2007 Regional Water Quality Survey

Final Report

Conducted for

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission

by

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Contents

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Executive Summary

2007 Regional Water Quality Survey
Executive Summary

Purpose and Methodology

Purpose. The Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission conducted a water quality survey during the summer of 2007. The purpose of the survey was to provide a benchmark to gauge the effectiveness of regional and local public outreach campaigns on water quality issues in the NIRPC region.

Method of Administration. A four-page survey and cover letter were mailed to a stratified random sample of 1,800 households in the NIRPC region. A total of 450 households were randomly selected from each of four regions: (1) the cities of Gary/East Chicago, (2) other areas of Lake County (outside Gary/East Chicago) that are in the Lake Michigan Watershed, (3) areas of northern Porter County in the Lake Michigan Watershed, and (4) portions of Lake and Porter County in the Kankakee Watershed. Approximately 10 days after the surveys were mailed, residents who received the survey were contacted by phone. Those who indicated that they had not returned the survey were given the option of completing it by phone. Of the 1,800 households in the NIRPC region that received a survey, 403 households returned the survey by mail and 352 completed the survey by phone for a total of 755 completed surveys. The response rate significantly exceeded the project goal of 600 completed surveys.

The sample was stratified to obtain at least 150 completed surveys from each of the four areas described above. This was done to ensure that the results for each area would be statistically representative. The overall results for the NIRPC region were weighted based on the actual population in each of the four areas. The weighting factors are shown in Section 4 of this report. The results for each watershed have a precision of at least +/-7.2% at the 95% level of confidence. The overall results for the region have a precision of at least +/-3.7% at the 95% level of confidence.

Major Findings

Perceptions of Water Resources

Residents were asked questions about their perceptions of water resources. Some of the findings are listed below:

- Residents were asked to rate the quality of water in lakes, rivers, and streams in the community where they live. Eight percent (8%) of those surveyed thought water quality was improving. Thirty-eight percent (38%) reported that they thought water quality was getting worse; 37% thought it was "staying the same," and 17% did not have an opinion.

- 50% of those surveyed thought the way they cared for their home had little or no effect on the quality of water in lakes and streams in the community where they live; 29% thought it had a moderate effect, 13% thought it had a great effect, and 8% indicated that they "didn't know."

- One-fifth (21%) of those surveyed indicated that they believed the fresh water supply in Northwestern Indiana was an unlimited supply that is replenished when it rains; 67% thought that the fresh water supply was a limited and non-renewable source that could disappear and 12% indicated that they "didn't know".

Connection of Stormwater Runoff and Water Resources

Residents were asked questions about stormwater runoff and water resource issues. Selected findings are listed below:

- 45% of those surveyed thought industrial facility discharges were the greatest contributor of pollution to lakes, rivers and streams; 16% selected illegal dumping and 11% selected sewage overflow.

- 30% of respondents thought stormwater goes directly to lakes/streams without treatment; 27% thought it goes to a treatment plant, and 17% thought it goes to lakes/streams with treatment. 26% of those surveyed indicated that they "did not know."

- Only 6% of those surveyed really understood the meaning of the term "watershed." The majority (58%) of those surveyed indicated that were not familiar with the term "watershed." 14% indicated that they lived near, but not in, a watershed and 22% of those surveyed indicated that they did not live near a watershed.

- Most (72%) of those surveyed either "strongly agreed" or "agreed" with the statement that the quality of local streams and rivers where they live affects the Great Lakes.

Current Activities

Residents were asked questions regarding lawn and home care activities. Some of the findings are listed below:

- Twenty-six percent (26%) of those surveyed indicated that they typically wash their vehicles at home in the driveway. Most (61%) of those surveyed indicated that they use a car wash.

- 19% of those surveyed indicated that members of their household usually change motor oil, transmission fluid or radiator fluid for a vehicle at their home.

- Almost two-thirds (64%) of those surveyed indicated that their household uses a community collection site to dispose of household hazardous waste, such as old oil, fluids from vehicles, batteries, and pesticides; 20% of those surveyed indicated that their household typically disposes of household hazardous waste with their regular trash.

- Of those surveyed who owned a dog, (59%)indicated that their household disposes of their dog's waste along with their regular trash and 17% of those surveyed indicated that they do not pick up their dog's waste.

- Of those surveyed who have a yard (53%) indicated that their household typically leaves their grass clippings and leaves on the lawn/mulches them and 35% of those surveyed indicated that they use the curbside pickup in their community to dispose of grass clippings and leaves and 10% compost the leaves and grass clippings in their yard.

- More than half (55%) of those surveyed indicated that their household fertilizes their lawn at least once a year.

- 22% of the residents surveyed reported that they have a septic system in their home. Of those who have a septic system in their home, 72% reported that they have had their septic system checked or serviced in the past 5 years, 17% reported that they have not and 11% didn't know or don't remember.

Willingness to Take Action to Help Reduce Pollution of Streams and Lakes.

Residents were asked how willing they would be to perform various actions to help reduce pollution in lakes and streams. Among residents *who had an opinion* 90% were willing to dispose of hazardous waste at a community collection day, 88% were willing to have their septic tank serviced every 3-5 years, and 86% were willing to sweep excess fertilizer and grass clippings back into their

lawn. Residents were somewhat less willing to have their soil tested (55%) and to change lawn watering practices (67%).

Support for an Ordinance to Require Developers to Protect Streams and Lakes. Residents were asked if they would be supportive of an ordinance that would require developers in Northwestern Indiana to protect streams and stream corridors when land is developed. 61% of respondents were very supportive of such an ordinance, 23% were somewhat supportive, 14% were not sure and 2% were not supportive.

Willingness to Pay an Increase in Utility Fees to Fund Stormwater and Sewer Improvements. Respondents were asked how willing they would be to pay an increase in utility fees to fund stormwater and sewer improvements in the community where they live to help reduce damage from flooding and to help protect water quality. 26% were either very willing or willing to pay an increase in utility fees, 33% were somewhat willing, 28% were either not willing or not willing at all, and 13% didn't know.

Best Ways to Inform Residents about Ways to Protect Lakes and Streams. The top four ways residents preferred to receive information about what they can do to protect lakes and streams were from newspapers and magazines (47%), water/sewer bill insert (34%), television stories/ads (29%), and mail/brochures (28%).

Implications of Results

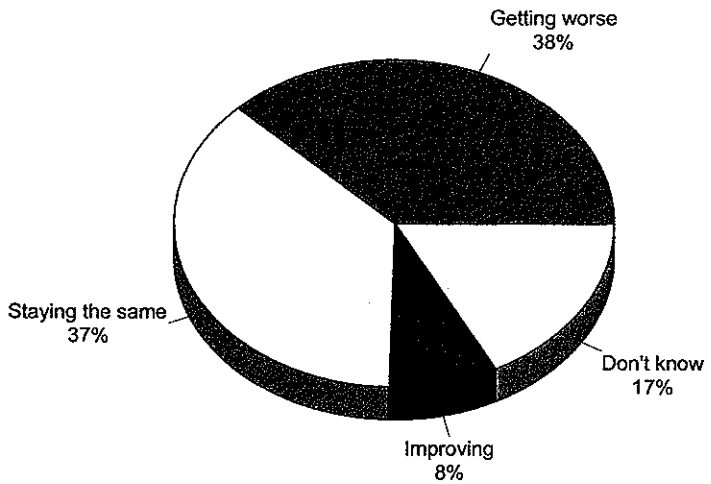
The survey results presented in this report provide a baseline for evaluating the effectiveness of regional and local water quality initiatives over time. These results will be used by NIRPC and other organizations in the region to implement public education programs to meet state and federal stormwater regulations.

Overall, this survey shows that residents are concerned about the quality of the rivers and lakes in the NIRPC Region. The survey points out that while many residents understand that their actions at home affect water quality, more education is needed. Most importantly, there is a willingness in the NIRPC Region to make some adjustments in daily habits to protect the water resources. Thus, there is value added in protecting water quality that can be achieved with public education efforts that tap the "willingness" to help expressed in this survey.

Section 2:
Charts and Graphs

Q1. How Residents Think the Quality of Water in Lakes, Rivers, and Streams in Their Community Is Changing

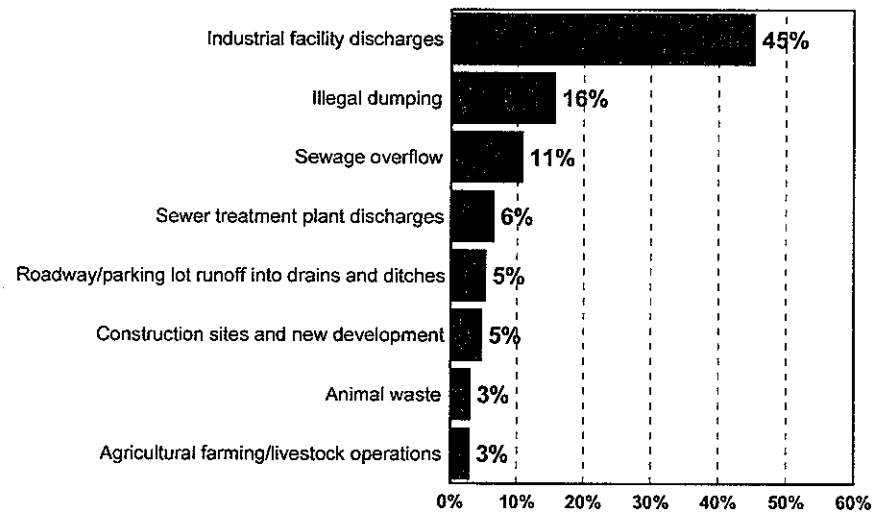
by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q2. During the past year, which of the following do you think contributed the MOST pollution to lakes, rivers and streams in the community where you live?

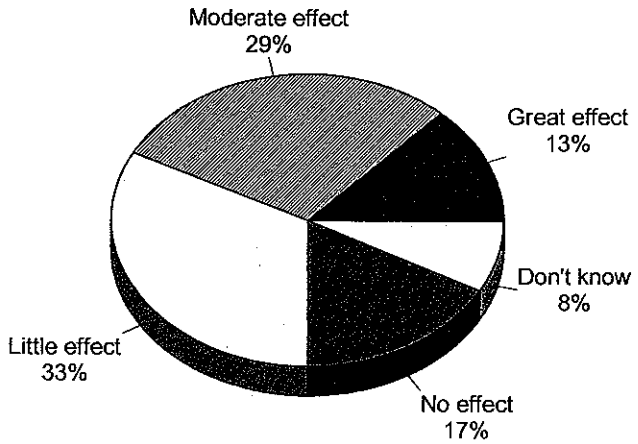
by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q3. How much do you think the way you maintain your home affects the quality of water in lakes and streams in the community where you live?

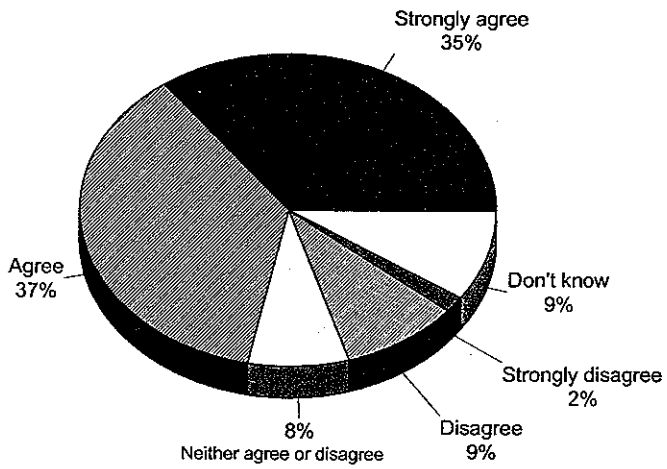
by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q4. Level of agreement with the statement: "The quality of local streams and rivers where I live affects the Great Lakes."

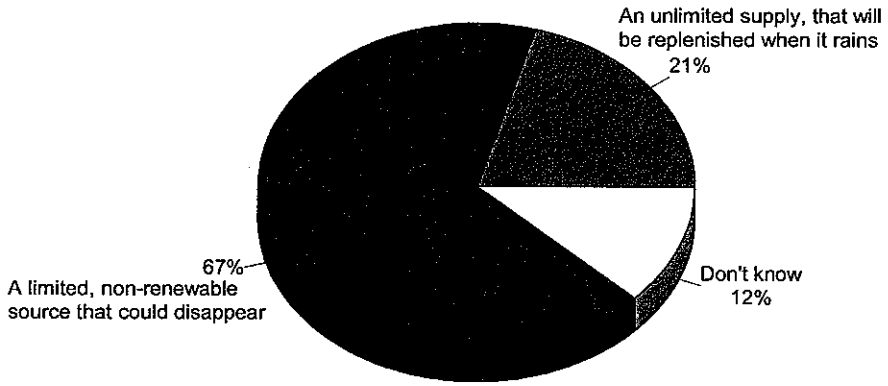
by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q5. How Residents View the Fresh Water Supply in Northwestern Indiana

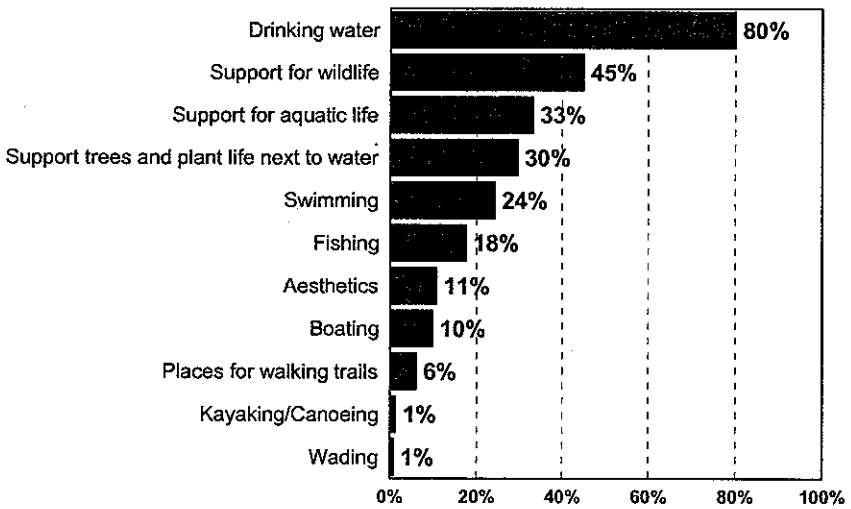
by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q6. Top Three Reasons Residents Value the Water Resources In Their Community

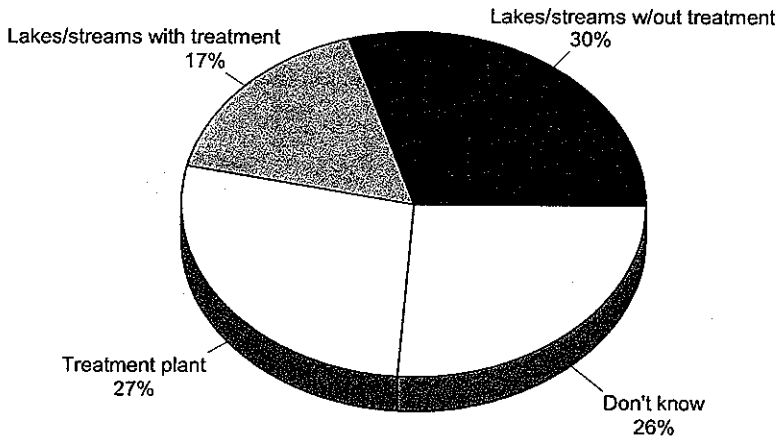
by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top three choices



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q7. Where do you think stormwater goes after it enters a storm drain or roadside ditch in your community?

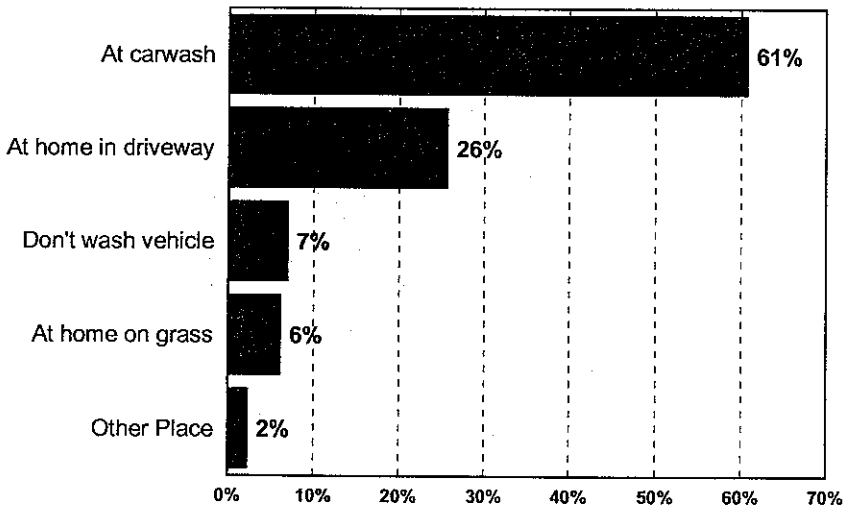
by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q8. Where Residents Typically Wash Their Vehicles During the Summer

by percentage of respondents (multiple answers allowed)

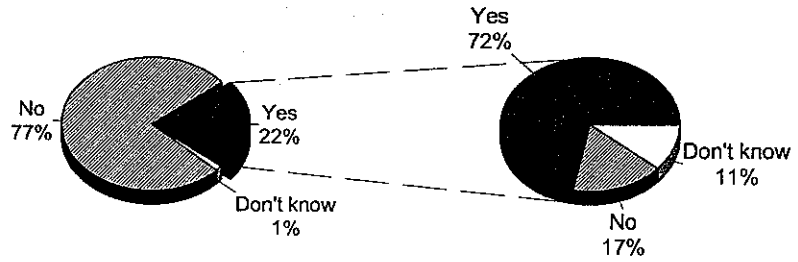


Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q9. Do you have a septic system at your home?

by percentage of respondents

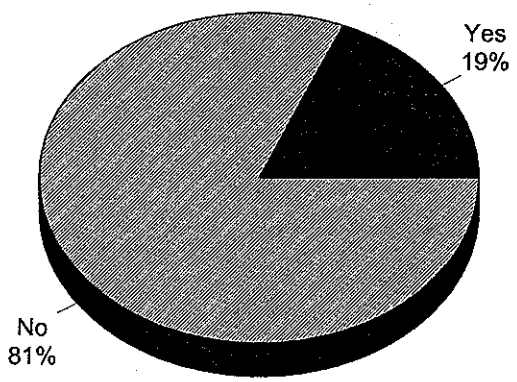
9a. If "YES", have you had your septic system checked or serviced during the past five years?



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q10. Do you or other members of your household usually change motor oil, transmission fluid, or radiator fluid for vehicles at your home?

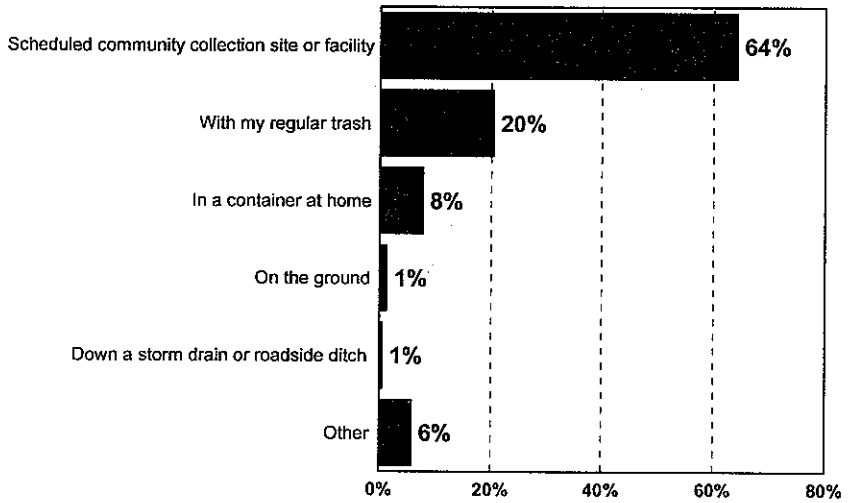
by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q11. Where Residents Typically Dispose Of Household Waste Materials, Such As Used Oils/Fluids, Batteries, Pesticides, Paints, and etc.

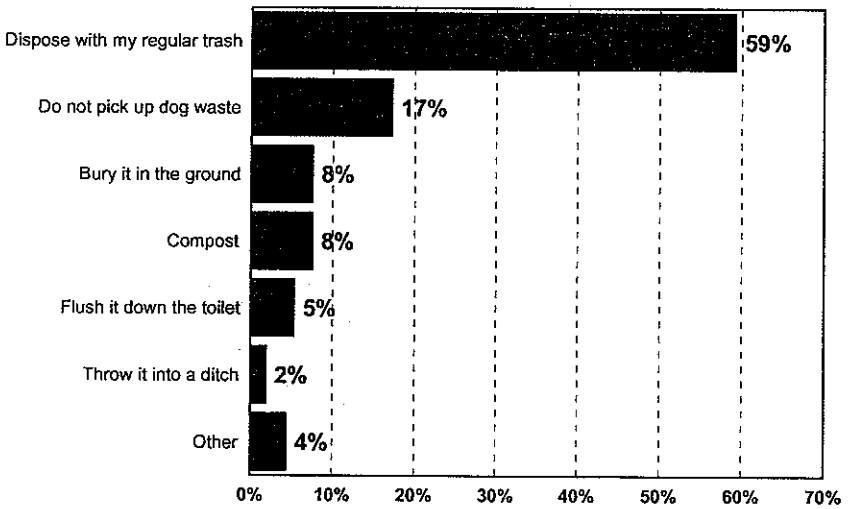
by percentage of respondents (multiple answers allowed)



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q12. How does your household typically dispose of your dog's waste?

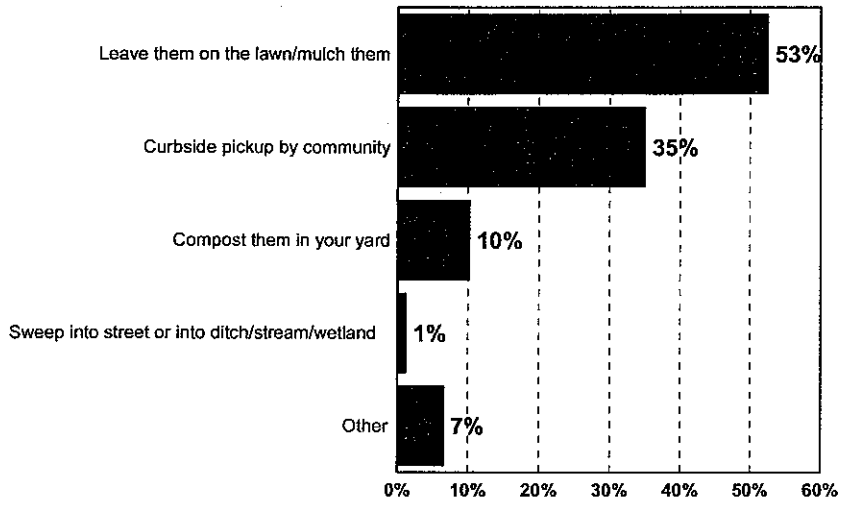
by percentage of respondents who had a dog (multiple answers allowed)



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q13. What does your household typically do with grass clippings and/or leaves?

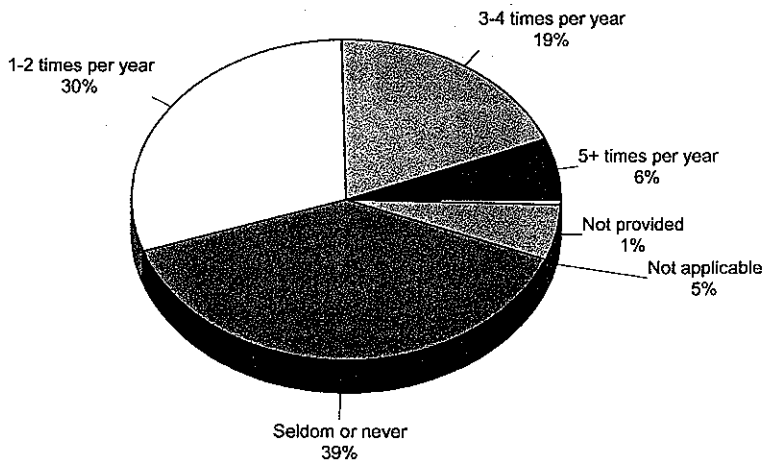
by percentage of respondents who have a yard (multiple answers allowed)



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q14. Which ONE of the following BEST describes how often your household fertilizes your lawn?

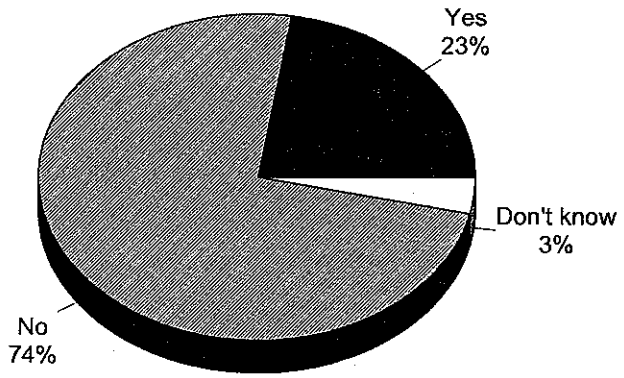
by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

14a. Have you had your soil tested to determine how much and what kind of nutrients your lawn needs?

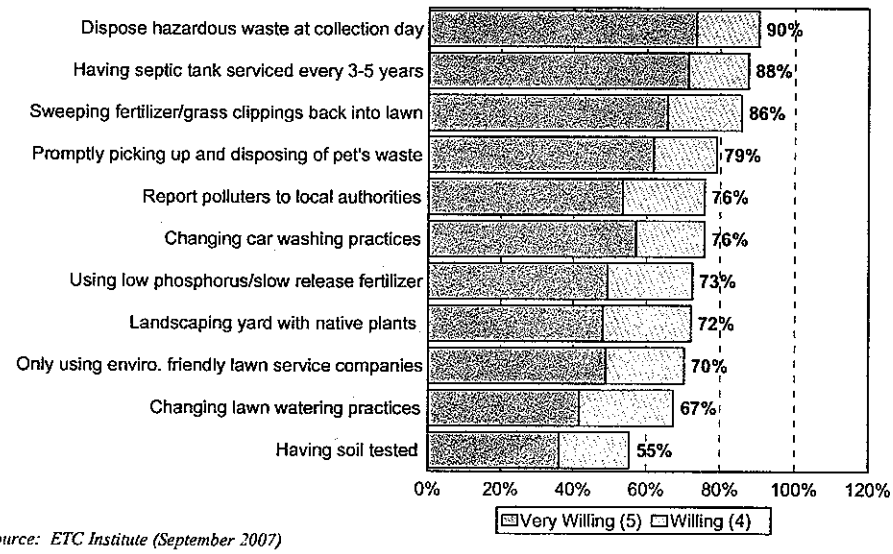
by percentage of respondents who does fertilize their lawn



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q15. Willingness of Residents to Take Various Actions to Help Reduce Pollution of Streams and Lakes

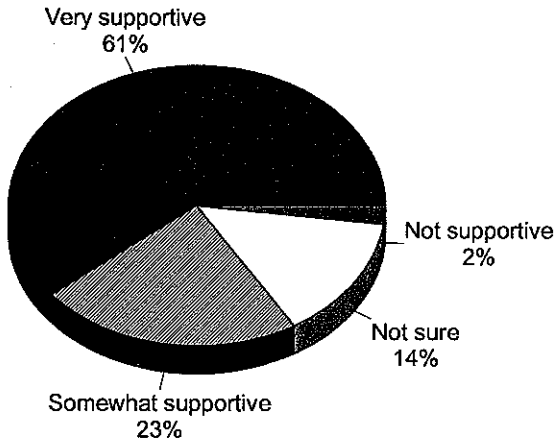
by percentage of respondents (excluding don't knows)



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q16. How supportive would you be of an ordinance that would require developers in Northwestern Indiana to protect streams and stream corridors when land is developed?

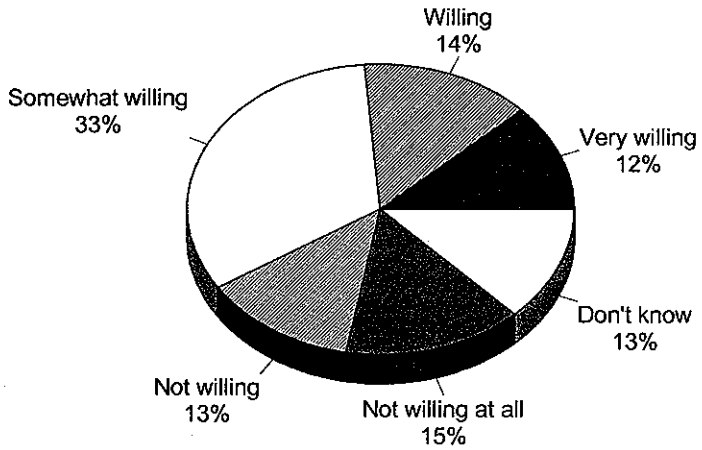
by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q17. How willing would you be to pay an increase in <u>utility fees</u> to fund stormwater and sewer improvements in the community you live to reduce damage from flooding and to help protect water quality?

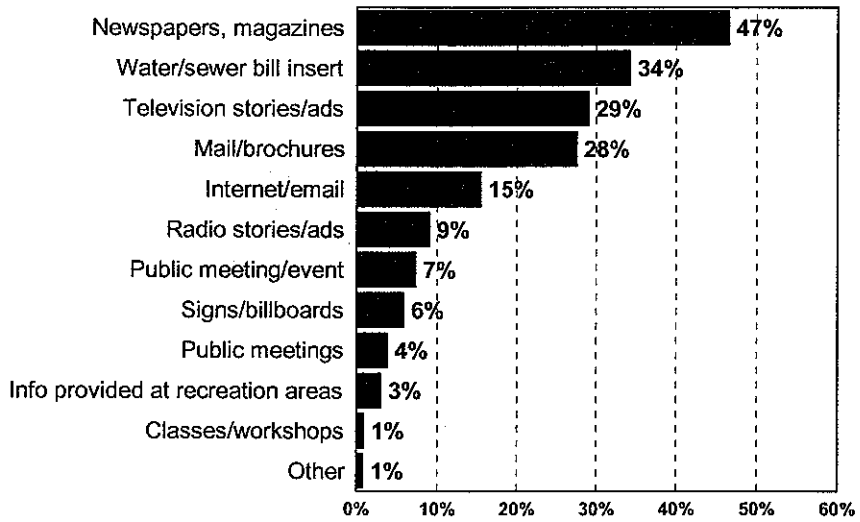
by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q18. How Residents Would Prefer to Receive Information about Ways to Protect Lakes and Streams

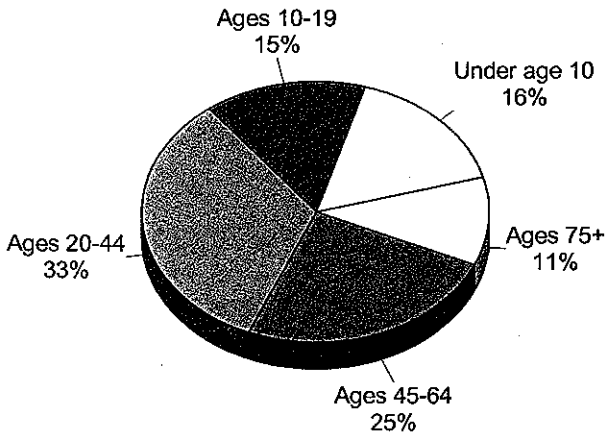
by percentage of respondents (multiple answers allowed)



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q19. Ages of People In Household

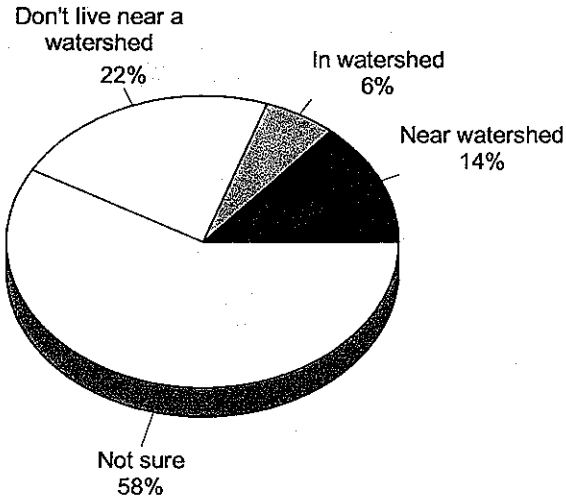
by percentage of persons in households



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q20. Which ONE of the following BEST describes the location where you live?

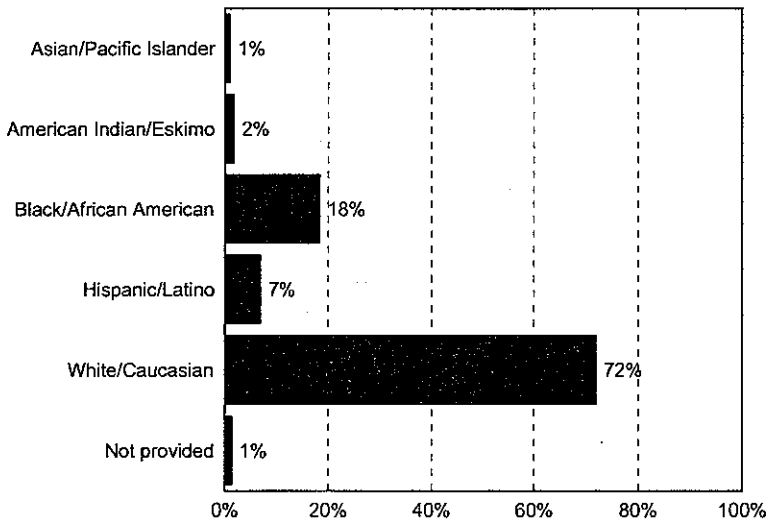
by percentage of respondents



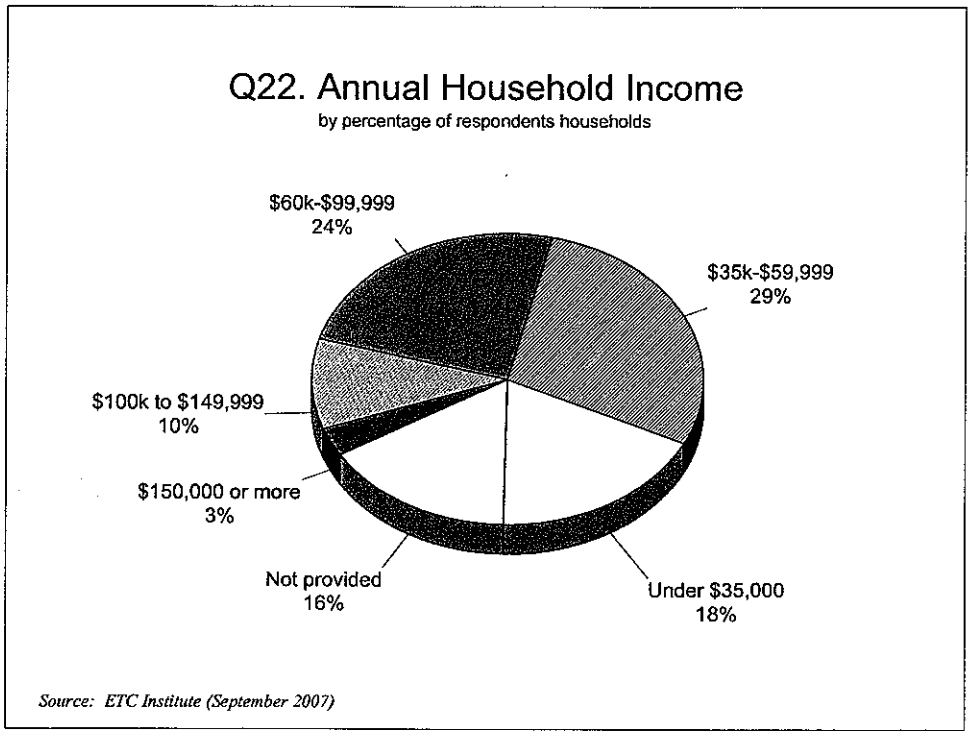
Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Q21. Race/Ethnicity

by percentage of respondents (multiple answers allowed)



Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)


Q22. Annual Household Income
by percentage of respondents households
$60k-$99,999
24%
$35k-$59,999
29%
$100k to $149,999
10%
$150,000 or more
3%
Not provided
16%
Under $35,000
18%
Source: ETC Institute (September 2007)

Section 3:
GIS Maps

Interpreting the Maps

The maps on the following pages show the mean ratings for several questions on the survey based on the home zip code of the respondents.

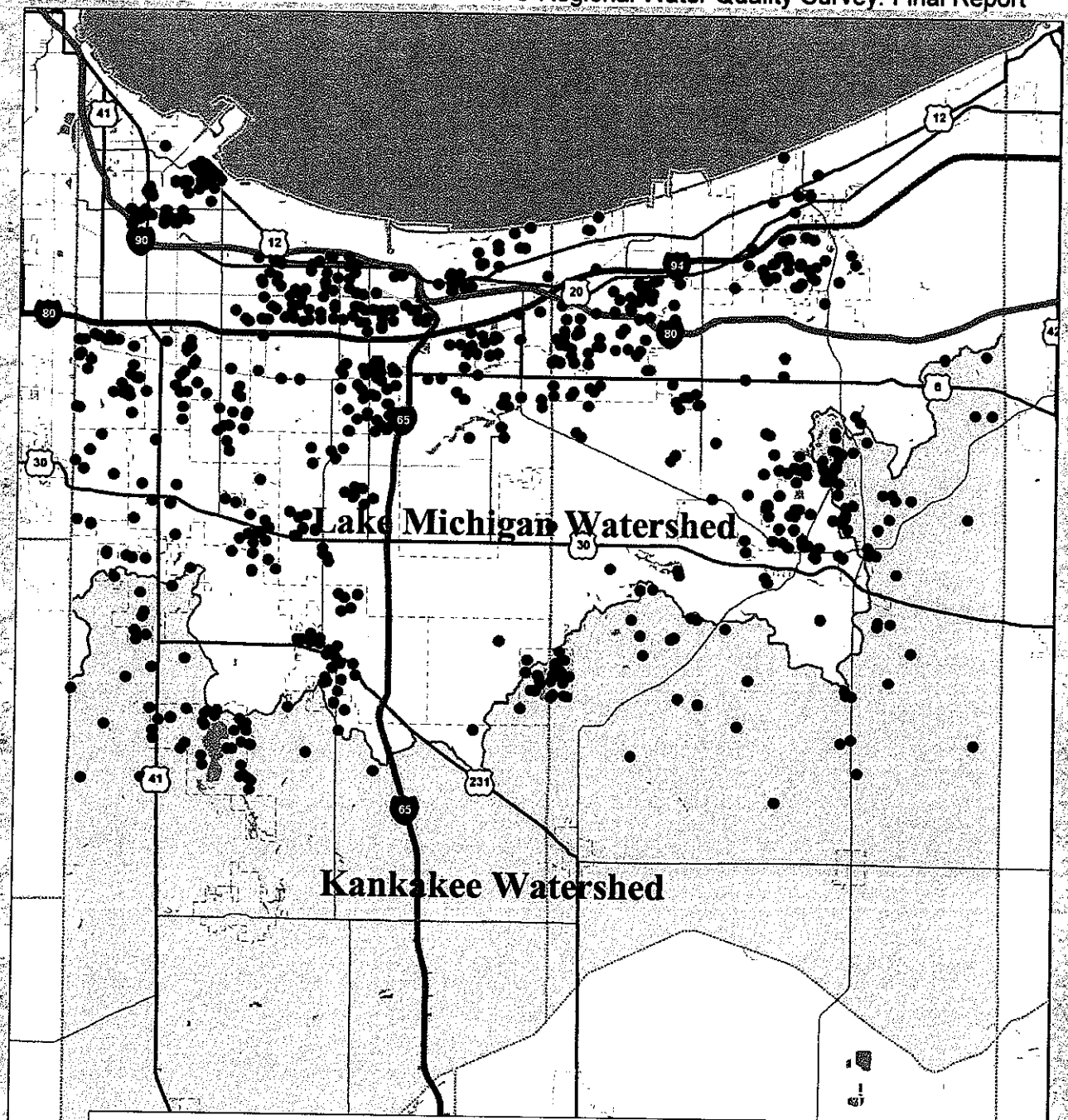
If all zip codes on a map are the same color, then most residents across the region generally feel the same about that issue.

When reading the maps, please use the following color scheme as a guide:

- DARK/LIGHT BLUE shades identify POSITIVE ratings. Shades of blue generally indicate willingness, agreement, and affirmative responses ("YES") to questions.

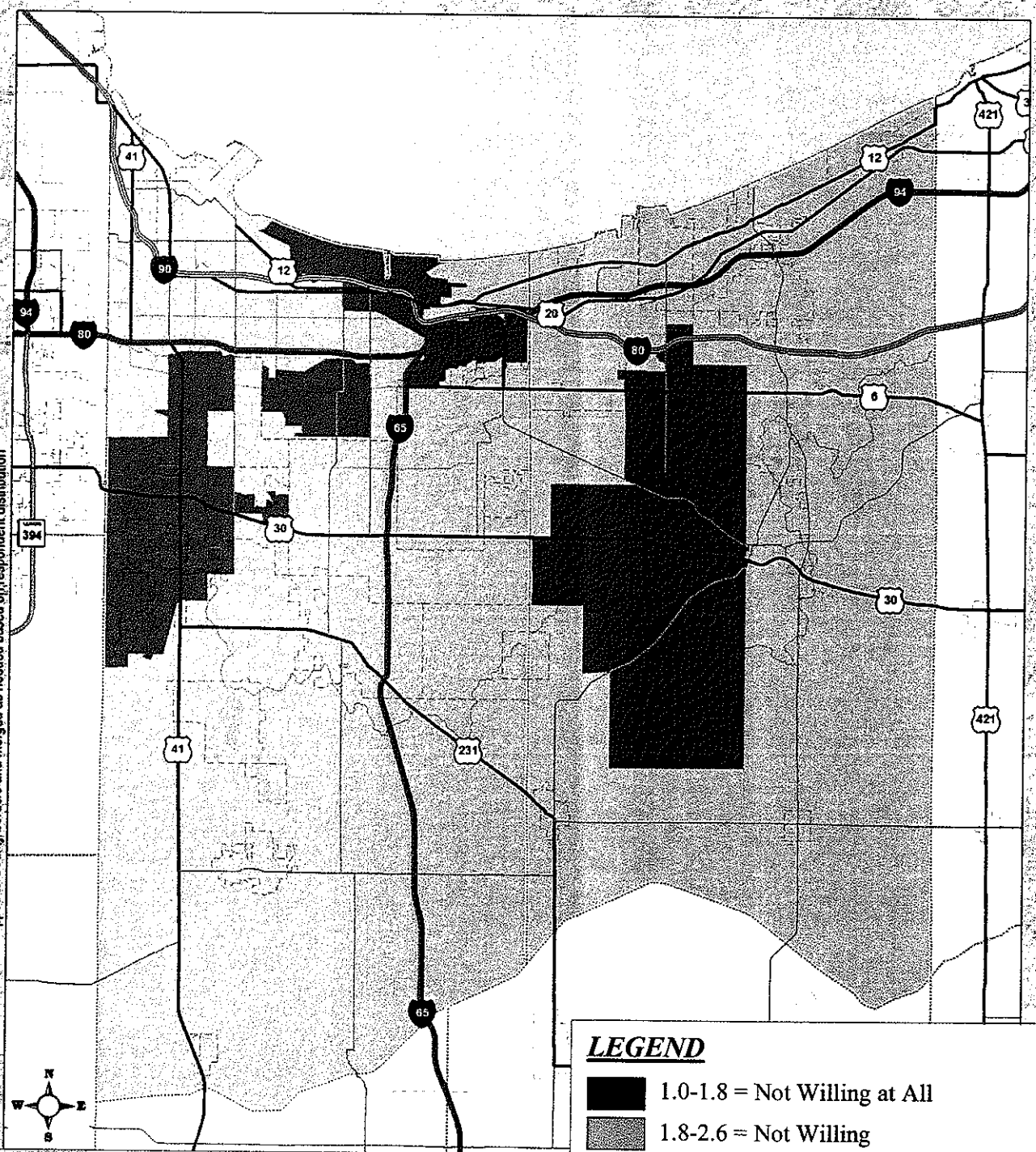
- OFF-WHITE/LIGHT YELLOW shades identify NEUTRAL ratings. Shades of neutral generally indicate that residents think things are staying about the same, results are mixed, or residents do not have a strong opinion about an issue.

- ORANGE/RED shades identify NEGATIVE ratings. Shades of orange/red generally indicate unwillingness, disagreement, and negative responses ("NO") to questions.



2007 NIRPC Regional Water Quality Survey Location of Respondents

Willingness to change you car washing practices (using a car wash, washing your car on the grass, or using less soap) (Q15a)



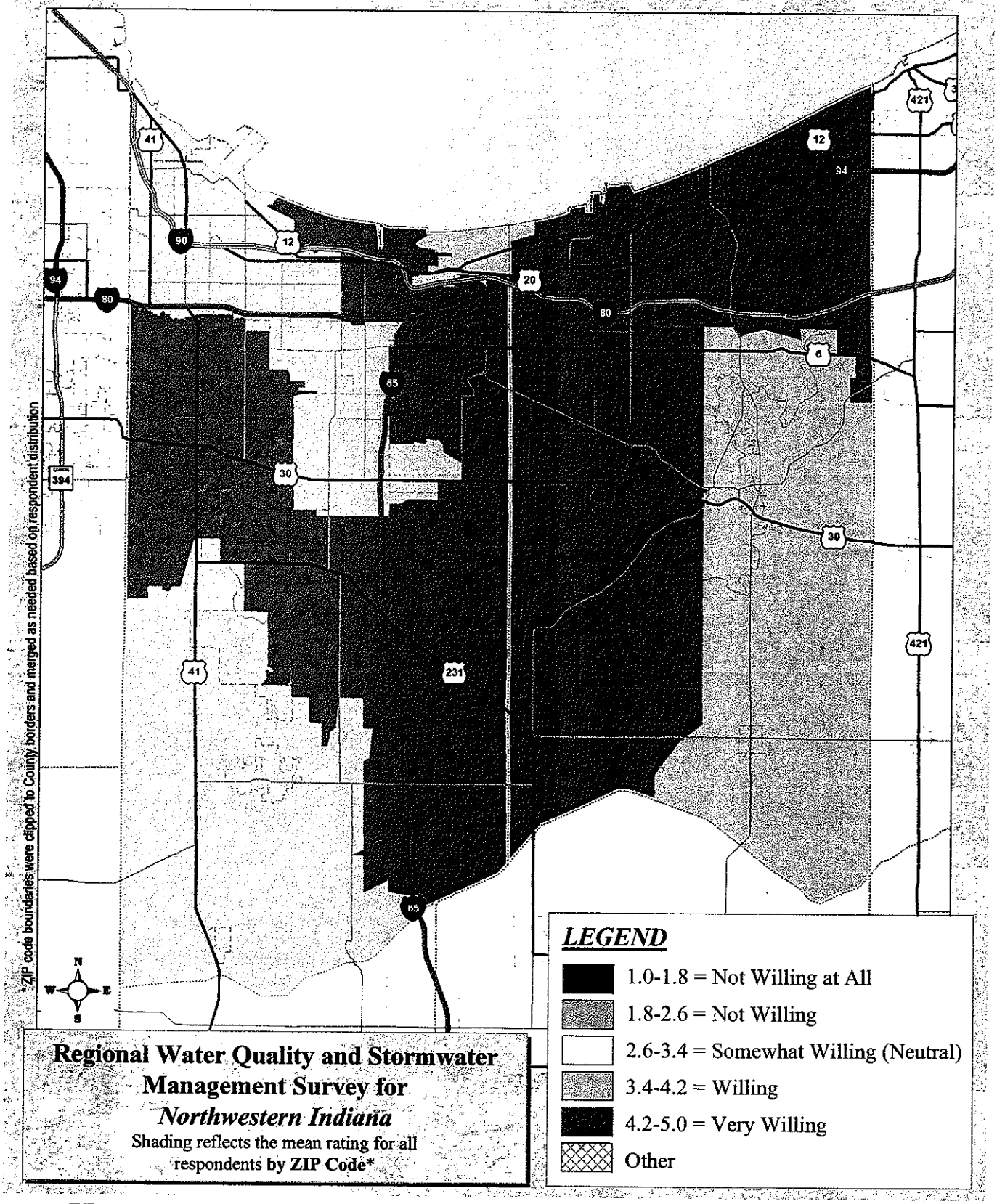
Regional Water Quality and Stormwater Management Survey for *Northwestern Indiana*

Shading reflects the mean rating for all respondents **by ZIP Code***

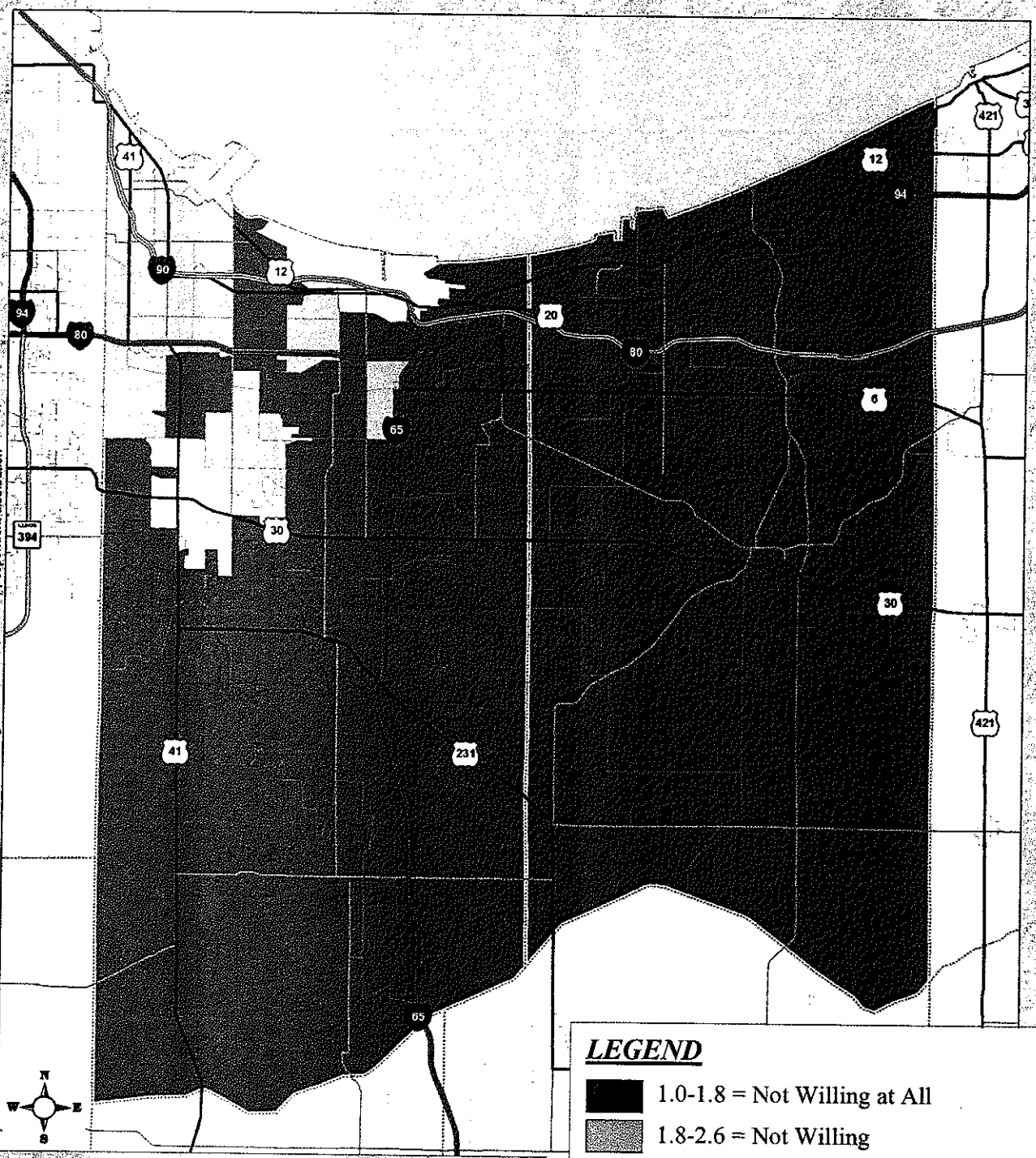
LEGEND

- 1.0-1.8 = Not Willing at All
- 1.8-2.6 = Not Willing
- 2.6-3.4 = Somewhat Willing (Neutral)
- 3.4-4.2 = Willing
- 4.2-5.0 = Very Willing
- Other

Willingness to promptly pick up & dispose of your pet's waste (Q15b)



Willingness to have your septic tank serviced every 3-5 years (Q15c)



*ZIP code boundaries were clipped to County borders and merged as needed based on respondent distribution

Regional Water Quality and Stormwater Management Survey for *Northwestern Indiana*

Shading reflects the mean rating for all respondents **by ZIP Code***

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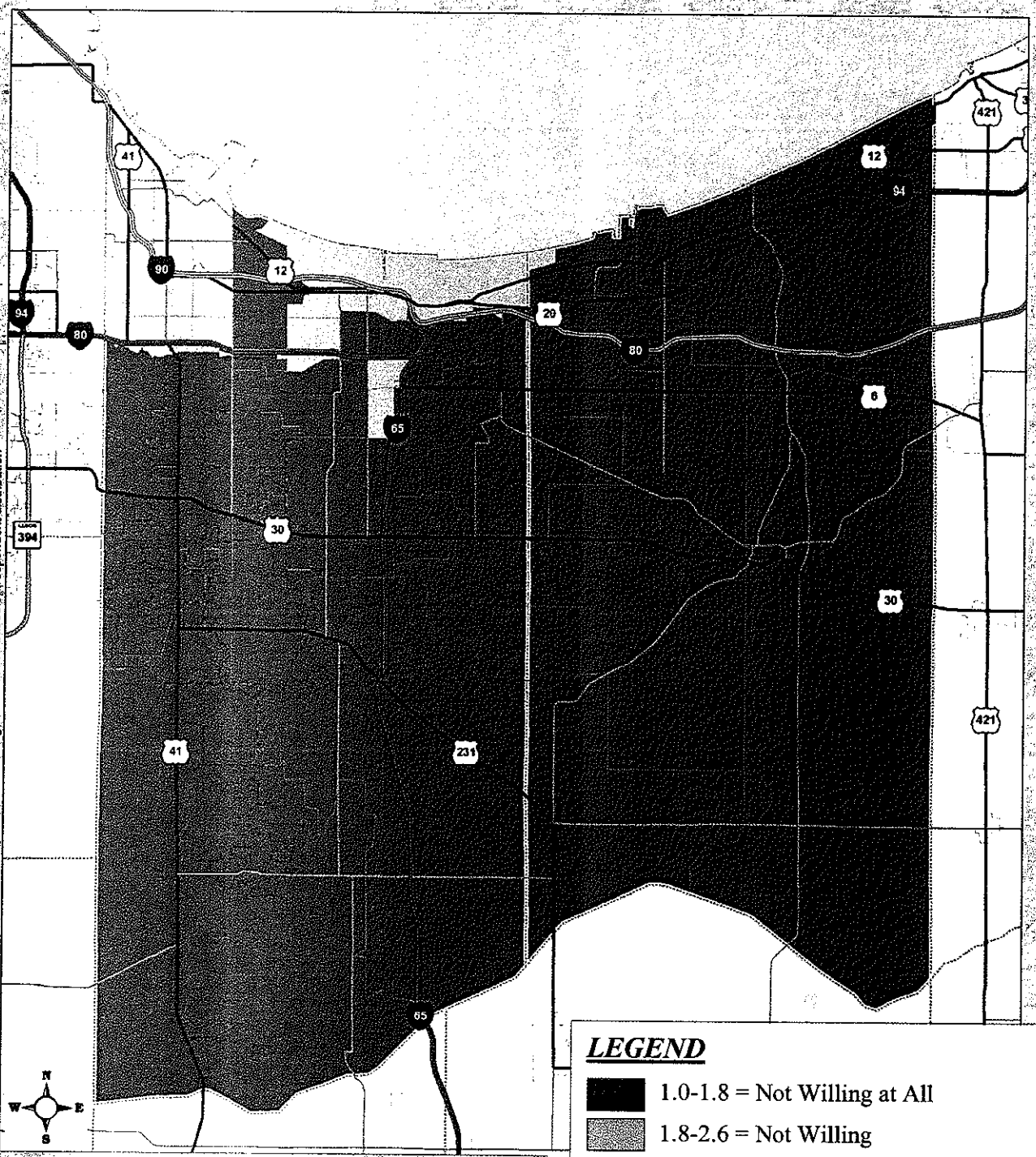
- 2.6-3.4 = Somewhat Willing (Neutral)
- 3.4-4.2 = Willing
- 4.2-5.0 = Very Willing
- Other

Willingness to sweep excess fertilizer and grass clippings from paved surfaces to the lawn (Q15d)



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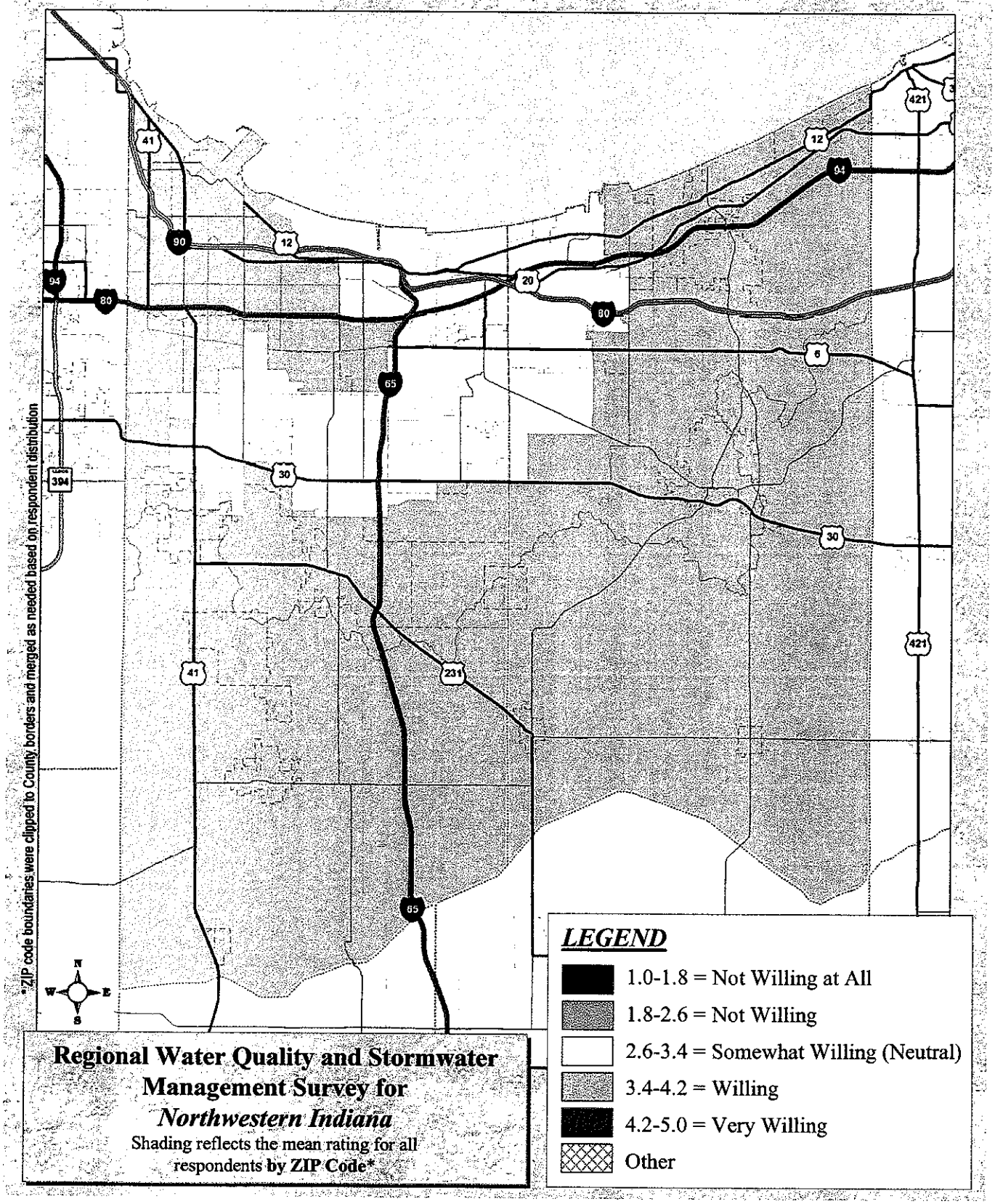
- 4.2-5.0 = Very Willing
- Other

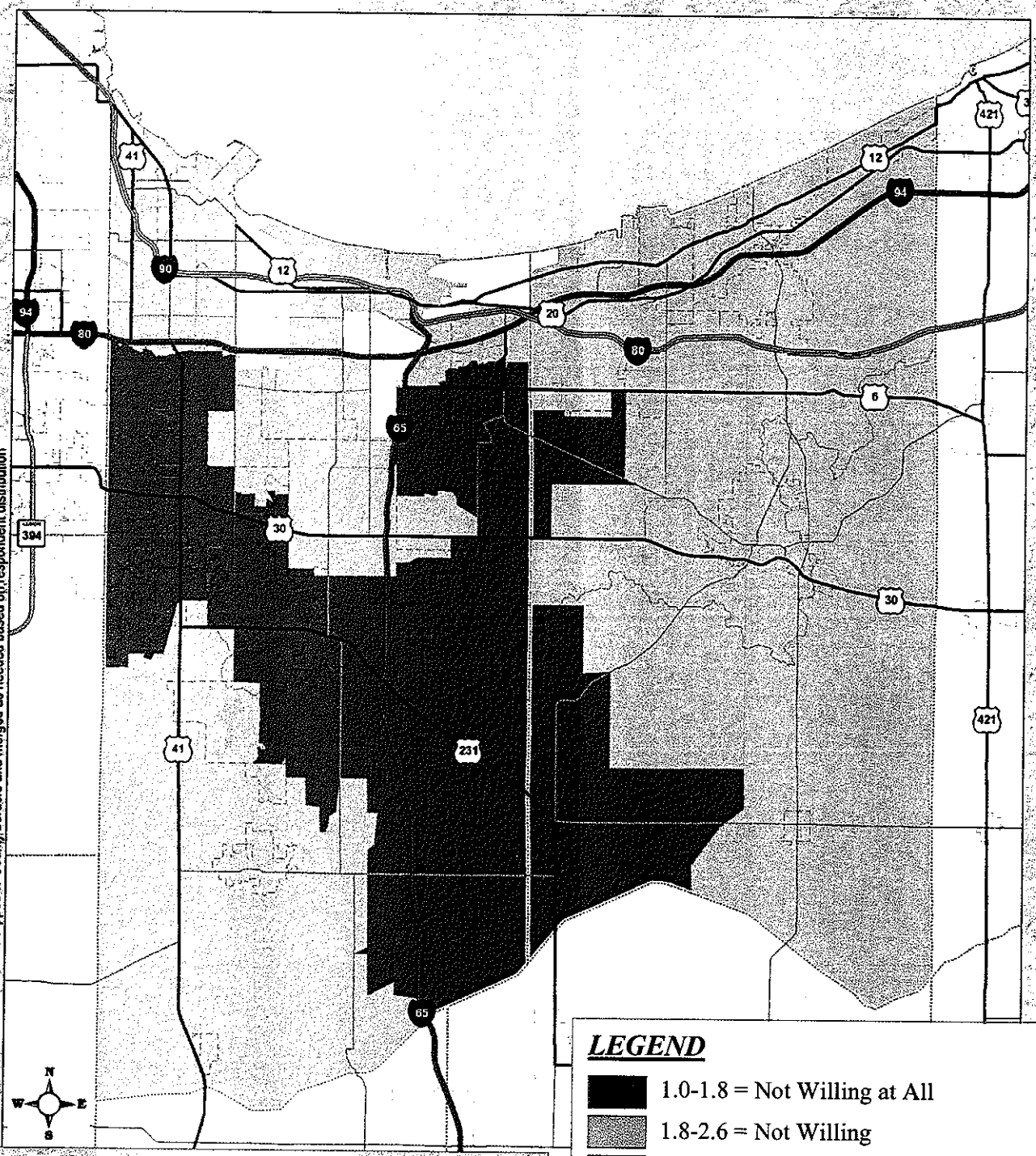
Willingness to have your soil tested (Q15e)



Regional Water Quality and Stormwater Management Survey for *Northwestern Indiana*

Shading reflects the mean rating for all respondents by ZIP Code*

Willingness to use a low phosphorus or slow release nitrogen fertilizer on your law (Q15f)



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Regional Water Quality and Stormwater Management Survey for *Northwestern Indiana*

Shading reflects the mean rating for all respondents **by ZIP Code***

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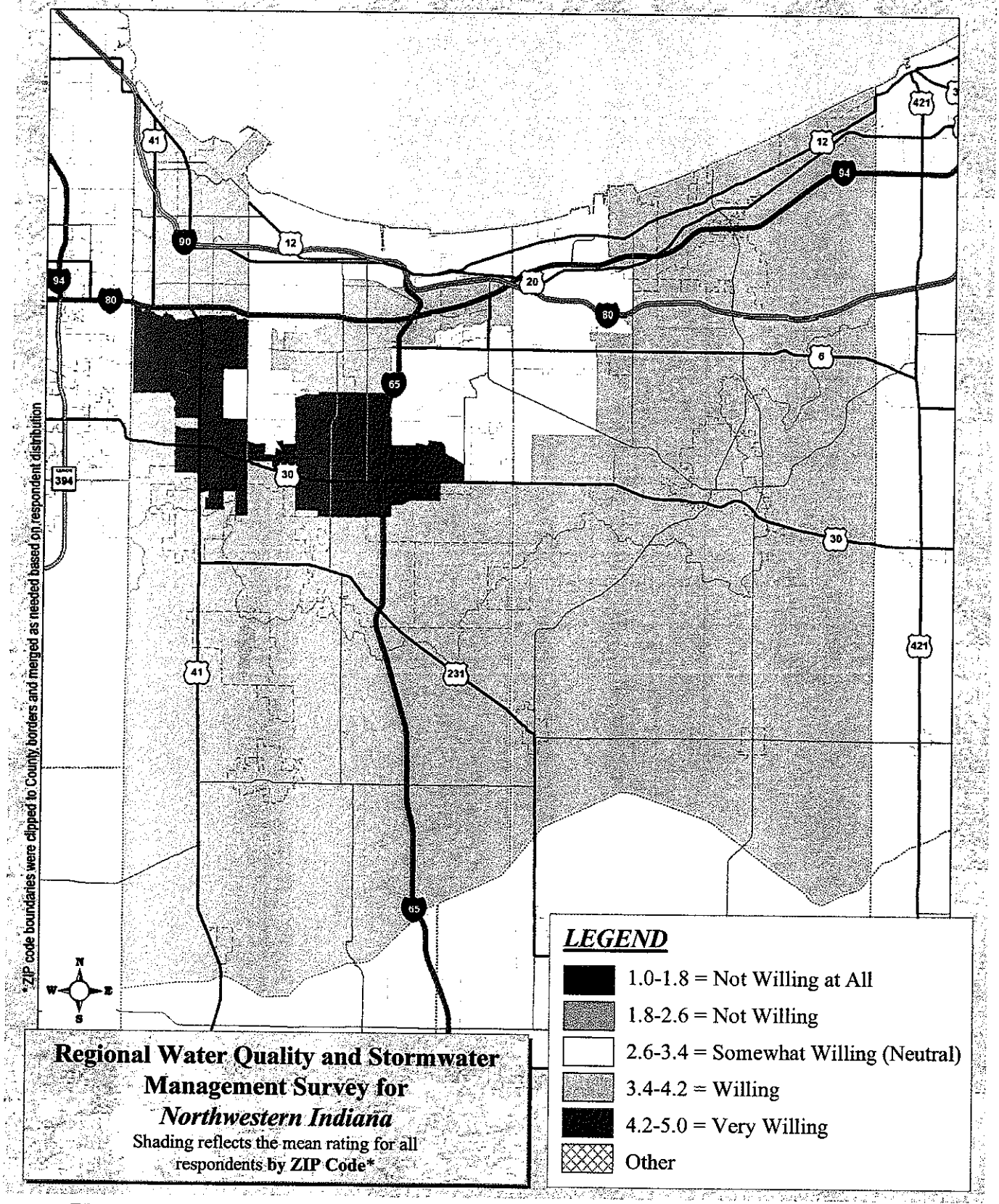
- 3.4-4.2 = Willing
- 4.2-5.0 = Very Willing
- Other

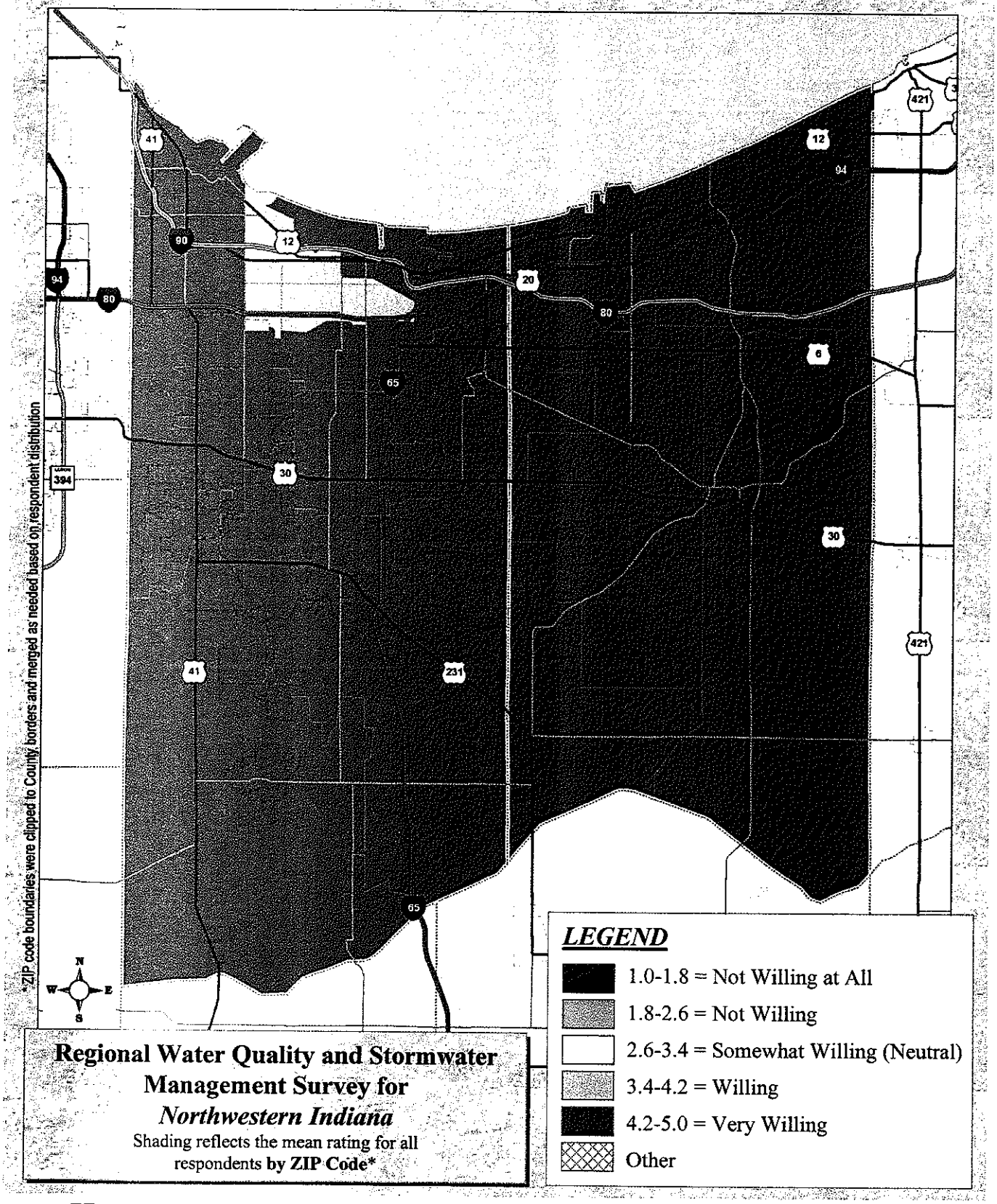
Willingness to only use lawn service companies that use environmentally friendly products (Q15g)



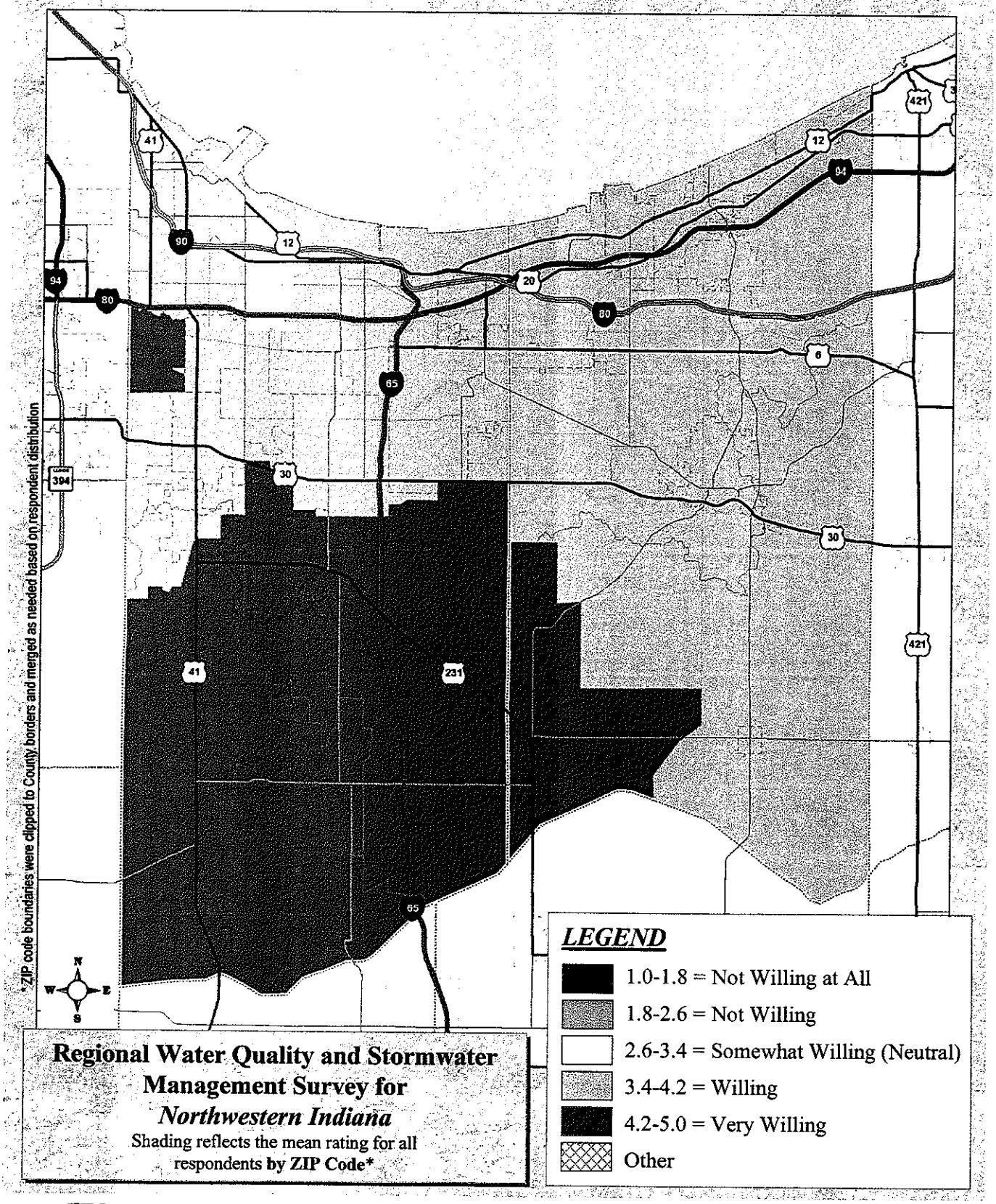
Regional Water Quality and Stormwater Management Survey for *Northwestern Indiana*

Shading reflects the mean rating for all respondents by ZIP Code*

Willingness to dispose of household hazardous waste, such as motor oil or pesticides, at a community collection day (Q15h)



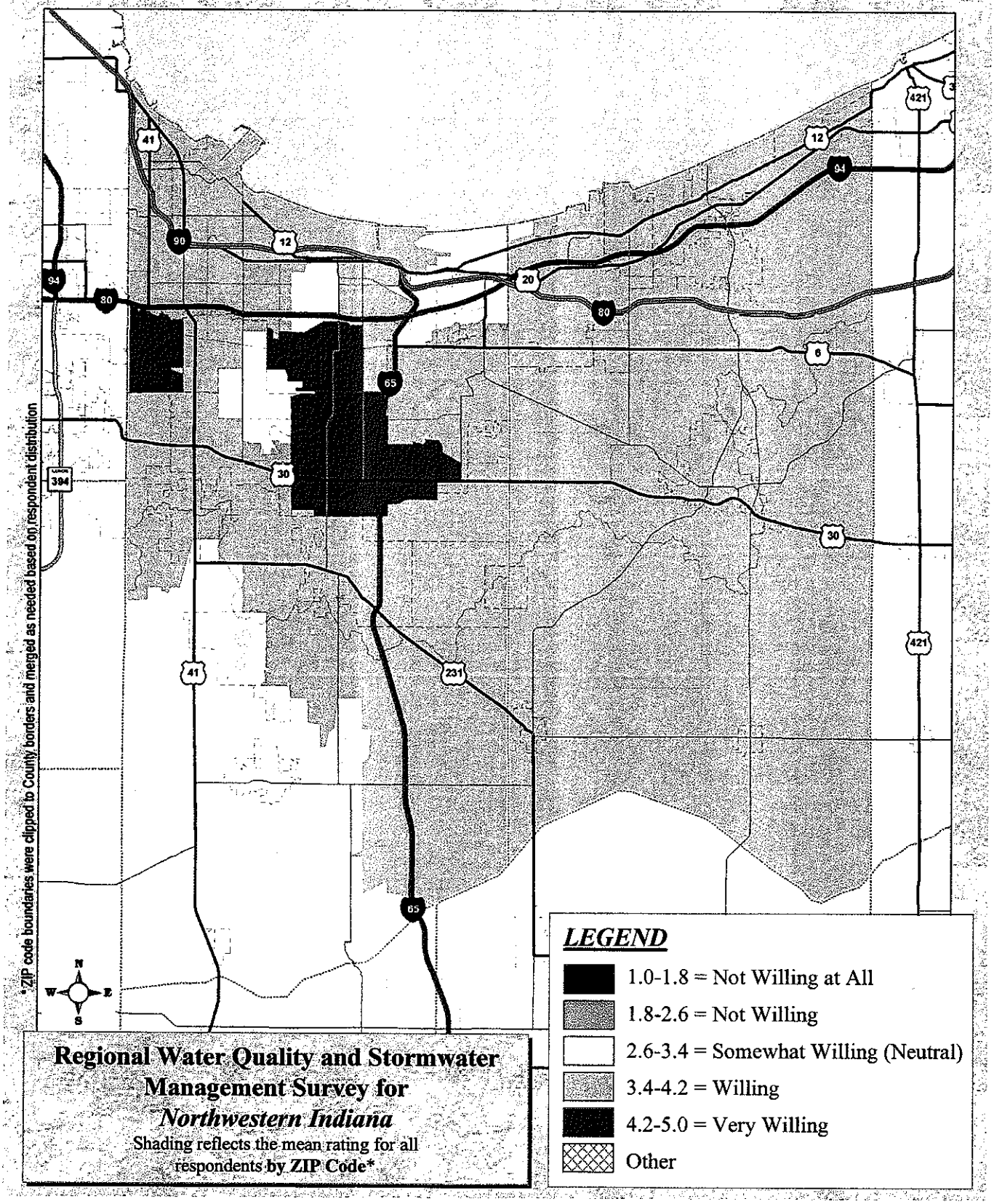
Willingness to landscape your yard with native plants (Q15i)



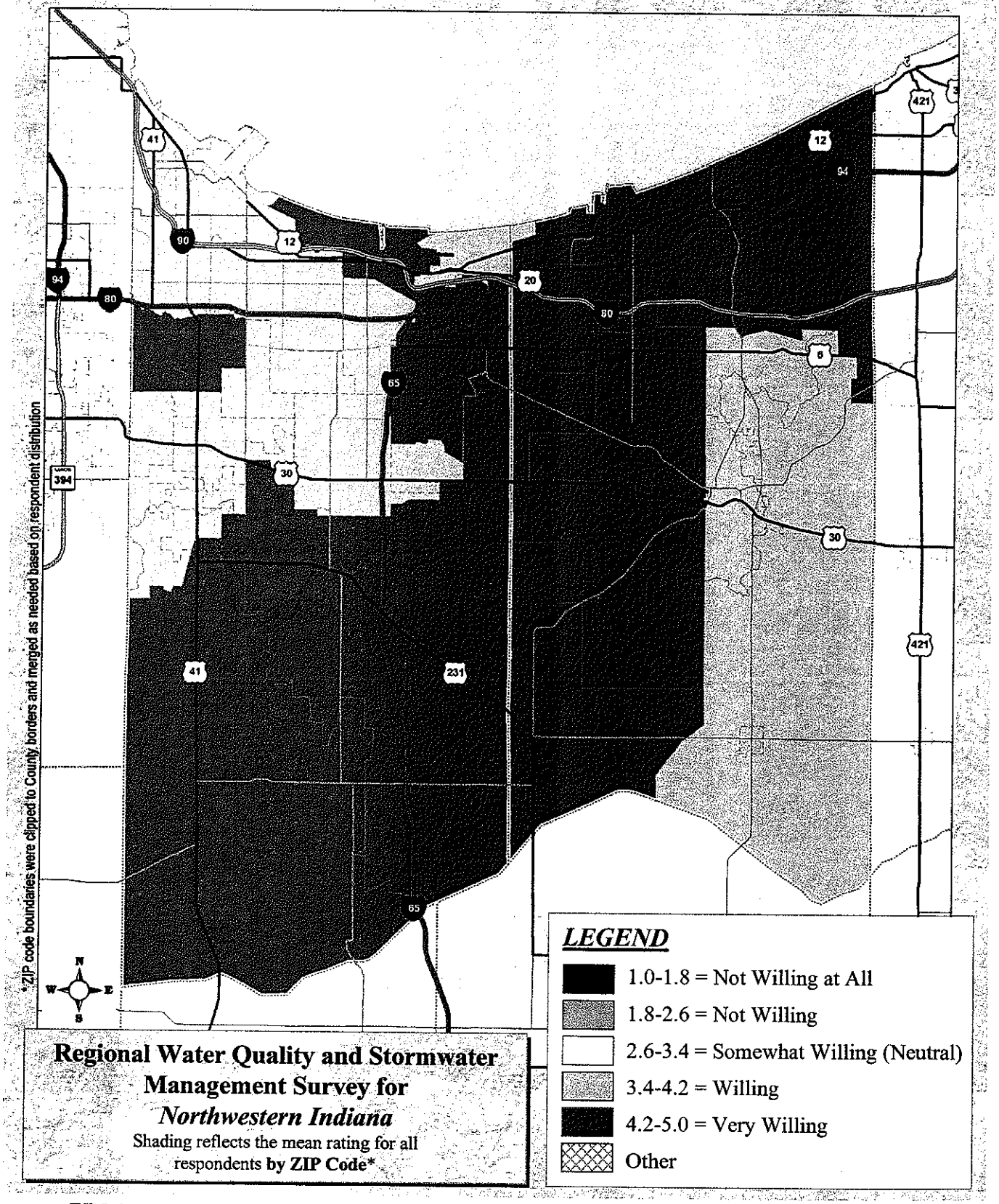
Regional Water Quality and Stormwater Management Survey for *Northwestern Indiana*

Shading reflects the mean rating for all respondents **by ZIP Code***

Willingness to change your lawn watering practices (Q15j)



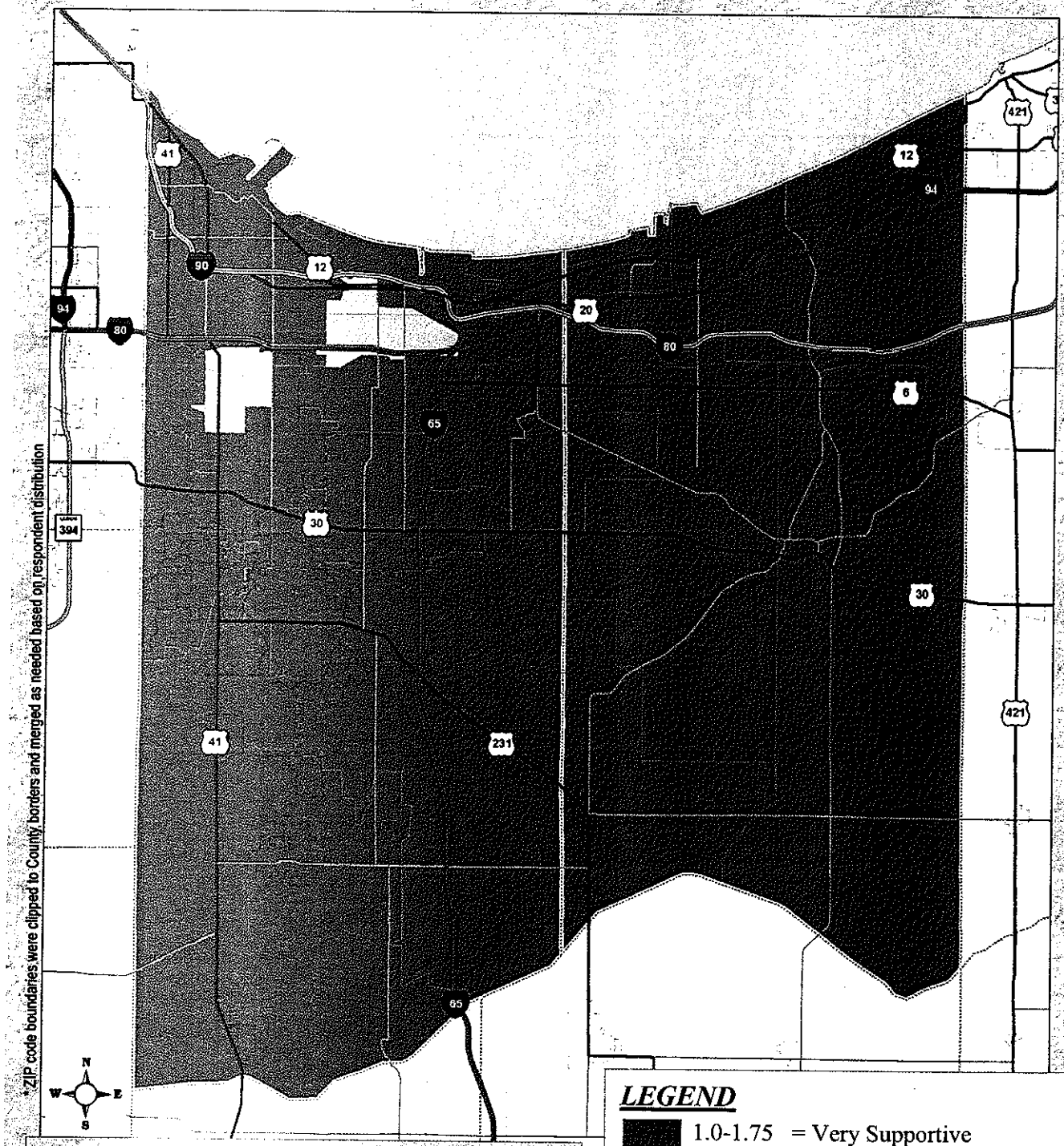
Willingness to report polluters to local authorities (Q15k)



Regional Water Quality and Stormwater Management Survey for *Northwestern Indiana*

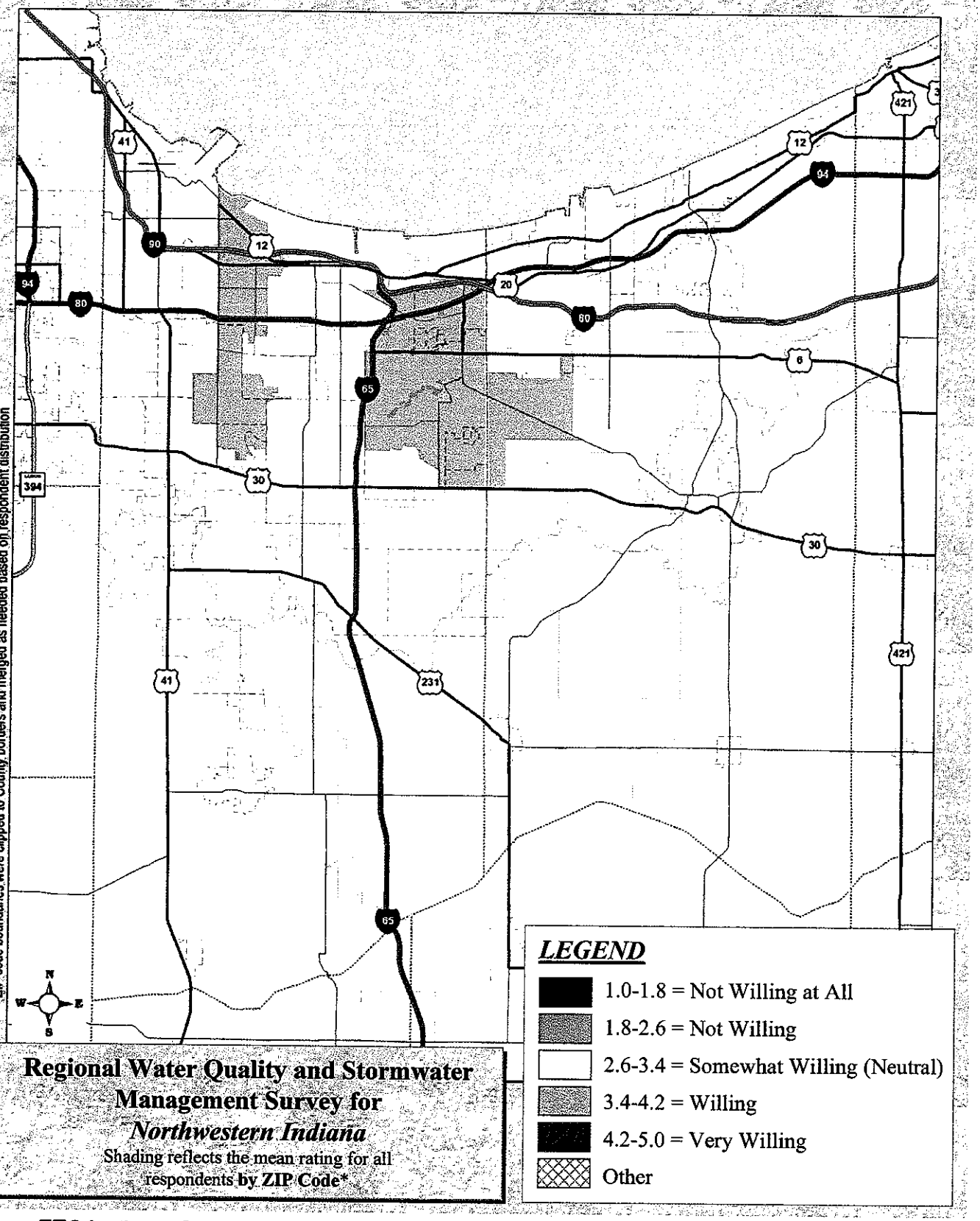
Shading reflects the mean rating for all respondents **by ZIP Code***

Level of support for ordinances that would require developers to protect streams and stream corridors when land is developed (Q16)



Regional Water Quality and Stormwater Management Survey for
Northwestern Indiana
Shading reflects the mean rating for all respondents **by ZIP Code***

Willingness to pay increased utility fees to fund stormwater and sewer improvements in your community to reduce damage from flooding and to help protect water quality in the region's lakes and streams (Q17)



Section 4:
Tabular Data
(Crosstabulations by Location)

UNWEIGHTED DISTRIBUTION BY LOCATION

Print out code	Number	Percent
Gary/E Chicago	215	28.5 %
North Porter County	195	25.8 %
North Lake County	191	25.3 %
South Lake & Porter	154	20.4 %
Total	755	100.0 %

WEIGHTED DISTRIBUTION BY LOCATION

Print out code	Number	Percent
Gary/E Chicago	159	21.1 %
North Porter County	124	16.4 %
North Lake County	342	45.3 %
South Lake & Porter	130	17.2 %
Total	755	100.0 %

NIRPC Regional Water Quality Survey

Weighting Factors

	ACTUAL		SAMPLE		
Area	Estimated Population	% of Region Population	# of Completed Surveys	% of Sample	Weighting Factor (% Region / % Sample)
Gary/E Chicago	135,160	21.3%	215	28.50%	0.7458
Lake County Lake Michigan Watershed Area (excluding Gary/E Chicago)	286,417	45.0%	195	25.80%	1.7459
Porter County Lake Michigan Watershed Area	106,513	16.8%	191	25.30%	0.6621
Kankakee Watershed (South Porter/Lake Counties)	107,756	16.9%	154	20.40%	0.8307
TOTAL	635,846	100.0%	755	100.0%	1.0000

Q1. Do you think the quality of water in lakes, rivers, and streams within your community is:

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q1 Quality of water in lakes, rivers, and streams					
1=Getting worse	40.0%	35.4%	38.2%	40.9%	37.5%
2=Staying the same	40.9%	36.9%	37.2%	26.0%	37.0%
3=Improving	2.8%	8.2%	7.3%	14.3%	7.9%
9=Don't know	16.3%	19.5%	17.3%	18.8%	17.6%

Q2. Which ONE of the following do you think contributes the MOST pollution to lakes, rivers and streams in the community where you live?

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q2 Which contributes the most to pollution					
1=Sewer treatment plant discharges	10.7%	5.1%	6.3%	7.1%	6.4%
2=Industrial facility discharges	41.9%	49.2%	52.9%	34.4%	45.3%
3=Roadway/parking lot runoff	2.3%	8.2%	5.2%	7.1%	5.2%
4=Sewage overflow	15.8%	5.1%	8.9%	8.4%	10.7%
5=Animal waste	0.5%	0.5%	3.7%	5.2%	2.9%
6=Construction sites and new development	0.5%	6.2%	3.7%	11.0%	4.6%
7=Agricultural farming/ livestock operations	0.5%	3.1%	1.0%	8.4%	2.8%
8=Illegal dumping	19.1%	15.9%	13.1%	8.4%	15.6%
9=Not Provided	8.8%	6.7%	5.2%	9.7%	6.5%

Q3. How much do you think the way you maintain your home (e.g., lawn care, trash disposal, pet care) affects the quality of water in lakes and streams in the community where you live?

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q3 How much do you think the way you maintain your home					
1=Great effect	13.5%	8.7%	11.0%	24.0%	13.2%
2=Moderate effect	28.4%	29.7%	29.8%	20.8%	29.4%
3=Little effect	24.7%	32.3%	38.7%	28.6%	32.5%
4=No effect	22.3%	20.5%	12.6%	20.1%	17.1%
9=Don't know	11.2%	8.7%	7.9%	6.5%	7.8%

Q4. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement: "The quality of local streams and rivers where I live affects the Great Lakes."

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q4 Level of agreement with the statement					
1=Strongly agree	30.7%	42.1%	38.7%	22.7%	35.2%
2=Agree	34.0%	38.5%	37.7%	41.6%	36.8%
3=Neither agree or disagree	8.4%	7.2%	7.9%	9.1%	7.7%
4=Disagree	11.6%	4.1%	7.9%	12.3%	9.3%
5=Strongly disagree	1.9%	1.5%	0.5%	3.9%	1.7%
9=Don't know	13.5%	6.7%	7.3%	10.4%	9.3%

Q5. Which of the following BEST describes the way you view the supply of fresh water in Northwestern Indiana. Do you think the supply of fresh water is:

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q5 Do you think the supply of fresh water is					
1=Unlimited	24.2%	15.9%	21.1%	21.4%	20.8%
2=Limited	54.9%	75.4%	67.9%	70.1%	67.2%
9=Don't know	20.9%	8.7%	11.1%	8.4%	12.0%

Q6. For which THREE of the following reasons do you value water resources (lakes, rivers, and streams) in your community MOST?

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q6 Reasons you value water resources in your community					
01=Swimming	27.0%	22.6%	23.0%	21.4%	24.2%
02=Boating	4.2%	12.3%	10.5%	12.3%	9.8%
03=Kayaking/Canoeing	1.4%	2.1%	1.0%	1.3%	1.3%
04=Fishing	19.5%	17.4%	16.8%	20.1%	17.5%
05=Wading	1.9%	1.0%	0.5%	1.3%	0.8%
06=Support for aquatic life	22.8%	36.9%	35.6%	37.7%	33.1%
07=Support for wildlife	33.0%	52.3%	46.6%	46.8%	45.0%
08=Places for walking trails	7.4%	8.7%	4.2%	5.2%	6.0%
09=Supports trees, plant life next to the water	24.2%	26.7%	31.9%	27.9%	29.5%
10=Aesthetics	7.0%	8.7%	12.0%	12.3%	10.7%
11=Drinking water	81.9%	77.4%	85.3%	74.0%	80.0%
12=Other	2.8%	4.1%	3.7%	0.6%	2.6%
99=Not Provided	3.3%	1.0%	0.5%	2.6%	1.9%

Q7. Where do you think stormwater (rain water) goes after it enters a storm drain or roadside ditch in your community?

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q7 Where do you think stormwater goes					
1=Directly to lakes and/or streams without treatment	25.6%	28.5%	27.0%	43.1%	29.5%
2=To lakes and streams after receiving some treatment	16.3%	15.5%	18.0%	13.7%	17.1%
3=To a wastewater treatment plant	35.3%	24.9%	28.6%	19.6%	27.4%
9=Don't know	22.8%	31.1%	26.5%	23.5%	26.0%

Q8. Where does your household typically wash your vehicle(s) during the summer?

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q8 Where does your household wash your vehicle					
1=At home in the driveway	28.8%	25.6%	22.5%	26.6%	25.6%
2=At home on the grass	6.0%	6.2%	7.3%	2.6%	6.1%
3=At a carwash	56.7%	61.5%	61.3%	64.3%	60.7%
4=Other place	1.9%	2.1%	2.6%	0.6%	2.3%
5=Don't wash a vehicle	7.9%	5.6%	6.8%	9.1%	6.9%
9=Not Provided	0.9%	1.0%	1.0%	0.0%	0.9%

Q9. Does your household have a septic tank?

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q9 Does your household have a septic tank					
1=Yes	16.7%	19.7%	14.7%	43.5%	21.4%
2=No	81.9%	79.8%	83.2%	56.5%	77.3%
9=Don't know	1.4%	0.5%	2.1%	0.0%	1.3%

IF YES to #9

Q9a. Has your household had your septic system checked or serviced during the past five years?

N=169	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q9a Had septic system checked/serviced in the past five years					
1=Yes	65.7%	73.7%	63.0%	82.1%	72.2%
2=No	25.7%	18.4%	14.8%	16.4%	16.5%
3=Don't know	8.6%	7.9%	22.2%	1.5%	11.4%

Q10. Do you or other members of your household usually change motor oil, transmission fluid, or radiator fluid for vehicles at your home?

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q10 Do you usually change fluids for vehicles at your home					
1=Yes	18.1%	20.0%	18.3%	22.7%	18.9%
2=No	81.9%	79.0%	81.7%	77.3%	80.8%
9=Don't know	0.0%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%

Q11. Where does your household typically dispose of household hazardous wastes materials, such as used oil/fluids, batteries, pesticides, paints, etc.?

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q11 Where do you dispose of household hazardous wastes materials					
1=On the ground	2.3%	0.5%	1.6%	0.0%	1.3%
2=With my regular trash	29.3%	13.3%	20.9%	11.0%	20.4%
3=At a scheduled community collection site	42.8%	74.9%	64.4%	78.6%	64.2%
4=We keep it in a container at my home	7.4%	9.7%	8.4%	4.5%	7.7%
5=Down a storm drain or roadside ditch	1.4%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%
6=Other	9.8%	3.6%	5.8%	4.5%	5.8%
9=Not Provided	8.8%	5.6%	4.2%	3.2%	4.9%

Q12. How does your household typically dispose of your dog's waste?

ALL RESPONDENTS

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q12 How do you dispose of your dog's waste					
1=Throw it in the ditch	0.9%	2.1%	0.5%	1.3%	0.9%
2=Dispose with my regular trash	17.2%	32.3%	32.5%	23.4%	28.2%
3=Bury it in the ground	5.1%	4.1%	2.6%	3.2%	3.6%
4=Flush it down toilet	2.3%	3.1%	2.1%	3.9%	2.5%
6=Do not pick up dog waste	5.6%	9.7%	6.3%	13.6%	8.2%
7=I do not have a dog	67.0%	45.1%	51.8%	47.4%	52.6%
8=Other	0.9%	3.1%	1.0%	4.5%	1.9%
9=Compost	0.9%	3.1%	4.2%	6.5%	3.6%
0=Not Provided	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.6%	0.5%

Q12. How does your household typically dispose of your dog's waste?

ONLY RESPONDENTS WITH DOGS

N=352	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q12 How do you dispose of your dog's waste					
1=Throw it in the ditch	2.8%	3.7%	1.1%	2.5%	1.9%
2=Dispose with my regular trash	52.1%	58.9%	66.7%	44.4%	59.2%
3=Bury it in the ground	15.5%	7.5%	5.4%	6.2%	7.5%
4=Flush it down toilet	7.0%	5.6%	4.3%	7.4%	5.3%
6=Do not pick up dog waste	16.9%	17.8%	12.9%	25.9%	17.2%
8=Other	2.8%	5.6%	3.2%	8.6%	4.4%
9=Compost	2.8%	5.6%	8.6%	12.3%	7.5%
0=Not Provided	0.0%	0.0%	2.2%	1.2%	1.1%

Q13. What does your household (or your lawn service) typically do with your grass clippings and/or leaves?

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q13 What do you do with your grass clippings					
1=Leave them on the lawn/ mulch them	28.8%	55.9%	53.9%	70.1%	52.5%
2=Compost them in your yard	6.5%	15.9%	9.4%	11.7%	10.2%
3=Sweep them into the street or into a roadside ditch/ stream/wetland	1.4%	2.6%	1.0%	0.0%	1.2%
4=Curbside pickup by community	51.6%	29.7%	36.6%	16.2%	35.0%
5=Other	7.0%	7.2%	5.8%	6.5%	6.6%
6=Do not have a yard	7.4%	2.1%	2.6%	2.6%	2.9%
9=Not Provided	0.9%	1.0%	2.1%	0.0%	1.3%

Q14. Which of the following BEST describes how often your household fertilizes your lawn?

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q14 How often your household fertilizes your lawn					
1=5 or more times per year	5.1%	2.6%	8.9%	3.2%	6.1%
2=3-4 times per year	8.8%	19.0%	21.5%	22.1%	19.2%
3=1-2 times per year	29.3%	36.9%	27.7%	22.7%	29.8%
4=Seldom or never, but I have a lawn	44.2%	36.9%	37.7%	46.1%	38.9%
5=Not applicable - I don't have a lawn	12.1%	4.1%	3.7%	5.2%	5.4%
9=Not Provided	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%	0.5%

IF THE RESPONDENT FERTILIZED THEIR LAWN AT LEAST 1 TIME PER YEAR
Q14a. Have you had your soil tested to determine how much and what kind of nutrients your lawn needs?

N=392	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q14a Had your soil tested to determine the nutrients your lawn needs					
1=Yes	18.3%	29.8%	19.8%	24.3%	22.6%
2=No	81.7%	65.8%	74.8%	74.3%	73.6%
9=Don't know	0.0%	4.4%	5.4%	1.4%	3.8%

Q15. I'm going to read you several ways that residents can help reduce pollution of streams and lakes in their community. Using a 5-point scale where "5" means "very willing" and "1" means "not willing at all," please indicate how willing would you be to do each of the following.

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q15a Change you car washing practices					
5=Very willing	37.7%	47.2%	50.3%	49.4%	47.7%
4=Willing	17.2%	15.4%	12.6%	16.2%	15.5%
3=Somewhat willing	5.6%	5.1%	11.0%	8.4%	8.5%
2=Not willing	7.4%	6.2%	2.1%	3.2%	4.0%
1=Not willing	8.4%	6.2%	7.9%	9.1%	7.8%
9=Don't know/NA	23.7%	20.0%	16.2%	13.6%	16.6%
Q15b Promptly pick up & dispose of your pet's waste					
5=Very willing	13.5%	32.3%	31.9%	32.5%	29.5%
4=Willing	10.2%	10.3%	7.9%	7.1%	8.2%
3=Somewhat willing	3.7%	5.1%	6.3%	5.2%	5.2%
2=Not willing	0.9%	1.5%	1.6%	3.9%	1.5%
1=Not willing	4.2%	3.1%	1.6%	7.1%	3.3%
9=Don't know/NA	67.4%	47.7%	50.8%	44.2%	52.3%

Q15. I'm going to read you several ways that residents can help reduce pollution of streams and lakes in their community. Using a 5-point scale where "5" means "very willing" and "1" means "not willing at all," please indicate how willing would you be to do each of the following.

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q15c Have your septic tank serviced every 3-5 years					
5=Very willing	9.3%	14.4%	11.5%	32.5%	15.8%
4=Willing	4.7%	2.6%	2.6%	7.1%	3.6%
3=Somewhat willing	1.9%	3.1%	0.5%	2.6%	1.6%
2=Not willing	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	1.3%	0.5%
1=Not willing	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%	0.7%
9=Don't know/NA	82.8%	80.0%	84.8%	54.5%	77.9%
Q15d Sweep excess fertilizer and grass clippings from paved surfaces					
5=Very willing	29.8%	50.8%	53.9%	63.0%	50.3%
4=Willing	20.0%	13.8%	14.1%	13.0%	15.5%
3=Somewhat willing	9.8%	7.2%	5.8%	3.9%	6.9%
2=Not willing	2.8%	1.5%	0.0%	1.3%	1.1%
1=Not willing	6.5%	2.1%	1.6%	4.5%	3.2%
9=Don't know/NA	31.2%	24.6%	24.6%	14.3%	23.0%

Q15. I'm going to read you several ways that residents can help reduce pollution of streams and lakes in their community. Using a 5-point scale where "5" means "very willing" and "1" means "not willing at all," please indicate how willing would you be to do each of the following.

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q15e Have your soil tested					
5=Very willing	24.2%	26.7%	28.3%	29.9%	27.9%
4=Willing	20.0%	13.3%	12.6%	17.5%	14.8%
3=Somewhat willing	9.3%	14.4%	15.2%	18.2%	14.4%
2=Not willing	5.6%	8.2%	5.8%	2.6%	5.2%
1=Not willing	12.1%	10.3%	14.7%	18.2%	14.8%
9=Don't know/NA	28.8%	27.2%	23.6%	13.6%	22.8%
Q15f Use a low phosphorus or slow release nitrogen fertilizer					
5=Very willing	24.2%	30.3%	38.2%	38.3%	35.1%
4=Willing	17.2%	17.4%	16.2%	14.9%	16.6%
3=Somewhat willing	7.4%	11.3%	6.3%	7.8%	8.3%
2=Not willing	5.6%	2.6%	5.2%	0.0%	3.3%
1=Not willing	9.3%	8.7%	4.7%	14.3%	7.9%
9=Don't know/NA	36.3%	29.7%	29.3%	24.7%	28.7%

Q15. I'm going to read you several ways that residents can help reduce pollution of streams and lakes in their community. Using a 5-point scale where "5" means "very willing" and "1" means "not willing at all," please indicate how willing would you be to do each of the following.

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q15g Use lawn service companies that use environmentally friendly products					
5=Very willing	21.9%	25.6%	34.0%	28.6%	29.9%
4=Willing	14.9%	11.8%	12.0%	13.0%	13.1%
3=Somewhat willing	7.0%	4.6%	4.2%	5.8%	5.2%
2=Not willing	8.8%	2.6%	3.1%	3.2%	4.1%
1=Not willing	10.2%	10.8%	6.8%	11.7%	8.9%
9=Don't know/NA	37.2%	44.6%	39.8%	37.7%	38.8%
Q15h Dispose of household hazardous waste at a community collection day					
5=Very willing	41.4%	63.6%	66.5%	72.7%	63.2%
4=Willing	24.2%	12.8%	13.6%	9.1%	14.4%
3=Somewhat willing	3.3%	3.6%	4.2%	3.9%	4.2%
2=Not willing	4.7%	2.1%	1.0%	1.3%	2.0%
1=Not willing	4.2%	1.0%	1.6%	1.9%	2.1%
9=Don't know/NA	22.3%	16.9%	13.1%	11.0%	14.0%

Q15. I'm going to read you several ways that residents can help reduce pollution of streams and lakes in their community. Using a 5-point scale where "5" means "very willing" and "1" means "not willing at all," please indicate how willing would you be to do each of the following.

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q15i Landscape your yard with native plants					
5=Very willing	22.3%	44.6%	44.0%	51.3%	41.1%
4=Willing	22.8%	23.1%	19.9%	16.2%	20.5%
3=Somewhat willing	11.2%	7.7%	12.0%	9.7%	11.1%
2=Not willing	7.4%	4.6%	4.2%	3.2%	4.6%
1=Not willing	9.3%	6.2%	7.9%	5.8%	8.1%
9=Don't know/NA	27.0%	13.8%	12.0%	13.6%	14.6%
Q15j Change your lawn watering practices					
5=Very willing	23.7%	34.4%	35.6%	22.7%	30.7%
4=Willing	24.7%	17.9%	17.3%	16.9%	18.9%
3=Somewhat willing	8.8%	10.3%	13.6%	7.8%	11.4%
2=Not willing	8.8%	3.6%	1.0%	2.6%	3.3%
1=Not willing	9.3%	7.2%	7.3%	16.2%	9.4%
9=Don't know/NA	24.7%	26.7%	25.1%	33.8%	26.2%

Q15. I'm going to read you several ways that residents can help reduce pollution of streams and lakes in their community. Using a 5-point scale where "5" means "very willing" and "1" means "not willing at all," please indicate how willing would you be to do each of the following.

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q15k Report polluters to local authorities					
5=Very willing	41.9%	51.3%	52.9%	52.6%	50.5%
4=Willing	22.3%	29.2%	20.9%	13.0%	21.1%
3=Somewhat willing	8.8%	11.3%	16.2%	16.2%	13.6%
2=Not willing	6.5%	2.6%	2.1%	1.9%	3.2%
1=Not willing	7.0%	2.6%	4.2%	9.7%	6.0%
9=Don't know/NA	13.5%	3.1%	3.7%	6.5%	5.7%

EXCLUDING DON'T KNOWS/NOT APPLICABLE RESPONSES

Q15. I'm going to read you several ways that residents can help reduce pollution of streams and lakes in their community. Using a 5-point scale where "5" means "very willing" and "1" means "not willing at all," please indicate how willing would you be to do each of the following. (excluding don't know)

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q15a Change you car washing practices					
5=Very willing	49.4%	59.0%	60.0%	57.1%	57.1%
4=Willing	22.6%	19.2%	15.0%	18.8%	18.6%
3=Somewhat willing	7.3%	6.4%	13.1%	9.8%	10.2%
2=Not willing	9.8%	7.7%	2.5%	3.8%	4.8%
1=Not willing	11.0%	7.7%	9.4%	10.5%	9.4%
Q15b Promptly pick up & dispose of your pet's waste					
5=Very willing	41.4%	61.8%	64.9%	58.1%	61.9%
4=Willing	31.4%	19.6%	16.0%	12.8%	17.2%
3=Somewhat willing	11.4%	9.8%	12.8%	9.3%	10.8%
2=Not willing	2.9%	2.9%	3.2%	7.0%	3.1%
1=Not willing	12.9%	5.9%	3.2%	12.8%	6.9%

EXCLUDING DON'T KNOWS/NOT APPLICABLE RESPONSES

Q15. I'm going to read you several ways that residents can help reduce pollution of streams and lakes in their community. Using a 5-point scale where "5" means "very willing" and "1" means "not willing at all," please indicate how willing would you be to do each of the following. (excluding don't know)

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q15c Have your septic tank serviced every 3-5 years					
5=Very willing	54.1%	71.8%	75.9%	71.4%	71.3%
4=Willing	27.0%	12.8%	17.2%	15.7%	16.2%
3=Somewhat willing	10.8%	15.4%	3.4%	5.7%	7.2%
2=Not willing	0.0%	0.0%	3.4%	2.9%	2.4%
1=Not willing	8.1%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%	3.0%
Q15d Sweep excess fertilizer and grass clippings from paved surfaces					
5=Very willing	43.2%	67.3%	71.5%	73.5%	65.6%
4=Willing	29.1%	18.4%	18.8%	15.2%	20.1%
3=Somewhat willing	14.2%	9.5%	7.6%	4.5%	9.0%
2=Not willing	4.1%	2.0%	0.0%	1.5%	1.4%
1=Not willing	9.5%	2.7%	2.1%	5.3%	4.1%

EXCLUDING DON'T KNOWS/NOT APPLICABLE RESPONSES

Q15. I'm going to read you several ways that residents can help reduce pollution of streams and lakes in their community. Using a 5-point scale where "5" means "very willing" and "1" means "not willing at all," please indicate how willing would you be to do each of the following. (excluding don't know)

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q15e Have your soil tested					
5=Very willing	34.0%	36.6%	37.0%	34.6%	36.2%
4=Willing	28.1%	18.3%	16.4%	20.3%	19.2%
3=Somewhat willing	13.1%	19.7%	19.9%	21.1%	18.7%
2=Not willing	7.8%	11.3%	7.5%	3.0%	6.7%
1=Not willing	17.0%	14.1%	19.2%	21.1%	19.2%
Q15f Use a low phosphorus or slow release nitrogen fertilizer					
5=Very willing	38.0%	43.1%	54.1%	50.9%	49.3%
4=Willing	27.0%	24.8%	23.0%	19.8%	23.2%
3=Somewhat willing	11.7%	16.1%	8.9%	10.3%	11.7%
2=Not willing	8.8%	3.6%	7.4%	0.0%	4.6%
1=Not willing	14.6%	12.4%	6.7%	19.0%	11.2%

EXCLUDING DON'T KNOWS/NOT APPLICABLE RESPONSES

Q15. I'm going to read you several ways that residents can help reduce pollution of streams and lakes in their community. Using a 5-point scale where "5" means "very willing" and "1" means "not willing at all," please indicate how willing would you be to do each of the following. (excluding don't know)

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q15g Use lawn service companies that use environmentally friendly products					
5=Very willing	34.8%	46.3%	56.5%	45.8%	48.9%
4=Willing	23.7%	21.3%	20.0%	20.8%	21.4%
3=Somewhat willing	11.1%	8.3%	7.0%	9.4%	8.4%
2=Not willing	14.1%	4.6%	5.2%	5.2%	6.7%
1=Not willing	16.3%	19.4%	11.3%	18.8%	14.5%
Q15h Dispose of household hazardous waste at a community collection day					
5=Very willing	53.3%	76.5%	76.5%	81.8%	73.5%
4=Willing	31.1%	15.4%	15.7%	10.2%	16.8%
3=Somewhat willing	4.2%	4.3%	4.8%	4.4%	4.9%
2=Not willing	6.0%	2.5%	1.2%	1.5%	2.3%
1=Not willing	5.4%	1.2%	1.8%	2.2%	2.5%

EXCLUDING DON'T KNOWS/NOT APPLICABLE RESPONSES

Q15. I'm going to read you several ways that residents can help reduce pollution of streams and lakes in their community. Using a 5-point scale where "5" means "very willing" and "1" means "not willing at all," please indicate how willing would you be to do each of the following. (excluding don't know)

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q15i Landscape your yard with native plants					
5=Very willing	30.6%	51.8%	50.0%	59.4%	48.1%
4=Willing	31.2%	26.8%	22.6%	18.8%	24.0%
3=Somewhat willing	15.3%	8.9%	13.7%	11.3%	13.0%
2=Not willing	10.2%	5.4%	4.8%	3.8%	5.4%
1=Not willing	12.7%	7.1%	8.9%	6.8%	9.5%
Q15j Change your lawn watering practices					
5=Very willing	31.5%	46.9%	47.6%	34.3%	41.7%
4=Willing	32.7%	24.5%	23.1%	25.5%	25.7%
3=Somewhat willing	11.7%	14.0%	18.2%	11.8%	15.4%
2=Not willing	11.7%	4.9%	1.4%	3.9%	4.5%
1=Not willing	12.3%	9.8%	9.8%	24.5%	12.7%

EXCLUDING DON'T KNOWS/NOT APPLICABLE RESPONSES

Q15. I'm going to read you several ways that residents can help reduce pollution of streams and lakes in their community. Using a 5-point scale where "5" means "very willing" and "1" means "not willing at all," please indicate how willing would you be to do each of the following. (excluding don't know)

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q15k Report polluters to local authorities					
5=Very willing	48.4%	52.9%	54.9%	56.3%	53.5%
4=Willing	25.8%	30.2%	21.7%	13.9%	22.3%
3=Somewhat willing	10.2%	11.6%	16.8%	17.4%	14.5%
2=Not willing	7.5%	2.6%	2.2%	2.1%	3.4%
1=Not willing	8.1%	2.6%	4.3%	10.4%	6.3%

Q16. Communities in Northwestern Indiana could adopt ordinances that would require developers to protect streams and stream corridors when land is developed. How supportive would you be of adoption of such a ordinances?

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q16 How supportive would you be of adoption of ordinances					
1=Very supportive	57.2%	65.1%	61.3%	66.2%	60.9%
2=Somewhat	22.8%	18.5%	23.0%	23.4%	22.6%
3=Not sure	15.3%	14.4%	15.2%	7.8%	14.4%
4=Not supportive	4.7%	2.1%	0.5%	2.6%	2.0%

Q17. How willing would you be to pay an increase in utility fees to fund stormwater and sewer improvements in the community where you live to reduce damage from flooding and to help protect water quality in the region's lakes and streams?

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q17 How willing would you be to pay an increase in utility fees					
5=Very willing	14.9%	11.8%	11.0%	14.3%	12.2%
4=Willing	13.0%	17.9%	12.0%	17.5%	14.4%
3=Somewhat willing	28.8%	28.7%	37.7%	26.0%	33.2%
2=Not willing	14.9%	9.2%	15.2%	13.6%	13.4%
1=Not willing at all	18.1%	17.4%	12.0%	20.1%	15.1%
9=Don't know	10.2%	14.9%	12.0%	8.4%	11.7%

Q18. Which TWO of the following do you think are the BEST ways to provide you with information about what you can do to protect lakes and streams in our area?

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q18 Ways to inform about what to do to protect lakes and streams					
01=Newspapers, magazines	44.2%	45.6%	48.2%	48.7%	46.5%
02=Water/Sewer bill insert	20.0%	32.3%	43.5%	27.9%	34.2%
03=Public meeting/event	8.8%	4.6%	6.3%	6.5%	7.3%
04=Mail/brochures	19.5%	27.2%	30.4%	26.0%	27.5%
05=Classes/workshops	0.5%	1.0%	1.0%	1.3%	0.9%
06=Television stories/ads	35.8%	27.7%	25.7%	33.1%	29.0%
07=Radio stories/ads	10.2%	7.7%	8.4%	8.4%	9.0%
08=Internet/email	14.0%	16.9%	15.7%	11.7%	15.4%
09=Signs/billboards	7.9%	6.7%	4.7%	7.1%	5.8%
10=Public meetings	7.0%	3.6%	1.6%	5.8%	3.8%
11=Information provided at recreation areas	4.2%	4.1%	3.1%	1.3%	3.0%
12=Other	0.9%	2.6%	0.5%	1.3%	0.8%
99=Not Provided	4.7%	5.1%	2.1%	3.9%	3.2%

Q19. How many people in your household, counting yourself, are?

	Mean
Under 10 years	0.52
10 to 19 years	0.47
20 to 44 years	1.06
45 to 64 years	0.78
65+ years	0.34

Q20. Which of the following best describes the location of your home?

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q20 Which of the following best describes the location of your home					
1=I live in a watershed	2.8%	5.6%	6.3%	8.4%	6.0%
2=I live near a watershed	7.4%	12.8%	13.6%	17.5%	13.5%
3=I do not live near a watershed	31.6%	21.5%	15.7%	22.7%	21.6%
9=Don't know/I am not familiar with the term "watershed"	58.1%	60.0%	64.4%	51.3%	58.9%

Q21. Which of the following best describes your race/ethnicity (check all that apply)?

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q21 Race/Ethnicity					
1=Asian/Pacific Islander	0.5%	0.5%	1.0%	1.3%	0.9%
2=American Indian/Eskimo	0.9%	2.1%	2.1%	0.6%	1.7%
3=Black/African American	71.2%	0.0%	6.8%	1.9%	18.3%
4=Hispanic/Latino	13.0%	4.6%	7.3%	1.3%	6.8%
5=White/Caucasian	14.4%	92.3%	82.2%	93.5%	71.9%
6=Other	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
9=Not Provided	0.9%	1.5%	1.6%	1.3%	1.3%

Q22. Would you say your total annual household income is:

N=755	Print out code				Weight Total
	Gary/E Chicago G	North Porter County P	North Lake County L	South Lake & Porter S	
Q22 Annual household income					
1=Under $35,000	39.5%	11.8%	15.3%	9.7%	18.2%
2=$35,000 to $59,999	25.6%	30.8%	30.5%	20.1%	28.6%
3=$60,000 to $99,999	12.1%	28.2%	24.7%	34.4%	24.2%
4=$100,000-149,999	3.3%	10.8%	10.5%	16.2%	9.8%
5=$150,000 or more	1.4%	4.6%	3.7%	1.9%	3.2%
9=Not Provided	18.1%	13.8%	15.3%	17.5%	16.1%

Section 5:
Survey Instrument

Northwestern Indiana
Regional Water Quality and Stormwater Management Survey

1. **Do you think the quality of water in lakes, rivers, and streams within your community is:**
   ____(1) Getting worse
   ____(2) Staying the same
   ____(3) Improving
   ____(9) Don't Know

2. **Which ONE of the following do you think contributes the MOST pollution to lakes, rivers and streams in the community where you live?** (check only one)
   ___(1) Sewer treatment plant discharges
   ___(2) Industrial facility discharges
   ___(3) Roadway/parking lot runoff into storm drains and roadside ditches
   ___(4) Sewage overflow
   ___(5) Animal waste
   ___(6) Construction sites and new development
   ___(7) Agricultural farming/livestock operations
   ___(8) Illegal dumping

3. **How much do you think the way you maintain your home (e.g., lawn care, trash disposal, pet care) affects the quality of water in lakes and streams in the community where you live?**
   ____(1) Great effect
   ____(2) Moderate effect
   ____(3) Little effect
   ____(4) No effect
   ____(9) Don't know

4. **Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement: "The quality of local streams and rivers where I live affects the Great Lakes."**
   ___(1) Strongly agree
   ___(2) Agree
   ___(3) Neither agree or disagree
   ___(4) Disagree
   ___(5) Strongly disagree
   ___(9) Don't know

5. **Which of the following BEST describes the way you view the supply of fresh water in Northwestern Indiana. Do you think the supply of fresh water is:**
   ____(1) A unlimited, renewable source that will be replenished when it rains
   ____(2) A limited, non-renewable source that could disappear if it is not protected
   ____(9) Don't know

6. **For which THREE of the following reasons do you value water resources (lakes, rivers, and streams) in your community MOST? (Check up to 3 items)**
   ___(01) Swimming
   ___(02) Boating
   ___(03) Kayaking/Canoeing
   ___(04) Fishing
   ___(05) Wading
   ___(06) Support for aquatic life (fish, etc.)
   ___(07) Support for wildlife (deer, birds, etc).
   ___(08) Places for walking trails
   ___(09) Supports trees, plant life next to the water
   ___(10) Aesthetics (water is pleasing to look at)
   ___(11) Drinking water
   ___(12) Other: _____

7. **Where do you think stormwater (rain water) goes after it enters a storm drain or roadside ditch in your community?**
   ____(1) Directly to lakes and/or streams without treatment
   ____(2) To lakes and streams after receiving some treatment
   ____(3) To a wastewater treatment plant
   ____(9) Don't know

8. **Where does your household typically wash your vehicle(s) during the summer?**
___(1) At home in the driveway
___(2) At home on the grass
___(3) At a carwash
___(4) Other place: _____
___(5) Don't wash a vehicle

9. **Does your household have a septic tank?**
___(1) Yes – answer 9a
___(2) No

9a. **[If YES to #9] Has your household had your septic system checked or serviced during the past five years?**
___(1) Yes ___(2) No ___(3) Don't know

10. **Do you or other members of your household usually change motor oil, transmission fluid, or radiator fluid for vehicles at your home?**
___(1) Yes
___(2) No

11. **Where does your household typically dispose of household hazardous wastes materials, such as used oil/fluids, batteries, pesticides, paints, etc.?** (check all that apply)
___(1) On the ground
___(2) With my regular trash
___(3) At a scheduled community collection site or facility that accepts these materials
___(4) We keep it in a container at my home
___(5) Down a storm drain or roadside ditch
___(6) Other: _____

12. **How does your household typically dispose of your dog's waste?**
___(1) Throw it in the ditch
___(2) Dispose with my regular trash
___(3) Bury it in the ground
___(4) Flush it down toilet
___(5) Put it in the street or into storm drain
___(6) Do not pick up dog waste
___(7) **I do not have a dog**
___(8) Other: _____
___(9) Compost

13. **What does your household (or your lawn service) typically do with your grass clippings and/or leaves?** (check all that apply)
___(1) Leave them on the lawn/mulch them
___(2) Compost them in your yard
___(3) Sweep them into the street or into a roadside ditch/stream/wetland
___(4) Curbside pickup by community
___(5) Other: _____
___(6) Do not have a yard

14. **Which of the following BEST describes how often your household fertilizes your lawn?**
___(1) 5 or more times per year
___(2) 3-4 times per year
___(3) 1-2 times per year
___(4) Seldom or never, but I have a lawn
___(5) Not applicable – I don't have a lawn

14a. **[If Your Household Fertilizes Your Lawn] Have you had your soil tested to determine how much and what kind of nutrients your lawn needs?**
___(1) Yes ___(2) No

15. Several ways that residents can help reduce pollution of streams and lakes in their community are listed below. Using a 5-point scale where "5" means "very willing" and "1" means "not willing at all," please indicate how willing would you be to do each of the following by circling the corresponding number below.

How willing would you be to:		Very Willing	Willing	Somewhat willing	Not Willing	Not Willing At All	Don't Know or NA
A.	Change you car washing practices (using a car wash, washing your car on the grass, or using less soap)	5	4	3	2	1	9
B.	Promptly pick up & dispose of your pet's waste	5	4	3	2	1	9
C.	Have your septic tank serviced every 3-5 years	5	4	3	2	1	9
D.	Sweep excess fertilizer and grass clippings from paved surfaces to the lawn	5	4	3	2	1	9
E.	Have your soil tested	5	4	3	2	1	9
F.	Use a low phosphorus or slow release nitrogen fertilizer on your law	5	4	3	2	1	9
G.	Only use lawn service companies that use environmentally friendly products	5	4	3	2	1	9
H.	Dispose of household hazardous waste, such as motor oil or pesticides, at a community collection day	5	4	3	2	1	9
I.	Landscape your yard with native plants	5	4	3	2	1	9
J.	Change your lawn watering practices	5	4	3	2	1	9
K.	Report polluters to local authorities	5	4	3	2	1	9

16. Communities in Northwestern Indiana could adopt ordinances that would require developers to protect streams and stream corridors when land is developed. How supportive would you be of adoption of such a ordinances? (check one)

___(1) Very supportive
___(2) Somewhat supportive
___(3) Not sure
___(4) Not supportive

17. How willing would you be to pay an increase in utility fees to fund stormwater and sewer improvements in the community where you live to reduce damage from flooding and to help protect water quality in the region's lakes and streams?

___(5) Very willing
___(4) Willing
___(3) Somewhat willing
___(2) Not willing
___(1) Not willing at all
___(9) Don't know

18. Which TWO of the following do you think are the BEST ways to provide you with information about what you can do to protect lakes and streams in our area? (check up to two)

____(01) Newspapers, magazines
____(02) Water/Sewer bill insert
____(03) Public meeting/event
____(04) Mail/brochures
____(05) Classes/workshops
____(06) Television stories/ads
____(07) Radio stories/ads
____(08) Internet/email
____(09) Signs/billboards
____(10) Public meetings
____(11) Information provided at recreation areas
____(12) Other: _____

19. How many people in your household, counting yourself, are?

Under age 10: _____ Ages 20-44: _____ Ages 65+: _____

Ages 10-19: _____ Ages 45-64: _____

20. Which of the following best describes the location of your home?

____(1) I live in a watershed
____(2) I live near (but outside) a watershed
____(3) I do not live near a watershed
____(9) Don't know/I am not familiar with the term **"watershed"**

21. Which of the following best describes your race/ethnicity (check all that apply)?

____(1) Asian/Pacific Islander
____(2) American Indian/Eskimo
____(3) Black/African American
____(4) Hispanic/Latino
____(5) White/Caucasian
____(6) Other: _____

22. Would you say your total annual household income is:

____(1) Under $35,000
____(2) $35,000 to $59,999
____(3) $60,000 to $99,999
____(4) $100,000-149,999
____(5) $150,000 or more

23. What is your gender?

___(1) Male
___(2) Female

Thank you for participating in this survey.

For more information about water quality issues in the Northwestern Indiana please visit: www.nirpc.org

Please Return Your Survey in the Envelope Provided to:
ETC Institute, 725 W. Frontier Circle, Olathe, KS 66061

Your responses will remain Completely Confidential. The information printed on the sticker to the right will ONLY be used to help identify which areas of the region have concerns about water quality issues. If your address is not correct, please provide the correct information. Thanks.