							
Lakes in Missouri							
Lakes in Nebraska							
Lakes in South Dakota							
Lakes in Wisconsin							
The Missouri River							
The Mississippi River							
Other Lakes and Rivers							

3. What activities do you or members of your household typically participate in during your lake visits? Check all that apply.

- |   |                                     |   |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Jet skiing | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sailing    | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiling and other winter recreation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Canoeing   | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming and beach use                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting                              |                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nature Appreciation/wildlife viewing |                                     |   |

4. How frequently do you or your family swim in Iowa lakes?

- Never       Rarely       Sometimes       Frequently

**I**n this section, we would like to find out what features of lakes are important to you.

5. Assume you have a total of 100 importance points to assign to the following factors in **choosing a lake for recreation**. Please indicate the importance of each factor by allocating your 100 points among the items on this list. To indicate one item is more important to you than another, you should allocate more points to it. You do not need to give points to all of the items, but remember that the total needs to equal 100.

Proximity	
Water quality	
Location of friends/relatives	
Park facilities	
Activities at the lake	
Activities in the town	
Other: _____	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

6. Again assume you have a total of 100 importance points to assign to the **lake characteristics** below. Please indicate the importance of each item by allocating your 100 points among the items on this list. To indicate one item is more important to you than another, you should allocate more points to it. You do not need to give points to all of the items, but remember that the total needs to equal 100.

Water clarity	
Hard, clean, sandy lake bottom in swimming areas	
Lack of water odor	
Diversity of wildlife	
Diversity of fish species/habitat	
Quantity of fish caught	
Safety from bacteria contamination/health advisories	
Other: _____	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>



7. Which of the lakes on the list is the nearest to your permanent residence?

\_\_\_\_\_

How far is this lake from where you live? \_\_\_\_\_ miles.

8. How important is the presence of the lake nearest your permanent residence (the lake you identified in question 7) to . . .

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
the economic vitality of your community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
making your community an interesting and vibrant place?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
retaining the interest of young people to remain in your community or in attracting prospective residents to your area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
area employers' ability to retain and or attract a skilled workforce?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
encouraging corporate decision makers to consider your area for establishing a business or expanding an existing industry?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. If the water quality of the lake you identified in question 7 were significantly improved, how important do you think the lake could be to . . .

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Neutral	Somewhat Unimportant	Very Unimportant
the economic vitality of your community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
making your community an interesting and vibrant place?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
retaining the interest of young people to remain in your community or in attracting prospective residents to your area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
area employers' ability to retain and or attract a skilled workforce?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
encouraging corporate decision makers to consider your area for establishing a business or expanding an existing industry?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**I**nformation on you and other members of your household will help us better understand how household characteristics affect an individual's use of Iowa lakes and attitudes towards changes in them. It will also help us to determine how representative our sample is of the state of Iowa. All of your answers are strictly confidential. The information will only be used to report comparisons among groups of people. We will never identify individuals or households with their responses. Please be as complete as possible. Thank you.

10. What is your age?

- |                                   |                                  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> 50 - 59 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18 - 25  | <input type="checkbox"/> 60 - 75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 26 - 34  | <input type="checkbox"/> 76 +    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 35 - 49  |                                  |

11. Are you

- male       female

12. What is the highest level of schooling that you have completed?  
(Please check only one)

- Some high school or less  
 High school graduate  
 Some college or trade/vocational school  
 College graduate  
 Advanced degree

13. How many adults (including yourself) live in your household? \_\_\_\_\_

14. How many children live in your household (18 or under)? \_\_\_\_\_

15. If you are currently employed, how many hours a week do you typically work? \_\_\_\_\_

16. If you are currently employed, do you have the option of working additional hours to increase your total income?

- no  
 yes—if so, what would your hourly wage be?  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ per hour

17. If you answered “no” to question 16, and you could have the option of working more or less hours, which would you prefer?
- Work more hours     Work the same number of hours  
 Work less hours
18. What is your total household income (before taxes) for 2002?
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under \$10,000    | <input type="checkbox"/> \$40,000-\$49,999   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000-\$14,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000-\$59,999   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15,000-\$19,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$60,000-\$74,999   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20,000-\$24,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75,000-\$99,999   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25,000-\$29,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000-\$124,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30,000-\$34,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$125,000-\$149,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$35,000-\$39,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Over \$150,000      |
19. Do you own a home on a lake in Iowa?
- no
- yes, If yes, are you a year-round resident?
- yes  
 no
20. Do you own a home on a lake outside of Iowa?
- yes     no
21. Do you belong to a lake protection association?
- yes     no
22. Are you an area employer?
- yes     no
23. Are you involved with community development efforts and/or with making decisions that impact the entire community (for example Chamber of Commerce, Jaycees, etc.)?
- yes     no