

# Wind Turbine Survey

## for Residents and Property Owners of Garden Township

### Final Results – August 13, 2014

- 158 unique respondents
- Of the 158 respondents, **93% are against any more turbines being built** while only 7% are in favor of additional turbines. Except for five respondents, even those in favor of additional turbines felt the setback should be larger than the current setback of 1/4 mile.
- **97% of all respondents want an increase in the setback requirement** for the wind turbines from existing dwellings or from the property line. **92% want the setback increased to 3/4 mile or more.**
- The overwhelming sentiment in the community, according to this survey, is disappointment due to the decrease in property values, the unending noise of the turbines and as well as seeing no decrease in their utility bills. The comments clearly indicate the wish for stricter zoning for turbines to protect all landowners and for the enjoyment of the pristine and undeveloped nature of the waterfront and the peninsula.

Please see complete summary results, including comments, on the following pages.

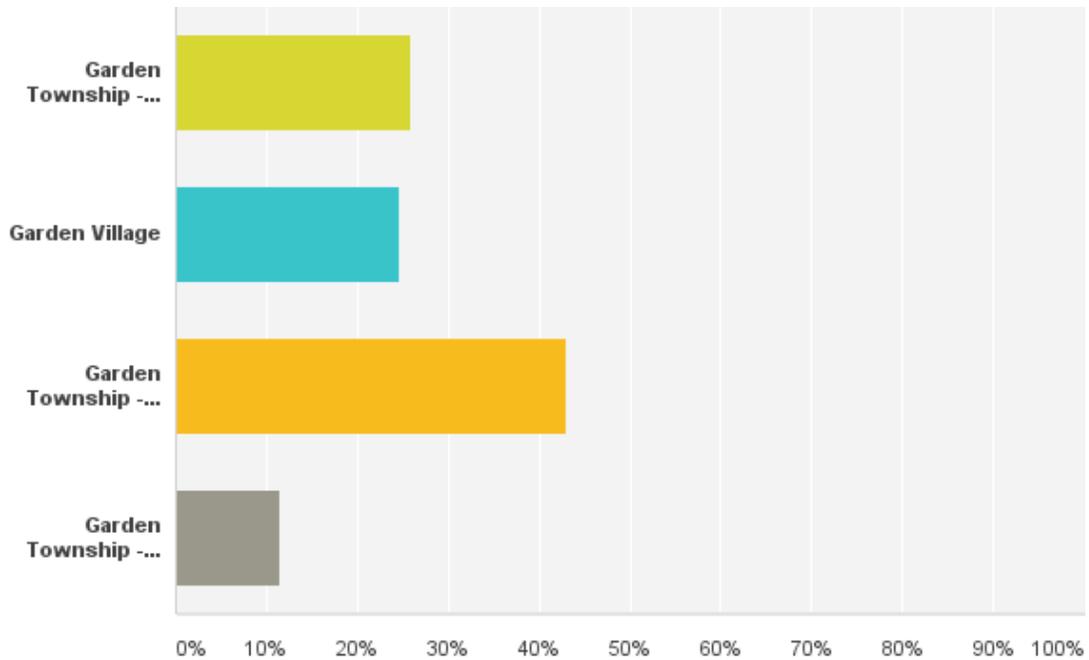
# Final Results of Wind Turbine Survey for Residents and Property Owners in Garden Township

April 30 - August 13, 2014

**158 Total Responses**

**Q1: What is your name?**

**Q2: What is the location of your residence or property in Garden Township?**

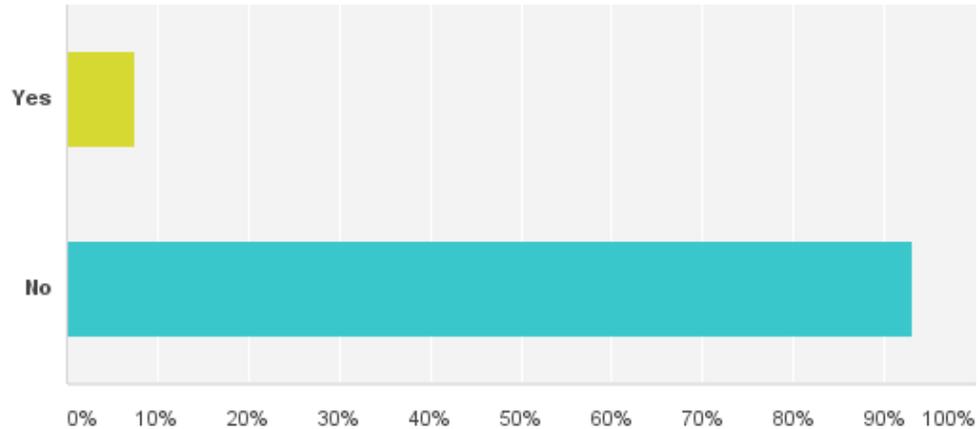


Answer Choices	Responses
Garden Township - South of Garden	<b>25.95%</b> 41
Garden Village	<b>24.68%</b> 39
Garden Township - North of Garden	<b>43.04%</b> 68
Garden Township - North of US-2	<b>11.39%</b> 18
<b>Total Respondents: 158</b>	

**Q3: What is your address?**

**Q4: May we contact you in case we have questions? Please enter your phone or email.**

**Q5: Are you in favor of more wind turbines being built in Garden Township?**



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	7.59% 12
No	93.04% 147
<b>Total Respondents: 158</b>	

**Comments:**

The noise is too much!

These turbines have divided this nice community. Take them all down!!

Wind Turbines have destroyed the Garden Peninsula

no benefit power wise to residents.

We hope that you all The township board are listening! The other board did not . We never did want any and Heritage got away by giving Kick Backs. We understand a major Farmer in Fairbanks township was one of these.

Absolutely Not

I hate the ones here already

Take down what is there

Don't want any more! Don't like the ones here now.

Enough is enough! Those things are completely ruining the landscape! They're noisy and an extreme eyesore!! No more!!!

The wind turbines ruin the landscape. They are very noisy and the local people don't get any benefit from the power that is generated. It goes downstate to Traverse City. I love birds and those awful wind turbines kill a whole lot of birds.

THINK OF THE WAY THE TURBANS GOT HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE. CONTRACTS WERE ALREADY SIGNED BEFORE THE GENERAL MEETING AT THE TOWNSHIP HALL. THE PENINSULA , OTHER THAN THE FARMERS WHO SIGNED CONTRACTS IS NOT BENIFITING AND HERITAGE WILL BE PAYING LOWER TAXES THEN ORIGINALLY WE WERE TOLD. IF A TURBIN CAN NOT BE REPAIRED THEY DO NOT HAVE TO FIX IT. WE ARE SEEING LESS BIRDS , WE HEAR THEM ,WE SEE THEM AND OUR PROPERTY VALUE , NO MATTER WHAT JOE SAYS HAS GONE DOWN. THEY ARE TO CLOSE TO HOMES. WHY WERE THEY NOT PLACED ON STATE PROPERTY OR ON THE PLAINS?

I have to drive by existing windmills each time I go to my property in Fairbanks Twp , they are ugly and ruin what was a beautiful view. Why weren't they built on state land NE of Garden where they would not be visible. Has anyone had a noticeable decrease in their electric bill?

We moved here for the natural beauty of the area, and feel like we live next to an airport or industrial park.

The Garden Peninsula use to be a beautiful pristine place. The existing turbines have already ruined that for part of the peninsula. It would be a shame to not learn from past mistakes. In addition, the bird population is suffering, home listings seem to have skyrocketed, and the community is at odds.

My main concern is the noise at night

We have too many already. So sorry this project was ever allowed in Garden Township.

I am dead set against any more windmills being put anywhere in Garden Township.

We don't like them, don't want them and think they are an eyesore. They don't benefit me, only helps people down state or another state. You want to put these ugly things up, go back to where you came from, the LP.

I thought these would be good, but these have ruined our community.

see attached (letter and newspaper article included with the mailed in survey)

Cooks requirements very good

Cooks Requirements Very Good

the future of America is green energy. We are already ahead, why stop

Wind turbines should not be built near any resident.

Wind turbines should not be built near any resident

We are tired of seeing and hearing the windmills

Noisy-unsightly-inefficient -drop of property values- kills birds

These turbines have ruined the Garden Peninsula. We surely don't need anymore of these noisy things around us.

The current ones have already harmed the natural beauty of the area. Though I am in favor of alternative energy sources, I do not believe that wind turbines are efficient. They also harm the beauty of the area in which they are located.

I think the turbines are much too close to homes and the village of Garden. There are multiple places for sale.

ABSOLUTELY NOT! The wind turbines should be built down-below, where the demand for electricity really is, for the big cities and the factories, not in our area. They have spoiled the beauty of the peninsula and are driving away tourists, vacationers and residents. They kill our eagles, osprey and bats (that eat the mosquitos). They never should have been allowed in the first place, to be placed where they can be seen so easily. They could have been placed back in the forest, where they would not be seen so easily. They are way too close to the residents houses. We do "not" need more.

The current wind farm was built too close to other property owners residents. They are noisy and they may be harmful to animals and people due to low frequency sound waves, etc.

If the set backs from property lines were increased to 1 mile they would not be a nuisance to adjacent property owners. The current wind turbines were built too close to residents' homes.

Please NO.....a beautiful natural resource and wildlife area are being scarred by these "investments" that do not offer the peninsula electricity any profit or help. These things are generally in a desert or in an area that is remote and not in a village or settlement. The only people that profit are those paid rent and the investors. Fair????What about everybody else?

Garden already has 15. Additional turbines throughout the peninsula, away from residences might be acceptable.

If more turbines are deemed necessary then increase the setback to 3/4mile from property an owners property line,not dwelling.If the setback is from the dwelling, then a property owner with a large parcel of land may not be able because of ordinances or turbine noise build a second dwelling between the first dwelling and the turbine. That could result in the township receiving less in property tax money

Too loud - I have to sleep with earplugs in, they take away from the beauty the peninsula is know for. Residents on the peninsula receive no cost savings benefits on their electric bills, I don't anyway.

Too loud, look bad, those on the Garden Peninsula don't get any break in electric bill costs for having these

Too loud, look terrible, those living on the Garden Peninsula do not receive any reduction in cost on their electric bills for having these turbines on the peninsula

Too noisy, look bad, residents on the Garden Peninsula do not receive a break in electric bill costs for having to put up with these turbines.

We have light strobing in the morning and significant noise from the existing turbines. In addition, the value of our property has been lowered by these turbines.

The wind turbines should not have been built on an important migratory flyway. No additional turbines should be built to further impact migratory birds, bats and other wildlife. It's wrong and probably illegal. If not, it should be.

Yes, but only if the turbines are installed further away from the township than the current turbines and 3/4 mile off M183

The wind turbines have had a major negative affect on our quality of life in Garden. Additional wind turbines will have a further negative impact on the area including a drop in tourism and a significant reduction in property values.

Under responsible circumstances and respectful of existing dwellings. We need to support alternative energy sources.

Even though this is a second home for us, we do believe that the answer should only be yes if it benefits the majority of the Garden Peninsula residents. We understand that currently, the electricity generated from the turbines is for the Traverse City area. Is it possible for the Garden Peninsula residents to receive reduced/lower costs for their electricity usage? Then, the turbines would benefit the majority of the Garden Peninsula residents.

has caused too many problems between residents and the power is not being used locally

Causes too many problems between residents

My family has been vacationing here for 40 years. Five years ago my wife and I bought a house and property here with the plan being to retire here. We love the peace, quiet, and beauty of the peninsula. We feel the windmills change that. We are not opposed to wind power but it should be in places that do not have a such drastic change on the community. This affects neighbors, tourism, and forever changes the natural beauty of the peninsula. It has also been done with many false statements and promises and without the backing of the community.

Absolutely not! There are already 14 too many now!

Too many unanswered health concerns. Too close to homes. No proof of funds to remove them when done. Lower land values to those in area. Benefits few, affects many. Divided community. Noisy, industrial site material, not residential. Need to be further away from homes and setback from landowners who do not wish to sign up.

The impact on the environment and the people that love the peninsula is becoming increasingly clear. We are hearing of conflict between neighbors who rely on one another, are reading more articles on the environmental impact as well as the impact on migratory birds, and it is becoming increasingly clear that the motivation for more turbines is lining the pockets of a few executives at Heritage...I feel as though they think we are too simple to see past their empty promises. Furthermore, the promise of decreased taxes and stable property values have failed to come true. Our taxes increased while our property value assessment decreased. The list of cons in regards to additional wind turbines seems to grow daily.

They are a nuisance, bird killing, property devaluing, and ugly. Any project that needs a Govt Subsidies to exist is bad for all involved....

Wind Turbines are ruining our reputation as a pristine community, almost as much as the cannabis fiasco of the 1990's

The turbines have negatively impacted property values and the spirit of the community. It also directly affects the air quality, visual purity of Michigan, health of the residents e.g., noise, sleep quality, soil degradation, water tables and quality, etc. and posed hazards and demise of the wildlife.

Affects property values and quality of life. Not appropriate for this rural area.

No Turbines should have ever been built

Part of the beauty of Garden is the natural, pristine, setting. The turbines ruin that.

They are an eyesore and more problems than they are worth.

We have seen what these 'eyesores' have already done to the previously pristine Garden Peninsula. Please! No more of these 'eyesores'!

Wind turbines pose a detriment to the physical health of the people in the community.

My property taxes increased while you promised a decrease based on the install. Normally I would be in favor of alternative energy but so far they provide no benefit to me and ruin a pristine view especially at night with the persistent blinking lights.

While I do not understand the tax and other revenue benefits that the township might enjoy, I do not think the fiscal value of that income stream is nearly enough to offset the permanent change in the vistas for everyone and the adverse impact on property values and quality of life for residents of adjacent properties.

Detracts from the resort property value I bought my property to enjoy.

Shame on the people who own the property letting them in garden Township they ruined the peacefulness of the area. When we are outside it sounds like a helicopter is ready to land at my house. When the sun gets to the other side of our house all's we get is flashing from the turbines going around very annoying.

I think that the County needs to be more restrictive with regulations: set backs, neighboring property rights, etc.

You have enough and have maintained balance with wind power without sacrificing quality of life

They are very inefficient for the cost. Maybe will last 25 years and the taxpayer is footing most of the bill, and the installation company is reaping the profits. Removal is costly. If the county thinks it is a good thing and you will make \$\$\$ you probably have not done much research. The health of the local population and wildlife is way more important. FYI <http://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/green-science/wind-turbines-health.htm> <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/moslive/article-2199284/Wind-farms-Are-wind-farms-saving-killing-A-provocative-investigation-claims-thousands-people-falling-sick-live-near-them.html> <http://www.cfp.ca/content/59/5/473.full> <http://www.fws.gov/radar/windpower/index.html> <http://www.cuttingedgelaw.com/blog/bird-deaths-wind-farms-part-1>

Is there any real benefit to the Township residents from having these or are the benefits just to the property owners where they sit? They look like crap.

We don't see a need for more in this area.

They way they have done it was not in the best interest of the community. Also, not enough of compensation for noise and quality of life changes or thought on the affects on the village residents.

We do not need to subsidize any busy, it is a waste of my tax money.

They are ugly to look at and they add no value to the overall community, no decrease in electric bills for residence. Decrease property values and cause problems for those who live near by them.

They aren't increasing my property value at all. In fact, quite the opposite! The power does not benefit us. Why not have it negotiated OUR rates won't increase. WE LOOK AT THEM EVERY DAY!!!!

Decreased property value and the sound they do make when the wind hits the blades.

I feel they are a blight on the landscape of what is a beautiful part of the world.

Turbine #12 is 1,000 feet behind my property line and about 1,500 ft. from my house. Depending on the wind speed and direction, the noise can be unbearably loud. The only time I don't hear the turbine is when the wind is calm. There is also the "strobe effect" we get with the morning sunrise shining through the spinning blades. I am all for alternative energy, but there should be a one mile set back from any residence.

The more they put up the better !!!!!!! They are an asset to the community.

Hate the ones already here. eye sores and very loud

get rid of the ones already here

they can take down the ones already here

can't stand these things

the 14 here already need to be gone

Heritage needs to take the 14 already here and leave with them

They are an eyesore. If they must be built, (which I believe is a scam, but that is another subject) they should be in wilderness areas, of which there are many in the UP.

get rid of what's here already!

get rid of the 14 already here

want all of the 14 that are here already to be gone!!!!!!!

I do not want anymore ugly and noisy wind turbines around any of my 7 properties that are located by the 14 already existing.

Wind turbines don't make good neighbors. Delta County does not monitor the noise or hold Heritage accountable for the noise limits. The windmills that are 1 and 1 1/2 miles south of me are the loudest, especially at night. Keep the turbines out of rural residential areas. My property value decreased 10% in 2014. I can't afford to keep taking a loss to live here, but will I ever be able to sell? No more windmills.

Bad for birds/bats and bad for residential property values.

However would be willing to accept a compromise which has adequate setbacks from property lines ( 1mile) and has protective ordinances that protect the nature of the community and the economic development of the community. But basically I do not feel that wind turbines are suited for the environmental integrity of the peninsula and the future development of the community. They detract from taking advantage of the unique natural environment of the community.

I feel that large scaled wind turbines have a place in the human scheme of things, but not here on the peninsula. It is too narrow here and is a part of a major migratory bird pathway. It also has a huge amount of bats that love the porous limestone rocks on the peninsula. On top of this, the potentially serious health effects, property devaluation, building restrictions due to not having setbacks to the property line and the low limit on third party liability coverage per lease aren't worth it. And the lack of research on low frequency sound and other things is putting the cart before the horse and is irresponsibly making its living occupants the project's guinea pigs. And as far as revenue goes, is the depreciated \$400,000.00 in a seven year period, which makes it significantly less than \$400,000.00, really worth it? Does that revenue income offset what is paid out for increased health problems? Will there be a loss of other businesses, tourism, and a loss of pollinators (such as honey bees) and pest controllers (such as birds and bats), which makes businesses and wild things go elsewhere? The high bird and bat mortality can force farmers to use higher quantities and more toxic pesticides to make up for them being dead or gone. Local politicians should have "A COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS" done that roughs in potential gains and losses, when it comes to this project. They can start with higher pesticide costs.

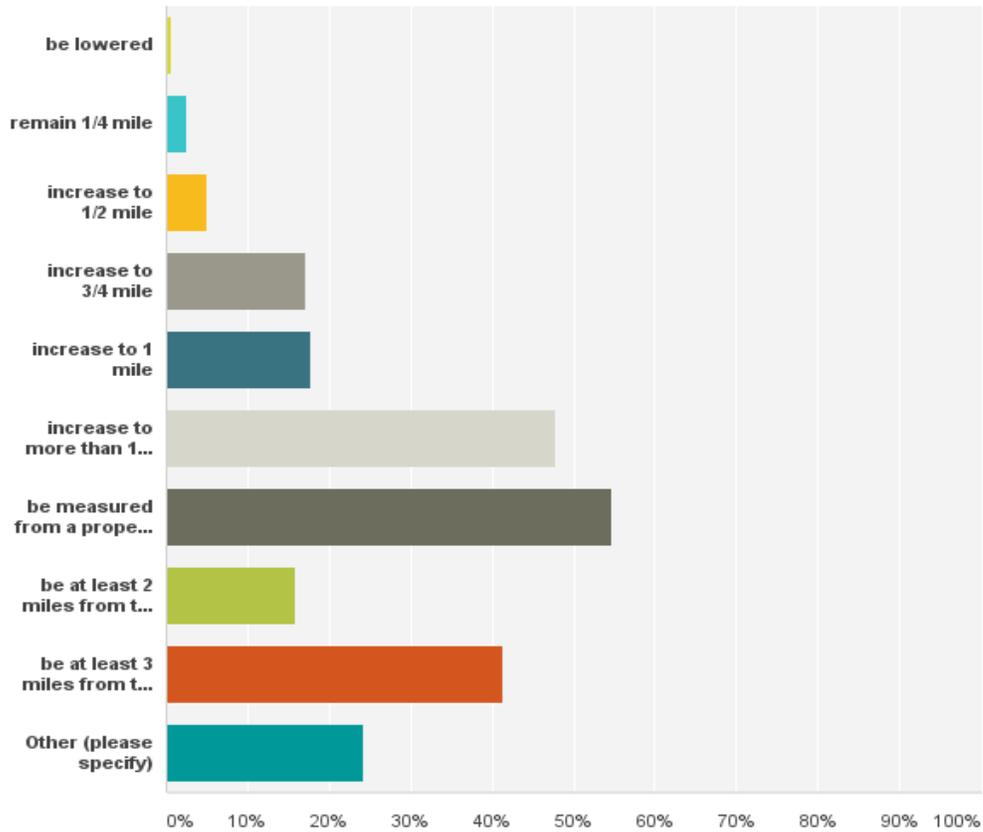
I also am not in favor of more wind turbines being built anywhere on the peninsula where they are detrimental to the environment, nature and especially humans who are so gravely affected by their placement and for which they have no choice, as is the situation in Garden Township. What is happening here is a travesty. This small peninsula is not the right place for wind turbines.

I am very concerned about the long term economic health of the Garden Peninsula. As we get older, we plan on spending more of our time in Garden. With the likely decline in property values of those homes near the turbines (whoever thinks this will increase the value of these homes is nuts), the property tax revenue will also decrease which will have an effect on the schools.see other comments below.

I support alternative energy.

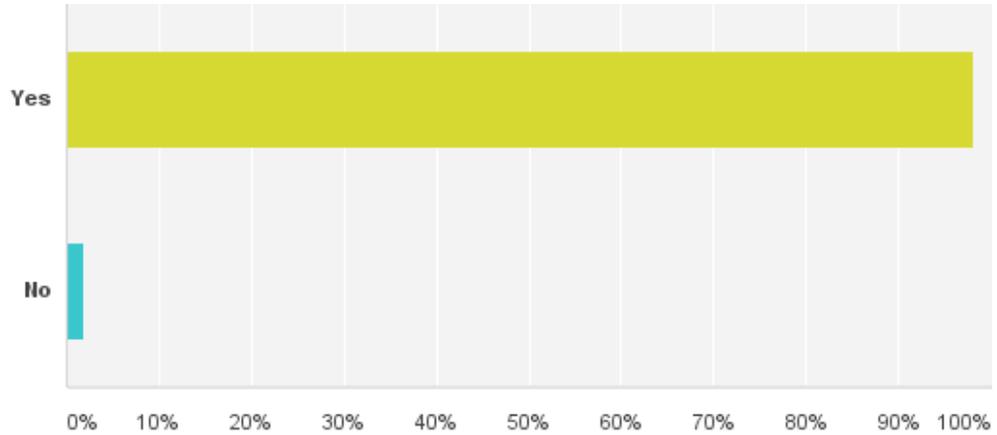
The wind turbines have done nothing to improve the Garden Peninsula. They have not brought in new business, jobs, or new electrical power, or revenue that benefits the whole Peninsula. Only a select few have gained by the installation of the Wind Turbines installed on their properties, In terms of \$\$'s., the 'total' population of the Garden Peninsula, the school, the community center, the churches, the businesses have gained nothing! In fact, many neighbors, members of the community are being driven away. Other residents on the Peninsula are moving out of sheer frustration, or because they have suffered due to disturbances from the Turbines' sound, flashing lights, interference with the wildlife, birds, resulting in assaults to their health. Probably the worst effect, has been neighbor to neighbor! At times resulting in vicious divisiveness for many.and has gotten to the point where some feel their only recourse is to put their house up for sale and move. A once, quiet and beautiful Peninsula with a gorgeous landscape, and neighbors looking out for neighbors, has changed dramatically, since the installation of the Wind Turbines.

**Q6: The setback requirement for wind turbines in Delta County is 1,320 feet (1/4 mile) from existing dwellings. Do you feel the setback requirement should:**



Answer Choices	Responses
be lowered	<b>0.64%</b> 1
remain 1/4 mile	<b>2.55%</b> 4
increase to 1/2 mile	<b>5.10%</b> 8
increase to 3/4 mile	<b>17.20%</b> 27
increase to 1 mile	<b>17.83%</b> 28
increase to more than 1 mile	<b>47.77%</b> 75
be measured from a property line rather than a dwelling	<b>54.78%</b> 86
be at least 2 miles from the lakeshore	<b>15.92%</b> 25
be at least 3 miles from the lakeshore	<b>41.40%</b> 65
Other (please specify)	<b>24.20%</b> 38
<b>Total Respondents: 157</b>	

**Q7: Are you in favor of requiring wind turbine companies to purchase a bond for the removal of abandoned or defunct wind turbines?**



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	98.10%	155
No	1.90%	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>158</b>

**Comments:**

definitely, otherwise if built, will be an eyesore once abandoned.

No more wind turbines

They should have to take care of their own trash and equipment when it goes bad.

The cost of removal can be in the millions and should not required the tax payer to have this expense. The do quit v

Otherwise when the company goes bankrupt - and they will as soon as the subsidies stop, the landowners and taxp

If I thought the township board had control of the situation I'd put my name on this. But given how you handled thing leaving them to get their heads cut off and harassed by the thugs of the community it's best I leave no name.

This is a must have you seen the dead old ugly windmill up in big bay with one blade missing

the landowners will scrap them out

They are going to be an eye sore once they are non- operational.

Once the turbines reach the end of their useful life the wind turbine company will be nowhere to be found and remov won't be able to afford it) or the taxpayer.

ALL COSTS SHOULD ALWAYS BE BORN BY THE COMPANIES, ESPECIALLY IN THE DECOMMISSIONING OF TRUE COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS IS NOT CORRECTLY CALCULATED.

Absolutely, the practice of abandoning old projects or businesses is far too predominant in our culture.

Absolutely- bonds are required all the time for many industries, not just wind turbines.

Citizens should not be responsible for clean-up from profit making companies. We should have learned that lesson government funding to mitigate contamination, restore clean water, etc.

Please DO NOT allow the turbine companies to simply abandon non-functioning turbines. We strongly suggest that in full repair and functioning OR completely remove the full turbine (which would include base and all parts).

and for any repairs to roads

and a bond on all roads

Shouldn't the Planning Commission be responsible for studying this matter and responsible for making uninformed c

At min \$50,000 per machine...

Yes! Its about time you people woke up

This bond should have been made mandatory as part of the permitting process!! Such bond should have been poste

They are not profitable. As such, the may be abandoned in the future. A bond should be required.

Any leasing contract should have this clause and if it does not you really have a serious problem. Did you really let t  
up clause?!

It has always concerned me what happens when the economics of operating the turbines decreases to a point wher  
time, the responsible parties are probably long gone or do not have assets needed to pay for the removal of the turt  
turbine is a great solution. You need to build in some cost escalator provision because if the bond is for a fixed valu  
turbine today, it will not be enough in 10 years when the likelihood of needing it is higher.

Like I said above, no turbines, but realistically the almighty dollar will probably prevail regardless of what I think.

fix roads

make sure roads are repaired

and a bond on any roads used for the repair and upkeep

also a bond for any roads used

also bonds for any road work that would need to be done

also bonds for roads

also bond put in place for any road work they do

also bonds for roads

How did we omit this detail the first time?

Purchase a bond or palace money in an escrow account.

Also a provision to repair any road damage caused by installation.

## Q8: Comments:

I am a property owner in Garden Twp even though I don't reside there permanently. I just returned from the area yesterday and noticed several turbines during my trip. The turbines are noisy, and certainly don't look very good. I purchased property to get enjoy the natural beauty of the terrain in the area, not to look at and listen to turbines. I enjoy hearing and seeing the birds as they fly, not on the ground, dead due to turbines.

We have lost property value no matter what Joe says! How many new home construction has there been in the last 2 years, how many places for sale, How many people are responding to this survey?

I don't believe the local residents get any benefit from these things. The is a beautiful area, why ruin it all so some landowners can make a few bucks?

I am strongly against additional wind turbines. They are a huge eyesore for what is considered God's country. They are noisy, and they kill birds. Bottom line the wind turbines have aesthetically ruined the area. Additional wind turbines should not be allowed to be placed in Garden Township.

TO BEGIN WITH THERE WAS LITTLE THOUGHT BY THOSE IN OUR TOWNSHIP LEADERSHIP AT THE TIME OF WHAT ALL THE RESIDENTS FELT EVEN THOUGH WHEN WE FOUND OUT ABOUT THEM WE DID LET THEM KNOW. TYPICAL GOVERNMENT HANDLING OF THINGS. A SMALL GROU BENIFITS NO MATTER WHAT THE MAJORITY FEELS . I HOPE OUR NEW BOARD WILL CONSIDER THE FEELINGS OF THE MAJORITY. OUR HOME IS FOR SALE IF WE CAN GET A RESEENABLE OFFER!

We are very concerned for the safety of the eagle and osprey population on the peninsula.

I am sitting in my living room right now with the patio door open and it is so irritating I am going to have to get up and shut it because of the noise.

The little tax money that windmills may bring in will be offset by the loss of property values as a whole. The peninsula will never be the same!

For the few who get any kind of contribution out of these there ugly we get nothing from these they can't store power they don't even power anything in garden I think they shouldn't put anymore up they are not a thing that I want to look at forever they are a reason for me moving back to Manistique

Garden peninsula was beautiful until these windmills got put up! We have to hear and look at them everyday and get nothing from them...

Heritage was allowed to destroy our area with the promise of a few \$. How sad. We made a mistake.

see attached sheet

why don't the township do something about all the medical marijuana in everyone's back yard, they should have a set back of 1/4 mile from a residence

I am not against turbines completely. These turbines in Garden are too large in a largely residential area.

This is only proof that pot does destroy the brain for letting wind turbines come into such a beautiful place.

They have a relatively short life span and will eventually have to be taken down. At that point

the owners may walk away, and just pay a pittance to the residents to just leave them there. Without an appropriate bond, they may be there for years (100 years?) after they become obsolete (within 10 years?).

The companies made money on federal subsidies and have given nothing to this community. This was reported to be 100 million project.....What did Garden get? of course, the requirement should be the companies have to take them down and the money escrowed for that because in 20 years the companies will be gone. But the windmills will still be standing.

Thank you for organizing this survey !

By allowing turbine companies to install turbines in Delta County and Garden Township, do the turbine companies have to pay any special use taxes to the township or county? You can e-mail the answer to me...thank you for the opportunity to participate in this survey.

Ban additional wind turbines and regulate the existing ones more stringently. Property values have been lowered by existing turbines which will result in lower tax revenue for schools and the township. No one would intentionally buy or build a home anywhere near one of these turbines, so new construction and resale of existing homes will be hurt. Tourism money into the economy will be reduced by the unsightly, industrial look of the landscape. The impact on birds, bats and other wildlife(including deer who want to be nowhere near the sound of these machines - so deer hunting will also be impacted) is very negative and probably illegal if due diligence were done prior to their construction.

appreciate having a voice in this matter, thank you to those involved.

One of the greatest attributes to the upper peninsula is the natural beauty and wildlife. Once destroyed, hunters,boaters, fisherman, campers and people looking to retire etc will no longer come to the area. If more wind turbines go up, you will loose the vary people we want to attract.

We appreciate having our voice heard. If this were our primary residence we would be attending all meetings concerning this topic. We will stay informed as to the outcome. Thank you.

Erecting additional wind turbines on the peninsula will be a definite deterrent to investors and vacationers, unfairly and negatively affecting those opposed who have already invested much (emotionally and financially) in their properties. There are laws against signs that are too large, and yet these monstrous things can be erected (and seen for miles) in a natural beauty area such as ours? Doesn't seem right.

Wind turbines need to be placed "in the middle of nowhere" where they don't bother peoples lives. And my guess is there are no places like that in this township or area. The 14 have already ruined the beauty and serenity of the area just to say the least. These turbines have opened up a "can of worms" that will haunt this community for decades to come. Adding more will certainly add to the areas downfall. Wind companies are only in this for one reason, MONEY! These projects are kept as secret as possible until it's too late to stop them. Doesn't that raise any red flags?

Please keep us informed of any activity in regards to this critical issue. We feel we are being kept in the dark until it is too late!

Thank you for putting this together

Why is this survey going on after the fact. Don't you think a moratorium would have given Delta County or The Garden Township board enough time to get educated on the subject before permits were issued.

Because such construction was allowed prior to any ordinances being adopted to safe guard the community and residents who are now being impacted, WHO bears the liability? The local, regional or state government, or Heritage or all of the named?

I believe that wind turbines devalue the quality of life in a community

I also propose that all companies that manufacture and/or sell wind turbines permanently employ US citizens who reside in the counties in which turbines are sold and installed.

It's funny that we have these multi million dollar wind turbines yet I cannot get access to an internet provider. Maybe you should look closer to what would be best for the community like providing broadband which helps support communication / education.

Would be nice to get more cell phone towers put up in Garden township too.

We build custom homes and the last 3 or 4 we have built for I don't think would have bought property and built here.

My other question is why didn't they get put up on the garden plains were there are no houses and would not affect the value of our property.

I am in favor of alternative energy forms but feel that because of gov't incentives companies are rushing into this without sufficient study, input or other considerations.

The Garden is an amazing place and a rare place in the modern world- do not lose your uniqueness and beauty where nature and people coexist

I can understand that the township has been convinced by slick marketing people with their paws in the government trough, that this is just what is needed on the beautiful Garden Peninsula. Good bye beautiful scenery, hello, vump, vump, vump, vump, vump, vump, vump, vump.....

Enact a requirement/ordinance that the wind turbine companies annually have a inspection by the township officials of all operational data, issues that have occurred/corrected, physical inspection of all sites (requiring payment for such inspections). Also adding penalties and fines for failure to maintain the sites properly. Create a guideline on what that would be.

Winds mills are a waste of tax payers money since most of them are subsidized by the American tax payer and they receive no return on their investment.

I have no choice since there is one close to my property now but maybe save another property owner the mistake.

The founder of Heritage, Marty Langina is on record insisting that Wind farms only make sense if you are also fracking on the same leased land! How about an ordinance to prevent this from happening.

I'm looking forward to seeing more turbines put up, everyone talks about how good green energy is but no one wants in their backyard. If land owners are willing to sign on then they should have the rights to have turbines put up without having to hear about it from their neighbors nonstop. They bring jobs and money to the community and have continued to give money for scholarships, and 4-H projects. I'm very much for more wind turbines.

After having these on our farm for two years now I have not seen all these negative impacts everyone talks of. The deer, turkeys, geese and sandhill cranes don't seem to mind them either cause they are still here. Also having lived next to them the longest here in garden neither my father nor anyone else in my family have experienced headaches or any of the other symptoms talked of in the flyer that came out in the advisor the week of may 19. As for the noise they make it is no different than the rumble strips on the road or a passing train that everyone that lives near get used to. If you think they are a eye soar check out all the medical marijuana houses as you drive down the garden road maybe that is why there are so many places for sale down here. But if you look there are places for sale all over not just in Garden. I know as everyone has said that all us farmers see is money and don't think of our surrounding neighbors but I can not remember when one of my neighbors has called me and asked if it is okay for them to do something on there property. So YES I am in favor of them and hope to see more and so is my family my daughter loves to look out and see them all turning.

Let's hope it doesn't become necessary

don't want anymore am considering lawsuit if anymore go in

noisy and very ugly turbines

shut these down, let the land owners get rid of them

these need to be gone!!!

clean up their mess with our roads

repair roads to better condition

need to repair the roads they tore up

also bonds for road repair. the roads need to return to better than when they tore them up

Come on, Garden Township. It's time to step up to Delta County and fight for the rights of your property owners and the health and welfare of your residents.

Property rights of lease signers and non lease signers should be protected in the context of the whole of the community.

Expected revenues quite often are not what are promised. The state makes changes in how they are figured out, which means less. The CEO of Heritage, according to a newspaper article, some years back, tried to halt the reporting on shady tamperings with royalties in the gas industry, which he was a part of. This reported scandal sparked an investigation by the state attorney general, audits, lawsuits to get the millions of dollars back and changes in laws and regulations. Who would trust such a wind developer after that?

I wouldn't want to have a home anywhere near a turbine due to noise, environmental impact on the wildlife and the decrease in my property value. If I were buying a summer home now, I would seriously think about looking elsewhere. Everything I have read does not convince me it is as beneficial to a community as the energy companies might lead you to believe. It does benefit some of the landowners but at the cost to some of their neighbors and friends. For example, if you believe the information on their garden wind farm website (<http://heritagewindenergy.com/projects/garden-wind-farm/>) they say over \$10 million was injected into the local economy during the wind turbine construction. There is little evidence to be seen around town of this huge influx of money into the community. Feel free to contact me as I feel strongly about this (if you can't tell).

The wind turbine company should be fully responsible for maintaining and removing wind turbines. They should also fairly compensate property owners and contribute to the local community.

This company was not forthcoming with all of the residents from the time this project was in the planning stages. They knew exactly what they were doing. Their goal was/is to find communities with weak/or non-existent zoning laws and then hone in on them, before they can turn around and say; What is going on here? They did it in Garden, they will do it/are trying to do it in Cooks!