



Community Link Program

Public Affairs Program • Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs • Syracuse University

Manlius Watershed Stewards Public Information Survey

A Study Conducted for the Town of Manlius
By Noah Perullo
April 2025

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction: This study reports the results of a survey gathering information about the types of uses people have for Manlius' trails and watersheds. These results will be presented to the Manlius Watershed Stewards Council and will be used to inform future decisions about public programs in the Town of Manlius.

Methods: The data was collected from an online survey that was accessed by a QR code. The QR codes were put near Manlius' watersheds and trails so that the public would be able to have easy access. The target population is anyone who uses Manlius' trails and watersheds, but the programs will be geared towards the citizens of Manlius specifically. The town of Manlius has about 4,500 residents. Out of this population, 187 responses were recorded, which is 4.5% of the target population (Town of Manlius). The responses of this survey could be skewed because certain individuals may have a difficult time accessing a QR code.

Findings:

1. 77% of respondents came to Manlius' trails and watersheds to enjoy nature. (n=187)

2. 69% of respondents come to Manlius' trails and watersheds daily or weekly.

3. 57% of respondents were over the age of 45.

4. 70% of respondents live in the Town of Manlius. (n=187)

5. 59% of the respondents were women. (n=187)

6. 56% of the respondents scanned signs 12 and 13.

7. 51% of respondents gave positive/other comments on the open response question.

INTRODUCTION

This study reports the results of a survey gathering information about the types of uses people have for Manlius' trails and watersheds. The Manlius Watershed Stewards are a group of Manlius residents who aim to increase the public's knowledge of community watersheds through education and outreach. A watershed is a piece of land that water flows across on its way to a river, lake, stream, or bay (Town of Manlius, 2024). There are many watersheds in the Town of Manlius, and people experience these watersheds on a variety of trails and paths. This survey was created in collaboration with Sara Bollinger and William Nicholson, two members of the Watershed Stewards. The survey was created to gain a better understanding of who is using the trails and paths which run near watersheds in Manlius. Information such as why they are coming to these places could lead to education and outreach opportunities by the Town of Manlius to serve its citizens in a more efficient and direct manner.

METHODS

How Data Was Collected

Instrument Design: The survey used in this study was designed by Noah Perullo, a Syracuse University student from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs' Spring 2025 Community Link Program cohort. The survey was created in collaboration with the Manlius Watershed Stewards, specifically Sara Bollinger and William Nicholson. The survey was created using the online survey generator platform Google Forms.

Data Collection Method: The survey QR code was sent to Sara Bollinger on March 2nd, 2025. The survey QR code was then printed out and distributed by the Watershed Stewards onto the many paths and trails of Manlius on March 6th, 2025. Results were recorded by Perullo after the conclusion of the survey on April 2, 2025.

Target Population and Sample: The target population includes the residents of the Town of Manlius, because they will be receiving potential outreach after the survey is completed. The population of Manlius is 33,712. The survey was distributed near trails and paths, so the sampling frame is people that access the trails, but the exact number is unknown. However, the sample consists of 187 respondents.

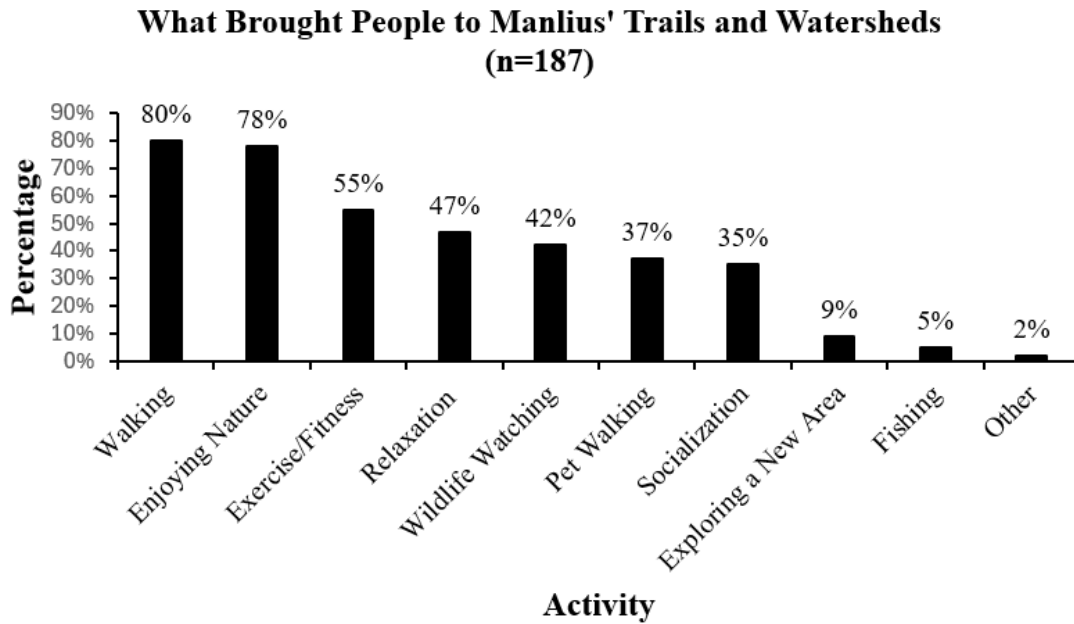
Quality of the Data

Representativeness : Representativeness of this survey could be negatively affected by the fact that this survey was conducted using a QR code. Certain age demographics may have a more difficult time accessing QR codes than others, which could result in a less representative survey. Additionally, certain people without a smartphone will not have the ability to take this survey, so the survey may not reflect who is actually on the trails and paths.

Accuracy: The survey may be inaccurate because of the closed-ended response nature of most of the questions. By making only one question open response, some people may not be able to express their true feelings about their experiences on the trails and paths. For the closed-ended questions, there may have been some response options that were not there that certain people would have picked, leading to inaccurate results.

FINDINGS

1. 77% of respondents came to Manlius' trails and watersheds to enjoy nature.

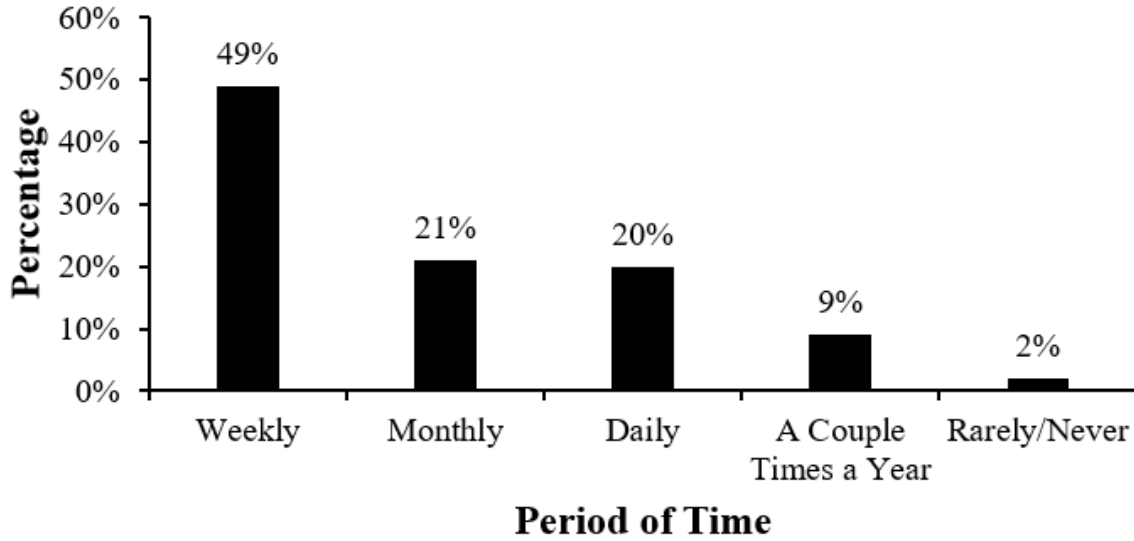


Source: Data collected and analyzed by Noah Perullo for the Manlius Watershed Stewards Public Information Survey, Syracuse University, April 2025.

Comment: Percentages add up greater to 100% because respondents could pick multiple options.

- 69% of respondents come to Manlius' trails and watersheds daily or weekly.

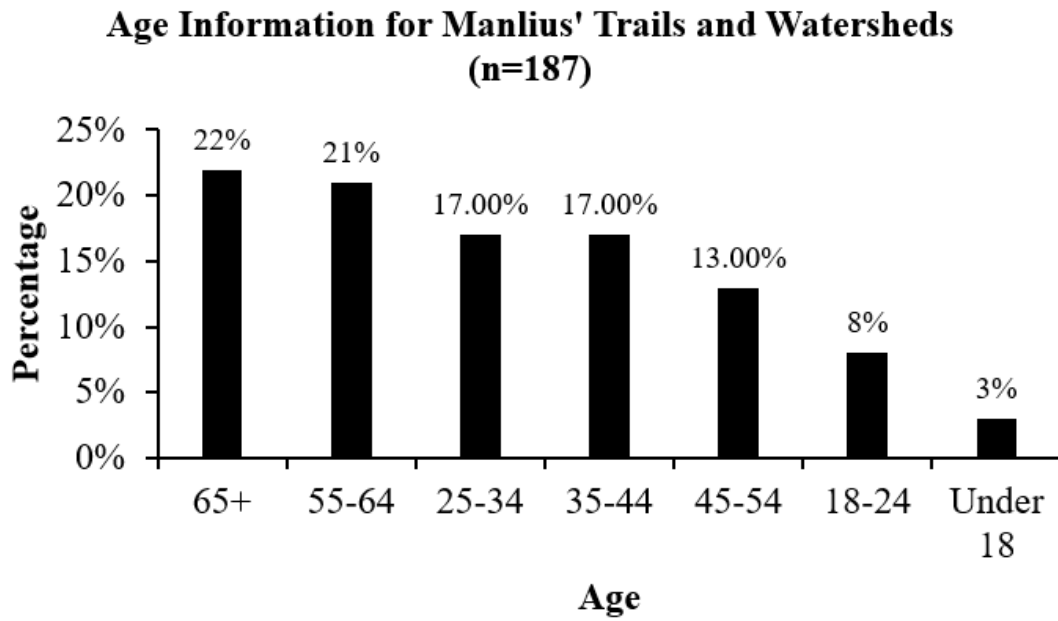
How Often Do People Come to Manlius' Trails and Watersheds (n=187)



Source: Data collected and analyzed by Noah Perullo for the Manlius Watershed Stewards Public Information Survey, Syracuse University, April 2025.

Comment: Percentages add up to greater than 100% because of rounding.

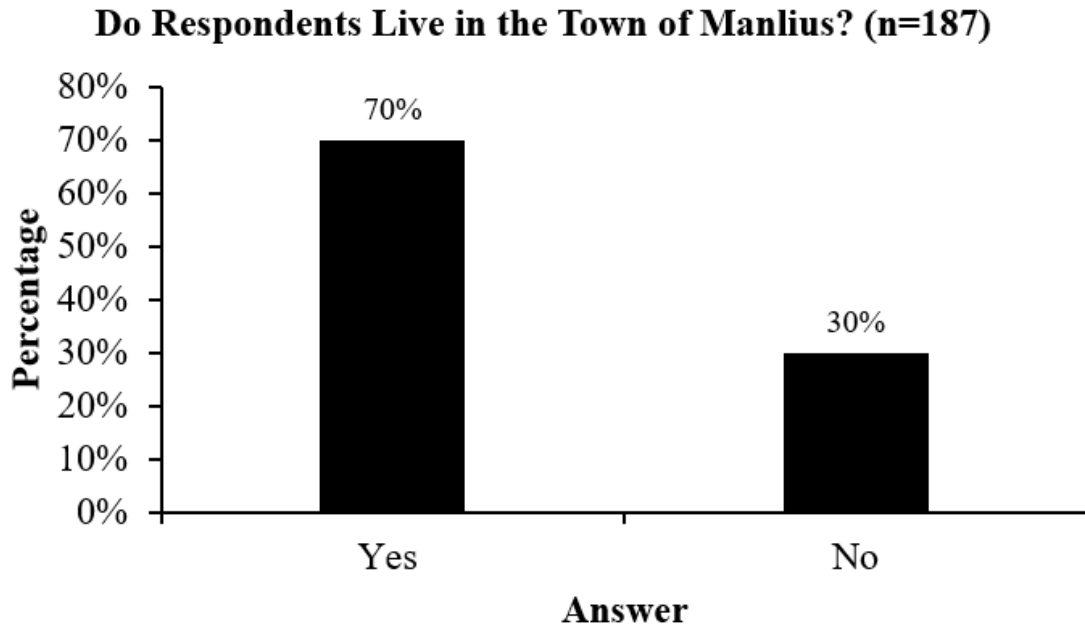
3. 57% of respondents were over the age of 45.



Source: Data collected and analyzed by Noah Perullo for the Manlius Watershed Stewards Public Information Survey, Syracuse University, April 2025.

Comments: Percentages add up to greater than 100% because of rounding.

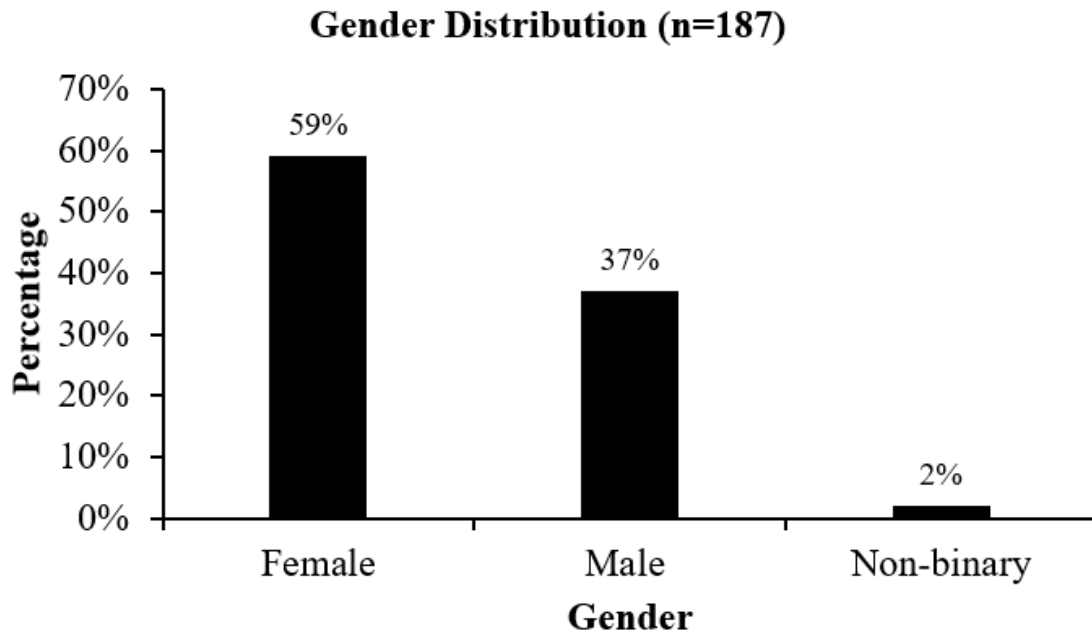
4. 70% of respondents live in the Town of Manlius.



Source: Data collected and analyzed by Noah Perullo for the Manlius Watershed Stewards Public Information Survey, Syracuse University, April 2025.

Comments: None

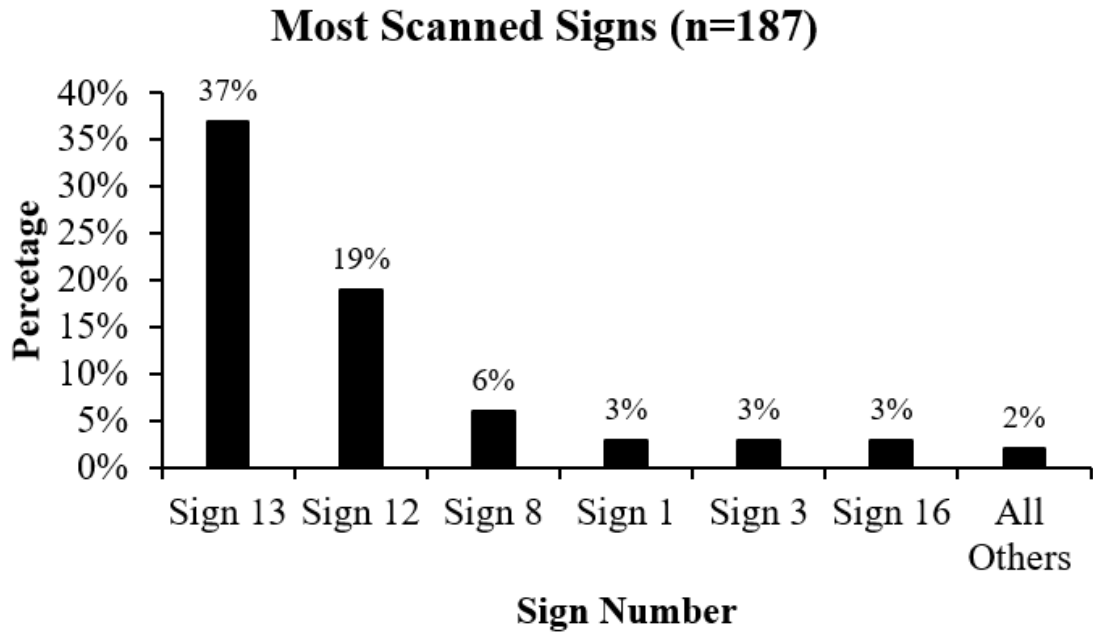
5. 59% of respondents were women.



Source: Data collected and analyzed by Noah Perullo for the Manlius Watershed Stewards Public Information Survey, Syracuse University, April 2025.

Comments: Percentages add up less than 100% because of rounding.

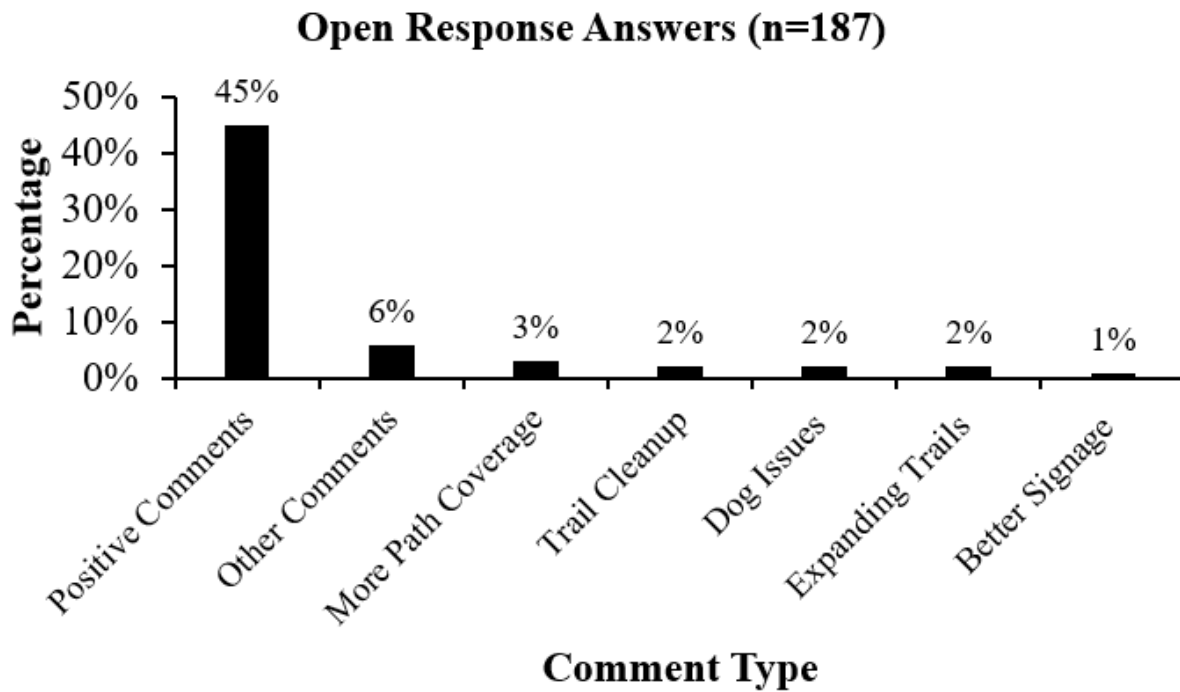
6. 56% of the respondents scanned signs 12 and 13.



Source: Data collected and analyzed by Noah Perullo for the Manlius Watershed Stewards Public Information Survey, Syracuse University, April 2025.

Comments: All other signs were under 2% of the total per sign.

7. 51% of respondents gave positive/other comments on the open response question.



Source: Data collected and analyzed by Noah Perullo for the Manlius Watershed Stewards Public Information Survey, Syracuse University, April 2025.

Comments: Percentages do not add up to 100% because this question was not mandatory.

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Appendix I

Research Questions

Which number sign did you scan? (1-16)

Your answer _____

What brought you to this location?

- Exercise/Fitness
 - Enjoying nature
 - Walking
 - Wildlife watching
 - Photography
 - Relaxation
 - Socialization with friends/family
 - Fishing
 - Pet walking
 - Exploring a new area
 - Other: _____
-

How often do you come to this location?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- A couple times a year
- Rarely/Never

Do you live in the Town of Manlius?

- Yes
- No

What is your gender?

- Man
- Women
- Non-binary
- Prefer not to answer

What is your age?

Under 18

18-24

25-34

35-44

45-54

55-64

65+

Is there anything else you would like us to know about your experience on these trails?

Your answer _____

Appendix II

Data Frequencies

Comment: For any question where the sample size is not equal to the population size, N=187, it is because some respondents did not respond to that particular question, or some respondents put multiple answers.

Age (N=187)

Under 18-(5%)

18-24-(8%)

25-34-(17%)

35-44-(17%)

45-54-(13%)

55-64-(21%)

65+-(22%)

Gender (N=187)

Man-(59% %)

Woman-(37% %)

Non-binary-(2%)

Prefer not to answer-(3%)

Live in the Town of Manlius (N=187)

Yes-(70%)

No-(30%)

How Often do They Come to This Location (N=187)

Daily-(20%)

Weekly-(49%)

Monthly-(21%)

A Couple Times a Year-(9%)

Rarely/Never-(2%)

What Brought Them to This Location (N=187)

Exercise/Fitness-(55%)

Enjoying Nature-(78%)

Walking-(80%)

Wildlife Watching-(42%)

Photography-(20%)

Relaxation-(47%)

Socialization with friends/family-(35%)

Fishing-(5%)

Pet Walking-(37%)

Exploring a New Area-(9%)

It's in my neighborhood-(<1%)

Cycling-(<1%)
Birding-(<1%)
Cycling to Wegmans-(<1%)

What Number Sign Did They Scan (N=187)

13-(37%)
12-(19%)
8-(6%)
1-(3%)
3-(3%)
16-(3%)
2-(1%)
4-(0%)
5-(1%)
6-(<1%)
7-(1%)
9-(2%)
10-(<1%)
11-(1%)
14-(0%)
15-(0%)

Appendix III

Column	Field Name	Definition	Code
A	ID	Respondent's Unique Identification Number	Code is Identical to Identification Number
B	SIGN	What Number Sign Did you Scan?	Code is Identical to Identification Number 99=Don't know
C	LOC	What Brought You to This Location?	1=Exercise/Fitness 2=Enjoying Nature 3=Walking 4=Wildlife Watching 5=Photography 6=Relaxation 7=Socialization with Family/Friends 8=Fishing 9=Pet Walking 10=Exploring a New Area 11=Other 99=No Response
D	OFTLOC	How Often Do You Come to This Location?	1=Rarely/Never 2=A Couple Times a Year 3=Monthly 4=Weekly 5=Daily 99=No Response

E	LIVMAN	Do You Live in The Town of Manlius?	1=Yes 2=No 99=No Response
F	GEN	What is Your Gender?	1=Man 2=Women 3=Non-binary 99=No response 99=Prefer not to Answer
G	AGE	What is Your Age?	1= Under 18 2=18-24 3=25-34 4=35-44 5=45-54 6=55-64 7=65+ 99=No response
H	COMM	Is there anything else you would like us to know about your experience on these trails?	Open ended response 1= Positive Comments 2=More stone/gravel/pavement 3=More trash cans/trail cleanup 4=Better signage 5=Dog Issues 6=Expanding Trails 7=Other Comments/Questions 99=No response

ID	SIGN	LOC	OFTLOC	LIVMAN	GEN	AGE	COMM
1		99	9	5	1	1	3
2		12	1,2,3,4,6	4	1	2	99
3		12		5	1	7	99
4		13	1,2,3,4,5	5	1	99	5
5		12	1,2,3,9	4	1	3	1
6		12	1,2,3,5,6,7,9	4	2	1	1
7		99	3	3	1	2	5
8		3	9	5	1	1	1,7
9		12	3	4	1	2	5
10		12	1,2,3,7	4	1	2	7
11		99	2,3,5,6	5	2	2	3
12		12	2,3,9	4	2	2	7
13		12	3,9	4	2	1	6
14		12	1,2,3,9	3	1	99	5
15		13	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	5	1	2	4
16		13	2,3,6,7	3	2	1	4
17		13	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	5	1	1	99
18		13	1,2,3,4,6,7	4	1	2	5
19		99	2,3,4,7,9	4	1	2	7
20		13	1,2,3,4,6,7	4	2	2	3
21		13	1,3,6,7,9	4	1	2	99
22		1	2,3,4	4	2	1	2
23		12	1,2,3,4,5,8	4	1	2	7
24		13	1,2,3,9	4	1	2	99
25		13	1,2,3,4,6,9	5	1	1	99
26		99	1,3,5,9	5	1	1	1
27		13	9	5	1	1	7
28		99	2,3,6,7,9	5	1	2	3
29		9	2,3,7	2	1	2	4
30		99	2,3,4	4	1	2	7
31		7	2	4	2	2	6
32		12	2	3	2	2	7
33		7	1,2,4,5	4	1	2	4

ID	SIGN	LOC	OFTLOC	LIVMAN	GEN	AGE	COMM
34		13	1,2,3,6,7	5	1	2	1
35		12	1,2,3,6,7	4	2	2	5
36		12	2,3,6,7	3	1	2	3
37		13	3,6,9	4	2	2	99
38		12	1,2,3,6,7	4	2	2	4
39		13	9	4	2	2	6
40		13	1,2,3,4,6	4	1	2	7
41		13	1,2,3,4,6	4	2	2	99
42		13	4	4	1	2	7
43		13	2,3,4,8,9	5	2	1	4
44		13	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,10	3	1	2	4
45		13	1,2,3,5,6,7,10	3	2	2	4
46		7	9	5	1	1	3
47		99	2,3,4	5	1	1	7
48		1	2,3,6	5	1	2	7
49		2	2,3,9	3	1	2	6
50		9	1,2,3,4,5,9	5	1	2	5
51		7	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9,10	4	1	1	3,4
52		13	1,2,3,4,6	4	2	2	6
53		13	1,2,3,4	5	1	2	7
54		9	2,3,4,6,7,9	3	2	2	4
55		12	1,2,3,4,6,7	4	1	2	99
56		13	1,2,3,9	4	2	2	5
57		9	1,2,3,4,5,8,7	2	1	2	1
58		12	1,2,3,6,7,10	2	1	1	99
59		12	1,2,3,4,7,8,9	5	1	2	4
60		1	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9,10	3	2	3	1
61		13	1,2,3,4,6,7,9,10	4	1	99	99
62		99	9	5	1	2	7
63		9	2,3,4,5,9	3	1	7	99
64		12	1,3	4	1	2	7
65		13	1,2,4,9	5	1	1	99
66		13	1,2,3,6,7	4	1	2	99
67		13	3,9	4	2	3	1
68		12	1,2,3,6	2	1	3	2
69		13	2,3,4	3	2	2	6
70		12	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9	4	1	2	6
71		12	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9	4	1	1	7

ID	SIGN	LOC	OFTLOC	LIVMAN	GEN	AGE	COMM
72		13	1,2,3,4,6	2	2	2	99
73		13	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	4	1	2	1
74		13	1,2,3,6,7	4	1	1	6
75		12	1,2,3,6,7	4	2	2	99
76		13	1,2,3,4,6,7	3	1	2	99
77		13	1,2,3,6,7,9	4	1	1	1
78		13	2,3,9	5	2	2	99
79		9	9	4	1	2	99
80		13	1,2	4	1	2	99
81		7	1,2,3	4	1	7	99
82		99	9	4	1	2	1
83		99	11	4	1	1	7
84		16	2,3,6,7,10	1	2	1	1
85		16	2,3,6,7,10	4	2	1	1
86		12	1,2,3,4,5,6	4	2	1	2,3
87		99	1,2,3,4,6,9	4	1	1	99
88		13	1,2,3,5,6	4	2	2	99
89		12	2,3,6	2	1	2	1
90		13	1,2,3,4,6	4	1	1	99
91		13	1,2,3,6	4	2	1	1,4
92		99	11	4	1	1	1
93		99	2,9	3	1	1	99
94		13	2,3,4,6,7	5	1	2	1
95		13	1,2,3,4,6	4	1	2	99
96		13	1,2,3,4,6	4	1	99	3
97		1	99	4	1	2	99
98		13	1,2,3,4,6,7	4	1	1	7
99		12	1,2,3,4,9	4	1	99	6
100		12	1,2,3,4,7,9	4	2	2	1
101		12	2,3,4,7,9	4	2	2	99
102		2	2,3,4,6,9	4	1	2	1
103		99	3	3	1	2	99
104		3	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9	4	2	2	1
105		12	3,6	4	1	1	2
106		13	3	4	1	2	99
107		3	2,3,7	4	1	2	99
108		13	1,2,3,6,9	4	1	2	7
109		12	1,2,3	4	1	2	7

ID	SIGN	LOC	OFTLOC	LIVMAN	GEN	AGE	COMM
110		99	2,3	2	2	1	7
111		12	1,2,9	3	2	2	5
112		3	3	4	1	1	5
113		99	3	2	2	99	5
114		5	3	2	1	1	4
115		13	2,3,4,5	3	2	1	7
116		3	1,2,3,9	3	1	2	2
117		3	2,3,4,6,7	4	2	2	3
118		13	1,2,3,4,6,7,10	2	1	1	6
119		13	1,2,3,6	2	1	2	6
120		3	2,3,4,6	4	2	1	4
121		13	2,3,4,5,6,8,10	3	1	1	1
122		13	2,3,9	3	1	2	6
123		13	1,2,3,6,7	3	1	2	7
124		13	1,2,3,4,5,7	4	1	2	6
125		13	1,2,3,4,6,7	4	1	2	6
126		3	2,3,7	4	1	1	4
127		99	1,2,3	3	1	1	4
128		99	1,2,3,6,7,9	5	1	99	5
129		10	2,6	3	1	1	6
130		12	1	4	1	2	6
131		99	99	5	1	99	99
132		16	2,3	5	1	2	6
133		13	1,2,3,4,9	4	2	1	3
134		99	3	4	1	2	4
135		5	2,3,4,5,6,7,11	2	1	2	2
136		7	2,3	3	1	1	2
137		99	2,3,4	5	1	1	1
138		99	1,2,3,4,6	5	1	1	6
139		8	2,3,6,7	3	2	3	3
140		13	7,9,11	4	1	1	3
141		99	1,2,3,4,6,10	1	1	2	4
142		99	2,3,4,6,7,9	4	1	1	3
143		8	1,2,3,5,6,7	2	2	3	1
144		9	3,8,9	5	1	1	5
145		6	3,4,8,9	5	1	1	5
146		6	2,3,6,8,9	5	1	2	2
147		99	2,9	5	1	2	3

ID	SIGN	LOC	OFTLOC	LIVMAN	GEN	AGE	COMM
147		99	2,9	5	1	2	3
148		99	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9	4	1	2	7
149		12	2,3	2	1	1	4
150		99	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	5	1	2	7
151		99	1,2,3,6	5	1	1	3
152		6	1,2,3,4,6,7	3	1	2	4
153		8	1,2,7,10	1	2	2	7
154		8	1,2,3,4,7,9	3	1	2	5
155		16	1,2,3,5,10	5	1	2	4
156		13	1,2,3,6,9	4	1	2	6
157		11	4	4	1	2	6
158		11	4	4	2	1	6
159		13	1,2,3	4	1	99	3
160		12	1,2	4	1	1	4
161		12	1	3	1	2	7
162		8	1	4	2	1	3
163		8	1,2,3,4,5,6,7	3	2	2	4
164		8	1,2,3,4,5	3	2	1	2
165		8	1,2,3,5,6,7,9,10	3	1	2	2
166		8	1,2,3,4,5,9	3	1	2	5
167		8	2,3,4,5,6	2	2	1	3
168		8	1,2,3,6	5	1	2	2
169		1	2,3,4,8	3	1	1	7
170		13	1,2,3	4	2	1	5
171		13	1,2,3,4,6	4	1	99	7
172		99	3	4	1	1	4
173		16	1,2,4,8,9	4	1	1	3
174		13	1,2,3,7,9,10	4	2	1	4
175		12	1,2,3,4	3	2	1	7
176		8	2,3,4,5,6,7,9	2	2	2	6
177		13	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9	4	1	2	3
178		8	2	2	1	1	1
179		8	2,3,6,7	3	1	1	2
180		13	1,2,3	4	1	2	6
181		13	7	3	1	2	6
182		8	1,2,6	3	2	2	4
183		99	3	4	1	2	6
184		13	1,2,3,6,9,10	1	1	2	3
185		13	2	5	1	2	7
186		13	1,2,9	4	1	1	6
187		13	2,3,4,11	3	1	2	3

Appendix IV

Open-Ended Responses

Is there anything else you would like us to know about your experience on these trails?

Positive comments (n=85)

1. I love Canal Landing park! My dog has basically grown up here! We go walking every weekend morning.
2. Love the well maintained feeder trail along the creek, with easy access to the State canal trail. I sometimes walk my dog here alone or with my wife and sometimes meet friends who live in Manlius to walk and then get lunch or get coffee at Freedom of Espresso.
3. It's an enjoyable walk that connects to canal and can extend walk miles. My grandsons also like the access to creek to look for salamanders or fish.
4. Clearing snow and ice at beginning of trail on feeder canal is SO helpful to older people or those with handicaps. Thank you!
5. Appreciate the clearing of paths in the winter
6. Nicely kept up. Dog enjoys swimming in limestone creek in the warmer months
7. Love our parks!! Thank you and keep up the good work!
8. Great way to get to Erie Canal Park by Burdick Street.
9. This trail and access to Limestone Creek is one of the biggest reasons I enjoy living in the village of Fayetteville.
10. Village is very responsive when anything is called in (downed tree in the path, dog poo bags out, etc) and the park is always clean. We loved the trail maintenance the Boy Scouts did a few years ago. Great job!
11. Wonderful experience
12. Love that it is quaint and maintained
13. Love this place!
14. Thank you! Enjoy trails proximity to the coffee shop
15. Love the benches, the beautiful bridge to watch the water flow, and love to bike, walk or run along the extended canal trail.
16. Amazing local gem
17. This is my favorite place to walk my dog. I come several times a week in good weather. I don't hardly ever come in winter.
18. It's so great to have access to the Erie Canal from my house in Fayetteville. This path is a treasure.
19. This area of limestone creek is probably my favorite area of cny
20. Keep up the good work. Like the workout equipment. Woo
21. Great experience! Love the views, quality of the walkways, and workout equipment!
22. Relaxing and good for dog walking
23. We can walk the trail in good weather and the plowed trail and roads in snowy weather.
24. They offer a close and beautiful way to walk and exercise.
25. Perry Springs is our favorite!!!! Please keep taking such care of our natural gems. Thank you!!
26. Having access to beautiful nature is life changing. Thank you so much for making nature accessible to all!

27. Love the feeder canal!
28. Much needed connection with nature
29. We love the fish hatchery here and the quiet walk around the pond. It is always so peaceful
30. Love this area
31. I was walking here in February and saw my first insect of the year 2025—large numbers of the “winter stonefly”, a very small member of order Plecoptera known for its early emergence, when snow is usually still on the ground. This creek seems to be very good for stoneflies.
32. Luv it!
33. It is wonderful to be so close to great trails. Being in nature is up lifting!
34. They’re my favorite!
35. we come in the Spring summer and fall and also ride our bikes
36. Love the area . Keep growing it with more trails
37. Love the area keep adding Electric bike paths and main roads and make it Electric bike friendly
38. Safe and other users are friendly, polite!!
39. Comfortable and easy walk for sensitive back issues!
40. These trails are vital to our town.
41. My dog and i love walking the trails because it’s safe and there’s places she can get her feet wet
42. Very beautiful perfect scenery
43. Well kept, beautiful nature trails.
44. I’m a sophomore at SUNY ESF studying landscape architecture and this trail system is a great piece of green space in manlius! Easily navigable, kept very well, and very accessible. I did notice that there were only a few benches on the trail system, and only at the trail heads. This may deter older populations from being able to use the trails. I also noticed a few information boards along the trail reminding us of the historical significance of this place in the context of our great state. Depending on how much more information there is about this part of the canal, it would be beneficial to the public to have some more placards on different areas of this trail. But other than that this is a great suburban green space! Excellent!
45. Access to the water profoundly increases my QoL. I greatly value the non-motorized connection to the Erie Canal trail and Green Lakes
46. i love them, is important to me
47. Love it
48. I love this trail!
49. I wish to thank you for your care and upkeep of the park and its trails!
50. Great place for dog adventure hikes that I do for work. Great memories growing up coming here
51. Mill Run Park is a beautiful place
52. Knowing they are here encourages me to come here to walk, and stop for food after.
53. Kids had a blast by the creek after a long winter
54. Great birding spot.
55. My young children love the trails, the creek, the playground

56. I truly enjoy having nearby walking areas in the neighborhood, ones that are kept well and pleasing to the eye.
57. these trails are very very important to my family andv to our lives and have been for years
58. Love looking at the creek
59. These trails are vital to the community, giving people the opportunity and chance to connect with nature, exercise, and disconnect, even just for a moment.
60. These trails are top-notch. I love how like nature feels like!!!
61. Very nice walk
62. I've been coming here for years, since before it was a park when the community pushed to make it so! I hope it stays this way for generations!
63. The history of it
64. I visit these trails everyday with our dog it brings us so much joy to walk down to the creek- we've seen deer and herons in the water it feels like such a great source of life for the wildlife of our community.
65. exercising in the area is important to my physical & mental health
66. Its a nice spot to walk with my kids
67. I never knew they were here!
68. Being disabled, unable to drive, the trails are critical to my mental and physical health.
69. Beautiful serene trails great for birding
70. Excellent nature experience a gem for the community
71. I do long runs from the canal landing park I. Fayetteville from 6-15 miles. I like that it's not all paved, away from cars, shaded, and the nature is a good entertainment during the run.
72. I like to come to the trails with my granddaughter after the playground makes for a memorable day. I love this place.
73. Love to run these trails!!
74. This park is awesome and I love having such easy access to a creek!
75. We love it here and love having this water so close to home!
76. it's lovely.
77. Great trails! Recommend expanding the creek side (unmarked) trail also. Makes a nice alternate area for pets and creates a good loop
78. Really appreciate the bridges and the connection to the Empire State Trail. Thanks!
79. Enjoy the peacefulness
80. I love free falls
81. I love three falls woods :)
82. It's a gem in our town. I enjoy the quiet beauty and wildlife
83. Love this location! The trails are great and my dog loves the water!
84. First time here and actively making plans to come back
85. Been coming for years

More stone/gravel/pavement (n=6)

1. It would be really nice if connecting paths were paved all the way through and there were more frequent places to sit especially for the elderly. Thanks
2. More stone would be nice. We enjoy this location.
3. Please consider using gravel instead of asphalt for it. The tree roots destroy the trail but don't hurt gravel as much.

4. I walk here regularly. Enjoy wildlife and seeing creek and canal rise and fall. The gravel part of the trail should be better maintained and the canal should be cleaned up.
5. The path should be paved all the way to the lock.
6. We love this trail and it is loved by many. Some stabilizing of it with fine gravel etc could be warranted as could some dredging of canal feeder (it could even be good for kayaking if dredged?!!)

More trash cans/trail cleanup (n=4)

1. More trash cans and dog poop bag dispensers
2. Why is the mechanic shop on this trail allowed to throw junk in the creek and even let its junk rust right next to it for years? Is the town regulating how businesses treat nature/public places and their garbage? Also, how come there aren't enough trash bins on the trail? Perhaps having them would prompt people to stop throwing their stupid dog's poop on the canal. The town could do more.
3. Some trash tell people to keep it clean
4. You must remove all the dead brush and trees as they represent a danger in case of fire.

Better signage (n=2)

1. Post signage for cyclist/pedestrian etiquette and safety. Well maintained, safe paths.
2. Would love to see signage and trail maintenance opportunities.

Dog Issues (n=3)

1. Too many dogs off leash in the morning at the Fayetteville feeder, has impacted my use of the park
2. I love walking here but too many people let their dogs off leash and their dog has no recall. One of my dogs is fearful of unknown dogs and it creates a very scary situation. People think if their dog is "friendly" they can be off leash and out of their control. Please please please enforce the leash law! I've been chased and scared too many times. And then sworn at when I've asked people to leash their dogs. Thank you.
3. People need to be better informed about keeping their dogs under control and picking up after them.

Expanding Trails (n=4)

1. More trails
2. Need more if them ! Ledyard Canal is a possibility. The more we can be connected to our neighbors and get some exercise the better our health becomes. Thank you for offering this survey. Hope it means you will improve on them and step forward with others!
3. Adding a road and parking lot to a nature area is a bad idea. Putting cars in the only shared use path in Fayetteville is a bad idea when Ty 5 doesn't even have sidewalks to get to Wegmans from Fayetteville. This trail is the only logical way to take a bike to Wegmans, this is wonderful, and should be expanded, not taken away by allowing cars to drive on the bike path
4. These trails should be expanded to the south. A continuous trail from this location to Stickley would be incredibly beneficial for Fayetteville and Manlius.

Other Comments/Questions (n=12)

1. who owns the land where it says 'no parking' why is parking not allowed?
2. I disagree with the workers who prune trees near the towpath by ripping large branches off with the claw arm of a backhoe. Could the feeder canal be dredged or at least cleaned out a little?

3. There is no public access to this location and myself and other neighbors are sick of people parking all over the neighborhood to walk through a park that has access to it a mile a way.
4. I really value my ability to walk on nature trails & walk/bike on the canal. The feeder canal path allows me to access the canal much safer than walking along the road. I wish we prioritized walking, biking, and if I was dreaming big, the canal would be nice enough to kayak on in the summer and skate along in the winter.
5. There's a man with a fort behind Teddy Time daycare. Kinda creepy.
6. The low head dam at this location no longer serves a useful purpose and should be removed to restore the creek to it's original natural state.
7. Nah
8. Stock it with Fish
9. Why isn't the trail along the creek to the whorrall pavilion advertised/labeled more?
10. No
11. Development of more ball fields along the Fayetteville spur would be a horrible and wasteful use.
12. For a while I came here weekly with the walking group from the Fayetteville Free Library. I've also lead birding walks here a few times.