



## Press Release Press Release

To: Area Media

From: Manitowoc County Fish & Game  
& Leede Research



Subject: Manitowoc County Residents Show Strong Support  
for Outdoor Organizations

Manitowoc County is recognized as having one of the longest-standing conservation organizations in the U.S. The Manitowoc County Fish & Game Protective Association was founded in 1907 and has been working to enhance the resources of Manitowoc County and protect the rights of sporting men and women for over 115 years. The group, in partnership with Leede Research, has completed the first formal, public measure of the community's thoughts on those resources and the organizations that support them.

The Manitowoc County Conservation Study reveals the overwhelming support and dedication of local residents towards conservation efforts and outdoor organizations. The survey, which included responses from 301 participants, highlighted several key findings. First, it was found that a significant majority of respondents expressed a strong interest in **protecting hunting and fishing rights in Wisconsin, with 92% agreeing or strongly agreeing** with the statement. This demonstrates the community's commitment to preserving outdoor traditions and resources.

Furthermore, the study revealed that **sporting clubs and conservation organizations play a vital role in the community, with 94% of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing** that these organizations are important for the future of local resources. This highlights the recognition of the valuable work carried out by 25 groups here in preserving and enhancing the natural environment.

The survey also shed light on the importance of outdoor experiences for young people, with **87% of respondents agreeing or strongly agreeing that it is crucial for youth to engage in outdoor activities**. This finding emphasizes the community's desire to foster a love for nature and conservation among the younger generation.

However, the study also uncovered a concerning trend of decreasing membership in local sporting and conservation clubs. Over 57% of respondents were aware of this issue, with some clubs even facing closure due to a lack of members and leadership. This highlights the urgent need for community members to consider joining these organizations and supporting their valuable work.

"We are thrilled to see the strong support for conservation and outdoor organizations in Manitowoc County," said Dean Halverson, CEO at Leede Research. "It is crucial for the community to come together and actively participate in these organizations to ensure the preservation of our natural resources for future generations." Leede will be working with the area conservation organizations to help use the results of the survey to plan for the next generation of conservation stewardship. A Membership Development Committee is being formed to address this need.

A summary document from the study has been sent with this release. For more information about the survey and its findings, please visit:

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