

The Lakefield Millennium Trail Usage Survey

Includes:
Final Report

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Completed for:
Lakefield Millennium Trail Stewardship
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Trent Centre for Community-Based Education

Department: Environmental Studies
Course Code: ERST 383H
Course Name:
Term: Spring/Summer 2002
Date of Project Submission: September, 2002

Project ID: 432

Call Number:

The Lakefield Millennium Trail
Trail Usage Study

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Summary

This trail study of the Lakefield Millennium Trail aims to determine if the trail is being used and how it is being used on Saturday and Sunday from June to September the first. This information has been determined using two research methods, counting of trail users and interviewing trail users. The trail users were counted for six weeks, on either Saturday or Sunday at three different locations on the trail. Interviews were conducted as well once a week on either Saturday or Sunday for six weeks after counting was completed in three locations on the trail.

At the end of the study, 1053 people were counted using the trail and 221 people were interviewed for a total of 1274 people using the trail. Both male and females used the trail equally, with the largest demographic of trail users being people between the ages of 40 –60 and 60+. The most popular activities on the trail were walking and bicycling, yet other activities still occurred along the trail. The interviews showed an overwhelmingly positive response for the trail, illustrating how the Lakefield Millennium Trail is an asset socially and economically to the Lakefield community. The people interviewed also made some excellent suggestions to improve the trail.

Along with the interviewees' suggestions and the researcher's observations, this study has been used to draw together some obtainable steps towards further improvements and developments of the trail. Some of the main recommendations from the trail users were the addition of more benches, garbage pails, directional signs and further trail development involving both extending the trail and increasing the trail's natural landscape. It is recommended that the trail is developed to meet the needs of its users and the Lakefield Millennium Trail Stewardship Committee should incorporate their suggestions and comments into future planning.

Introduction

Recreational and nature trail are becoming increasingly popular in the Kawarthas. With the development of the Rotary Greenway, Jackson Park Trail and the Peterborough Millennium Trail, to name a few, trails now offer significant recreation, tourism and economic benefits to the Kawartha region. One extension to this trail network is the Lakefield Millennium Trail.

The Lakefield Millennium Trail is a 5.5km trail system which travels throughout the village of Lakefield. Its recent development and improvements in 2000, including a boardwalk, paved surfaces, extended route, trees, benches and other landscaping, have added to the unique features of the village of Lakefield.¹ The trail is ideal for many activities such as walking, bicycling, dog walking and rollerblading. The trail begins its path through Lakefield at the end of the Rotary Greenway from Peterborough, and splits into a loop north on Water Street along the river to the Marina, and returns south through the village along Queen St., King St., Rabbit St. and Division St. The trail also continues on the West side of the Otonabee River and loops around the campground along Lake Katchewanooka to the Marsh lands where the lookout point is situated. The trail continues south and loops around the canal crossing at Lock 26. Most of the trail travels along the water and through residential areas.² Research to determine if the trail is being used, how it is being used and to what degree it is being used is important to understand the trail's place in Lakefield. This information will be useful in determining further developments and improvements to the trail as well as determining the trail's social and economic importance to Lakefield.

¹ “ The Millennium Trail Project” Village of Lakefield Millennium Trail www.village.lakefield.on.ca/trail/ Accessed July 31, 2002.

² McCubbin, Elisabeth J. “ Business Guide and Map” Lakefield: Key to the Kawarthas Lakefield: Kawartha Lakes Chamber of Commerce- Eastern Region, n.d.

The purpose of this research is to determine the number of trail users and how these users are using the trail on Saturday and Sunday from June to September. The research has two parts. The first part involved observing trail users for six weeks, either on Saturday or Sunday for 10 hours. The second part was to interview trail users for a subsequent six weeks, on either Saturday or Sunday for 10 hours.

The season and sampling days chosen can be assumed to be the busiest period for trail usage. Because of good weather increasing the ability to participate in activities along the trail and an increase in tourism, summer is the ideal time of year to see the highest volume of trail users. It is also assumed that Saturday and Sunday will have the greatest volume of users because most people are not at work and more tourists are likely to be in Lakefield. Overall, this research will show a high level of trail usage due to the surveying days chosen, yet will not show level of trail usage during times and days of the year when the trail is also being used.

This report will show the results from the six weeks of user observation and the six weeks of interviews. This report also includes details on the methodologies used, the raw data, credibility of the results and separate analysis of the observation and the interviews. This report will also include overall analysis of the research in its entirety and discuss possible additions or changes to the Lakefield Millennium Trail based on the results of the research.

Methodology

For the observation part of the research the method to collect information on trail usage was counting people using the trail. Following the six weeks of observation, a small questionnaire was used in interviewing people who were using the trail.

Part One: User Observation

Counting trail users through observation is an ideal method for collecting information on trail usage. Simple observation is unobtrusive, as information is collected from observations of people's behaviour rather than by interviewing them directly. This method also allows the researcher to collect information without influencing the results.³

Counting users was also an ideal method because this is the first study of the use of this trail, and hence there was no previous data or research methodology for the Lakefield Millennium Trail to prove a basis for a more complex and case specific research methodology. Counting was the most valuable method given the resources available to collect trail user numbers, characteristics and activities. The results of user observations now can be used to aid in the development of the questionnaire to be used in the second half of the research.

A similar method for collecting trail usage information was used in a Bruce Trail Study conducted by Alicia M. Schutt in 1997. User registries were used to collect information on sex, age and activities. User registries are a common method used in trail research and was determined by Schutt to be the best method to gather user information.⁴ Due to the resources and the existence of many access points to the trail, user observation was used as an alternative to user registries on the Lakefield Millennium Trail. User observation still allowed for similar information to be collected.

One day of observation, either Saturday or Sunday, was completed during each of the six weeks. Observations were completed on three complete Saturdays and three complete Sundays. On these days, user tallies were completed in three locations on a rotation schedule. The times used for the rotation schedule were approximately 8:15am

³ Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Recreation. Recreation Branch. Enjoying Research ? : a "how- to" manual on needs assessment. Toronto: Queen's Printer, 1982.

⁴ Shutt, Alicia M. 30 Years in the Making: A Comprehensive Economic Impact and User Study of the Bruce Trail, Ontario, Canada. N.p. The Bruce Trail Association, 1997

to 11:15 am for a total of three hours, 11:45 am to 3:45 for a total of four hours and 4:30-7:30 for a total of three hours. The times may vary slightly from day to day but 10 hours of observation were completed in total on each day. These times were chosen because they could easily be divided into morning, afternoon and evening categories, ideal for comparing the data. Weather was noted at each time slot on each day of research as this information was used in the analysis of the data.

The three locations included Water St. south of the LCBO, where the trail splits into two different paths northward, the Gazebo on Water St. along the Otonabee River and at the intersection of Hague Blvd. and Deyncourt Street. Please refer to Appendix One for tallying locations. After six weeks, tallies were completed twice for each location for each time of day.

It was difficult to choose locations which would allow for the most accurate counts since there are many access points along the trail as well as many loops in the trail. The above locations were chosen because they were near main access points and were each on loops in the trail. As well, each location exhibits different terrains which may be preferred by different users, or activities which may not be seen on other sections of the trail. This may possibly lead to more accurate data on trail activities.

For the purpose of this project, a user can be defined as a person participating in an activity on the trail. The trail is any area which is shown as part of the trail on the map as provided in the *Lakefield: Key to the Kawarthas* brochure. Each user was only counted once even if he or she passed the tallying point more than once. It can be assumed that a person using the trail who passed and returned to the tallying locations within a short period of time did not leave the trail. Therefore they were only using the trail once. It is possible that a person may have left the trail and returned onto it, but the number are most likely very few and would not make a substantial difference in the data collected. It is also shown in the second part of the research that the majority of trail

users are using the trail for recreational purposes rather than to reach certain destinations as therefore are likely stay on the trail during their recreational activities. It is possible that people returning to the tallying location were counted twice, but people were fairly recognizable, and the numbers were very few, as they would not affect the data substantially.

The data collected for each user includes their sex (male or female), age range, (0-16, 16-30, 30-60 or 60+) and their current activity (walking, jogging/ running, bicycling, rollerblading, dog walking, loitering/sitting, skateboarding, pushing strollers, playing sport activities and an other category). Although, this information was collected for each user, there were a few exceptions. Only people who were holding the leash of a dog were counted as dog walkers. If the dog walkers were accompanied by someone else, the person or persons not holding a leash were counted in the most appropriate other category. The same applies with strollers. The person pushing the stroller was counted as a person with a stroller while any persons accompanying them were counted as participating in another activity on the trail. Children in strollers were not counted as trail users as they were not always visible enough to the researcher to get the information necessary (sex and age). Children on adult bicycles, either in a seat on the bike or on attached stroller- like carrier, were counted as trail users and as bicyclists because they were more easily visible. People crossing the trail to get to their docks, especially around Hague Blvd. and Deyncourt Street, were not counted as trail users because they were not participating in activities on the trail.

Part Two: User Interviews

The counting of trail users has created a base knowledge of trail usage on the Lakefield Millennium Trail. To further knowledge on trail usage and to increase the validity of the results collected during the period of observation, face to face interviews with trail users using a simple and short questionnaire was the best method.

The interviews allowed the researcher to collect additional information on the trail users collected during the observation period such as sex, age and current activities but will also allow for the collection of additional information which could only be collected when talking to trail users directly. For example, sentiments of like or dislike could be collected as well as information regarding when and how the trail users used the trail at other times other than at the time they were interviewed. The Bruce Trail Study by Alicia M. Schutt in 1997 also used interviews to complement her use of user registries. Schutt deemed interviews “ the best method of gaining indepth knowledge of trail users.”⁵

Interviewing is best suited to follow user observation. User observation, an unobtrusive measure, is not valid on its own. It must be combined with other unobtrusive measures or with reactive measures such as questionnaires and interviewing to make it valid.⁶ Using both user observation and interviews with questionnaires has made the research in its entirety more valid.

The researcher, on the same weekend the user observation period was finished, at three locations along the trail conducted interviews, alternating Saturdays and Sundays for six weeks. The same time slots and location rotation as in the first part of

⁵ Schutt, Alicia M. 30 Years in the Making: A Comprehensive Economic Impact and User Study of the Bruce Trail, Ontario, Canada. N.p. The Bruce Trail Association, 1997

⁶ Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Recreation. Recreation Branch. Enjoying Research ? : a “how- to” manual on needs assessment. Toronto: Queen’s Printer, 1982.

the research were used to provided continuity in the research and validity when comparing the results of part one and two of the research.

The locations for the interviews were different then the location used for the user observation. The locations for the interviews were Lock 26, the Gazebo on Water St. and the Look- Out tower at the Marshlands. Please see Appendix Three for these locations. These locations were chosen because it was determined that people would be pausing from their trail activities at these locations, for example, to cross the Lock or to view the Marshlands. This would allow for easier interviewing of people participating in activities such as bicycling without interrupting them abruptly or exclusively to complete the questionnaire.

The researcher was positioned at each location to ask people to participate in the questionnaire as they came to the location where the researcher was stationed (the waiting technique).⁷ The trail users were approached and the researcher introduced herself, the purpose of the questionnaire and asked for verbal consent of the trail users to participate in the questionnaire. Verbal consent was obtained when the trail users agreed to participate in the questionnaire. Once verbal consent was obtained, the research asked the series of questions on the questionnaire, marking the trail user answers after each question. If a group of trail users participated in the questionnaire, each trail users was able to offer his or her own answers equally during the questionnaire. Responses from each member of the group were recorded on the same questionnaire. Only trail users who were over the age of 18 or with a group of trail users over the age of 18 were asked to participate in the questionnaire for legal reasons. After the questionnaire was completed, the trail users were thanked and able to continue along the trail.

⁷ Shutt, Alicia M. 30 Years in the Making: A Comprehensive Economic Impact and User Study of the Bruce Trail, Ontario, Canada. N.p. The Bruce Trail Association, 1997

The questionnaire was designed to build on the results from the first part of the research and was based as well on the results collected. The questionnaire included observation data as well. Sex, age and current activity were noted by the research by user observation before the questions were asked. The questions were close – ended for easy comparability. The questions asked which built on the first part of the research were how often the trail users used the trail and what activities they participated in on the trail. As well, the trail users were asked if they used the trail for recreation, as a path to get around Lakefield or both. Questions which expand on the first part of the research and provide added depth to trail usage included if the trail user was from Lakefield, or a visitor, and if a visitor for the day or overnight, what they like about the trail and what else they would like to see on the trail. These questions were ideal because they built on the data collected in the first part of the research as well as offered some indepth knowledge of trail usage. For the questionnaire used please refer to Appendix Four.

Credibility of Results

Part One: Observation:

Although the research gives an idea of the number of trail users and their activities, it may not be completely credible due to the time, day and location choices made to collect the data. In the development of the research methodology, some assumptions had to be made. It is assumed that tallying on the Saturday and Sunday would represent the highest number of users because most people are not working and in general have more spare time. Nevertheless, of course, the trail is also used during the week. It is also assumed that counting from approximately 8 am to 7 pm would show the greatest number of users since it is closest to the middle of the day. It must not be disregarded that there are still trail users early and later in the day. It is also assumed that the locations chosen offered the best places to conduct the research. It was assumed that a variety of users would be observed at each of these three locations.

Some minor differences of days and times may have affected the tally of trail users. Although they should be noted, they do not significantly affect the credibility of the research results. The time slots as seen in the results, sometimes varied in starting and ending times by 15- 20 minutes, but were the same length of time in total. The overall time spent on counting trail users in a day was 10 hours.

On the second day of research, the evening time slot at the Gazebo was not completed. To complete 6 days of research, this period of research was completed later in July. For comparison of the data, the research completed on June 16 and July 28 will be treated as a single day. The weather on each day was similar and the only effect of combining these two days as one complete day of research will be when comparing trail usage in June versus trail usage in July.

The data may have also been affected by different events that were occurring in Lakefield during tallying which may have caused an increase or decrease of trail users. On July 13, there was the Lakefield Jazz Festival and on July 21, the Lakefield Fair.

Even with these minor exceptions, the researcher feels that the data are credible for the purpose of determining the overall number of trail users and their activities on the Lakefield Millennium Trail on the weekend.

In general, the results are credible, due to the location choice, the consistency of the research method and the weather. The locations were ideal because of their different trail features. For example, the part of the trail near the Gazebo by the Otonabee River is a bike trail on the road as well as a boardwalk ideal for walking. The part of the trail at the Water Street location is ideal for bicycling because the trail is paved and is in a non- residential area. Together, these locations offered opportunities for the researcher to observe a variety of activities.

The same method for counting and the same record sheet (Appendix Two) was used throughout the research. The same researcher completed all the counting therefore interpretation of user characteristics such as age was consistent.

The research is also credible because of the favourable weather conditions during the course of the research. There were three complete days of sunny and hot weather and three complete cloudy days with some rain. These weather conditions will allow for credible comparison of the effects of weather on the number of trail users. Also, the fact that research was done on the same number of Saturday and Sundays, and that an equal amount of time was spent at each location made comparison of the data easier.

Part Two: Interviews

During the second part of the research, the same assumptions from first part still apply to this part of the research. The interviews may not have been completely credible due to the sample of people interviewed and how the interview process was created. First, the people sampled were mainly above the age of 18. This is because minors who were using the trail on their own were not approached to be interviewed. This resulted in the lack of opinions of trail users under 18 in the data collected. Second, the research process was set up that the researcher was the only one interviewing. In some instances, when the researcher was interviewing a group of trail users or trail user, they were unable to interview the other trail users who also passed the researcher at the same time. Third, trail users who were bicycling would not readily stop at the gazebo location because it was not a natural place to stop. This results in fewer trail users who used the trail to bicycle being interviewed than trail users who walk.

The location also played a role in determining the sample of trial users interviewed. The location near Lock 26 and the location at the Look- Out point are popular areas for tourist. The lock being a popular throughway for people traveling along the Trent- Severn waterway and the Look-Out point being near the campground. Because of these locations, it is possible that more visitors were interviewed than Lakefield residents were. This may have affected the tally of answers and may have resulted in the high number of no response in the last two questions of the questionnaire. Also, the changes in the order of questions asked by the third week may have affected the results but if so, the effects were probably not very significant.

Although, the sample of people interviewed may have not been ideal, the results received do meet the purpose of this research. The results are credible because they support the data collected in the first part of the research because they are qualitative results rather than quantitative results. As well, the results provide some insight on the

wants of the trail users regarding the trail. The interviews have increased the knowledge of how often people use the trail which the first part of the research is unable to determine as well as providing additional information on how the trail users use the trail. The research also provides information on whether the trail users are locals or visitors.

The most significant results are those which show what the trail users like about the trail and what else the trail users would like to see on the trail. This is very useful for future planning of the trail because it allows the trail planners to use the opinions and ideas of the trail users to further develop the trail.

Results

Part One: Observation:

The results show that there are a significant number of trail users participating in a variety of activities on the Lakefield Millennium Trail. The total count of participants during six complete days of research was 1053 users. The following charts show each date, time, locations and weather with the tallies for each time slot as well as totals for each category on each day.

Trail User Data: Sex

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	WEATHER	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
08/06/2002	8:15-11:00	Water St.	Partly sunny, cool	24	13	37
08/06/2002	11:30-3:30	Gazebo	Partly sunny, cool, breeze	37	43	80
08/06/2002	4:15-7:30	Deyn/Hague	sunny, cool, breeze	24	25	49
TOTAL				85	81	166
16/06/2002	8:25-11:00	Deyn/Hague	partly rainy, cool and cloudy	3	3	6
16/06/2002	11:45-4:00	Water St.	Partly cloudy and warm	49	33	82
TOTAL				52	36	88
22/06/2002	8:15-11:00	Gazebo	Partly sunny, warm, calm	12	28	40
22/06/2002	11:45-4:00	Deyn/Hague	Partly cloudy and some rain, warm	17	15	32
22/05/2002	4:30-7:30	Water St.	Partly cloudy and warm	29	11	40
TOTAL				58	54	112
07/07/2002	8:25-11:30	Water St.	Sunny and warm	35	27	62
07/07/2002	12:15-4:15	Gazebo	Sunny and hot	62	55	117
07/07/2002	4:30- 7:30	Deyn/Hague	Sunny and hot, breeze	28	10	38
TOTAL				125	92	217
13/07/02	8:00-11:00	Deyn/ Hague	Sunny and warm	15	16	31
13/07/02	11:45-3:45	Water St.	Sunny, hot, breeze	70	56	126
13/07/02	4:00-7:00	Gazebo	Sunny, hot, breeze	82	69	151
TOTAL				167	141	308
21/07/01	8:30-11:00	Gazebo	Sunny and warm	16	13	29
21/07/02	11:45-3:45	Deyn/ Hague	Sunny and hot, breeze	30	24	54
21/07/02	4:00-7:00	Water St.	Sunny and hot, breeze	16	6	22
TOTAL				62	43	105
28/07/02	4:00- 7:00	Gazebo	Partly cloudy, some rain, breeze	29	28	57

Trail Usage: Age

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	WEATHER	0-16	16-30	30-60	OVER60	TOTAL
06/08/2002	8:15-11:00	Water St.	Partly sunny, cool	5	6	23	3	37
06/08/2002	11:30-3:30	Gazebo	Partly sunny, cool, breeze	28	7	27	18	80
06/08/2002	4:15-7:30	Deyn/Hague	sunny, cool, breeze	19	9	15	6	49
TOTAL				52	22	65	27	166
06/16/2002	8:25-11:00	Deyn/Hague	partly rainy, cool and cloudy	1	0	2	3	6
06/16/2002	11:45-4:00	Water St.	Partly cloudy and warm	11	10	54	7	82
TOTAL				12	10	58	10	88
06/22/2002	8:15-11:00	Gazebo	Partly sunny, warm, calm	2	10	15	13	40
06/22/2002	11:45-4:00	Deyn/Hague	Partly cloudy and some rain, warm	19	0	11	2	32
05/22/2002	4:30-7:30	Water St.	Partly cloudy and warm	9	7	22	2	40
TOTAL				30	17	48	17	112
07/07/2002	8:25-11:30	Water St.	Sunny and warm	1	6	36	19	62
07/07/2002	12:15-4:15	Gazebo	Sunny and hot	35	13	48	21	117
07/07/2002	4:30- 7:30	Deyn/Hague	Sunny and hot, breeze	16	2	13	7	38
TOTAL				52	21	97	47	217
13/07/02	8:00-11:00	Deyn/ Hague	Sunny and warm	0	0	13	18	31
13/07/02	11:45- 3:45	Water St.	Sunny, hot, breeze	12	26	69	19	126
13/07/02	4:00-7:00	Gazebo	Sunny, hot, breeze	26	37	62	26	151
TOTAL				38	63	144	63	308
21/07/01	8:30- 11:00	Gazebo	Sunny and warm	4	3	19	3	29
21/07/02	11:45- 3:45	Deyn/ Hague	Sunny and hot, breeze	22	9	17	6	54
21/07/02	4:00-7:00	Water St.	Sunny and hot, breeze	4	6	8	4	22
TOTAL				30	18	44	13	105
28/07/02	4:00- 7:00	Gazebo	Partly cloudy, some rain, breeze	20	2	24	11	57

Trail Usage: Activities

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	WEATHER	WALKING	JOGGING	BIKING	ROL_ BLAD	DOG W.	SKATE B.	LOITERING	STROLLER	SPORT A.	OTHER	TOTAL
06/08/2002	8:15-11:00	Water St.	Partly sunny, cool	2	1	33	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	37
06/08/2002	11:30-3:30	Gazebo	Partly sunny, cool, breeze	43	1	26	2	0	3	0	0	0	7- swimming	82
06/08/2002	4:15-7:30	Deyn/Hague	sunny, cool, breeze	16	2	24	0	2	2	0	1	0	1- fishing	48
TOTAL				61	4	83	2	3	5	0	1	0	8	167
06/16/2002	8:25-11:00	Deyn/Hague	partly rainy, cool and cloudy	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	6
06/16/2002	11:45-4:00	Water St.	Partly cloudy and warm	10	0	66	2	3	0	0	1	0	1- scooter	81
TOTAL				13	0	65	2	6	0	0	1	0	1	88
06/22/2002	8:15-11:00	Gazebo	Partly sunny, warm, calm	26	2	5	0	2	0	4	0	0	1- wheelchair	40
06/22/2002	11:45-4:00	Deyn/Hague	Partly cloudy and some rain, warm	10	1	16	0	3	0	0	0	2		32
05/22/2002	4:30-7:30	Water St.	Partly cloudy and warm	4	0	31	2	2	0	0	0	0	1- scooter	40
TOTAL				40	3	52	2	7	0	4	0	2	2	112
07/07/2002	8:25-11:30	Water St.	Sunny and warm	1	2	56	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	62
07/07/2002	12:15-4:15	Gazebo	Sunny and hot	61	0	34	0	10	0	2	3	0	5- fishing, 2- docking	117
07/07/2002	4:30- 7:30	Deyn/Hague	Sunny and hot, breeze	11	0	22	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	38
TOTAL				73	2	112	0	14	0	2	4	0	7	217
13/07/02	8:00-11:00	Deyn/ Hague	Sunny and warm	8	1	19	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	31
13/07/02	11:45- 3:45	Water St.	Sunny, hot, breeze	6	0	120	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	126
13/07/02	4:00-7:00	Gazebo	Sunny, hot, breeze	95	0	38	2	5	0	0	5	0	6- swimming	151
TOTAL				109	1	177	2	8	0	0	5	0	6	308

21/07/01	8:30- 11:00	Gazebo	Sunny and warm	19	1	7	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	29
21/07/02	11:45- 3:45	Deyn/ Hague	Sunny and hot, breeze	20	1	31	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	54
21/07/02	4:00-7:00	Water St.	Sunny and hot, breeze	2	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
TOTAL				41	2	58	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	105
28/07/02	4:00- 7:00	Gazebo	Partly cloudy, some rain, breeze	29	1	9	0	3	2	0	0	0	7- fishing, 6 swimming	57

Part Two: Interviews

The data collected during the interviews has been compiled under each day the interviews were conducted. 221 people on the trail were interviewed. For the last two questions, the number of respondents per answer listed is placed next to the answer in round brackets. The raw data collected can be found in Appendix Five.

Analysis of Results

Part One: User Observation

Comparison of the data collected is necessary to show trends in trail use. This section of the report will analyze and present the data collected in a form which will be of use to the Lakefield Millennium Trail Stewardship Committee from the first part of the research. Analysis through graphical interpretation will be shown by comparing trail usage between June and July, each location, each day of the weekend, each times of day, both overall and by location user activities, sex and age.

Usage in June and July

Figure One shows significantly more users in July than in June. This could be due to an increase in good weather and tourism. Please note that July has one more time slot counted towards it than June does. Although this results in 57 additional users in July, there was still, clearly, a large increase in users in July.

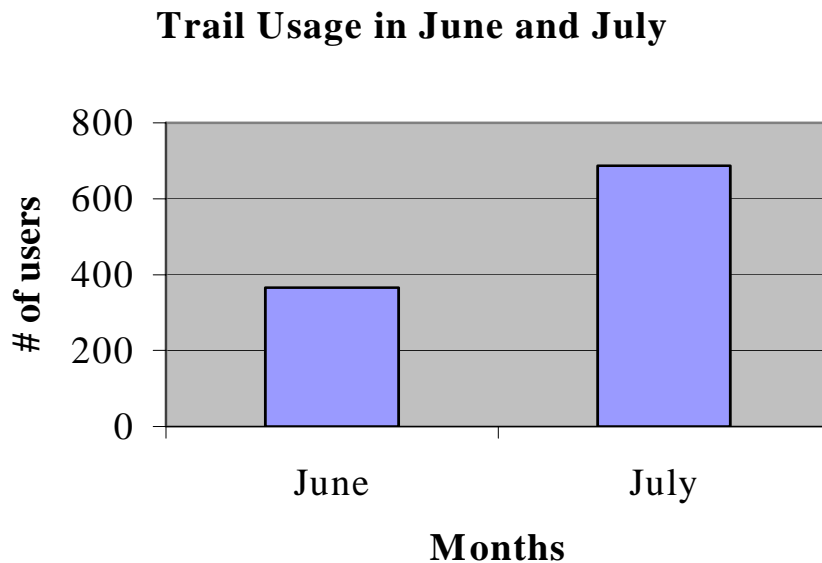


Figure 1

Trail Usage on Saturday and Sunday

Figure Two shows the difference between the number trail users on Saturday and Sunday. 586 users were counted on Saturday and 467 users were counted on Sunday. Although, more users were counted on Saturday, the difference is not significant. Therefore, it is more accurate to conclude that the same number of people use the trail either day. The reasons for this difference may be due to fewer tourists because it is the end of the week, religious practices or school commitments.

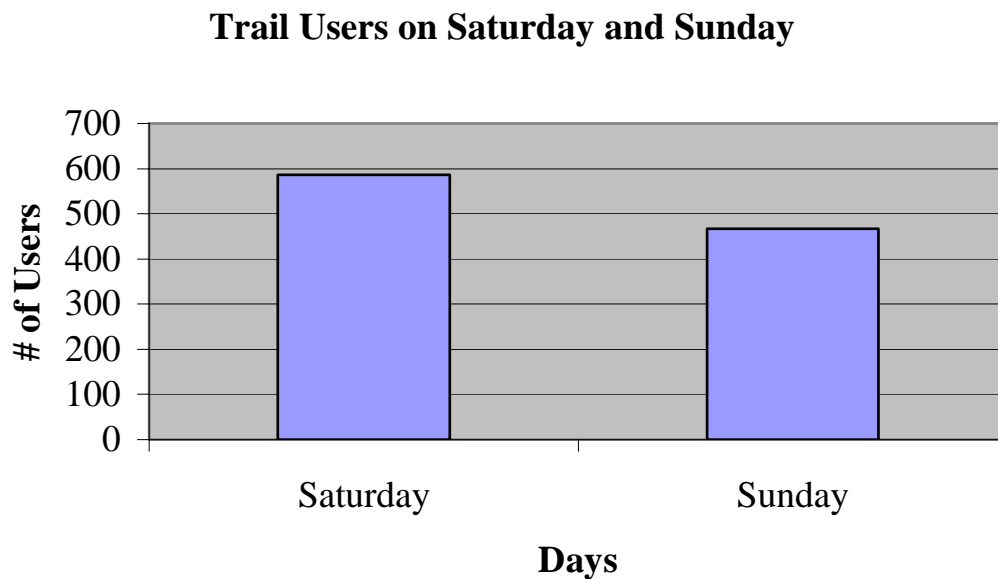


Figure 2

Trail Usage at each Locations

Figure Three shows the amount of trail usage in each location. 474 users were counted at the Gazebo, 369 users at Water St. and 210 users at Deyncourt St. and Hague Blvd. According to these data, the location of the trail near the Gazebo is favoured over other research locations. This may be due to its ideal condition for both walking activities and other activities which demand a paved surface. The part of the trail on Water St. which was observed is also a significantly used location according to the data. This may be due to its connection to the Rotary Trail. The research shows that the location near Deyncourt Street and Hague Blvd. is not used to the same degree as the other locations, possibly because of its remoteness from downtown Lakefield. Overall, significant use of the trail is evident at each location.

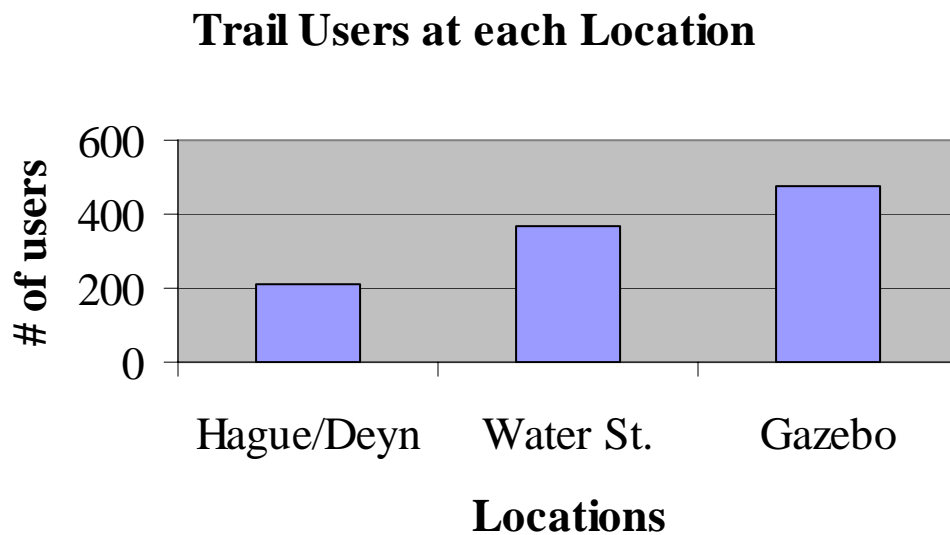


Figure 3

Trail Usage at Different Times of the Day

Figure Four shows the difference in trail usage between the morning, afternoon and evening. The total counted for morning usage is 205 users, the afternoon is 491 users and the evening count of trail users is 357. The research shows that the largest number of users would be in the afternoon which may be because it is mid- day, daylight and warmer weather. It is interesting to note that there is more evening users than morning users. This may be due to the age demographics of trail users (see Figure 11). For example, it may be possible that there would be less early morning runners than evening walkers due to the demographics.

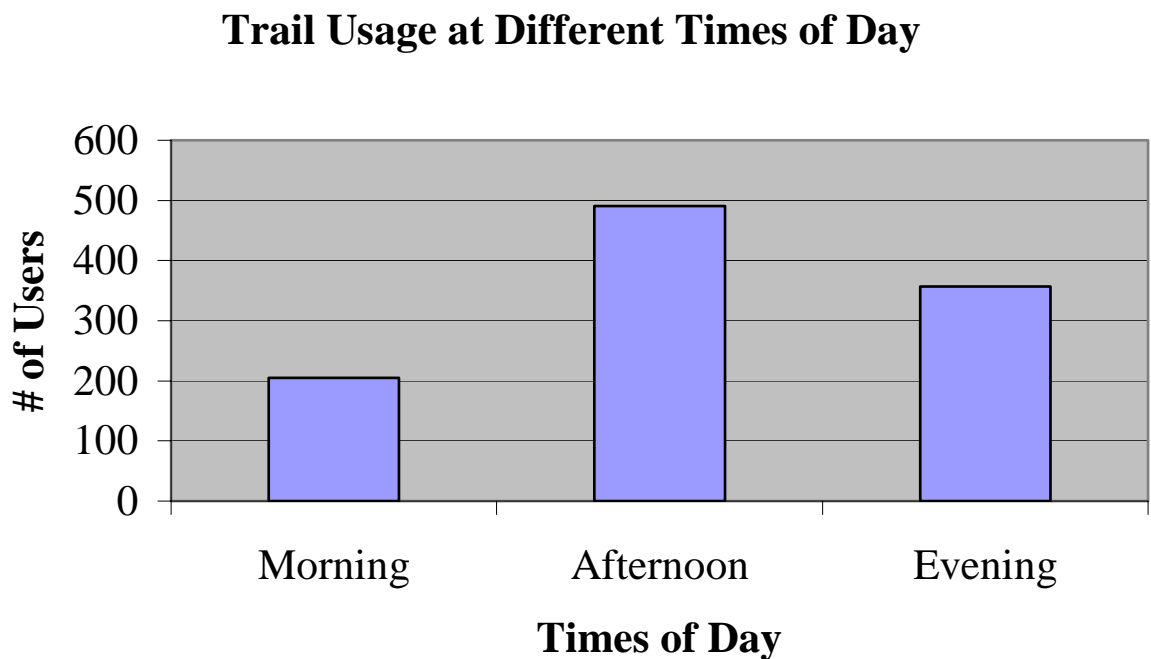


Figure 4

Trail Usage during Different Weather Conditions

Figure Five compares the difference between the number of users on days with good weather and the number of users on days with poor weather. There were three days which were hot and sunny all day, and three days which had a mix of sun, cloud, cooler temperatures and some rain. There was no very poor weather on any day of research. The total number of users on days of good weather was 630, and on days of poor weather, 423. Even though the data shows a larger number of users on days with good weather, the difference is only 207 more users. This shows that the trail is still moderately used on days when there is poor weather, suggesting good trail usage on all days regardless of weather conditions.

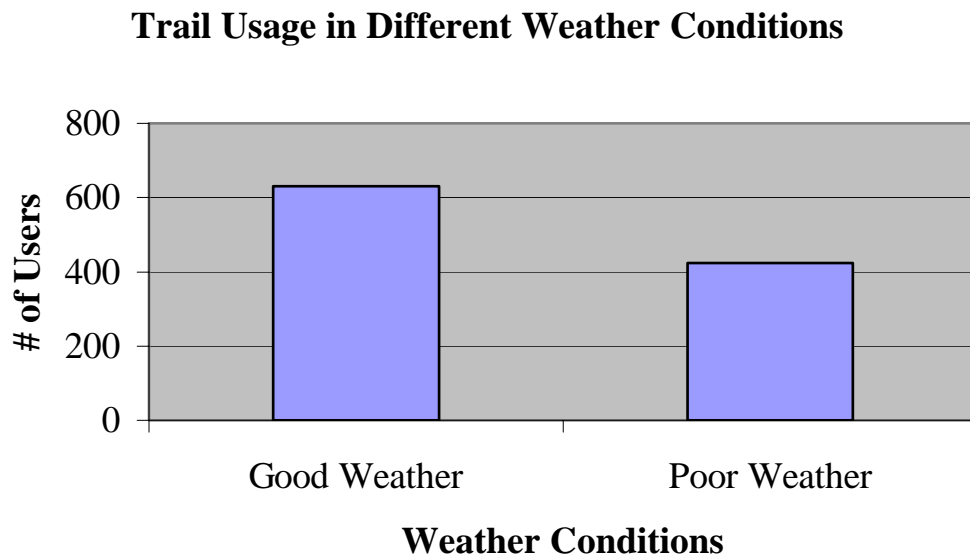


Figure 5

The Use of the Trail for Different Activities

Trail users participate in a number of activities along the trail. Figure Six shows that the main activities are walking and bicycling with 366 walkers and 556 bikers. The other activities counted still occur along the trail yet are not nearly as numerous. The others category of trail activities includes fishing, docking boats, swimming, scooters and wheelchairs. The large number of walkers and bikers may be due to the suitability of the trail for these activities i.e. paved trail and scenic surroundings. The total number of users is off by two users which has occurred due to a mistake, most likely during a busy period, in the field.

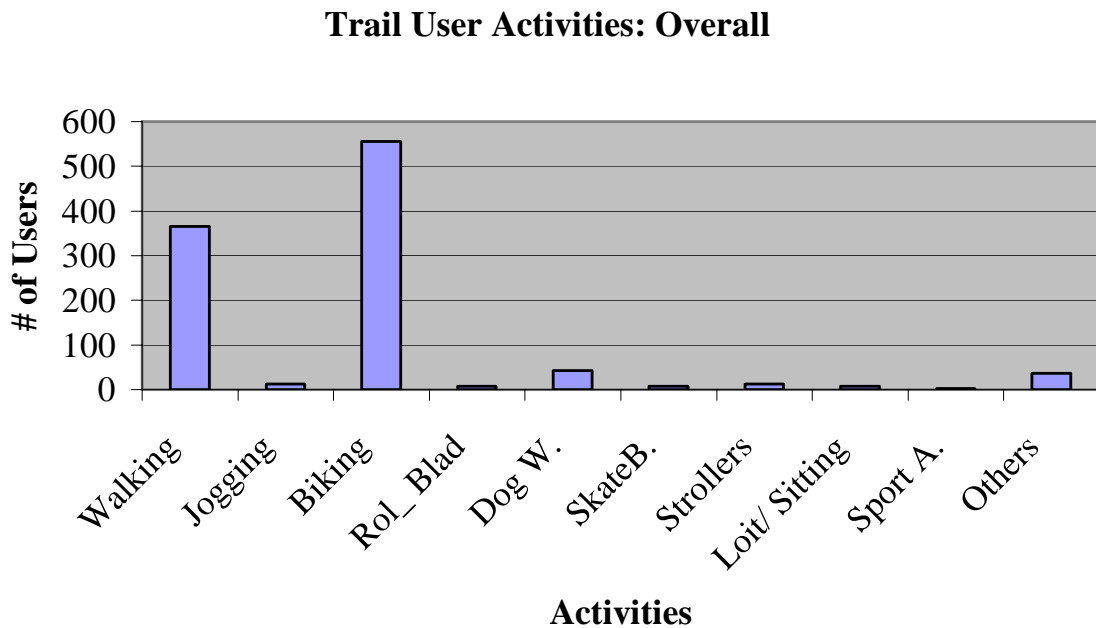


Figure 6

Figure Seven, Eight and Nine shows trail user activities by location. Figure Seven shows that the majority of trail users on the section of trail on Water St. surveyed are bicycling, and very few are participating in other activities. This may be the result of the connection between these sections of the trail with the Rotary Greenway from Peterborough and may be because the area of the trail is not as scenic as others.

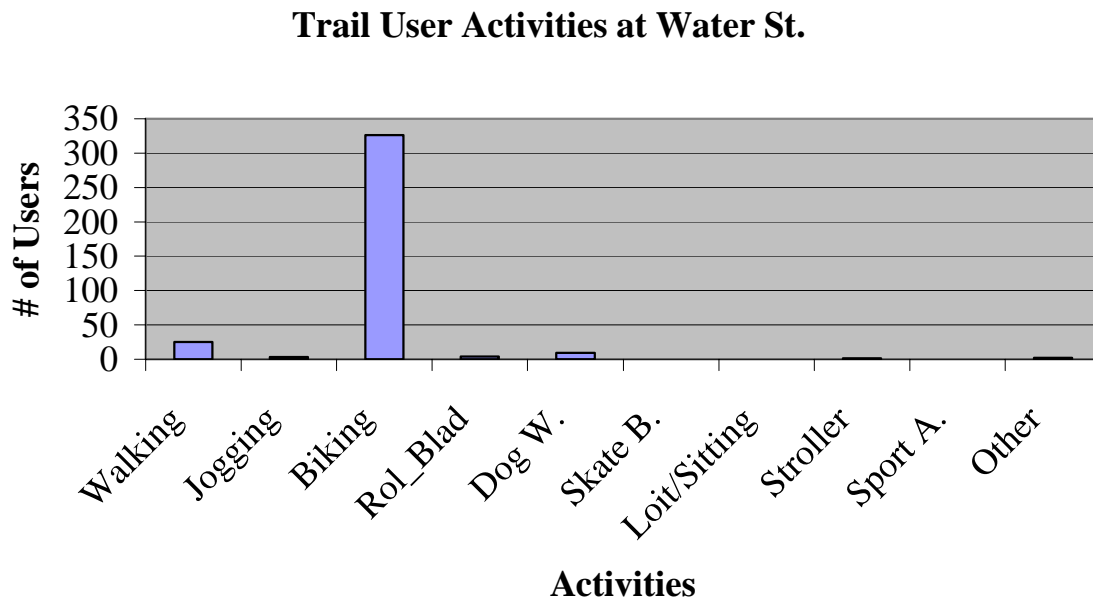


Figure 7

Figure Eight shows trail user activities at the Gazebo location. The majority of people on this section of trail walk. This may be the result of the scenic areas, the boardwalk and the closeness to the downtown Lakefield. The same reason applies when examining the “other” category. This section of trail has had the most users fishing and swimming, possibly due to the boardwalk allowing easy water access and the surrounding residential area. Biking is a popular activity as well, and may be encouraged by the bike lane on Water St. Trail users participate in the other activities as well, yet the numbers are not as high.

Trail User Activities: Gazebo

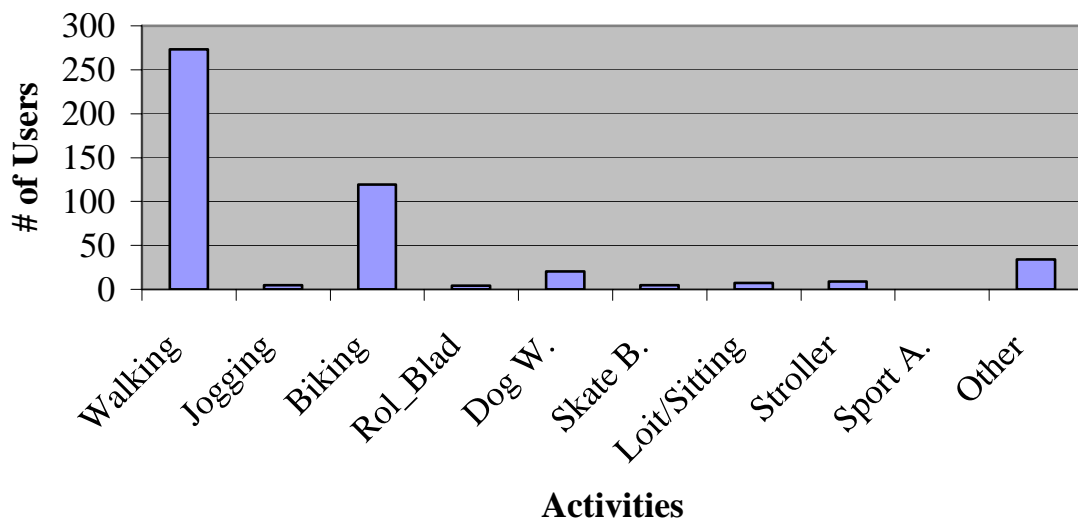


Figure 8

Figure nine shows trail user activities at Deyncourt St. and Hague Blvd. Even though it is the location which is less used compared to the other two, biking is the most participated activity. The next most participated activity is walking. Dog walking is also highly participated in this section more than other sections. This may be due to this section of trail being in a residential area.

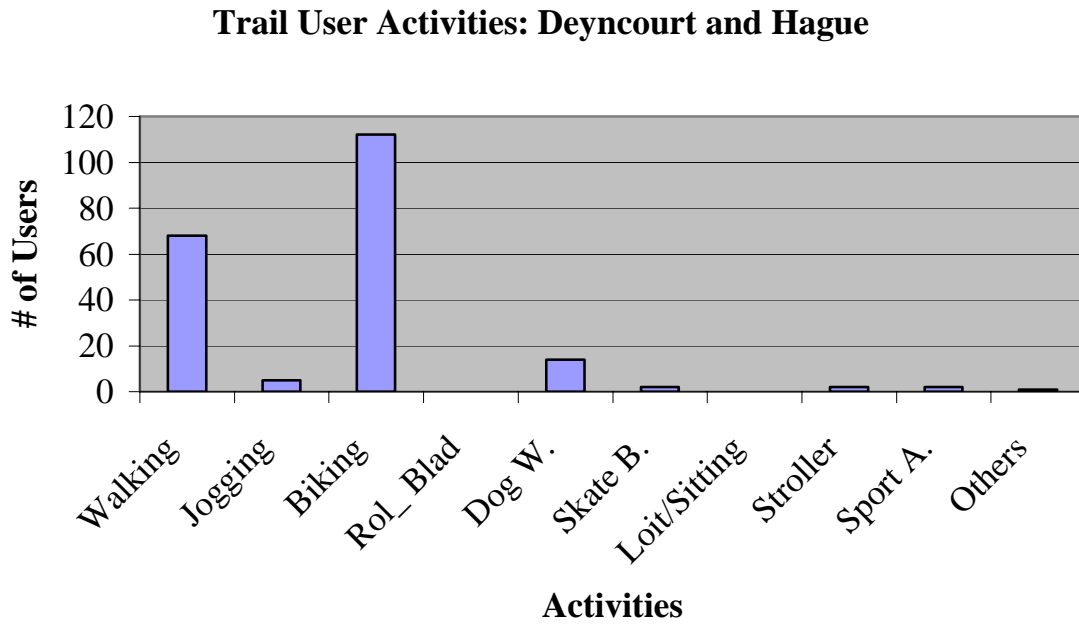


Figure 9

Trail Users by sex

Figure 10 shows the difference between male and female trail users. 578 males and 475 women were counted. Although more males were counted, the difference between male and female users is not great enough to justify concluding that more men use the trail than women.

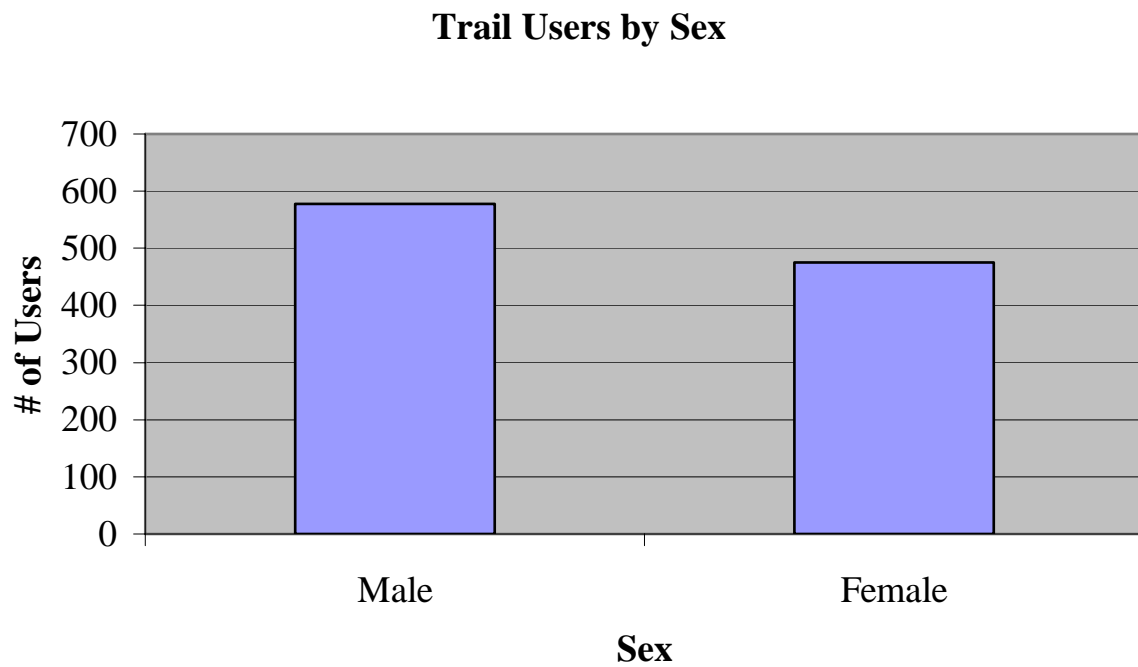


Figure 10

Trail Users by Age

Figure 11 shows the age range the users counted belonged to. Although the ranges are large, and the ages of the users are subject to the interpretation of the researcher, the data still offers some idea of the age demographics of the trail users. The majority of trail users are in the range of 30-60 years of age. This is twice as many users as those in the range of 0-16 years of age. The least number of people are of the age range of 16-30 years of age. The number of trail users in each age category are approximately the same percentage in each category as the 1996 Census of Canada for Lakefield. The population distribution in Lakefield consist of 475 people from the age of 0-14, 370 people from the age of 15-29, 905 people from the ages of 30-59 and 710 people from the ages of 60-75+. ⁸ This comparison between the population distribution of Lakefield and the age ranges of trail users tallied show that overall, the age ranges of trail user are the same as the population distribution of Lakefield.

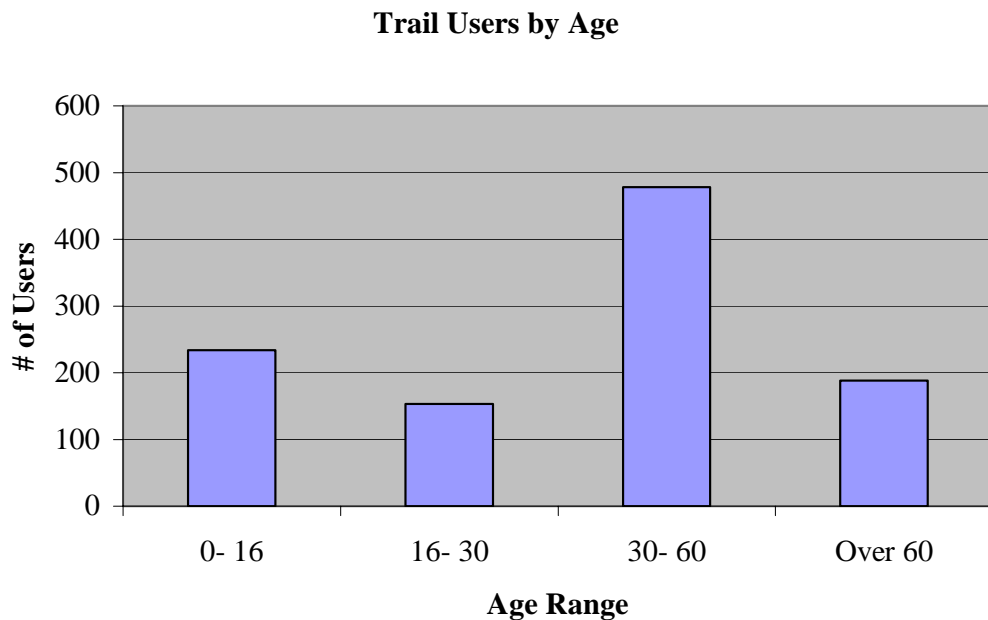


Figure 11

⁸ Statistics Canada, Census of Canada, 1996

Part Two: Interviews

221 people were interviewed in total along the trail: 113 females and 108 males. 40 people were interviewed at Lock 26, 56 at the Look- Out point and 125 at the Gazebo. The ages of people interviewed were 32 from 0-16, 17 from 16- 30, 84 from 30- 60 and 88 of the ages 60+. The number of trail users were participating in the following activities at the time of the interview. 174 people were walking, 22 people were dog walking, 13 people were bicycling, 1 person was walking with a stroller, 6 people were sitting and 1 person was frog catching. There is not enough contrast in weather patterns between each day of research to make a comparison regarding trail usage and weather conditions. Overall, each day of research had mainly sunny, hot weather with some breeze. Only one day had a bit of rain in the evening.

The following are the results from the questions asked during the trail user interviews. Each trail user or group of trail users was asked each question in the following sequence. For the first two weeks questions 1 and 2 were asked after questions 3 and 4. It became apparent after the first two weeks, that it would make the interview process more efficient and smooth if the questions regarding the trail users residence were asked before questions regarding frequency of trail use.

Questionnaire answers:

Where are you from?

Local: 66

Visitor: 155

The majority of people using the trail are visitors of Lakefield and about a quarter of the trail users were from Lakefield. This may be due to the small population in Lakefield which has caused the lack of local trail users. The large number of visitor may be explained because of the tourist attractions in Lakefield such as the campground and

the Lock as well as numerous urban centers such as Peterborough and other small towns near to Lakefield.

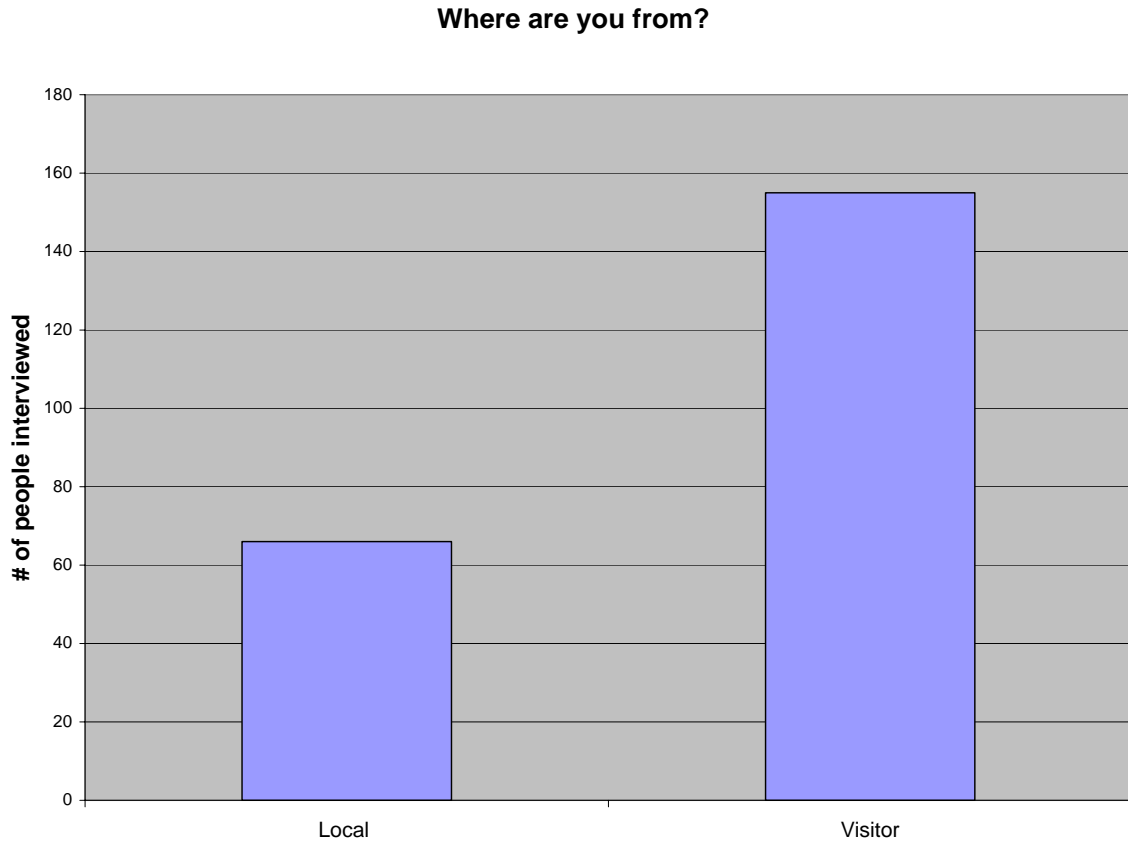


Figure 12

If a visitor, day or overnight?

Day: 92

Overnight: 63

More than half of the visitors using the trail were visiting for the day. This may be due to the proximity of other residential areas to Lakefield. The visitors which are staying overnight are mainly from the campground and the Lock. The lack of overnight visitors may be due to the lack of hotels or Bed and Breakfasts in Lakefield.

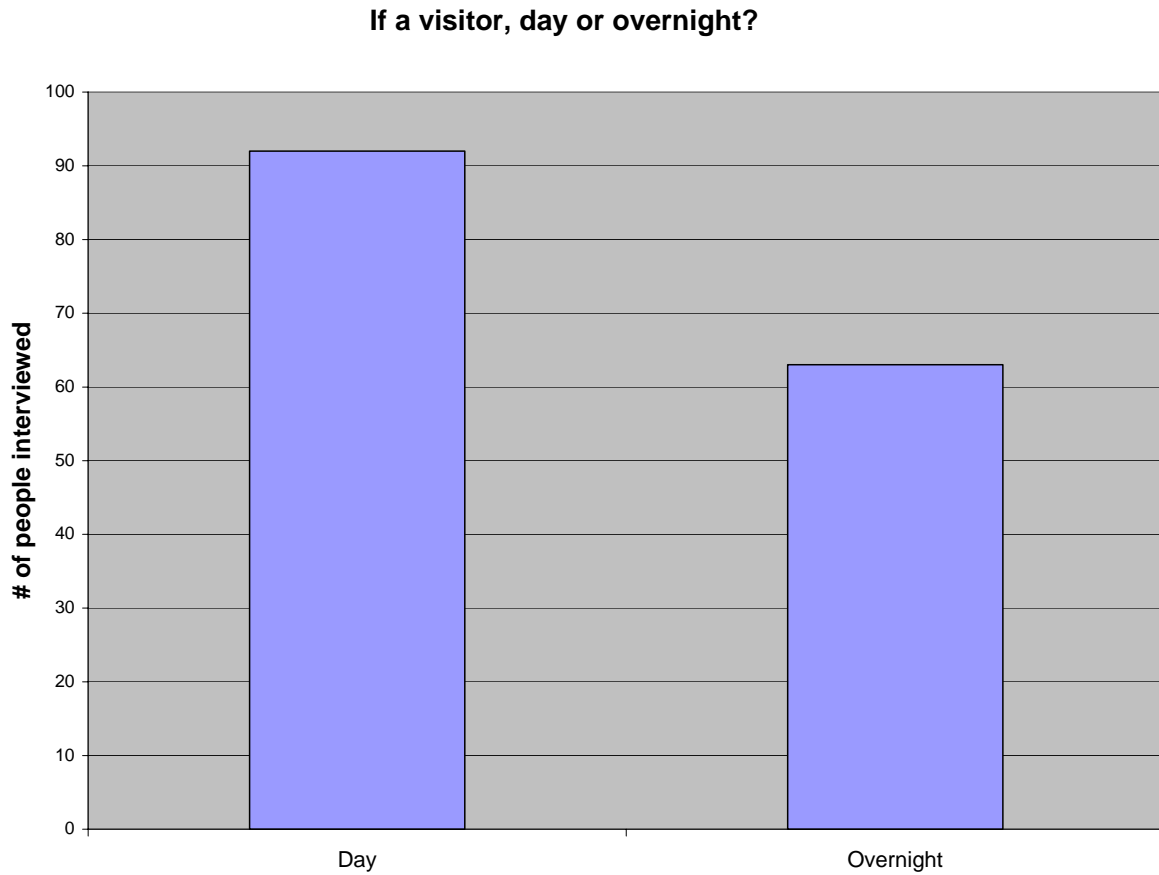


Figure 13

How often do you use the trail?

Daily: 16

Once a month: 1

More than once a week: 51

Less than once a month: 37

Once a week: 9

First- time: 73

More than once a month: 4

The frequency of trail use by each user is split overall into two categories, either they use the trail frequently or they use the trail very little. The people who use the trail often, mainly use the trail more than once a week. This may be due to the fact that people enjoy using the trail but are unable to use it daily due to other commitments, yet enjoying it enough to use it more than once a week. The majority of trail users who use the trail not as frequent, are most likely visitors who live near Lakefield. The large number of first time trail users may be due to the high number of tourist and the newness of the trail.

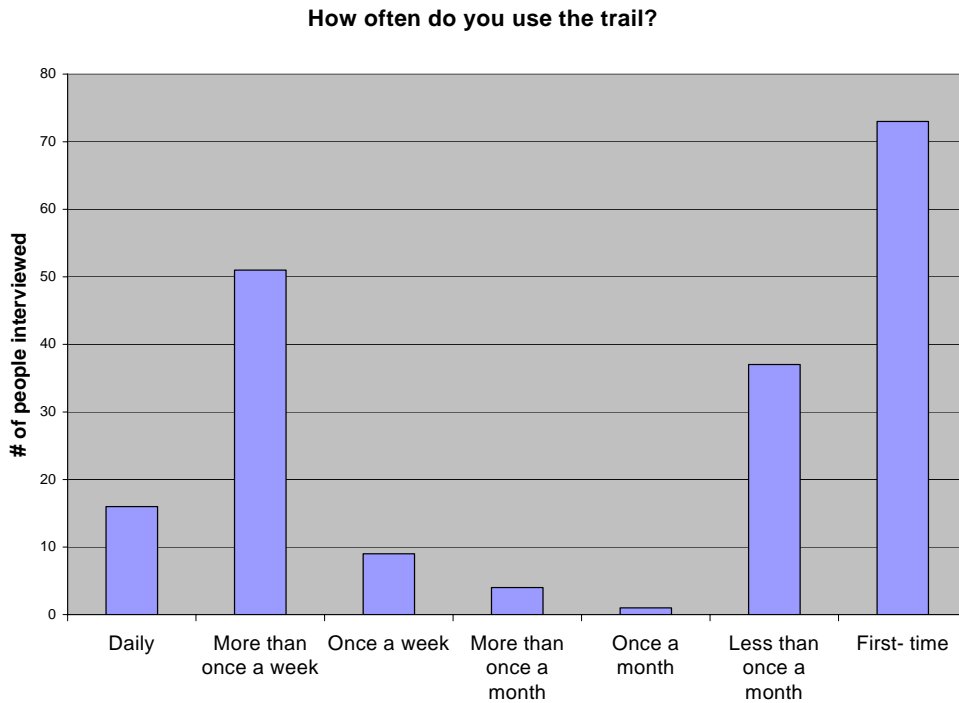


Figure 14

Do you use the trail only seasonally?

Winter: 42

Summer: 97

Fall: 63

Spring: 80

The people being interviewed were asked to tell the researcher in which seasons they use the trail. People using the trail for the first time were not asked to answer this question. The majority of trail users use the trail in the summer. This can be explained by the higher number of tourists, better weather and the lack of snow. On the trail, there are still a fair number of people interviewed who use the trail all year round or in the fall and spring. This must be taken into consideration when planning for trail upkeep and maintenance.

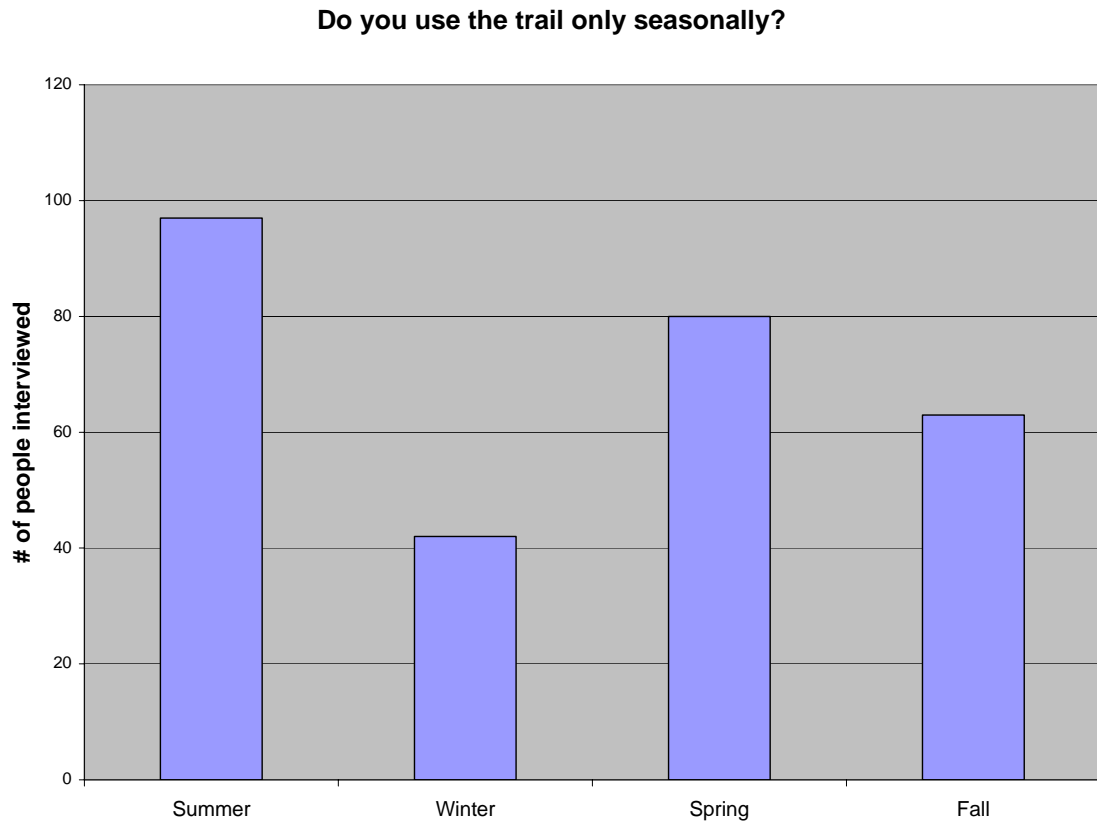


Figure 15

How do you use the trail?:

Walking: 200

Stroller Walking: 10

Running/ Jogging: 9

Others:

Dog Walking: 33

Fishing: 8

Bicycling: 43

Swimming: 2

Loitering/Sitting: 3

Frog Catching: 1

Sport Activities: 0

Picnicking: 11

Rollerblading: 6

Nature Watching: 1

Skateboarding: 0

There is an overwhelming majority of trail user who walk. This can possibly explained by the demographics of Lakefield and the trail being ideal for walking. Other popular activities are dog walking and bicycling. As well this may be due to the trail being ideal for these activities, the demographics of Lakefield, the number of tourists and current interest of trail users. The 'others' category is interesting because it relates greatly to the comments made by trail users in the last two questions of the questionnaire.

How do you use the trail?

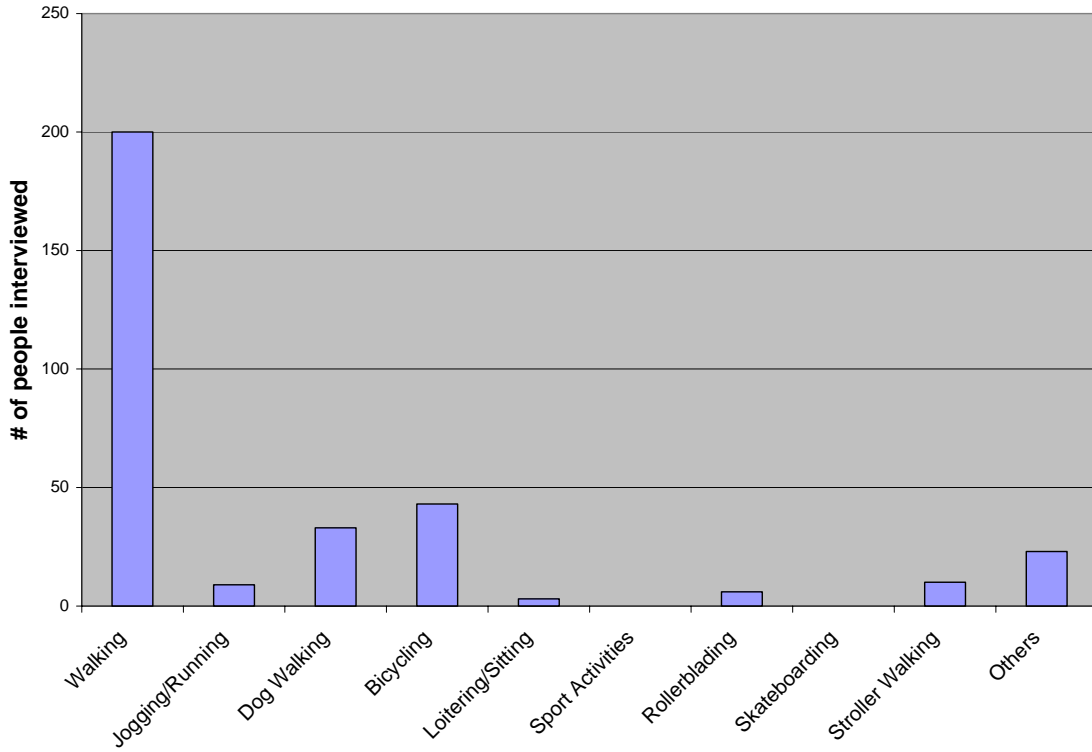


Figure 16

Do you use the trail for recreation or as a path to a specific destination(s) in Lakefield?

Path: 23

Recreation: 168

Both: 30

The majority of the trail users use the trail for recreation, although some trail users do use the trail as a path to specific destinations in Lakefield or both. The dominance of recreational activity may be due to the large number of tourists and because the trail offers a great location for recreational activities.

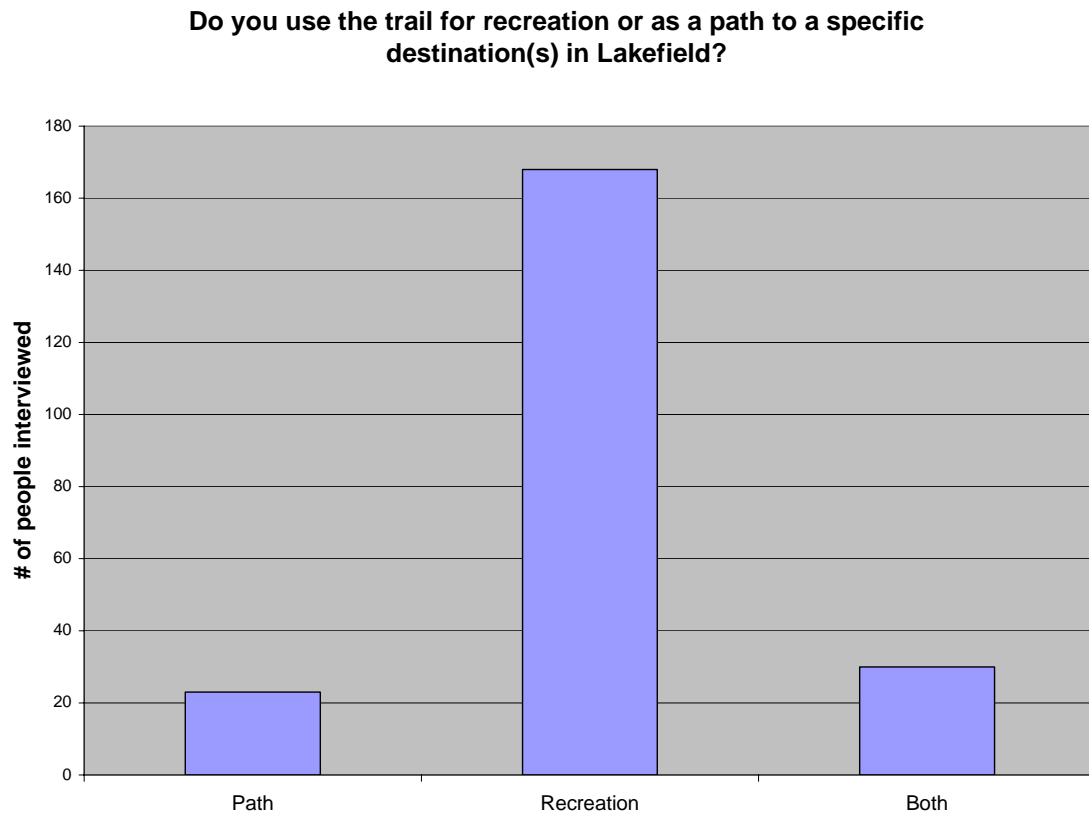


Figure 17

What do you like about the trail?

There was an overwhelmingly positive response from trail users concerning their contentment with the trail, with very few negative comments. For the purpose of analysis, the comments will be categorized into different types of answers that pertain to specific aspects of the trail. The interviewees were able to contribute as many different answers as they like. 13 people interviewed did not respond because they felt they had not seen enough of the trail to comment.

Answer pertaining to overall satisfaction with the trail:

Total comments: 115

Examples of answers: Entire trail, everything, much nicer than years ago, its here, nice, cool, good additions to the community, great, pleasant, good idea, good time to have the trail, very impressive, wonderful, good trail, it's a trail, interesting, worthwhile, very functional, an asset to the community,

Answers pertaining to the trail's mood:

Total comments: 27

Examples of answers: Peaceful, quite, relaxing, tranquil, safe

Answers pertaining to the trail visual aspects:

Total Comments: 58

Examples of answers: Scenic, Pretty, Beautiful, scenery, natural, lovely, picturesque, nature, view, appealing, esthetically pleasing, nice environment

Answers pertaining to the trail's maintenance:

Total Comments: 41

Examples of answers: Clean, well- maintained, well- kept, well- looked after, neat, tidy

Answers pertaining to the trail's development

Total Comments: 42

Examples of answers: Well- designed, well- done, location, well setup, nice job, likes improvements, not too developed, smooth, happy with improvements, stonework, flat, paved, variety, lots of trees, shade, different terrains,

Answers pertaining to walking/ physical activity on the trail:

Total Comments: 30

Examples of answers: Good for walking, would like to come back and walk some more of the trail, nice walk, easy to walk, pleasant walk, nature walk,

Answers pertaining to the location of the trail

Total Comments: 102

Examples of answers: Near by water, no cars, off road, on water, on river, no traffic, waterfront, makes water accessible to people, good access to water, next to water, away from traffic, marshlands, accessible, availability to nature, convenient, easy access, private, good connection to Peterborough, good network

Answers pertaining to specific groups of people:

Total Comments: 14

Examples of answers: Good for kids, good for tourist, good for guests, great for senior people

Answers pertaining to specific features on the trail:

Total Comments: 22

Examples of answers: Boardwalk, bike lanes, benches, gazebo, and benches with donations

Answers pertaining to other activities on the trail:

Total Comments: 10

Examples of answers: watching activities, likes viewing the boats at the Lock, good for different activities, good exercise, a place to go for a bike ride, sightseeing

Negative Comments:

Total Comments: 13

Examples of answers: geese, hard to dock, no docks, do not like docks along boardwalk, too busy in the summer, not at all.

The trail users interviewed had varying responses. The majority of people interviewed answered positively in general about the entire trail. Secondly, most answers pertained to the location of the trail where the interviewee was located at the time of the interview. Also, there were mainly an even number of answers relating to the development of the trail, its maintenance and walking along the trail. There were also answers relating to other activities along the trail, the mood of the trail and specific features on the trail. The overwhelmingly positive responses show that the trail is an asset to the community and is enjoyed by many.

What do you like about the trail?

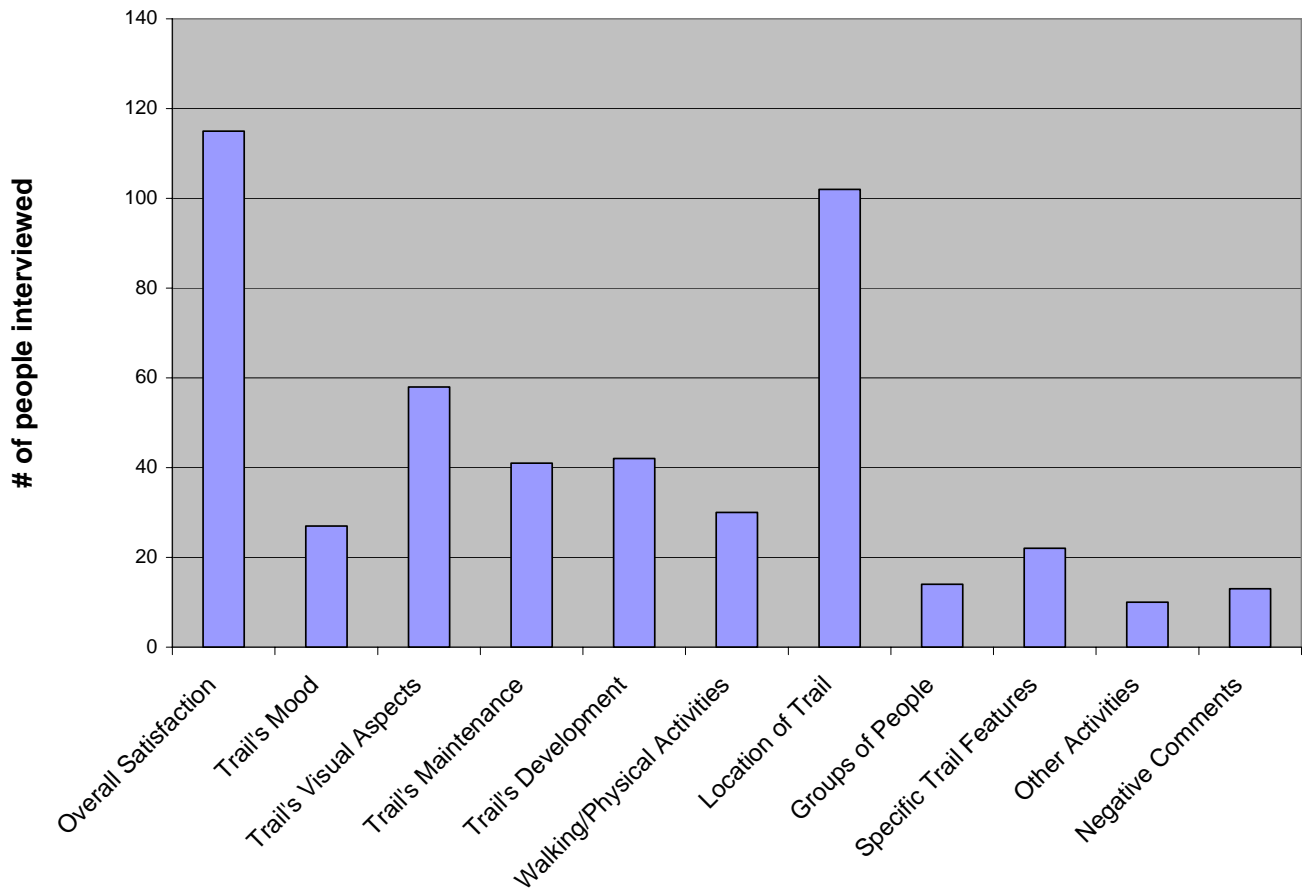


Figure 18

What else would you like to see on the trail?

Although most people liked the trail as it is or had not seen enough of the trail to comment, people interviewed had some good suggestions to improve and expand the trail. 91 people interviewed had no suggestions to make on anything they would like to see along the trail. The following are the answers compiled into different categories. Suggestions pertaining only to the trail made by the interviewees were recorded.

Benches: 31

Answers: more benches, benches on the west bank of the river near the LCBO, benches in the gazebo, more seating, benches

No More Additional Benches: 2

Washrooms: 11

Dog Bag Posts: 1

Garbage Cans/ Pails: 30

Drinking Fountains: 10

Additional Landscaping: 31

Answers: Potted Plants, more trees, more nature, shrubs, kept it wild, flowers and plants, kept it as natural as possible, flowers, more wild flowers, trees too low along the boardwalk,

Picnic Tables: 5

More Gazebos: 3

Further Trail Development: 49

Answers: extended trail, more off road trail with shade, longer boardwalk, longer trail, finish connections around the trail, all paved, connection to the Trans Canada Trail, more shade, finish part by the water across from the IGA, continue trail to the marina,

kept it simple, more of it to encourage commerce and more people to come to Lakefield,
more curves and hills, don't junk it up, not too manicured,

Signs: 18

Answers: signs with info on birds at the marshlands, signs, historical landmark
info postings, more maps, info center, and better-marked bike trail,

The Docks Issue: 11

Answers: more docks, boat landings, keep docks, move docks to the marina,
public launch ramp, do not let boats park along the trail,

More access to areas for swimming: 2

Lights for night: 1

Behind the gazebo need to move hydro lines so the trees don't get caught when they get
taller: 1

Play Areas: 5

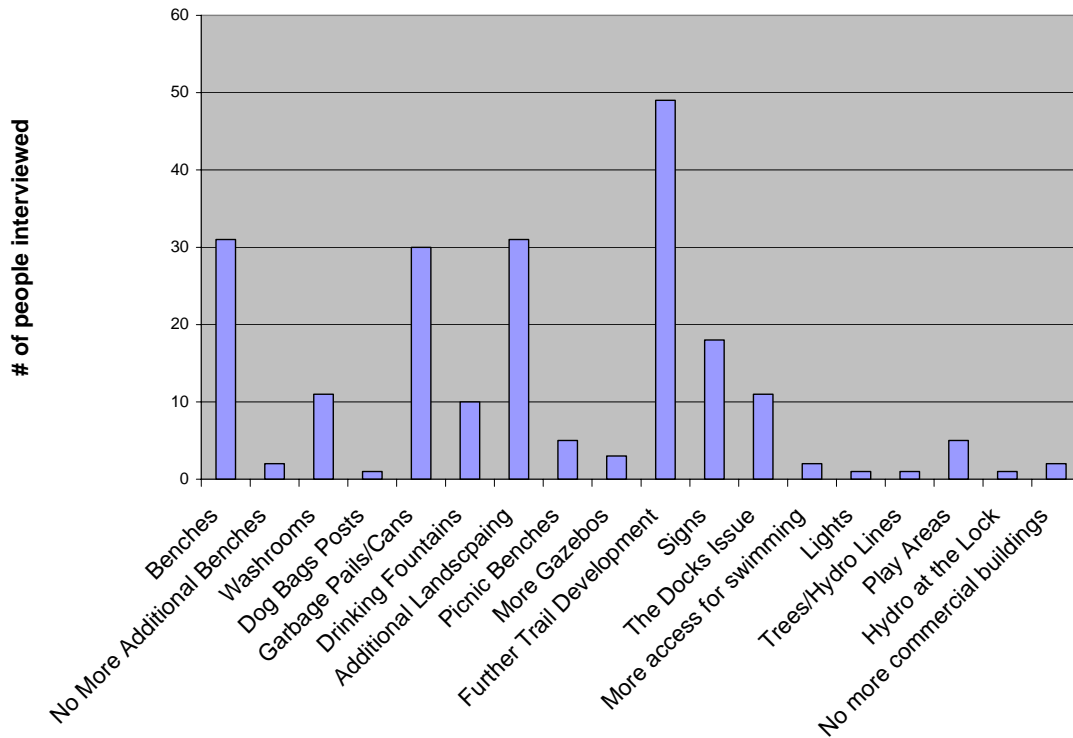
Answers: playground at campgrounds, park- like play area for kids,

Hydro at Lock 26: 1

No more commercial buildings: 2

The majority of the remarks voiced a desire to see an extension of and improvements to the Millennium Trail. The people interviewed also desire the trail to be kept natural with additions to the landscaping to achieve this. Specifically, the trail users interviewed wanted to see more benches and garbage pails along the trail as well as improved signage, washrooms and drinking fountains.

What else would you like to see on the trail?



Further Analysis and Recommendations

This research provides valuable information about the Lakefield Millennium Trail. This research can be very useful when determining future planning and developments of the trail. Demographics collected on trail users as well as their opinions and suggestions are the most important results to use when determining future developments and improvements of the trail. As well, the suggestions and opinions of the trail users shown in the last two questions of the questionnaire tell directly what the trail users would like to see on the trail and what they like about the trail. Using these results as a basis for my recommendations, I will create an action plan for further improvements and developments for the Lakefield Millennium Trail.

The demographics collected on sex and age can be found in the first and second parts of the research. In the first part of the research, sex and age range were tallied when the trail users were counted along the trail. In the second part of the research, demographics were noted on each person interviewed.

- A total of 686 male were counted and 588 females. The number of male and female users are relatively the same therefore it is not valid to develop the trail to benefit either male or female trail users over the other. The age range data collected in the most significant when using demographics to make trail development plans.
- The total people counted from ages 0- 16 was 266, from ages 16 –30 was 170, from ages 30- 60 was 480 and from ages 60 over was 276. The majority of the people using the trail are above the age of 30.
- Any future plan for trail development should take the needs and opinions of this age demographic into consideration. The opinions of this age demographic can be seen in the last two questions of the questionnaire. Since it is this age group which has answered the majority of the questionnaires, 172 out of 221 questionnaire, the

comments and suggestions collected do overall represent the opinions of trail users over the age of 30.

Frequency of trail use by each person tallied must be considered as well during the development of the trail. Most people interviewed were first time users of the trail. The second largest group interviewed used the trail more than once a week. This must be considered when developing the trail because knowledge of the trail route and its features must be accessible by these people using the trail for the first time.

How the trail is used is very important when developing the trail because it can aid determining aspects such as paving, terrain and location. The data collect shows that the majority of the people using the trail walk, seconded by bicycling. To meet the needs demanded by these activities, it is necessary to allow for areas that are ideal for walking and bicycling included in trail plans.

The data collected on the residents of the people interviewed can be used for further studies on the economic benefits of the trail to Lakefield as well as trail developments. It is seen that many tourists use the trail, which bring economic benefits to Lakefield. Therefore further developments should address this.

The following includes an action plan based on the researcher's observations and the opinions and suggestions of the people interviewed outlining the most important next steps in the development of the trail. Any developments should continue to expand on the positive aspects of the trail noted by the people interviewed such as its natural beauty and tranquility. Keeping in mind the data collected on demographics, how the trail is used and how often the trail is used, a list of improvements and changes in order of importance are as follows:

- 1) Signage: It has been shown that the majority of trail users were on the trail for the first- time and that there have been many tourists using the trail. As well, it has also been shown that some trail locations are used more often than others. 18

people interviewed suggested that the trail need more signs either, directional or educational. Educational signs would include signs of historical features of Lakefield and ecological information on birds and other wildlife found at the Marshlands. To increase usage in all areas of the trail, it is essential that good directional signage be put into place. The following signs should be placed:

- a. A sign at the beginning of the trail where the Rotary Trail ends on Water St. would indicate to people that they are now on the Lakefield Millennium Trail.
- b. A crossing marking south of the LCBO near the turtle crossing sign that indicated that the trail on Water St. continues along the west side of the river. I have seen a lot of confusion regarding this by bicyclist coming north along the trail.
- c. A map of the trail outside of Hamblin's. Being a popular location this would be an ideal location for a map.
- d. Signage indicating the connection of the trail at the Marina to the section that travels through the village. Trail users also suggested this.
- e. A map of the trail at the campgrounds and south of the Look- out point. This will draw more people to the marshlands and allow the people at the campgrounds know about the rest of the trail.
- f. Educational signage and information at the marshlands about the wetland and its wildlife. A trail user also suggested this.
- g. A crossing and signs connecting the trail from on the West Bank of the River across Bridge Street towards the lock.

2) Garbage Pails: Although many people noticed and commented on the cleanliness of the trail, 30 people interviewed noticed the need for a few garbage

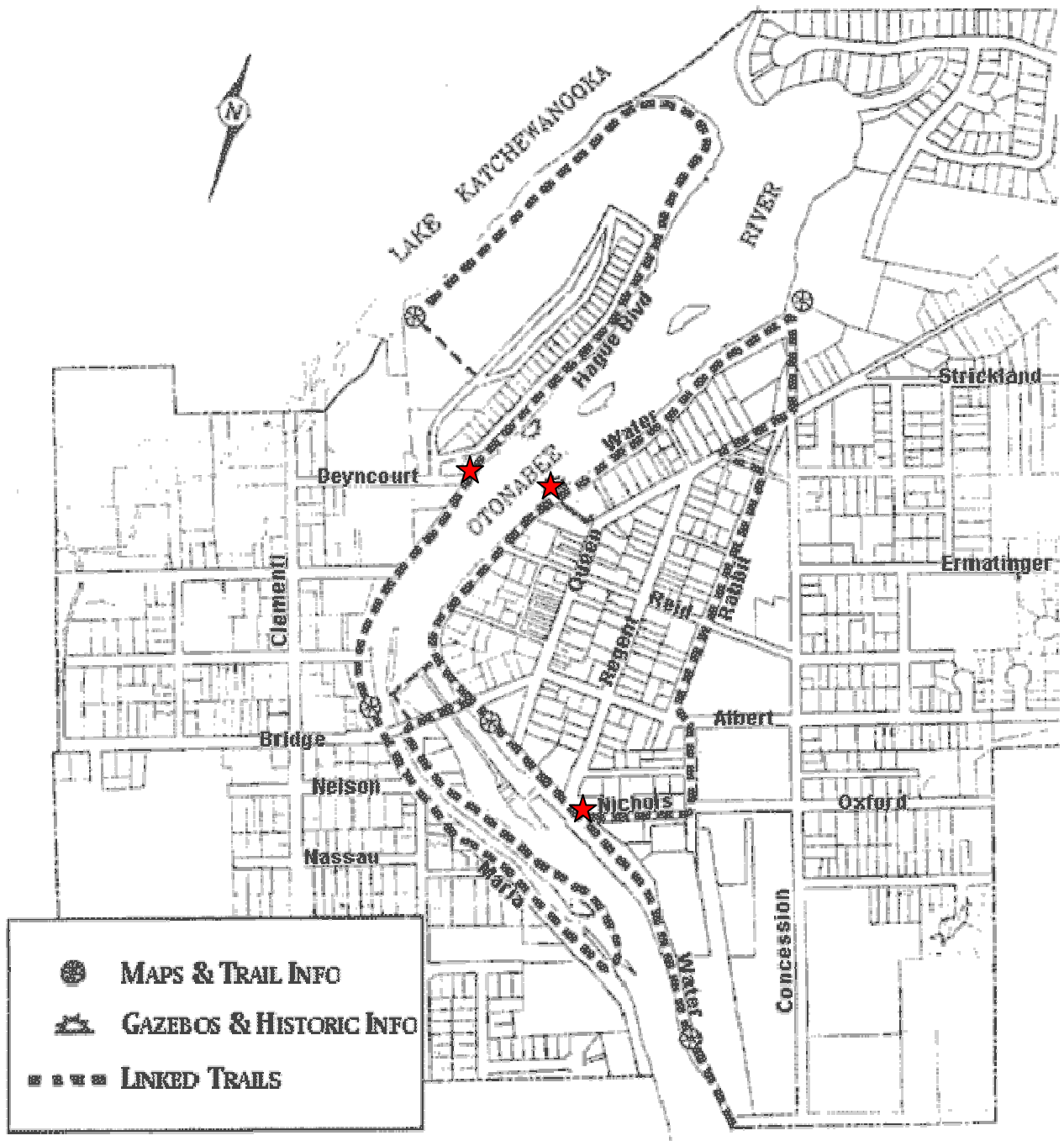
pails along the trail. For example, people who purchase ice cream tend to walk along the trail on Water St. Once they are finished they are left with napkins, spoons etc. to throw out. I recommend that two garbage cans be placed along the boardwalk, one by the gazebo and another closer to the marina. Currently, this is the only location in need of garbage pails, yet as other areas of the trail become more popular, additional garbage pails may need to be added.

- 3) Benches: 31 people interviewed wanted more benches along the trail. At the same time, some people interviewed did not want to see the trail becoming too cluttered therefore some benches should be added but not too many. A bench on the first level of the look –out point should be added and a bench under the gazebo. Maybe one more bench along the boardwalk and a few benches along the bank of the river south of the LCBO on Water St. should be added as suggested by a trail user.
- 4) Further trail development: Once suggestions 1- 3 are met, extending the trail would be a good next step since the above suggestions will bring more people to the trail, increasing its popularity. 49 people interviewed suggested that further trail development be done and 31 people suggested further landscaping. It has been shown that the trail is frequently used with 1274 people counted using the trail on one day a week for 12 weeks. Where the trail should extend is beyond the scope of this research yet some landscaping suggestions can be noted. As noted by many people interviewed, additional landscaping that extends the boardwalk and adds more natural beauty to the trail such as more trees, flowers and shrubs should be added.

Conclusion

The Lakefield Millennium Trail has been shown to be an excellent feature to the Lakefield community. This research has shown that the trail receives significant use, by a variety of people using the trail in different ways. The results collected can now be used as a tool in planning continued developments of the trail for future enjoyment. I would like to thank the Lakefield Millennium Trail Stewardship Committee for giving me this opportunity to participate in this important and educational trail study.

Appendix One



Appendix Two

Part 1: Observation

Date: _____ Location: _____
Weather Conditions and Changes:

Male or Female:

Male:	Female:
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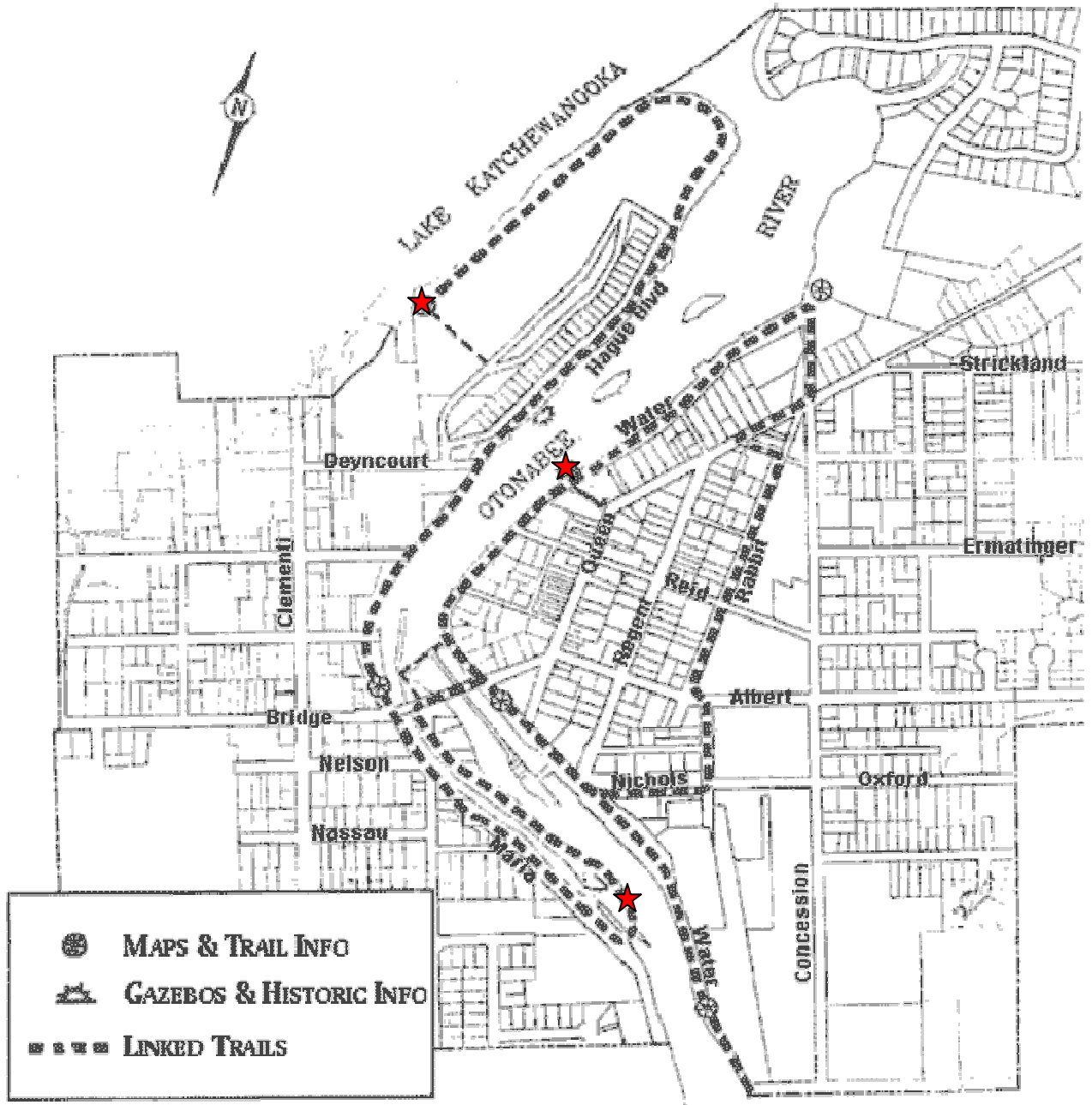
Age Range:

0-16:	16-30:	30-60:	Over 60:
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Activities:

Walking:	Jogging/Running:
Bicycling:	Rollerblading:
Dog Walking:	Loitering:
Skateboarding:	Strollers:
Sports Activities:	Other: (specify)

Appendix Three



Appendix Four

Part 2: Questionnaire

Number of respondents:

Characteristics of Respondents:

Current Activities:

Questionnaire:

How often do you use the trail?:

Daily More than once weekly once a week More than once a month

Once a month Less than once a month

Do you use the trail only seasonally:

Winter Fall Summer Spring

Where are you from?:

Local Visitor

If visitor, day or overnight?:

Day Overnight

How do you use the trail?:

Walking Running/Jogging Dog Walking Bicycling Loitering

Sport Activities Rollerblading Skateboarding Stroller Walking

Others:

Do you use the trail for recreation or as a path to a specific destination(s) in the Lakefield?

What do you like about the trail?

What else would you like to see on the trail?

Appendix Five

Saturday July 27, 2002

Total respondents: 36

Morning, 8:15- 11:15, foggy and clouds, cool: Lock 26: 4

Afternoon, 11:45- 3:45, sunny, hot, breeze: Gazebo: 25

Evening, 4-7, sunny and hot: Lookout: 7

Female: 18

Male: 18

Ages:

0-16: 0

16-30: 8

30-60: 6

60+: 22

Current Activity:

Walking: 23

Dog Walking: 3

Sitting: 6

Fishing: 4

Questions:

Where are you from?

Local: 9

Visitor: 27

If visitor, day or overnight?:

Day: 22

Overnight: 5

How often do you use the trail?

Daily: 3

More than once a week: 6

Once a week: 0

More than once a month: 2

Once a month: 1

Less than once a month: 15

First-time: 9

Do you use the trail only seasonally?

Winter: 3

Fall: 6

Summer: 33

Spring: 6

How do you use the trail?:

Walking: 36

Running/ Jogging: 1

Dog Walking: 7

Bicycling: 6

Loitering/ Sitting: 3

Sport Activities: 0

Rollerblading: 0

Skateboarding: 0

Stroller Walking: 0

Others:

Fishing: 4

Swimming: 2

Do you use the trail for recreation or as a path to a specific destination(s) in Lakefield?

Path: 0

Recreation: 31

Both: 5

What do you like about the trail?

Marshland, entire trail, peaceful (2), good for exercise (2), an asset to the community, worthwhile, scenic (7), quite (2), near the water (16), boardwalk (8), much nicer than a years ago (4), clean (3), well maintained (4), relaxing, good for walking, very functional, pretty (4), beautiful, well designed, bike lanes (2), safe (2), everything, its here (2), good addition to the community (2), natural, scenery (4), nice (2), cool (2).

Negative comments: geese (2), hard to dock (2).

What else would you like to see on the trail?

Benches on the west bank of the river near the LCBO, washrooms (3), don't junk it up, dog bag posts, more benches (9), garbage cans (13), drinking fountains (6), no response (12), potted plants (4), larger trees (4), picnic tables, more gazebos, public launch ramp (2), extended boardwalk.

Saturday August 4, 2002

Total respondents: 40

Morning, 8:15- 11:15, sunny and cool, Lookout: 14

Afternoon, 11:45- 3:45, partly cloudy, hot, Lock 26: 8

Evening, 4-7, cloudy, hot with some rain, Gazebo: 18

Female: 18

Male: 22

Ages:

0-16: 6

16-30: 6

30-60: 14

60+: 14

Current Activity:

Walking: 34

Dog Walking: 4

Bicycling: 2

Questions:

Where are you from?

Local: 8

Visitor: 32

If visitor, day or overnight?:

Day: 6
Overnight: 26

How often do you use the trail?

Daily: 1
More than once a week: 6
Once a week: 0
More than once a month: 0

Once a month: 0
Less than once a month: 8
First-time: 25

Do you use the trail only seasonally?

Winter: 6
Fall: 8

Summer: 15
Spring: 8

How do you use the trail?:

Walking: 36
Running/ Jogging: 0
Dog Walking: 2
Bicycling: 2
Loitering/ Sitting: 0
Others:
Fishing: 2

Sport Activities: 0
Rollerblading: 0
Skateboarding: 0
Stroller Walking: 0

Do you use the trail for recreation or as a path to a specific destination(s) in Lakefield?

Path: 11
Recreation: 22
Both: 7

What do you like about the trail?

No cars (4), off road (2), great (2), beautiful (4), pleasant (2), good idea, would like to come back and walk some more of the trail, happy with improvements, on the water (3), smooth (2), good for kids (4), relaxing (4), no response (9), nice boardwalk (3), nice walk (2), nice scenery, quite (2), clean (7), nice (5), well kept (3), pretty (2), lovely (2), nature (2),

Negative comments: none

What else would you like to see on the trail?

more nature (2), more off road trail with shade (2), longer boardwalk, more benches (6), no response (17), playground at campgrounds (4), signs with info on birds at the marshland (2), washrooms (2), longer trail (2), garbage pails (6), hydro at Lock 21, picnic tables (2),

Saturday August 10, 2002

Total respondents: 28

Morning, 8:15- 11:15, sunny, cool and calm: Gazebo: 20

Afternoon, 11:45- 3:45, sunny and hot, Lookout: 4
Evening, 4-7, sunny and hot, light breeze, Lock 26: 4

Female: 14

Male: 14

Ages:

0-16: 5

16-30: 0

30-60: 15

60+: 8

Current Activity:

Walking: 26

Dog Walking: 2

Questions:

Where are you from?

Local: 21

Visitor: 7

If visitor, day or overnight?:

Day: 1

Overnight: 6

How often do you use the trail?

Daily: 6

More than once a week: 18

Once a week: 1

More than once a month: 0

Once a month: 0

Less than once a month: 2

First-time: 1

Do you use the trail only seasonally?:

Winter: 16

Fall: 18

Summer: 27

Spring: 18

How do you use the trail?:

Walking: 27

Running/ Jogging: 5

Dog Walking: 3

Bicycling: 7

Loitering/ Sitting: 0

Sport Activities: 0

Rollerblading: 0

Skateboarding: 0

Stroller Walking: 4

Others: 0

Do you use the trail for recreation or as a path to a specific destination(s) in Lakefield?

Path: 4

Recreation: 13

Both: 11

What do you like about the trail?

Everything (5), benches (2), well locked after (2), nice (4), on river (4), watching activities, gazebos, boardwalk (7), stonework, natural, well done, pleasant, nice walk (4),

pretty (2), peaceful (2), no traffic (5), convenient (2), picturesque (2), paved (2), clean (2), easy to walk (2), flat (2), quite (5), accessible (2), availability to nature (2), no cars (2), good maintenance (2), it exists (2), marsh (4), nature (4), location (2), good for kids (3)

Negative comments: no docks

What else would you like to see on the trail?

no response (15), bench in the gazebo, more seating, benches (3), finish connections around the trail (2), signs (2), garbage pails (4), more docks, shrubs (2), potted plants (2), more gazebos (2), no more benches (2), kept it wild (2), not too manicured (2), boat landings (2).

Sunday August 18, 2002

Total respondents: 39

Morning, 8- 11, sunny, warm and windy, Lock 26: 7

Afternoon, 11:15- 3:15, sunny, windy, partly cloudy and cool, Gazebo: 27

Evening, 3:45- 6:45, sunny, warm and windy, Lookout: 5

Female: 21

Male: 18

Ages:

0-16: 5

16-30: 1

30-60: 19

60+: 14

Current Activity:

Walking: 30

Dog Walking: 6

Bicycling: 1

Stroller: 1

Others:

Frog Catching: 1

Questions:

Where are you from?

Local: 19

Visitor: 20

If visitor, day or overnight?:

Day: 17

Overnight: 3

How often do you use the trail?

Daily: 2

More than once a week: 9

Once a week: 8
More than once a month: 1
Once a month: 0

Less than once a month: 6
First-time: 13

Do you use the trail only seasonally?

Winter: 12
Fall: 13

Summer: 21
Spring: 13

How do you use the trail?:

Walking: 33
Running/ Jogging: 1
Dog Walking: 7
Bicycling: 4
Loitering/ Sitting: 0
Sport Activities: 0

Rollerblading: 4
Skateboarding: 0
Stroller Walking: 4
Others:
Frog catching: 1

Do you use the trail for recreation or as a path to a specific destination(s) in Lakefield ?

Path: 3
Recreation: 36
Both: 0

What do you like about the trail?

pleasant (5), picturesque (2), its here, peaceful, ease to walk, waterfront (5), clean (6), neat (2), benches with donations (2), nice (10), no traffic (4), makes water accessible to people (3), gazebo (3), view (2), pleasant walk (2), scenic (2), tidy (2), good for walking, appealing, likes viewing the boats at the Lock, variety (3), tranquil, good for tourist, beautiful (3), well setup, quite (6), easy access, good location (2), benches (2), can bring guests to the trail (2), shade (2), different terrains, good for different activities, esthetically pleasing.

Negative comments: do not like docks along boardwalk (4), too busy in the summer (2)

What else would you like to see on the trail?

no response (21), historical landmark info postings (2), all paved, connecting to Trans Canada Trail, park- like play areas for kids, flowers and plants(2), no commercial buildings (2), more shade (5), more benches (3), garbage cans, water fountain (4), more maps (2).

Saturday August 24, 2002

Total respondents: 36

Morning, 8- 11, cloudy, light breeze, cool: Lookout: 10
Afternoon, 11:15- 3:15, sunny, warm, breeze: Lock 25: 11
Evening, 3:30- 6:30 sunny and hot, breeze: Gazebo: 15

Female: 20
Male: 16

Ages:
0-16: 6

16-30: 2
30-60: 10
60+: 18

Current Activity:

Walking: 34
Dog Walking: 2

Questions:

Where are you from?

Local: 2
Visitor: 34

If visitor, day or overnight?:

Day: 20
Overnight: 14

How often do you use the trail?

Daily: 0	Once a month: 0
More than once a week: 2	Less than once a month: 13
Once a week: 0	First-time: 21
More than once a month: 0	

Do you use the trail only seasonally:

Winter: 1	Summer: 3
Fall: 2	Spring: 17

How do you use the trail?:

Walking: 36	Skateboarding: 0
Running/ Jogging: 2	Stroller Walking: 0
Dog Walking: 2	Others:
Bicycling: 8	Fishing: 2
Loitering/ Sitting: 0	Picnicking: 11
Sport Activities: 0	Watching: 2
Rollerblading: 0	

Do you use the trail for recreation or as a path to a specific destination(s) in Lakefield ?

Path: 1
Recreation: 32
Both: 3

What do you like about the trail?

Everything (2), good time to have the trail (2), no response (5), well maintained, well done, very impressive, easy to walk (3), good access to water (3), nice (6), next to water(6), beautiful (11), pretty, nature (4), shady (2), cool (2), no traffic (2), wonderful(4), clean (4), great, lots of trees, well kept, private (6), good connection to Ptbo. (6), good trail (6), stone walk (2), nice job (2), scenery (2), peaceful(2).

Negative comments: none

What else would you like to see on the trail?

Finish part by the water across from the IGA (2), continue trail to the marina (2), do not let boats park along the trail (2), no response (13), keep it as natural as possible, more benches (7), more shade (5), kept it simple (2), flowers (5), behind the gazebo need to move hydro lines so the trees don't get caught when they get taller (2), info center (3), light for night, better marked bike trail (6), trees too low along boardwalk (6).

Sunday September 1, 2002

Total respondents: 42

Morning, 8- 11, Sunny, cool, breeze: Gazebo: 20

Afternoon, 11:15- 3:15, Sunny, hot , no breeze: 16

Evening, 3:30- 6:30, Sunny, hot, breeze: Lock 26: 6

Female: 22

Male: 20

Ages:

0-16: 10

16-30: 0

30-60: 20

60+: 12

Current Activity:

Walking: 27

Dog Walking: 5

Bicycling: 10

Questions:

Where are you from?

Local: 7

Visitor: 35

If visitor, day or overnight?:

Day: 26

Overnight: 9

How often do you use the trail?

Daily: 4

More than once a week: 10

Once a week: 0

More than once a month: 1

Once a month: 0

Less than once a month: 13

First-time: 14

Do you use the trail only seasonally:

Winter: 4

Fall: 16

Summer: 28

Spring: 18

How do you use the trail?:

Walking: 32
Running/ Jogging: 0
Dog Walking: 12
Bicycling: 16
Loitering/ Sitting: 0

Sport Activities: 0
Rollerblading: 2
Skateboarding: 0
Stroller Walking: 2
Others: Nature Watching: 1

Do you use the trail for recreation or as a path to a specific destination(s) in Lakefield ?

Path: 4
Recreation: 34
Both: 4

What do you like about the trail?

Nice (10), good network (2), clean (2), gazebos (2), great for senior people (2), nature walk (2), by the river (2), peaceful (4), relaxing (2), well designed (2), beautiful (2), good for kids (2), lovely (4), a place to go for a bike ride (3), everything, good exercise (2), no cars (6), off road (6), it's a trail(6), scenery (4), away from traffic (2), nice environment (2), sightseeing, likes improvements (2), not too developed (8), interesting,

Negative comments: Not at all (2)

What else would you like to see on the trail?

Keep docks (2), trees (2), more access areas for swimming (2), move docks to marina (2), no response (13), garbage cans (6), picnic tables (2), more of it to encourage commerce and more people to come to Lakefield (3), washrooms (6), more curves and hills (6), extended trail (14), maps (6), more wild flowers (2),

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