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B700: Seasonal Home Residents in Five Maine Communities, Socio-Economic Characteristics, Use Patterns, and Environmental Attitudes

D. M. Tobey

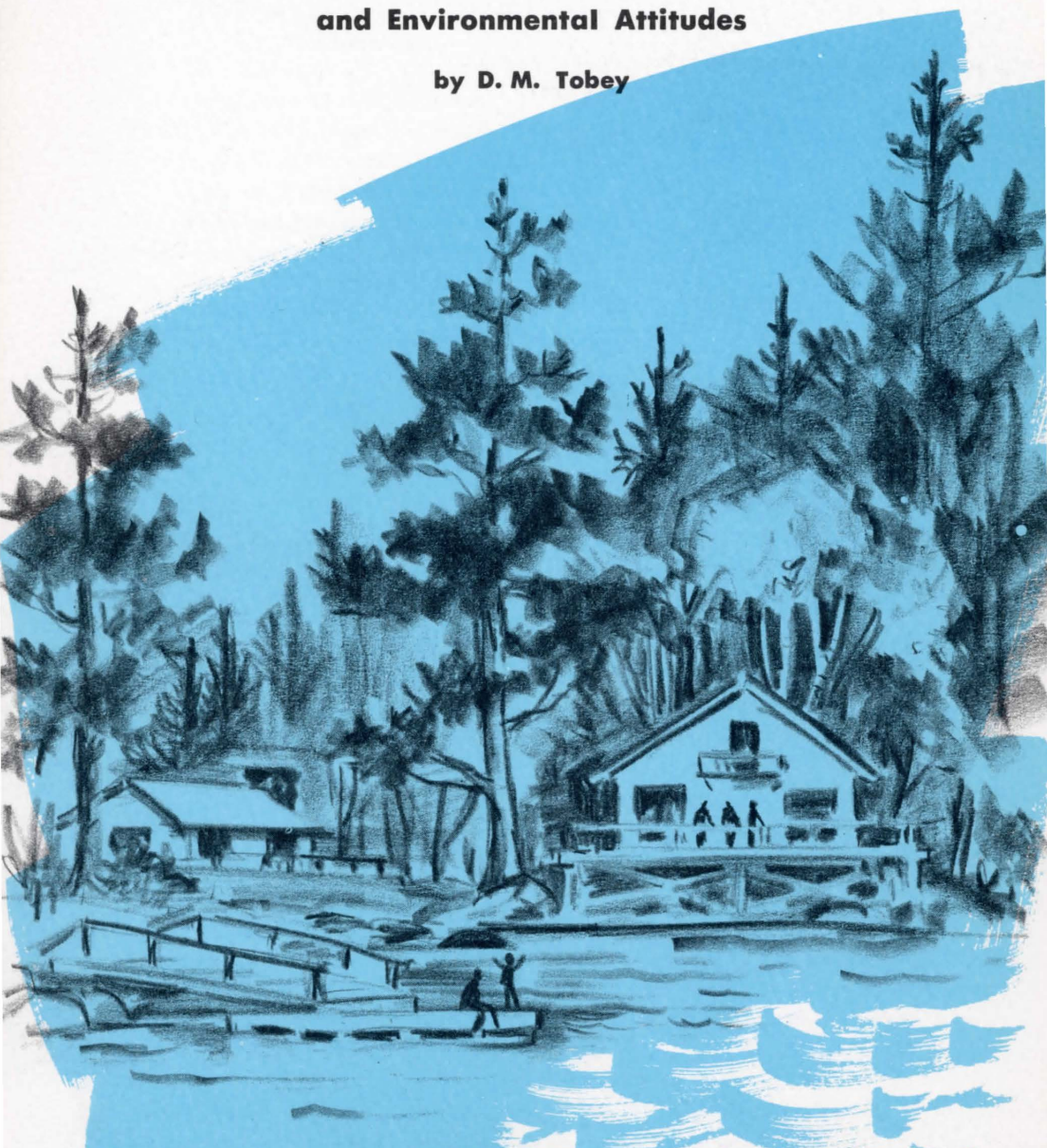
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SEASONAL HOME RESIDENTS IN FIVE MAINE COMMUNITIES

Socio-Economic Characteristics, Use Patterns,
and Environmental Attitudes

by D. M. Tobey



LIFE SCIENCES AND AGRICULTURE EXPERIMENT STATION
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SEASONAL HOME RESIDENTS IN FIVE MAINE COMMUNITIES

D. M. Tobey*

INTRODUCTION

Seasonal homes and their occupants have received, in recent years, increased attention in the State of Maine. They have moved into the public eye as researchers have observed four major national trends leading to increased participation in outdoor recreation: growing population, increasing per capita income, more leisure time, and improved transportation (highway and other) to recreational areas.

That seasonal home occupancy patterns have an impact on both coastal and inland Maine cannot be denied. In many localities, the population has for many decades more than doubled every summer, only to return to its normal off-season level after Labor Day. In general terms, the implications of such a fluctuating population are clear; local business volume, employment, and the demand for public services become highly seasonal in nature.

Maine, as a state and by individual communities, needs to know more about its seasonal residents if it is to accommodate their recreational demands now and plan for changing use patterns in the future. Such questions as how many children the seasonal resident has in his household, how many days the seasonal home is in use each season, and what the resident plans to do with his property in the future are all-important for recreational planning both state-wide and on an individual community basis.

At the same time, the implications of seasonal residence patterns with respect to environmental quality are crucial. Even recreational activities which one generally considers in harmony with nature exert certain pressures, often of a surprising type and intensity, on the natural environment. Such pressures usually increase, of course, with heightened concentration of recreational activities. Thus, as the number of seasonal residents grows on a given lake or in a certain area of the coast, the environment is forced to accommodate levels of use which appear always to increase. Not only do growing numbers of swimmers, boaters, fishermen, and hikers exert pressure on the natural resources of an area, but

* Assistant Professor of Agricultural and Resource Economics.

water supply, construction, sewage disposal, and the like place demands on these same resources. When such demands, often in competition with one another, reach and surpass the capacity of the resource, the result is twofold: environmental deterioration and dissatisfaction on the part of seasonal and permanent residents who use the resources.

In this study, the investigator has attempted to identify pertinent socio-economic characteristics of seasonal residents in Maine, to ascertain the use patterns and future plans of these residents, and to describe their attitudes toward certain aspects of their seasonal community's environmental quality. The data are presented, for the most part, in descriptive tables. The text points out features of interest in each table, although the reader may discover information important to him beyond that highlighted by the writer. In addition, a profile of "The Typical Seasonal Resident" (pages 26-27) summarizes the most frequent responses for the group surveyed.

Statistical analysis of the data is not attempted in this descriptive report, although detailed statistical treatment is presented in an unpublished master's degree thesis: *Environmental Concerns Related with Socio-Economic Characteristics of Seasonal Home Residents in Five Maine Communities* by Frederick W. Todd, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Maine at Orono, 1972.

RESEARCH PROCEDURE

The Study

In 1968, a Northeast Regional research project (NE-65) was launched under the title, "Economic Analysis of Environmental Quality Effects Associated with Seasonal Homes." As one of five states actively participating in the regional project, Maine initiated the coordinated Agricultural Experiment Station Project H-227, "Economic Analysis of Seasonal Homes and Related Resource Uses on the Quality of Environment." The data presented in this report were collected, in 1970 and early 1971, under Project H-227.

The Communities

Seasonal residents were surveyed in five Maine communities, in a variety of geographical locations throughout the state. Two coastal communities were included: Southwest Harbor in Hancock County and South Harpswell in Cumberland County. Three inland lake communities were chosen: Eagle Lake in Aroostook County, Newport (Sabasticook Lake) in Penobscot County, and Winthrop (Lake Maranacook) in Kennebec County. Table 1 provides a general indication of housing and population characteristics in the five communities.

Table 1
Housing and Permanent Population Characteristics
of Five Maine Communities Surveyed, 1970

Community	Total housing units	Seasonal housing units	Permanent population
Eagle Lake	420	148	908
Newport	1,074	204	2,260
Winthrop	1,939	483	4,335
Southwest Harbor	777	167	1,657
South Harpswell	560*	298*	638*

*South Harpswell town officials estimated that 20-30% of the total permanent population and permanent and seasonal housing units of Harpswell were located in South Harpswell. The investigator used 25% of the figures given for Harpswell in the following source.

Source: U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, *General Housing Characteristics, Maine, 1970*.

Because of the unique features of every community in the state, it is recognized that no group of five (in fact, no group smaller than the total) can be said to be truly representative. The areas listed above were chosen, according to general knowledge about the communities and the state as a whole, with the hope of including a cross-section of residents and environmental conditions as well as a variety of locations within the state.

It also must be noted that all five communities are water-based and feature a "summer home" pattern of seasonal residence. Thus, localities stressing winter sports or four-season recreation are not represented in the survey, and the reader should exercise caution in projecting the results of the study to such communities.

The Sample

A random sample of seasonal residents owning land with shore frontage was drawn in three communities: Eagle Lake, Newport, and Southwest Harbor. These seasonal residents received and returned their questionnaires by mail.

In Winthrop and South Harpswell, a door-to-door canvassing of seasonal residences with water frontage or a close view of the water frontage was used to obtain the sample. These seasonal residents received their questionnaires from field personnel, returning the completed forms by mail. This approach was consistent with the regional research project (NE-65) of which this study was a part.

In total, 455 schedules were distributed and 154 were returned, for an over-all return rate of 34 percent. Distribution by communities is illustrated by Table 2.

Table 2

Seasonal Residents' Questionnaire Returns by Community

Seasonal home community	Number distributed	Number* returned	Percent returned
Eagle Lake	100	25	25
Newport	100	22	22
Winthrop	55	23	42
Southwest Harbor	100	35	35
South Harpswell	100	49	49
Total	455	154	34

* The number returned was greater than the number used because of non-response to some of the questions essential to this study.

Questionnaire Construction

The questionnaire used for Winthrop and South Harpswell, the two communities making up part of the Northeast Regional study, was composed by the regional technical committee and was more elaborate than the shorter form mailed later to the other three localities. Questions which were found to be ambiguous or difficult to answer and process were deleted when the shortened format was prepared for the mail survey. The questions common to both versions of the schedule were those thought to be most pertinent; these questions yielded the data summarized in this report.

A copy of the shortened questionnaire follows the "Summary and Comments" section of this report. The format provides a general guide for any community (or other area) wishing to survey its own seasonal residents with respect to socio-economic characteristics, vacation patterns, and environmental concerns.

FEATURES OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE OF SEASONAL HOME OWNERS

The origins of seasonal home owners are of interest when an understanding of their travel patterns, vacation preferences, and attitudes toward environmental quality is sought. Tables 3 through 5 present information pertaining to the permanent residence of the seasonal home owners surveyed.

Miles From Permanent Residence to Seasonal Home

Short-distance travelers predominated in total, as they did for both lake and shore communities; "100 miles or less" from the permanent residence was the most frequent response in each case. Beyond that shared feature, however, some interesting differences emerged.

Table 3
Miles From Permanent Residence To Seasonal Home
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Range (miles)	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
100 or less	40	57	28	33	68	44
101-300	12	17	24	29	36	23
301-500	12	17	8	9	20	13
501-700	4	6	14	17	18	12
701 or more	2	3	10	12	12	8
Total	70	100	84	100	154	100

While those reporting a distance of more than 500 miles accounted for only 9 percent of the respondents in lake communities, the same distance range was reported by 29 percent of those from shore areas. Thus, well over one-fourth of the shore respondents appeared to spend eight or more hours on the road (assuming use of automobile) in traveling from their permanent to their seasonal home.

Why the contrast, in terms of long-distance travel, between the two groups? The answer may lie in two factors: (1) the generally higher per capita income of non-Maine residents, and (2) the uniqueness of Maine's coast. The income factor would enable residents of other states to purchase coastal frontage, which usually is more costly than frontage on Maine's lakes. The uniqueness of the coast, also, unquestionably draws visitors. Many states in the Northeast and upper Midwest have attractive and accessible lake regions, although these usually are less extensive and somewhat more heavily populated than Maine's many square miles of lakes. But most of these same states lack coastlines which rival Maine's in geological and botanical interest as well as scenic and recreational allure. Thus, it is likely that this unique drawing card is more able than the less unusual lake areas to attract seasonal residents from hundreds of miles away.

State or Area of Permanent Residence

As suggested by the responses indicating miles from permanent residence (Table 4), Maine residents accounted for the largest single group (45 percent) in total. In the ocean communities, however, Maine accounted for a smaller number of seasonal residents (32 percent) than in the lake areas (61 percent).

At the same time, the "Other U.S." category encompassed 15 percent of the responses from shore areas but only 2 percent of those from the three lake communities. Such far-flung states as Florida, Kansas, Texas, and California were represented among the responses from shore

Table 4
State or Area in Which Respondent's Permanent Residence is Located
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Area	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Maine	41	61	26	32	67	45
Other New England ^a	13	19	22	27	35	24
N.Y., N.J., Del., Pa.	12	18	21	26	33	22
Other U.S.	1	2	12	15	13	9
Total	67	100	81	100	148	100

^aIncludes Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

areas, while the sole "Other U.S." response from the lake communities listed Texas as the state of residence.

No respondents indicated Canada or any other nation outside the U.S. as their permanent residence.

Type of Location of Permanent Residence

In terms of type of permanent residence area, the lake communities emerged as heavily small town/village (55 percent). The shore areas, however, were more urban-oriented, with central city and suburban residences combining for 61 percent.

Table 5
Type of Area in Which Permanent Residence is Located
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Area Description	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Central City	10	15	19	24	29	20
Suburban	12	18	30	37	42	29
Rural-Urban Fringe	7	10	12	15	19	13
Small town/village	37	55	16	20	53	36
Other	1	2	3	4	4	2
	67	100	80	100	147	100

When all responses from the five communities were totalled, the small town/village residences accounted for the single largest group (36 percent), followed by suburban and then central city. Such a pattern is consistent with the predominance of Maine residents surveyed, in that the state's non-urban character suggests that respondents from central city and suburban areas would be relatively few in number.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Not only is knowledge about the socio-economic characteristics of seasonal residents desirable for planning and policy formulation, but such knowledge helps to place in perspective the residents' attitudes on environmental conditions, controls, and the like. Tables 6 through 10 summarize the socio-economic features thought to be most important in describing the seasonal home owners who responded to the survey.

Age of Head of Household

The young and those in early middle age were not heavily represented among the seasonal home occupants sampled, those less than 45 years old making up a mere 19 percent of all respondents.

Table 6
Age of Head of Household
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Range (years)	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Under 35	3	4	5	7	8	6
35-44	13	19	6	8	19	13
45-54	24	35	16	21	40	28
55-64	15	22	19	25	34	23
65-74	14	20	18	24	32	22
Over 74	0	0	11	15	11	8
Total	69	100	75	100	144	100

At the same time, respondents of age 55 or more abounded in the five communities. Over 50 percent of all respondents, including a notable 64 percent from the two ocean areas, fell into this age bracket. In addition, one respondent in seven from the ocean communities had reached or surpassed the age of 75.

One-fifth of all lake respondents, as well as nearly two-fifths of those from ocean areas, had reached the age of 65—often considered the point of retirement from active employment.

Children in Household

Respondents reporting no children predominated in total and in both groups of communities, accounting for well over 50 percent in each case. This observation, initially rather startling, makes more sense when one considers (1) that respondents were asked the number of children in the current household, and (2) that more than 50 percent of all respondents reported the age of the head of household as 55 or over (Table 6). Thus a couple near retirement age, for example, with several children having grown up and left home, would respond "zero" to this particular question.

Table 7
Number of Children in Respondent's Household
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Number of children	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0	37	54	56	67	93	61
1	8	12	2	2	10	6
2	7	10	11	13	18	12
3	10	14	6	7	16	10
4-6	7	10	8	10	15	10
Over 6	0	0	1	1	1	1
Total	69	100	84	100	153	100

Because of implications for pressure on recreational resources, community planners and officials would do well to ascertain the number (and ideally, age distribution) of children in seasonal households. Programs and facilities for a group of currently childless residents of at least middle age would differ markedly from those aimed at households with active children of any age.

Education of Head of Household

Educational levels differed markedly between the two groups of communities. In the three lake communities, the modal (most frequently observed) level of education was high school, and more than one-half of the respondents had pursued no college education.

Table 8
Level of Education Completed by Head of Household
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Level	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Less than 12 years	12	18	2	3	14	10
High school	24	35	9	12	33	23
Some College	13	19	15	20	28	20
Bachelor's Degree	11	16	15	20	26	18
Beyond Bachelor's	8	12	33	45	41	29
Total	68	100	74	100	142	100

In the two ocean-based communities, however, more than four-fifths of those responding had received academic training beyond high school, and more than two-fifths had gone beyond a bachelor's degree; this latter group, accounting for 45 percent, represented the most common level of education.

When both groups of communities were combined, those reporting educational attainment up to and including high school accounted for

only 33 percent, and those reporting a bachelor's degree or more for 47 percent. Although heavily influenced by the observations from the shore communities, these percentages reflect, nonetheless, a relatively high level of education for the typical seasonal home resident.

Occupation of Head of Household

What might be termed "professional and managerial" occupations predominated among the seasonal residents surveyed. The first three categories of Table 9 accounted for nearly 50 percent of respondents from the lake communities and over 50 percent for the shore areas (where "professional and technical" were abundant) and all respondents combined.

Table 9
Occupation of Head of Household
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Occupation	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Professional & technical	15	25	37	48	52	38
Farmers & farm managers	0	0	1	1	1	1
Managers, officials & proprietors (except farm)	13	22	7	9	20	14
Clerical & sales workers	6	10	5	6	11	8
Craftsmen, foremen & operatives	11	19	5	6	16	12
Private household & service workers	2	3	0	0	2	1
Farm laborers & foremen	0	0	0	0	0	0
Laborers (except farm & mine)	1	2	0	0	1	1
Retired	10	17	23	30	33	24
Other	1	2	0	0	1	1
Total	59	100	78	100	137	100

Craftsmen and laborers, on the other hand were relatively scarce. They accounted for only 21 percent of the respondents from lake areas, 6 percent of those from shore communities, and a mere 13 percent of all respondents.

Respondents reporting their occupational status as "retired" accounted for nearly one-fourth of the total, with the incidence higher in the shore communities than the lake areas. This figure (24 percent for all respondents) is not, however, totally reliable. In reply to a separate question, "Is the head of your household retired?" 30 percent answered in the affirmative. The discrepancy between the two figures may result from the tendency of a retired person, when faced with a question con-

cerning occupation, to indicate his former area of employment rather than the "retired" status.

Household Income

The most common household income level (range) for the two groups of communities was the same: \$10,000 to \$19,999. Also, the second most common level was the same for both: less than \$10,000.

Table 10
Total Household Income, 1969
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Range (dollars)	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Less than 10,000	25	41	20	27	45	33
10-19,999	26	42	26	35	52	39
20-29,999	9	15	9	12	18	13
30 and over	1	2	19	26	20	15
Total	61	100	74	100	135	100

A noticeable difference, however, emerged in the top income range of \$30,000 and over. More than one-fourth of the respondents from shore areas reported this income level, while only two percent of those from lake communities did so.

When the five communities were combined, a relatively even distribution of household income emerged with one-third reporting less than \$10,000, slightly more than one-third claiming \$10,000 to \$19,999, and somewhat less than one-third reporting the \$20,000 and over ranges.

PATTERNS OF USE

Past, present, and future patterns of use for the seasonal home carry important implications for the development of a community and for the provision of public services. Information pertaining to such patterns of use is presented in Tables 11 through 14.

Years Coming to Community

Although no striking differences emerged between the lake and ocean communities where years of seasonal residence was concerned, a relatively long history of such recreational use was indicated. For all communities combined, only 17 percent of the respondents had been coming to the area for fewer than seven years. At the same time, 59 percent reported 16 or more years, with more than 70 percent of these long-time visitors having come for more than 25 years.

Table 11
Years Seasonal Home Owner Has Been Coming to Community
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Range (years)	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1-6	10	16	14	17	24	17
7-15	19	31	15	19	34	24
16-25	11	18	13	16	24	17
Over 25	22	35	39	48	61	42
Total	62	100	81	100	143	100

It should be noted that all five communities surveyed, probably in part because of location and access, have hosted at least a small number of seasonal residents for several decades. The distribution on Table 11, as a result, surely would not characterize those areas of Maine in which the influx of seasonal residents has been a more recent phenomenon.

Annual Days of Use

Heavy use during the year emerged as a definite pattern when responses were summarized, with those reporting a month or less accounting for only 6 percent of all responses.

Table 12
Days Seasonal Home is used Annually by All Parties
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Range (days)	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
30 or fewer	7	11	2	3	9	6
31-70	12	19	26	33	38	27
71-90	14	22	13	17	27	19
91-120	17	27	11	14	28	20
121 or more	13	21	26	33	39	28
Total	63	100	78	100	141	100

When all communities were combined, the most frequently mentioned (28 percent) number of days was 121 or more (closely followed by 31-70 days). Thus, more than one-fourth of all respondents reported at least four months of use annually for their seasonal homes. Such heavy use can be a source of intense pressure on both community services and recreational resources, especially so as vacation time increases in many occupations.

Rental to Other Vacationers

In reply to the question, "Do you rent this seasonal home to other vacationers?" only 9 percent of the respondents indicated that they did so. Thus, the vast majority claimed that they did not rent out their seasonal property.

Table 13
Rental of Seasonal Home to Other Vacationers
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Response	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Yes: do rent	2	3	10	13	12	9
No: don't rent	62	97	66	87	128	91
Total	64	100	76	100	140	100

A great deal of faith, however, should not be placed in the percentages indicated above. If such a rental yields income for the property owner, and that income is unreported, the owner might be reluctant to reveal his renting practices even on a questionnaire which promises to keep him anonymous. The 91 percent figure for those not renting may be, accordingly, somewhat inflated in comparison with reality.

Future Plans for Seasonal Home

The vast majority of all respondents, 70 percent of the total, reported no plans for their seasonal homes other than continuing the current pattern of seasonal use. Only 6 percent of all respondents indicated plans for sale of the property; reasons for such plans were not ascertained.

Table 14
Repondents' Plans for Seasonal Home in the Future
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Description	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Keep for seasonal home	43	67	58	72	101	70
Sell	7	11	2	3	9	6
Use as permanent or retirement home	11	17	17	21	28	20
Other	3	5	3	4	6	4
Total	64	100	80	100	144	100

It is noteworthy that 20 percent of the replies indicated plans for conversion to a permanent or retirement home. Although this percentage does not appear high, such conversion of one-fifth of the seasonal homes could, for many communities, place great demands on public

services. Demands for year-round road maintenance, trash disposal, and schooling could burden heavily both the budgets and physical facilities of local units of government, particularly if such demands have not been considered in community planning and zoning.

PHYSICAL, FINANCIAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES

Physical features, property values, and environmental conditions combine to make up the overall "package" of the seasonal home community. Such aspects of the five localities, as reported by the seasonal residents participating in the survey, are presented in Tables 15 through 19.

Size of Seasonal Home Lot

Seasonal home lots varied greatly in size within the communities surveyed and from one community to another. Of interest to the planner and the environmentalist is the frequency with which lots of less than 10,000 square feet (for example, 100 feet by 100 feet) in area were reported; such lots accounted for more than one-fourth of the total as well as of the responses from both groups of communities. When one considers the limitations of a lot only 100 feet on a side, for example, the potential for congestion, lack of privacy, sparse recreational space, and waste disposal problems is clear.

Table 15
Size of Lot on Which Seasonal Home is Located
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Size range (square feet)	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Under 10,000	16	27	19	26	35	26
10-29,999	20	33	18	25	38	29
30-43,560*	10	17	7	10	17	13
Over 43,560	14	23	29	39	43	32
Total	60	100	73	100	133	100

*43,560 square feet = 1 acre

At the same time, however, lots of more than an acre (43,560 square feet) also were well represented, accounting for almost one-third of the total reported. Such lots, even when vegetation, soil, and building placement depart from the ideal, alleviate through their very size some of the conditions named above.

Sewage Disposal Systems

Septic tanks with drainfields predominated (49 percent of total responses) among the sewage disposal systems indicated. No other type of disposal system accounted for more than 14 percent of the total.

Table 16
Type of Sewage Disposal System at Seasonal Home
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Description	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Outhouse	6	9	3	4	9	6
Septic tank with drainfield	40	60	31	40	71	49
Other septic system	7	11	13	17	20	14
Cesspool	11	16	5	6	16	11
Regional or community system	1	2	4	5	5	4
No facilities	0	0	8	10	8	6
Other	1	2	14	18	15	10
Total	66	100	78	100	144	100

Although no systematic analysis of such physical factors was conducted as part of this study, it is apparent that the predominance of septic systems may create water quality problems in view of this combination of features in many of the areas surveyed: small lot size, proximity of homes to water's edge, and soil conditions (often shallow, poorly drained, with ledge frequently in evidence). Increased numbers of seasonal homes, more days of use for existing homes, and conversion to year-round residences all could severely overload the waste disposal capacity of the physical resources where septic systems are relied upon.

Estimated Value of Seasonal Property

Despite a rather even distribution of value estimates for the total responses, sharp contrasts emerged between the two groupings of communities. The most frequent response in the lake communities was one to five thousand dollars, accounting for 38 percent. In the ocean communities, however, the most frequent response was 11 to 20 thousand dollars, accounting for 45 percent.

The second most frequent range also differed markedly between the two groups, being six to 10 thousand for lake areas and 21 to 40 thousand for the ocean communities. The highest range of value (over 40 thousand dollars), furthermore, accounted for 15 percent of the replies from ocean communities but not one response from the lake areas surveyed.

Table 17
Respondent's Estimation of Value of Home and Lot
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Range	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
\$1,000-5,000	21	38	4	7	25	21
6,000-10,000	19	34	6	10	25	21
11,000-20,000	12	21	28	45	40	34
21,000-40,000	4	7	14	23	18	16
Over \$40,000	0	0	9	15	9	8
Total	56	100	61	100	117	100

It must be noted that a respondent's estimate of property value may be influenced by a number of factors in addition to his knowledge of the market and of current assessment levels. If he should doubt the confidential nature of a questionnaire, he may purposely err on the low side if he suspects an effect on his assessment, or on the high side if he senses a potential purchaser (public or private).

An additional reason for guarded interpretation of the value estimates is the high rate of non-response on this item. Of the seasonal residents returning questionnaires, some 25 percent did not furnish an estimate of the value of seasonal home and lot. Without additional information regarding these non-respondents, no firm conclusions should be drawn from the value data collected.

Objectionable Features of Area

Respondents were asked to identify objectionable features or conditions in their area of seasonal residence. Ranking highest in total as a response was "Nothing in particular," or no answer at all; these observations accounted for 19.5 percent of the total, with the figure almost equal for lake and shore areas. Thus, about one-fifth of the seasonal residents identified *no* objectionable conditions.

Water pollution was (in total) the most frequently mentioned objectionable condition. It was listed as a concern by 23 percent of the lake residents and 7 percent of the respondents from ocean communities.

Conditions related to waste disposal were, when ranked for all observations, clearly foremost in the respondents' minds. Of the four rankings beyond the "Nothing, etc." category, waste-related features accounted for three. Water pollution, sewage disposal methods, and solid waste disposal all appeared to be of great concern to the seasonal residents.

Table 18

Objectionable Features of Area in Which Seasonal Home is Located
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Feature (description)	Rank in Responses*		
	Lake	Shore	Total
Nothing in particular, or no answer	2	1	1
Water pollution	1	7	2
Congestion, traffic, too many land vehicles	10	2	3
Sewage disposal methods	5	5	4
Solid waste disposal	7	3	5
Lack of land use controls, absence of restrictions	9	4	6
Automobile violations	8	6	7
Land prices and taxation too high	4	11	8
Public roads: need improvement or more	3	-	9
Undesirable people	6	10	10
Litter	-	8	11
Too many people	-	9	12
Destruction of natural surroundings, declining wildlife	11	-	13

* Lowest number indicates highest rank or most frequent occurrence as answer. For example, water pollution was mentioned more often (as an objectionable feature) than any other item by residents of lake communities.

Willingness to Pay More Property Tax

After being questioned regarding objectionable conditions, respondents were asked: "Would you be willing to pay an increase in property tax to have this condition resolved?" The majority answered in the negative (53 percent for lake residents, 55 percent for ocean respondents, 54 percent in total).

The table below summarizes the responses of the 46 percent who *did* indicate a willingness to shoulder an additional tax burden. Just one-half of these respondents indicated that they would be willing to pay 50 dollars or more per year to alleviate objectionable conditions. At the same time, however, 41 percent were willing to pay no more than 20 dollars per year.

Table 19
Willingness to Pay Additional Annual Property Tax
5 Maine Communities, 1970

Additional Tax (annual)	Lake Communities		Shore Communities		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
\$10	7	21	5	13	12	17
\$20	7	21	10	26	17	24
\$30-40	2	6	4	11	6	9
\$50-75	11	33	7	18	18	25
\$100 or more	6	19	12	32	18	25
Total	33	100	38	100	71	100

Thus, while some seasonal residents were willing to pay generously to improve their area of seasonal residence, many were not. Bringing about an improved environment through the expenditure of additional tax dollars did not emerge as a totally popular approach.

ATTITUDES TOWARD ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

The attitudes of seasonal home residents toward various facets of environmental quality were of interest to the investigator. In any community, county, or larger area such attitudes can reveal the perceived need for environmental improvement. At the same time, these attitudes can indicate the degree of palatability of institutional measures aimed at maintaining or enhancing environmental quality.

As a means of ascertaining environmental attitudes, several statements were presented to each respondent. Four responses were possible: agree mildly, agree strongly, disagree mildly, and disagree strongly. In addition, respondents could abstain from answering. For simplicity and ease of understanding, however, all responses are grouped in the following tables into two categories: agree and disagree.

The percentages indicated in the tables were calculated for those responding; thus, the "agree" and "disagree" rows total 100 percent in each case. Because the rate of non-response was consistently low (less than 10 percent in most cases), actual numbers of responses are omitted and only percentages are presented. The reader should keep in mind for perspective, however, that most of the agree-disagree tables are based on approximately 70 respondents from lake areas and 80 from ocean communities.

Water Quality

Quality of the water resource is of particular concern where water-based recreation appears to be the predominant reason for the pattern of summer residence. Those questioned were asked to respond to several statements bearing directly on water quality; the results are presented below.

On the whole, seasonal residents did not appear to be greatly dissatisfied with water quality. Particularly in the cases of statements B and C, over 60 percent of all respondents indicated that they agreed, thus expressing a generally favorable perception of this aspect of the environment.

Statement A, however, brought less favorable responses. Nearly two-thirds (63 percent) of the respondents from lake areas indicated a deterioration of conditions with respect to cleanliness over a period of

		Lake	Shore	Total	
		percent			
A.	“This lake [area of the ocean] appears to be as clean as it was a number of years ago.”	Agree	37	53	46
		Disagree	63	47	54
B.	“Algae, water weeds, and other plant growth are not any problem in this lake [area of the ocean].”	Agree	41	81	62
		Disagree	59	19	38
C.	“The water where I go swimming in this lake [area of the ocean] is clear.”	Agree	63	79	71
		Disagree	37	21	29

years. Thus, a large number of lake residents, as well as more than two-fifths (47 percent) of respondents from ocean areas, indicated that this aspect of water quality had declined in the area in which their seasonal homes were located.

Waste Disposal

Disposal of wastes of all types is a matter of great importance both nationwide and in the State of Maine. Seasonal residents produce their share of waste materials: sewage, trash, garbage, etc. The reactions of the respondents to statements dealing with waste disposal are presented below.

		Lake	Shore	Total	
		percent			
A.	“There are objectionable odors at times from improper handling of sewage wastes.”	Agree	30	26	28
		Disagree	70	74	72
B.	“I have seen no evidence of any sewage disposal problems in this community.”	Agree	52	22	36
		Disagree	48	78	64
C.	“There is too much litter and trash evident in the water of this lake [area of the ocean].”	Agree	46	49	48
		Disagree	54	51	52
D.	“The community is kept very clean and there is no litter or trash lying around.”	Agree	70	72	71
		Disagree	30	28	29
E.	“At times, there are objectionable odors from households burning garbage or trash.”	Agree	29	24	26
		Disagree	71	76	74

With respect to sewage wastes (statements A and B), reactions were mixed. While 70 percent or more in both groups perceived no odor problem related to sewage (statement A), the fact that more than one-fourth of the respondents agreed with the statement indicates that some odor problem does exist. In responding to statement B, almost one-half of the lake respondents and over three-fourths of those from ocean communities disagreed with the "no evidence" statement. In total, 64 percent implied awareness of sewage disposal problems of some nature.

Litter and trash (statements C and D) also elicited a variety of responses. Where the water was concerned (statement C), respondents were rather evenly divided with just under one-half indicating "too much litter and trash." The communities themselves (statement D), however, received more favorable ratings, with over 70 percent of all respondents reporting relative cleanliness. Litter and trash problems do not appear to be totally absent, though, in that 29 percent disagreed with the favorable statement.

Odors from the burning of garbage or trash (statement E) brought responses corresponding roughly to those for statement D. Despite the indication of no problem from 74 percent, over one-fourth of the respondents apparently had been annoyed by such odors.

Noise and Traffic

Vehicles and noise from all sources are potentially annoying, whether the location is one of permanent or seasonal residence. The noise and traffic which plague many urban areas are not, however, part of the popular image of a seasonal home community—a retreat for peace, quiet, and relaxed recreation. Those surveyed were given the opportunity to react to statements dealing with these matters.

		<u>Lake</u>	<u>Shore</u> percent	<u>Total</u>
A. "At times, there is too much noise from the activities of other people."	Agree	30	26	28
	Disagree	70	74	72
B. "A nice feature of this community is that there is little traffic and no congestion of other kinds."	Agree	70	56	63
	Disagree	30	44	37

Respondents from both groups of communities indicated (statement A) no great annoyance from noise. That over one-fourth did agree with the "too much noise" statement provides, however, evidence that the level of quiet is lower than what many seasonal residents desire.

Traffic and congestion elicited a less uniform response from the two groups of communities. Although in both cases the majority of those responding indicated agreement with the favorable statement, more than two-fifths of the respondents from ocean areas (44 percent) disagreed with the favorable statement—as did 37 percent of all respondents. Thus, traffic and congestions annoy a substantial portion of the seasonal residents surveyed.

Recreational Pressures

A certain degree of privacy and the freedom to pursue and enjoy recreational activities are characteristics commonly attributed to the setting provided by a recreational community of any type. Seasonal home residents were questioned about the existence of such conditions and about their perception of the link between natural beauty and numbers of people.

		<u>Lake</u>	<u>Shore</u>	<u>Total</u>	
		percent			
A.	“I enjoy this lake [area of the ocean] because not too many people use it for water recreation.”	Agree	47	74	62
		Disagree	53	26	38
B.	“I enjoy my recreational activities on this lake [area of the ocean] now as much as I did a few years ago.”	Agree	59	89	75
		Disagree	41	11	25
C.	“The natural beauty of this region has deteriorated in recent years from the influx of growing numbers of people.”	Agree	38	42	40
		Disagree	62	58	60

Slightly more than one-half (53 percent) of the respondents from lake areas expressed disagreement with statement A, while only 26 percent of those from shore areas disagreed. Thus, the shore seasonal residents appeared to be relatively satisfied where degree of recreational use is concerned, while the majority of those from lake areas indicated a lack of enjoyment.

In terms of enjoyment “now” as compared to a few years ago (statement B), 75 percent of all respondents agreed with the statement as presented. Shore area residents, agreeing at a rate of 89 percent, appeared to perceive little change. Respondents from the lake communities were less emphatic; over two-fifths (41 percent) disagreed. In view of the pattern shown by lake area residents in responding to statement A,

such a decline in enjoyment may be a result of an increasing number of recreationists.

The majority of respondents from both groups of communities reported no deterioration of natural beauty. Such an opinion was hardly unanimous, however, in that 40 percent of all respondents (approximately equal between the two groups of communities) agreed that deterioration had occurred because of growing numbers of people.

Costs and Values: Environmental Quality

Dollar signs are important to almost everyone, and seasonal home residents do not appear to be exceptions. Statements dealing with property values and the costs of environmental improvement (by implication, taxes) were presented to the seasonal home residents participating in the survey.

		<u>Lake</u>	<u>Shore</u>	<u>Total</u>	
		percent			
A.	“My property values are related to the quality of the surrounding natural environment.”	Agree	85	91	88
		Disagree	15	9	12
B.	“All property owners in the state should share in costs of improving local seasonal home environments.”	Agree	39	41	40
		Disagree	61	59	60
C.	“I feel seasonal home owners should bear the major costs of improving the local environment.”	Agree	34	32	33
		Disagree	66	68	67

That 88 percent of all respondents perceived a positive relationship between environmental quality and property values (statement A) is not surprising, especially in these times of heightened environmental awareness. More interesting perhaps, are the responses to cost-related statements B and C.

The majority of seasonal residents did not support the idea of spreading local environmental improvement costs over all property owners in the state (statement B). The 60 percent disagreeing with the statement may have felt that the financial burden, rather than being shared over a wide geographical area, should fall on the localities which would benefit from such improvement.

At the same time, however, a large percentage (67) felt that seasonal home owners themselves should not bear the major costs (statement C). Such a response pattern appears initially to contradict the ob-

servations from statement B. The two may be reconciled, however, in that seasonal occupants may feel that *permanent* residents have a rightful share to pay of all costs of improving local environments. Particularly when seasonal and permanent homes exist side-by-side, as they do in several communities, improving environmental conditions confers a benefit on both categories of residents. In such a case, it is not unrealistic to hope that permanent residents would share the costs of environmental improvement.

Features of Homes and Community

In addition to recreational opportunities, the seasonal home and its setting (the community) are important to the seasonal resident. Below are five statements which bear on the home, spacing, lay-out and the like.

		Lake	Shore	Total	
		percent			
A.	“Most of the seasonal homes in this community are not very attractive.”	Agree	20	9	14
		Disagree	80	91	86
B.	“Most of the seasonal homes are in need of repairs or paint.”	Agree	39	9	23
		Disagree	61	91	77
C.	“I wish there were more space between my home and my neighbor’s home.”	Agree	59	56	58
		Disagree	41	44	42
D.	“The streets and lots in this community are laid out in a very pleasing manner.”	Agree	58	67	63
		Disagree	42	33	37
E.	“Overall, this is an attractive community.”	Agree	81	96	89
		Disagree	19	4	11

The responses to these statements were rather predictable, in that they were consistent with the investigator’s subjective impressions of homes, communities, and seasonal residents.

The respondents appeared to feel, on the whole, that the seasonal homes (statement A) and the communities themselves (statement E) were basically attractive. On both items, more than 85 percent of all respondents indicated reactions favorable to the aspect of attractiveness.

Responses to statement D revealed greater dissatisfaction, although still on the part of a minority, with the layout of streets and lots. Statement C elicited a response pattern familiar to laymen and professional alike, the preference for more space and “elbow room” between homes; after visiting the communities surveyed, one is surprised that an even higher percentage did not agree with the statement.

With respect to the need for repairs or paint, the vast majority (77 percent) disagreed with the statement as presented. It is informative, however, that almost two-fifths (39 percent) of the respondents from lake communities indicated a need for such maintenance of property.

Restrictions Related to Environmental Quality

Because of the importance of environmental conditions and their relationship to recreational residence patterns, respondents were presented the following statement and list of restrictive measures:

"If this and similar seasonal home communities are to retain their original charm and beauty it might mean limiting individual freedom in some ways. How would you react to:

		Lake	Shore	Total
		percent		
A. Further muffling of outboard motors	Agree	52	78	
	Disagree	48	22	34
B. Restricted zones for motor boating	Agree	30	53	43
	Disagree	70	47	57
C. Restricted zones for water skiing	Agree	40	71	57
	Disagree	60	29	43
D. Restricted time periods for motor boating	Agree	15	35	26
	Disagree	85	65	74
E. Restricted time periods for water skiing	Agree	21	44	34
	Disagree	79	56	66
F. Restricted areas for trail bikes, etc.	Agree	43	76	60
	Disagree	57	24	40
G. Restrictions on architectural design	Agree	30	52	42
	Disagree	70	48	58
H. A limit on the total number of seasonal homes in a community	Agree	48	70	61
	Disagree	52	30	39
I. Off limit areas for automobiles	Agree	42	66	55
	Disagree	58	34	45
J. Restrictions on use of pesticides	Agree	77	91	85
	Disagree	23	9	15
K. Restrictions on use of household detergents	Agree	66	81	74
	Disagree	34	19	26

The imposition of restrictions and controls would require, realistically, a majority vote in any local decision process. Although the responses summarized above came from seasonal residents only and thus are not necessarily representative of the entire communities, a look at the outcome (percentages) is instructive.

When all respondents were grouped ("Total" column), seven of the 11 restrictions presented were passed, or agreed to, by a majority ranging from 55 to 85 percent. In the three lake communities, however, only three of the 11 were approved. In the two ocean areas, on the other hand, nine of the 11 passed; only restricted time periods for motor boating (statement D) and for water skiing (statement E) failed to carry a majority of seasonal respondents from shore communities.

Restrictions eliciting an "agree" response from a majority in *both* groups of communities numbered only three: Further muffling of outboard motors (statement A), restrictions on use of pesticides (statement J), and restrictions on use of household detergents (statement K).

Local officials and citizens' groups alike would be well advised to sample public opinion before moving vigorously to impose controls or restrictions bearing on environmental conditions. If such opinion does not favor restrictive measures, major educational efforts may be necessary before the public will accept environmental protection as a way of life.

SUMMARY AND COMMENTS

The Typical Seasonal Resident

From the information contained in this report, a "profile" may be constructed for the typical seasonal resident in the five Maine communities surveyed. The features summarized are based on the most common (modal) responses to the several questions and statements presented to all respondents.

Our typical seasonal home owner travels no more than 100 miles from his permanent home, which is located in a small town or village in Maine, to his place of seasonal residence. He is between 45 and 54 years of age, has no children in his current household [see comment following Table 7], and has pursued education beyond a bachelor's degree [see comment following Table 8]. He describes his occupation as "Professional and Technical" and reports a total household income (1969) between \$10,000 and \$19,999.

Long-time allegiance to his seasonal home community characterizes this typical resident, in that he has been coming to the area for more than 25 years. His seasonal home is used heavily, 121 days or more each year by all parties, although he does not rent the property to other vacationers. He plans to retain the property as a seasonal home in the future, rather than selling it or converting it to a permanent or retirement residence.

This typical seasonal resident reports a large lot size, over an acre, and values his home and lot in the 11 to 20 thousand dollar range. He

disposes of household sewage by a septic tank and drainfield system. He reports no objectionable features in particular of the area where his seasonal home is located, although when he *does* note an objection it most often is water pollution. He is not willing to shoulder an increase in property tax to effect an improvement in local conditions.

In terms of attitudes toward environmental conditions, the typical seasonal resident reports clear water for swimming and the absence of annoying plant growth, but he does not feel that the water is as clean as it was a number of years ago. He perceives a clean community with few odors from garbage or sewage, but he does report having seen evidence of sewage disposal problems in the community. Noise, traffic, and congestion are not sufficiently great to annoy him.

Where recreational pressures are concerned, our typical resident voices no great complaints. The number of people using the water for recreation does not reduce his enjoyment, which is as great as it was a few years ago. Neither does he sense a deterioration of the region's natural beauty from an influx of growing numbers of people.

The seasonal resident perceives a link between environmental quality and the value of his property. He does not feel, however, that all property owners in the state should share the costs of local environmental improvement, or that seasonal home owners should bear the costs of such improvement. He describes the community where his seasonal home is located as attractive, composed of attractive and adequately maintained seasonal homes, with streets and lots laid out in a pleasing manner. He expresses the wish, however, for more space between his seasonal home and those of his neighbors.

Where restrictions or controls related to environmental quality are concerned, the typical seasonal resident is willing to subject individual freedom to some potential risk. He favors further muffling of outboard motors, restricted zones for water skiing, restricted areas for trail bikes and the like, and off-limit areas for automobiles. He finds agreeable the idea of a limit on the total number of seasonal homes in his community. He also favors restrictions on the use of both pesticides and household detergents. Thus he is not, contrary to popular impression, hostile to all forms of individual restriction aimed at improvement of the common environment.

Comments

- 1) The above profile, because it is based on modal (most frequent or typical) observations, is of limited use. It is likely that no one respondent embodies the total combination of characteristics, although the observed numbers indicate that each feature is, in fact, typical of the entire group surveyed.

- 2) The selection of different communities easily could alter the observations for any or all features described. It is quite likely, for example, that many of Maine's seasonal home areas are characterized by smaller lot size, more numerous environmental problems, and residents who are younger, less highly educated, and far more "new" to the community than those participating in this survey.
- 3) At the same time, as pointed out in the section dealing with research procedure, the five localities studied do not represent the broad range of seasonal, recreation-oriented homes in Maine. No winter sports area is included, no new "development" community, and no group of homes which do not have water as their primary scenic or recreational focus.
- 4) Supporting physical data, not collected under this study, would complement the socio-economic and attitudinal findings presented here. In any community, data describing water quality, soil properties, traffic flows, and the like would be necessary for a complete analysis of the effects of seasonal residence patterns on environmental quality.
- 5) Detailed economic data also would be necessary for a broadly realistic assessment of the effects of seasonal homes on the communities in which they are located. Information describing residents' expenditures, tax revenues, and cost of public services all would be necessary inputs for evaluating a community's present situation or planning its future.
- 6) Data describing recreational preferences and participation of seasonal and permanent residents alike also would be an invaluable input for planning. The "days in use" figure presented in Table 12 is, for example, only a crude measure. Of equal interest to the planner is the number of separate trips making up these days, the frequency of weekend excursions, the season(s) of use, etc.
- 7) Community officials who are interested in adjusting to present conditions and planning for the future need, in all likelihood, increased knowledge about the seasonal segment of the local population. The attached questionnaire, no doubt modified for local conditions, can serve as a vehicle for obtaining such knowledge.
- 8) A vast quantity of information exists untapped where Maine's seasonal residents and their environmental impact are concerned. This study represents a first step, and not a final one, toward the goal of collecting that information as an input for planning future development.

APPENDIX: SEASONAL HOME OWNER QUESTIONNAIRE

CONFIDENTIAL

MAINE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY SURVEY

I. Below are a number of statements about environmental conditions of seasonal home communities. Some may apply to your community, others may not. We want your *own personal feelings* as to whether you agree or disagree with each statement as it applies to *this* community.

A single check in the appropriate column opposite each statement is all that is required. An example is given below. Don't spend a lot of time thinking about each statement. Your *first reaction* to the statement is the most important. Your response to each question is important. All your answers are confidential. Your name does not appear anywhere on this questionnaire.

As soon as it is convenient, please mail the completed questionnaire in the envelope provided. Thank you for your cooperation.

	I Agree		I Disagree	
	Mildly	Strongly	Mildly	Strongly
EXAMPLE: There has been too much cloudy and stormy weather this summer for a really enjoyable vacation.	X
1. I wish there were more space between my home and my neighbors' homes.
2. Taking into account all aspects of this area of the ocean, in general it is not as pleasant for recreation as it was several years ago.
3. There is too much litter and trash evident in the water of this area of the ocean.
4. Most of the seasonal homes in this community are not very attractive.
5. At times, there is too much noise from the activities of other people.
6. There are objectionable odors at times from the improper handling of sewage wastes.
7. If I were to purchase a seasonal home, I would be more concerned with the overall quality of the community and less concerned with the quality of the home I was buying.
8. This area of the ocean appears to be as clean as it was a number of years ago.

	I Agree		I Disagree	
	Mildly	Strongly	Mildly	Strongly
9. The water is too cold for pleasant swimming.
10. The streets and lots in this community are designed and laid out in a very pleasing manner.
11. A nice feature of this community is that there is little traffic and no congestion of other kinds.
12. Most seasonal homes in this community are large in size.
13. Most of the seasonal homes are in need of repairs or paint.
14. I enjoy this area of the ocean because not too many people use it for water recreation.
15. Algae, water weeds, and other plant growth are not any problem in this area of the ocean.
16. A nice thing about this community is that the individual home lots are large.
17. Overall, this is an attractive community.
18. The space around most seasonal home properties in this community is not well landscaped and not particularly attractive.
19. I enjoy my recreational activities on this area of the ocean now as much as I did a few years ago.
20. There are fewer fish caught in this area of the ocean now than there were a few years ago.
21. I have seen no evidence of any sewage disposal problems in this community.
22. There is a definite trash disposal problem in this community.
23. The fish caught in this area of the ocean are as big today as those caught in recent years.
24. At times, there are objectionable odors from households burning garbage or trash.
25. Most of the seasonal homes in this community are poorly constructed with cheap materials.

	I Agree		I Disagree	
	Mildly	Strongly	Mildly	Strongly
26. The water where I go swimming in this area of the ocean is clear.
27. The community is kept very clean and there is not litter or trash lying around.
28. The natural beauty of this region has deteriorated in recent years from the influx of growing numbers of people.
29. All property owners in the state should share in costs of improving local seasonal home environments.
30. I am more concerned over the quality of seasonal homes in this community than I am over the quality of the water in the ocean.
31. In general, the fishing in this area of the ocean is not as good as it was a few years ago.
32. I feel seasonal home owners should bear the major costs of improving the local environment.
33. My property values are related to the quality of the surrounding natural environment.
34. The overall quality of this community is more important to me than the quality of the water in this area of the ocean for recreation.
35. If this and similar seasonal home communities are to retain their original charm and beauty, it might mean limiting individual freedom in some ways. How would you react to:
a. Further muffling of outboard motors
b. Restricted zones for motor boating
c. Restricted zones for water skiing
d. Restricted time periods for motor boating
e. Restricted time periods for water skiing
f. Restricted areas for trail bikes, etc.
g. Restrictions on architectural design
h. A limit on the total number of seasonal homes in a community

	I Agree		I Disagree	
	Mildly	Strongly	Mildly	Strongly
i. Off limit areas for automobiles
j. Restrictions on use of pesticides
k. Restrictions on use of household detergents

II. In this section we are interested in determining your likes and dislikes, and how you would improve conditions that you find objectionable. As in the previous section, we are concerned with *your own* opinions and feelings.

36. Considering all aspects of this community, what do you find most attractive (what do you like the most) about this area today?

.....

.....

37. What is the most serious objectionable condition in this area today?

.....

.....

38. What could be done to improve this condition?

.....

.....

39. Would you be willing to pay an increase in property tax to have this condition resolved? (a) yes (b) no

40. If so, what is the most property tax per year you would be willing to pay to have this condition resolved? (Your answer is confidential and in no way binding.)

..... (a) \$10 per year

..... (b) \$20 per year

..... (c) \$30 per year

..... (d) \$40 per year

..... (e) \$50 per year

..... (f) \$75 per year

..... (g) \$100 per year

..... (h) \$200 or more per year

III. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

41. Where is your permanent residence (city and state)?

42. How many miles is it from here?

43. Is your permanent residence located in (check one):

..... (a) central city area

..... (b) suburban area of city

..... (c) rural-urban fringe area

..... (d) small town/village

..... (e) other (specify)

44. Occupation of head of your household?

45. Is head of your household retired? (a) yes (b) no

46. Age of head of your household

47. Number of children in your household and their ages:

Number	Age
..... (a)	0 - 6 years
..... (b)	7 - 10 years
..... (c)	11 - 15 years
..... (d)	16 - 20 years

48. Number of years of schooling completed by head of your household

49. Approximate *total* household income in 1969 (check one):

..... (a) less than \$10,000
..... (b) between \$10,000 and \$20,000
..... (c) between \$20,000 and \$30,000
..... (d) over \$30,000

50. How many years have you been coming to this seasonal home community?

51. How many days during a typical year is this property in use by all parties?

52. Do you rent this seasonal home to other vacationers? (a) yes (b) no

53. What are you planning to do with this seasonal home in the future? (check one).

..... (a) keep it for a seasonal home as long as we are able to enjoy it.
..... (b) sell it as soon as the children grow up.
..... (c) use it as a retirement home.
..... (d) sell it in the near future.
..... (e) use as a permanent residence.
..... (f) other (specify):

54. What is the approximate length and width of the lot on which this seasonal home is located?

55. Does this property border on water? (a) yes (b) no

56. What is the approximate value of this home and lot today?

57. What kind of sewage disposal system do you have here (check one):

..... (a) outhouse
..... (b) septic tank with overflow
..... (c) septic tank with pumpout
..... (d) septic tank with drainfield
..... (e) cesspool
..... (f) no facilities
..... (g) regional or community sewer system
..... (h) other (specify):