

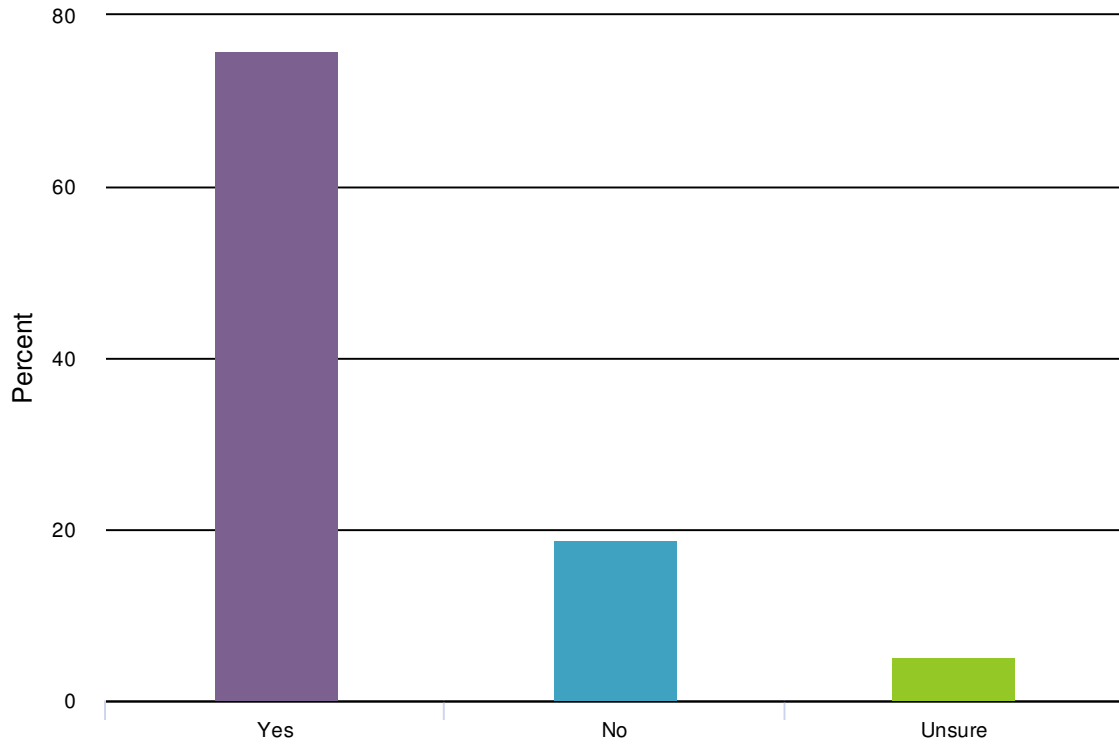
Report for WCCD 2021 RESOURCE ASSESSMENT SURVEY: Farmers Updated

Response Counts



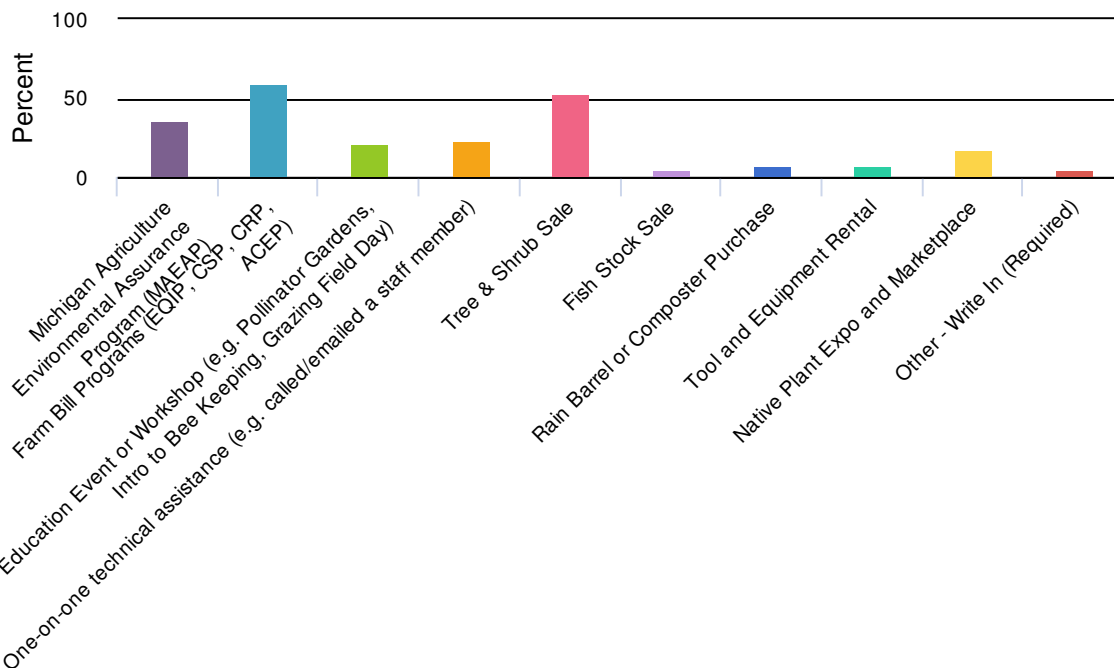
Totals: 103

1. Have you ever used any of the Washtenaw County Conservation District's (WCCD) programs or services?



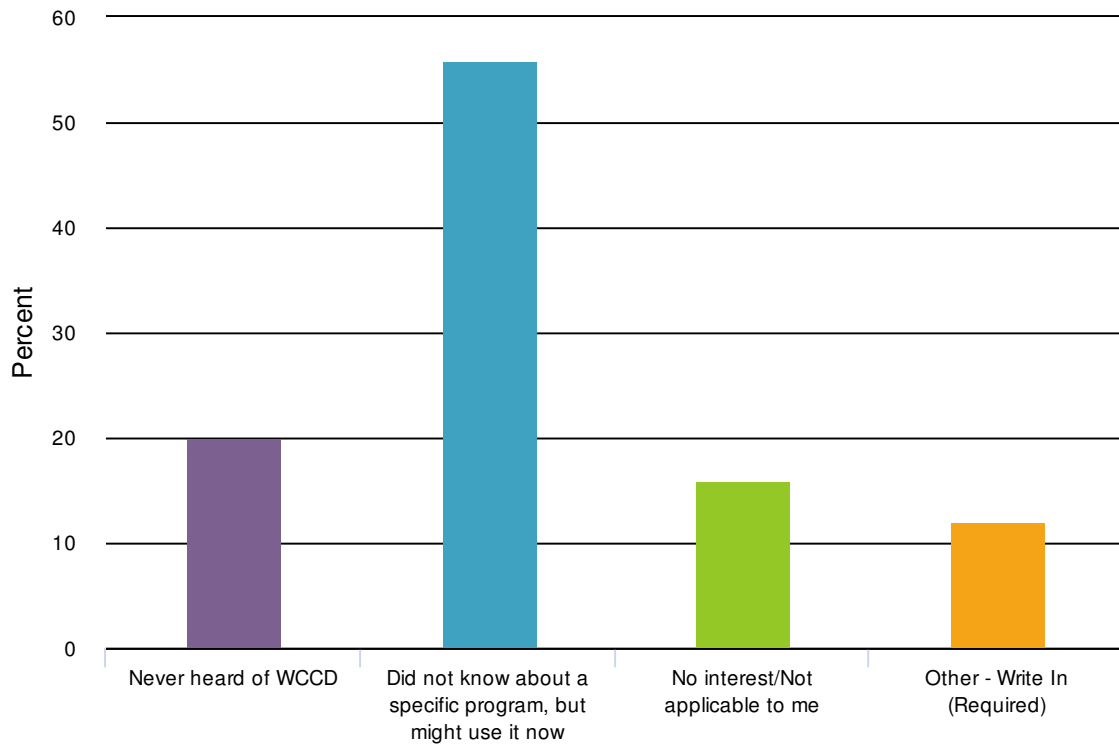
Value		Percent	Responses
Yes		75.8%	72
No		18.9%	18
Unsure		5.3%	5

2. Which programs or services have you used? Mark all that apply below:



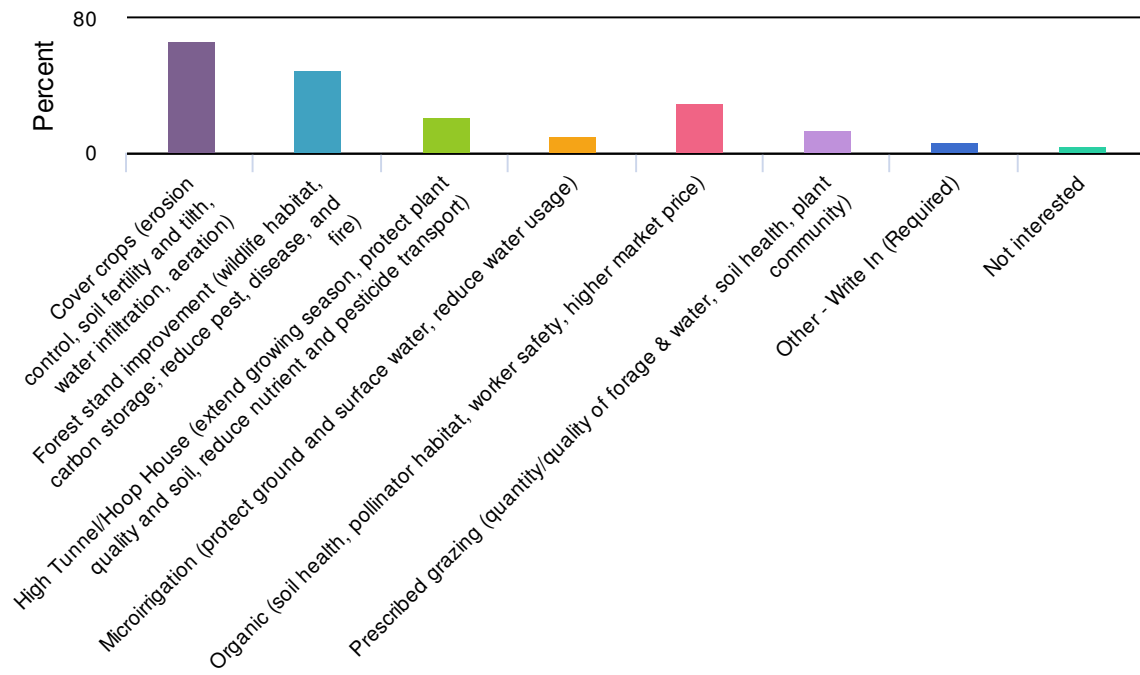
Value	Percent	Responses
Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP)	35.9%	28
Farm Bill Programs (EQIP, CSP, CRP, ACEP)	59.0%	46
Education Event or Workshop (e.g. Pollinator Gardens, Intro to Bee Keeping, Grazing Field Day)	20.5%	16
One-on-one technical assistance (e.g. called/emailed a staff member)	23.1%	18
Tree & Shrub Sale	52.6%	41
Fish Stock Sale	5.1%	4
Rain Barrel or Composter Purchase	7.7%	6
Tool and Equipment Rental	7.7%	6
Native Plant Expo and Marketplace	16.7%	13
Other - Write In (Required)	5.1%	4

3. Why not? Mark all that apply below:



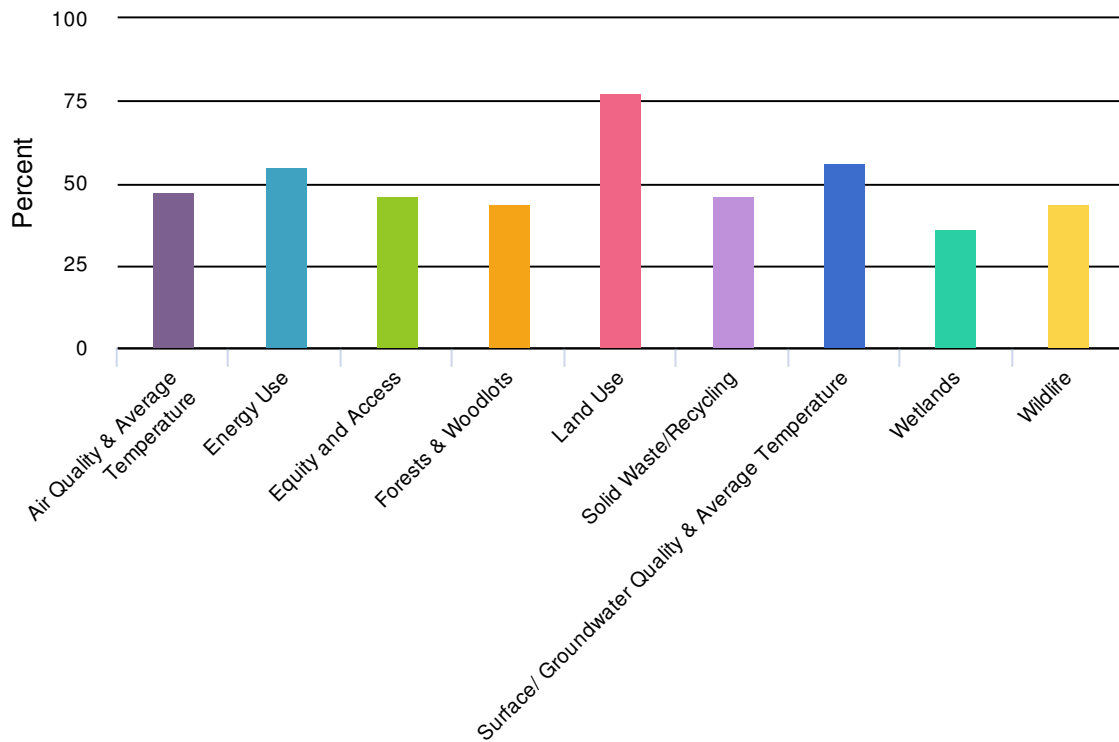
Value	Percent	Responses
Never heard of WCCD	20.0%	5
Did not know about a specific program, but might use it now	56.0%	14
No interest/Not applicable to me	16.0%	4
Other - Write In (Required)	12.0%	3










4. If you are interested in participating in a Farm Bill Program in the future, which conservation practices interest you most? Mark all that apply below:



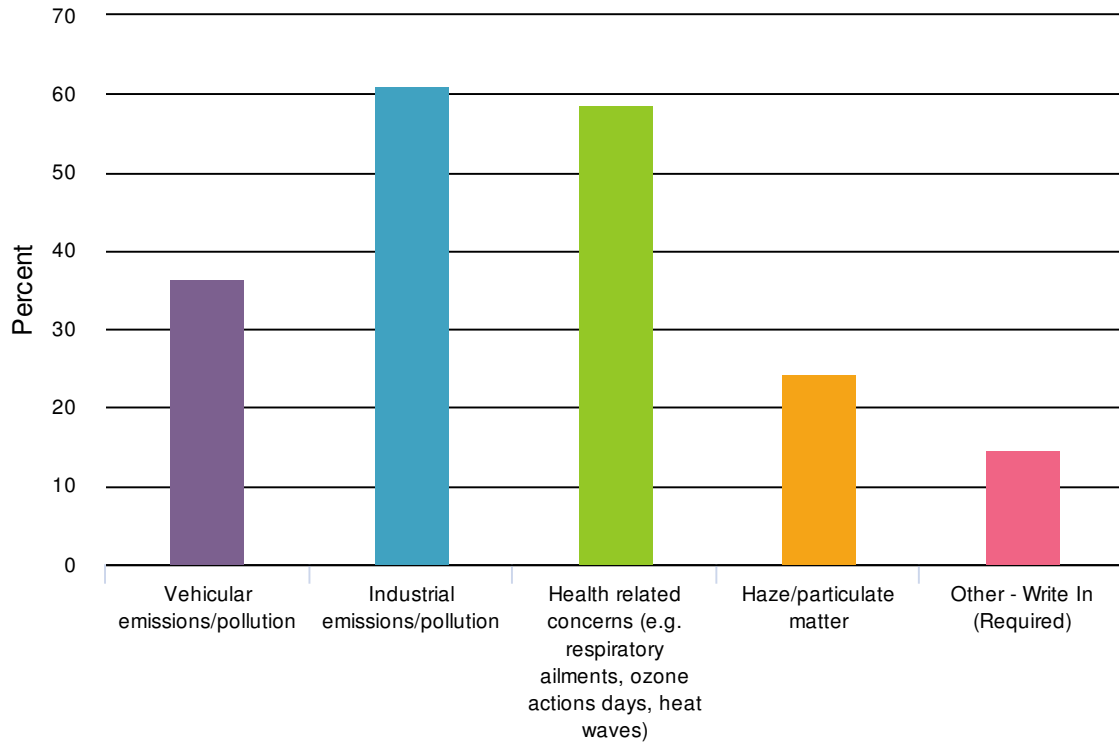
Value	Percent	Responses
Cover crops (erosion control, soil fertility and tilth, water infiltration, aeration)	67.5%	52
Forest stand improvement (wildlife habitat, carbon storage; reduce pest, disease, and fire)	49.4%	38
High Tunnel/Hoop House (extend growing season, protect plant quality and soil, reduce nutrient and pesticide transport)	22.1%	17
Microirrigation (protect ground and surface water, reduce water usage)	10.4%	8
Organic (soil health, pollinator habitat, worker safety, higher market price)	29.9%	23
Prescribed grazing (quantity/quality of forage & water, soil health, plant community)	14.3%	11
Other - Write In (Required)	6.5%	5
Not interested	5.2%	4

5. Below are general categories of natural resource or environmental issues. Please select your top categories of concern for Washtenaw County:



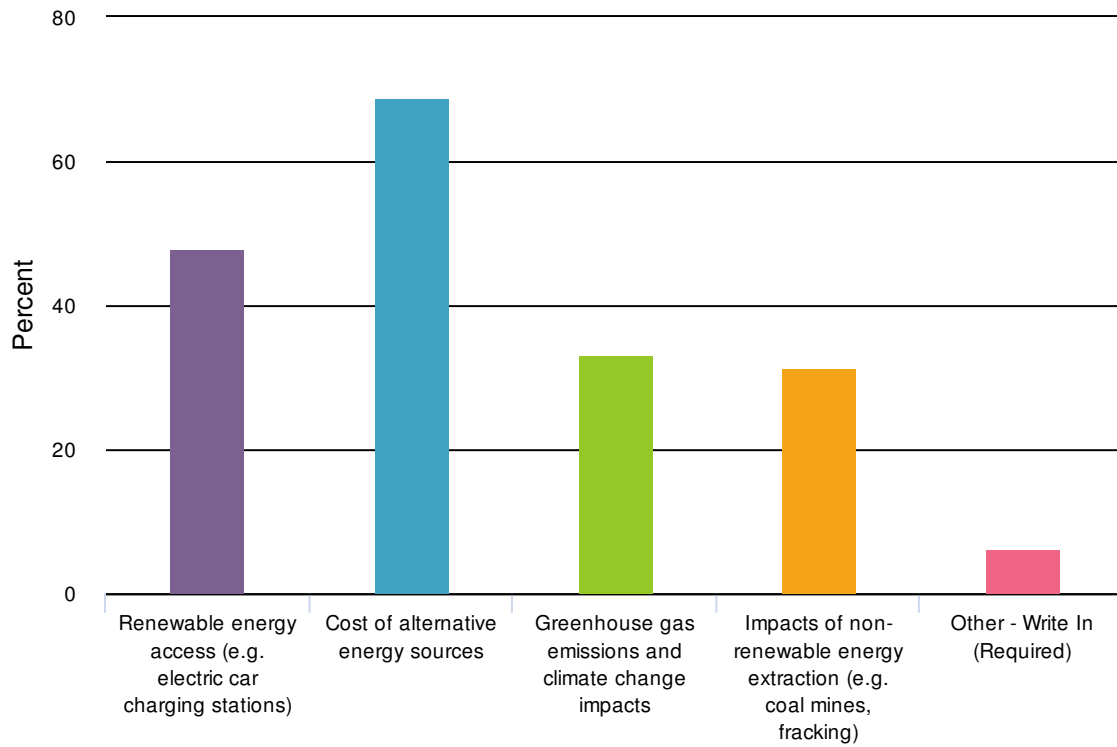
Value		Percent	Responses
Air Quality & Average Temperature		47.2%	42
Energy Use		55.1%	49
Equity and Access		46.1%	41
Forests & Woodlots		43.8%	39
Land Use		77.5%	69
Solid Waste/Recycling		46.1%	41
Surface/ Groundwater Quality & Average Temperature		56.2%	50
Wetlands		36.0%	32
Wildlife		43.8%	39

6. Please mark your specific concerns related to Air Quality & Average Temperature:



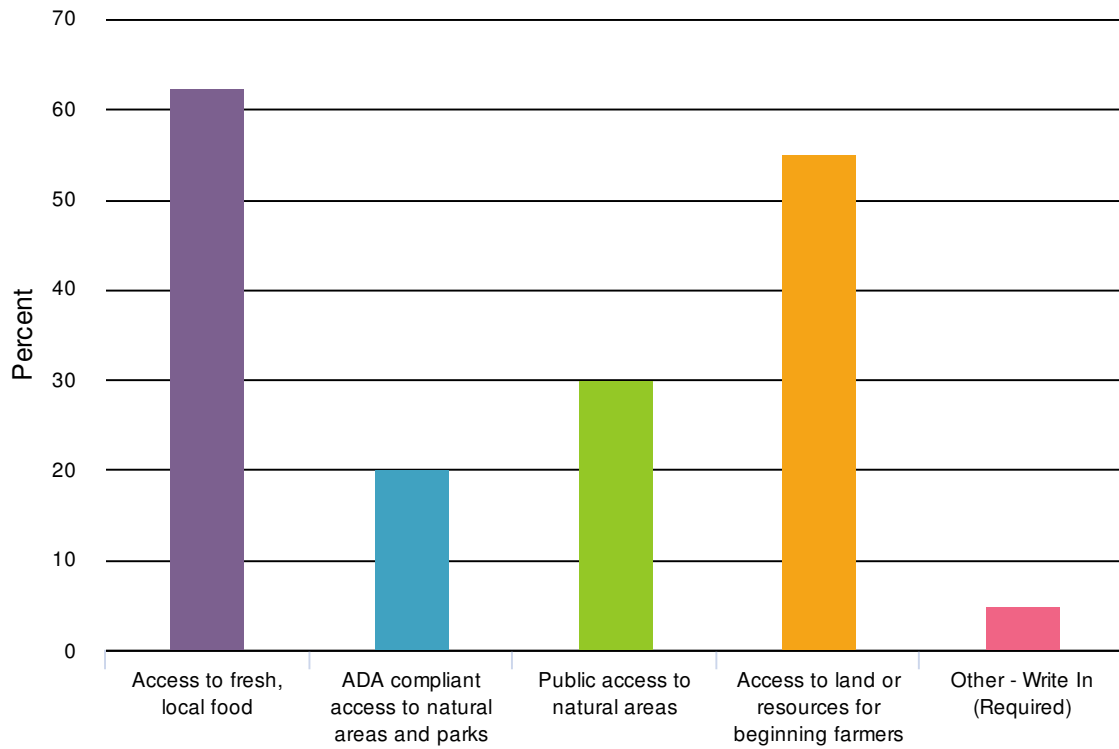
Value	Percent	Responses
Vehicular emissions/pollution	36.6%	15
Industrial emissions/pollution	61.0%	25
Health related concerns (e.g. respiratory ailments, ozone actions days, heat waves)	58.5%	24
Haze/particulate matter	24.4%	10
Other - Write In (Required)	14.6%	6

7. Please mark your specific concerns related to Energy Use:



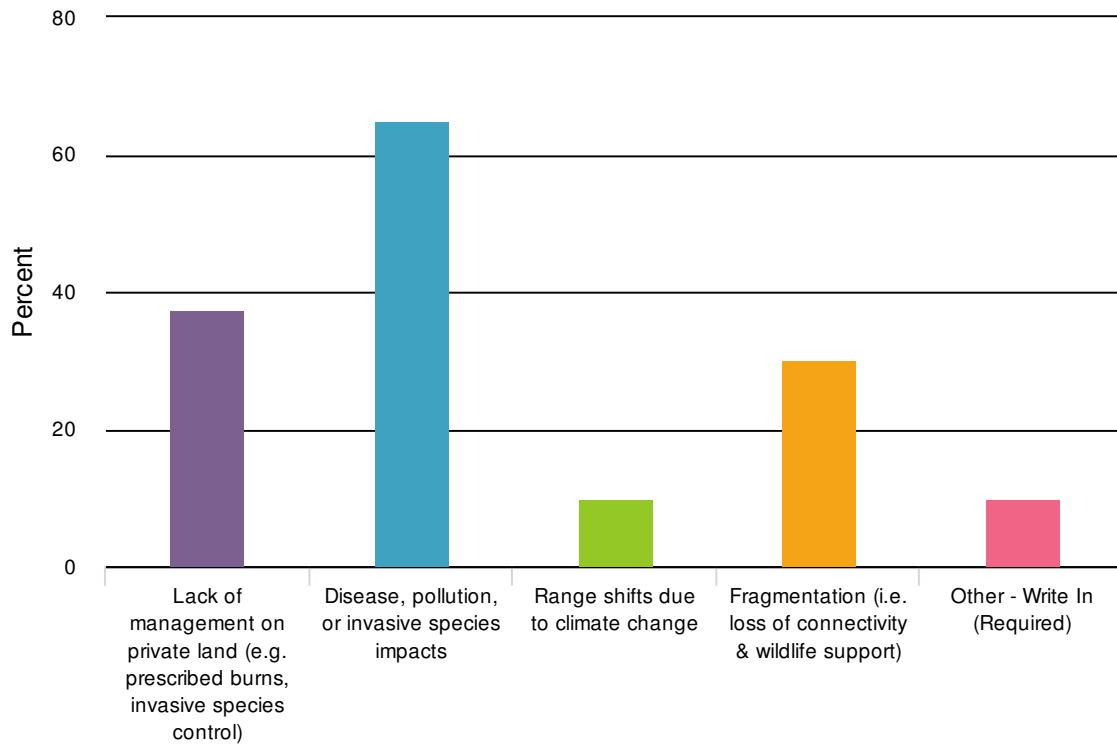
Value	Percent	Responses
Renewable energy access (e.g. electric car charging stations)	47.9%	23
Cost of alternative energy sources	68.8%	33
Greenhouse gas emissions and climate change impacts	33.3%	16
Impacts of non-renewable energy extraction (e.g. coal mines, fracking)	31.3%	15
Other - Write In (Required)	6.3%	3

8. Please mark your specific concerns related to Equity and Access:



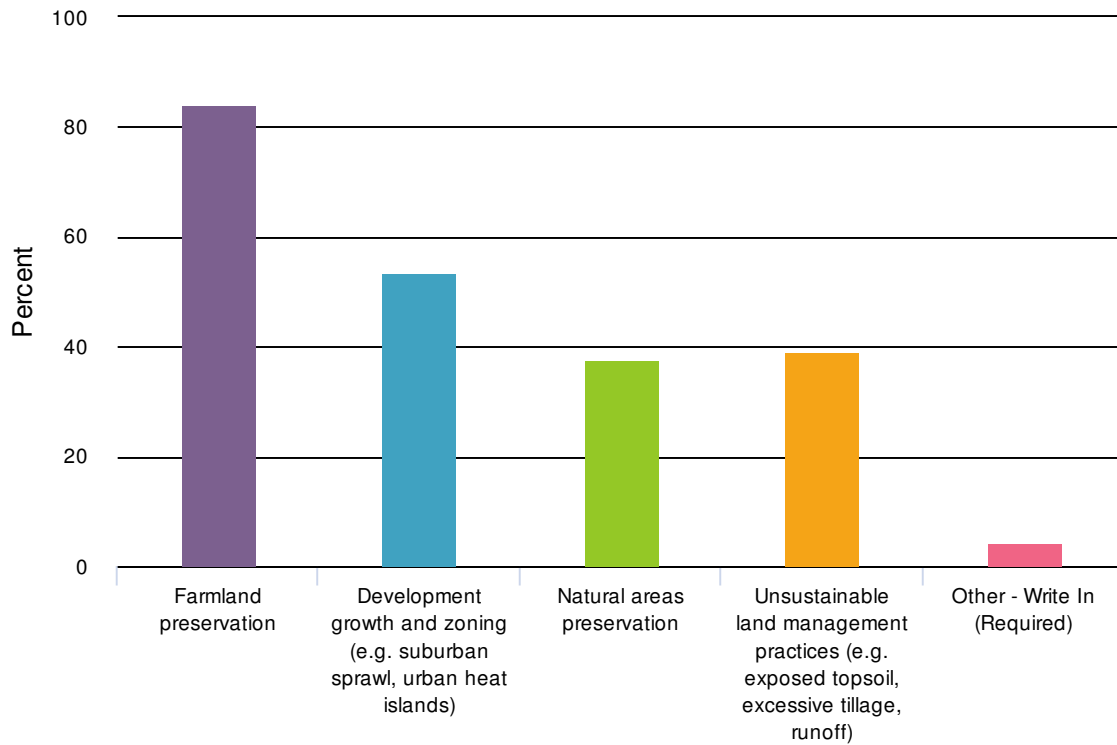
Value	Percent	Responses
Access to fresh, local food	62.5%	25
ADA compliant access to natural areas and parks	20.0%	8
Public access to natural areas	30.0%	12
Access to land or resources for beginning farmers	55.0%	22
Other - Write In (Required)	5.0%	2

9. Please mark your specific concerns related to Forests and Woodlots:



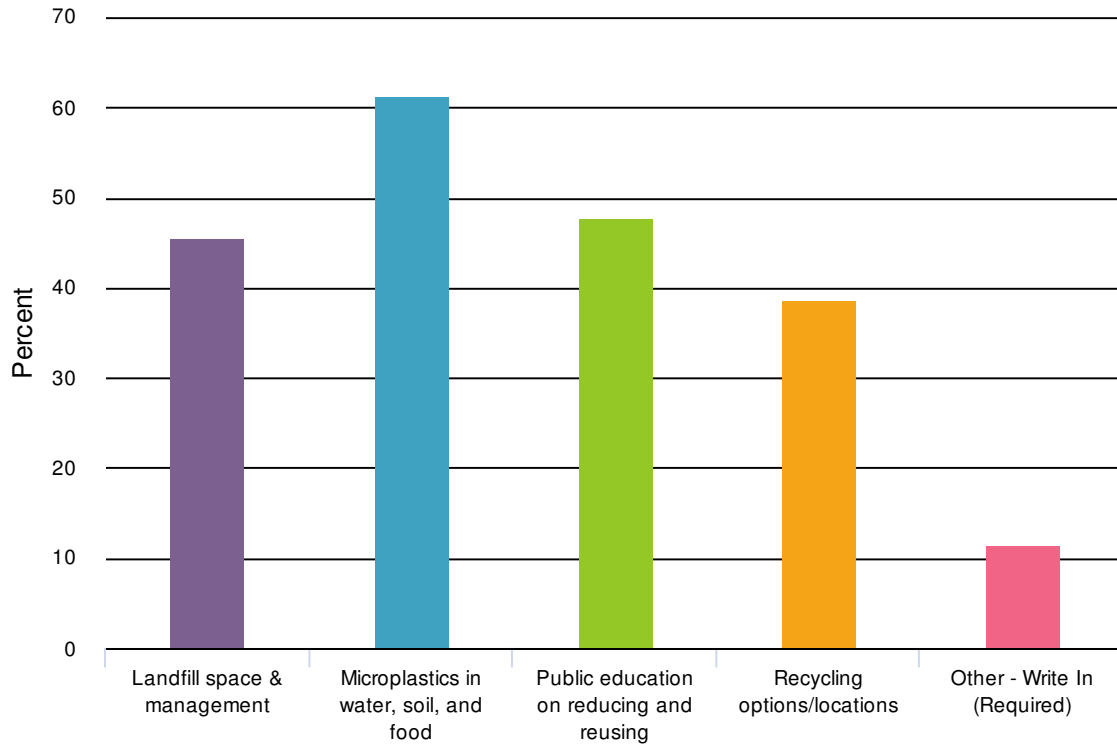
Value	Percent	Responses
Lack of management on private land (e.g. prescribed burns, invasive species control)	37.5%	15
Disease, pollution, or invasive species impacts	65.0%	26
Range shifts due to climate change	10.0%	4
Fragmentation (i.e. loss of connectivity & wildlife support)	30.0%	12
Other - Write In (Required)	10.0%	4






10. Please mark your specific concerns related to Land Use:



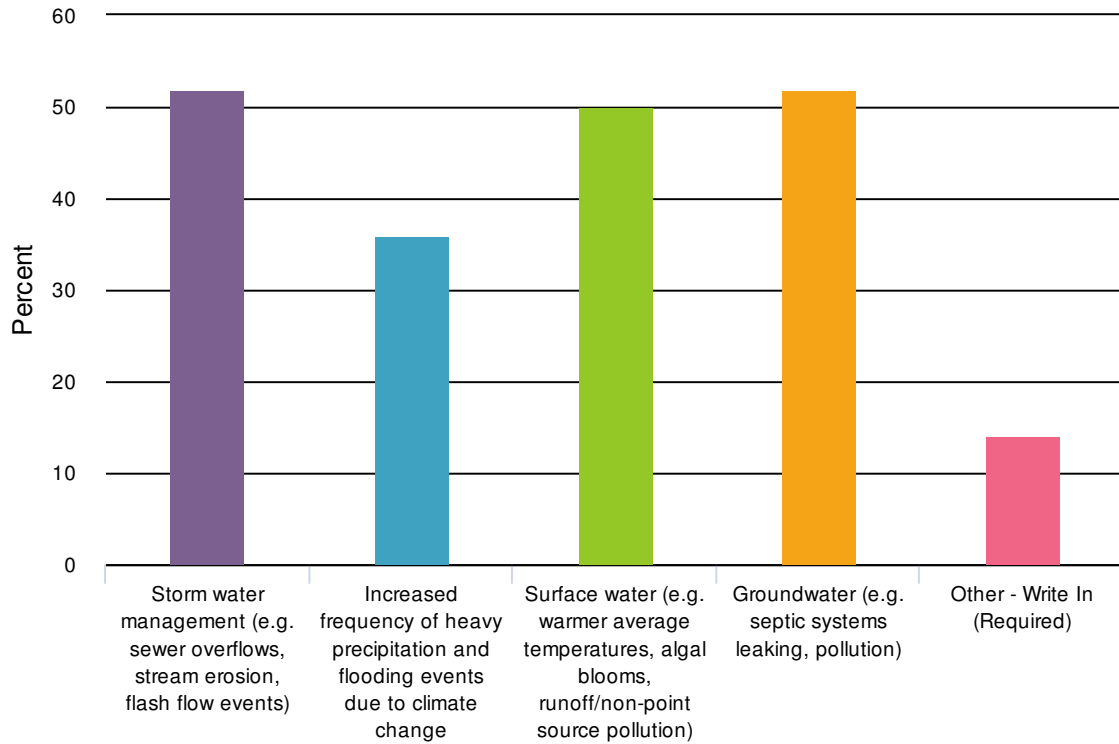
Value	Percent	Responses
Farmland preservation	84.1%	58
Development growth and zoning (e.g. suburban sprawl, urban heat islands)	53.6%	37
Natural areas preservation	37.7%	26
Unsustainable land management practices (e.g. exposed topsoil, excessive tillage, runoff)	39.1%	27
Other - Write In (Required)	4.3%	3

11. Please mark your specific concerns related to Solid Waste/Recycling:



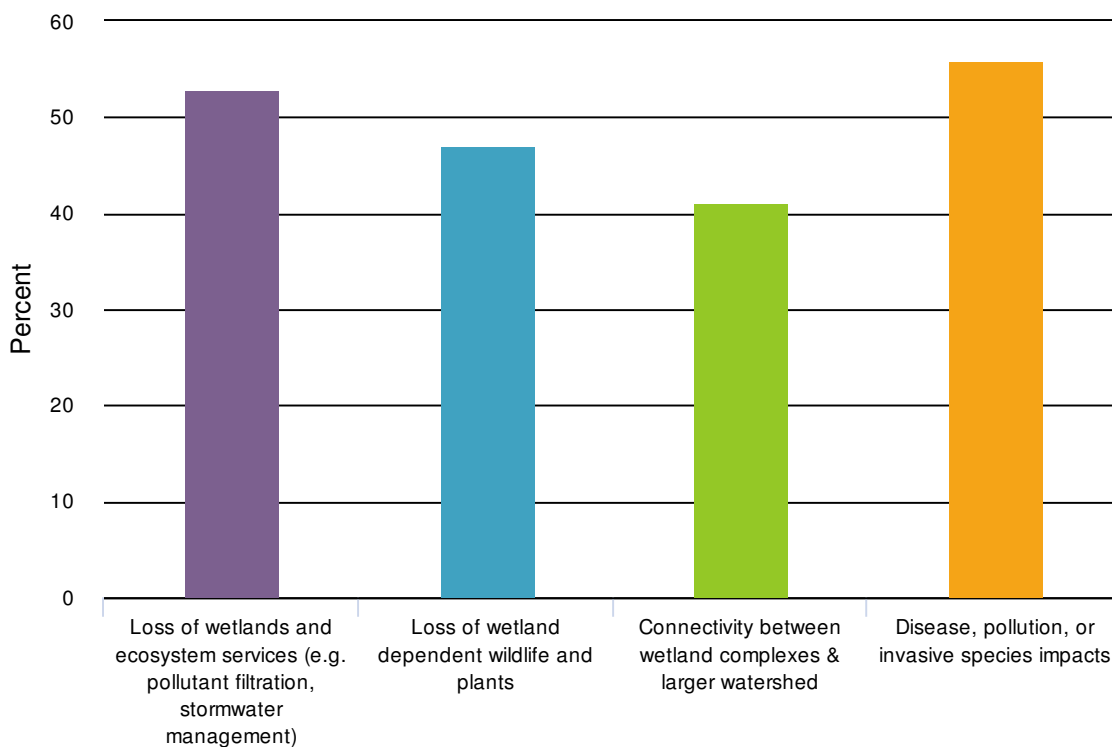
Value		Percent	Responses
Landfill space & management		45.5%	20
Microplastics in water, soil, and food		61.4%	27
Public education on reducing and reusing		47.7%	21
Recycling options/locations		38.6%	17
Other - Write In (Required)		11.4%	5





12. Please mark your specific concerns related to Surface/Groundwater Quality & Average Temperature:



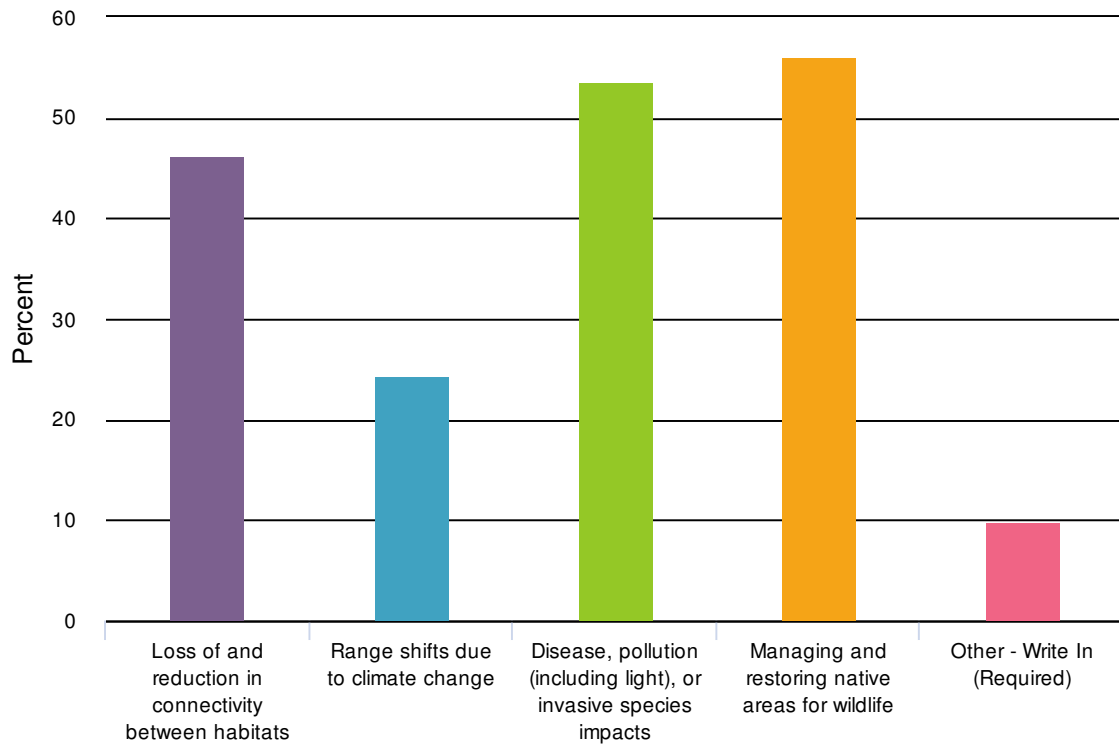
Value	Percent	Responses
Storm water management (e.g. sewer overflows, stream erosion, flash flow events)	52.0%	26
Increased frequency of heavy precipitation and flooding events due to climate change	36.0%	18
Surface water (e.g. warmer average temperatures, algal blooms, runoff/non-point source pollution)	50.0%	25
Groundwater (e.g. septic systems leaking, pollution)	52.0%	26
Other - Write In (Required)	14.0%	7

13. Please mark your specific concerns related to Wetlands:



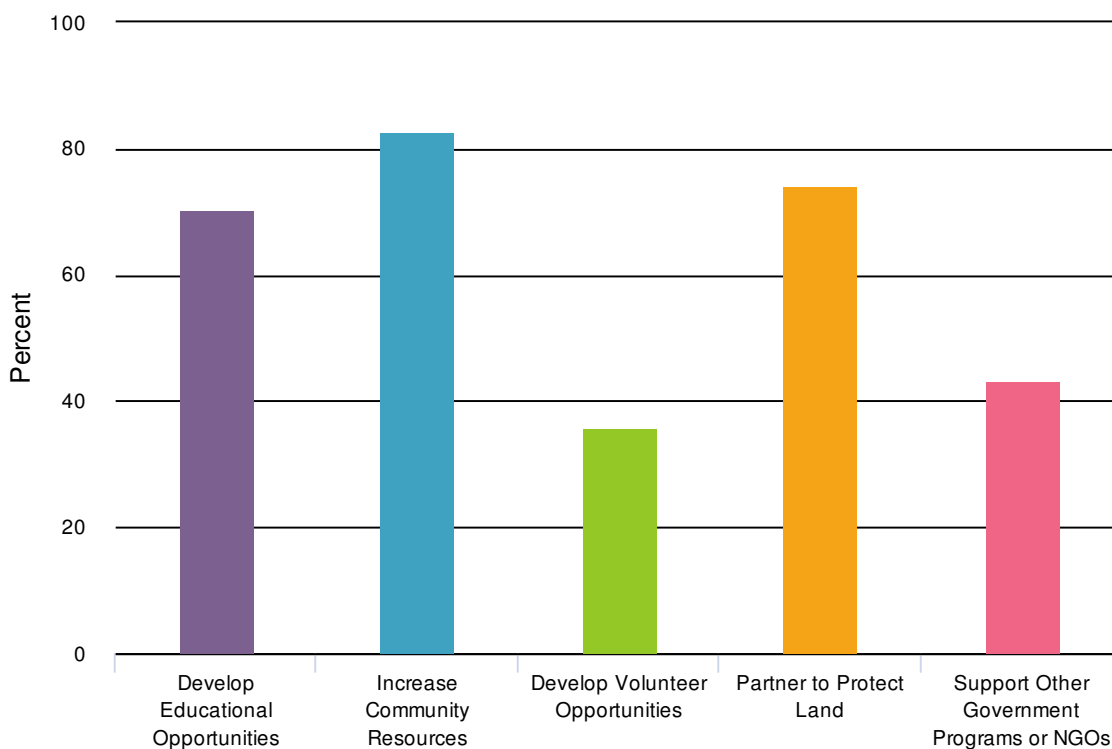
Value		Percent	Responses
Loss of wetlands and ecosystem services (e.g. pollutant filtration, stormwater management)		52.9%	18
Loss of wetland dependent wildlife and plants		47.1%	16
Connectivity between wetland complexes & larger watershed		41.2%	14
Disease, pollution, or invasive species impacts		55.9%	19






14. Please mark your specific concerns related to Wildlife:



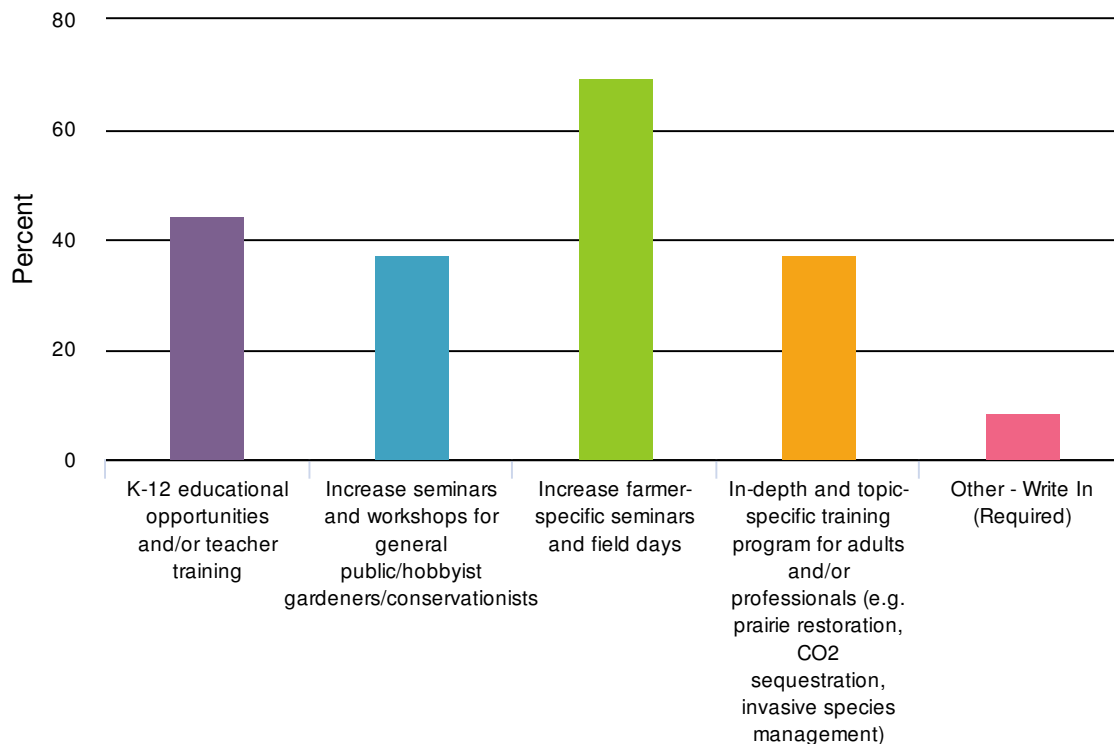
Value	Percent	Responses
Loss of and reduction in connectivity between habitats	46.3%	19
Range shifts due to climate change	24.4%	10
Disease, pollution (including light), or invasive species impacts	53.7%	22
Managing and restoring native areas for wildlife	56.1%	23
Other - Write In (Required)	9.8%	4

15. Please select the program categories you'd like WCCD to pursue to address natural resource/environmental issues in Washtenaw County:



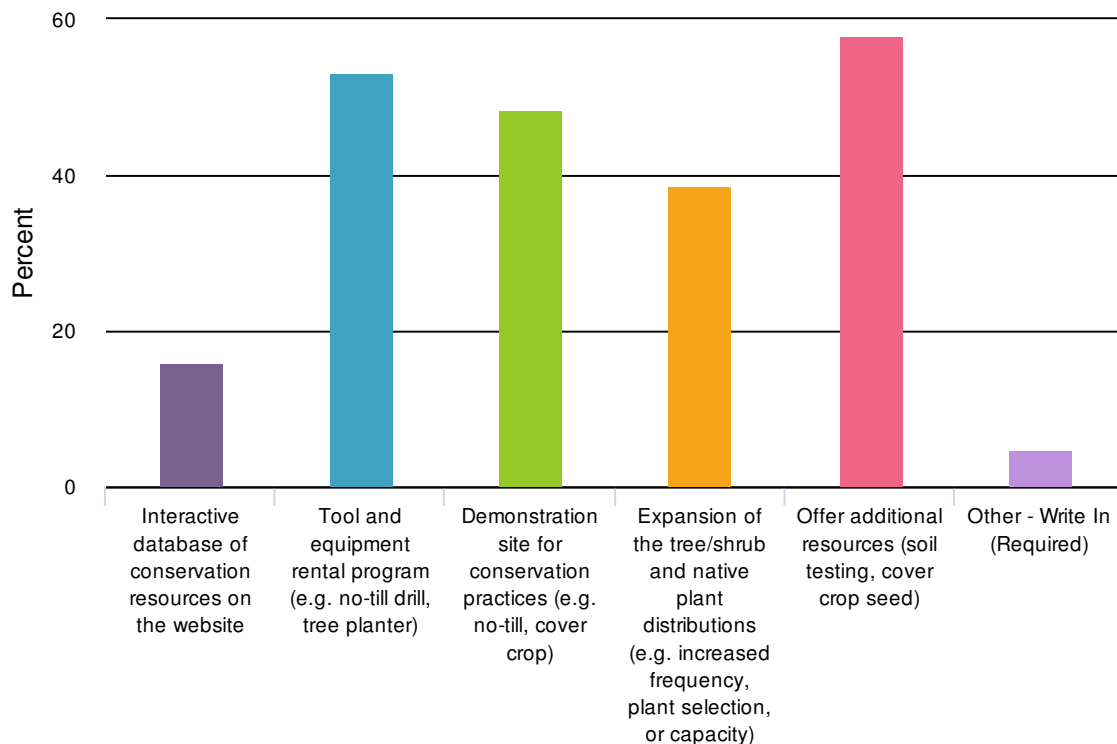
Value		Percent	Responses
Develop Educational Opportunities		70.4%	57
Increase Community Resources		82.7%	67
Develop Volunteer Opportunities		35.8%	29
Partner to Protect Land		74.1%	60
Support Other Government Programs or NGOs		43.2%	35

16. Please mark your preferences for how WCCD could Develop Educational Opportunities:



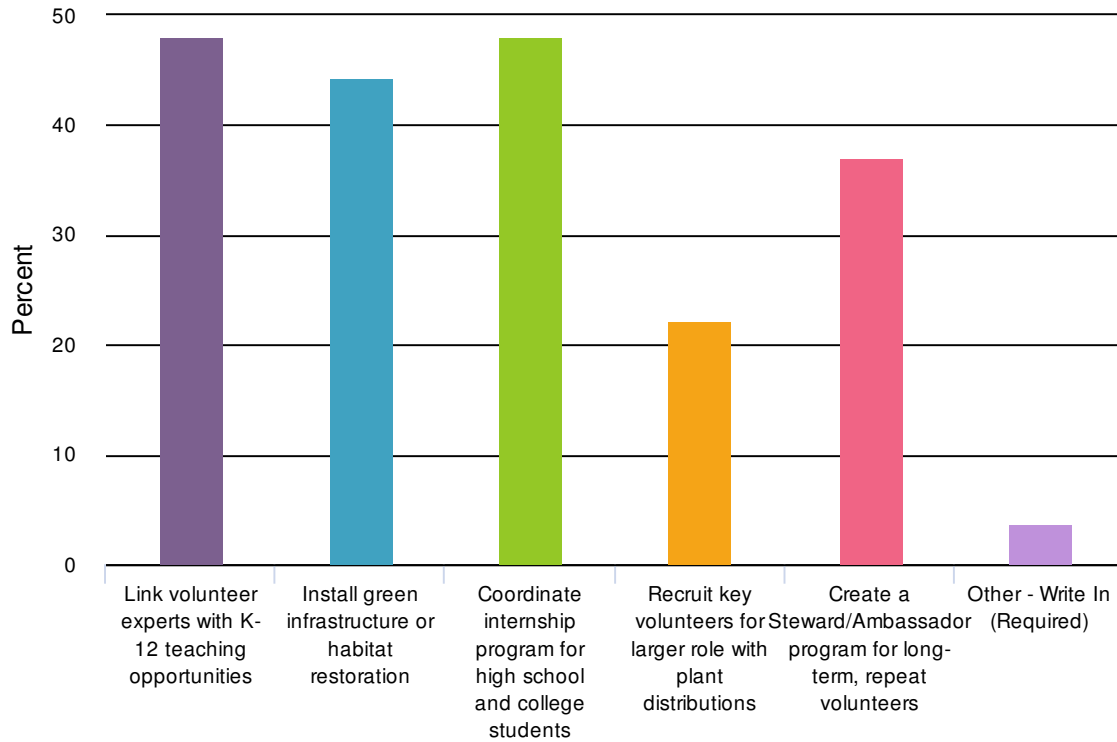
Value	Percent	Responses
K-12 educational opportunities and/or teacher training	44.1%	26
Increase seminars and workshops for general public/hobbyist gardeners/conservationists	37.3%	22
Increase farmer-specific seminars and field days	69.5%	41
In-depth and topic-specific training program for adults and/or professionals (e.g. prairie restoration, CO2 sequestration, invasive species management)	37.3%	22
Other - Write In (Required)	8.5%	5

17. Please mark your preferences for how WCCD could Increase Community Resources:



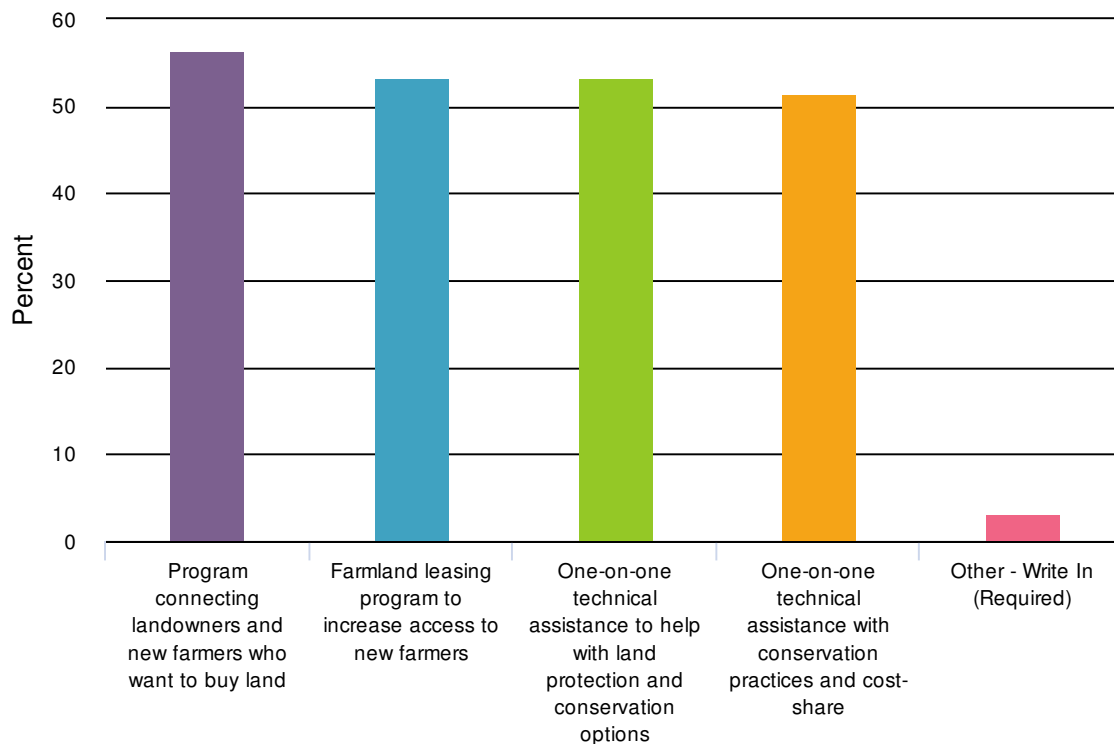
Value	Percent	Responses
Interactive database of conservation resources on the website	16.1%	10
Tool and equipment rental program (e.g. no-till drill, tree planter)	53.2%	33
Demonstration site for conservation practices (e.g. no-till, cover crop)	48.4%	30
Expansion of the tree/shrub and native plant distributions (e.g. increased frequency, plant selection, or capacity)	38.7%	24
Offer additional resources (soil testing, cover crop seed)	58.1%	36
Other - Write In (Required)	4.8%	3

18. Please mark your preferences for how WCCD could Develop Volunteer Opportunities:



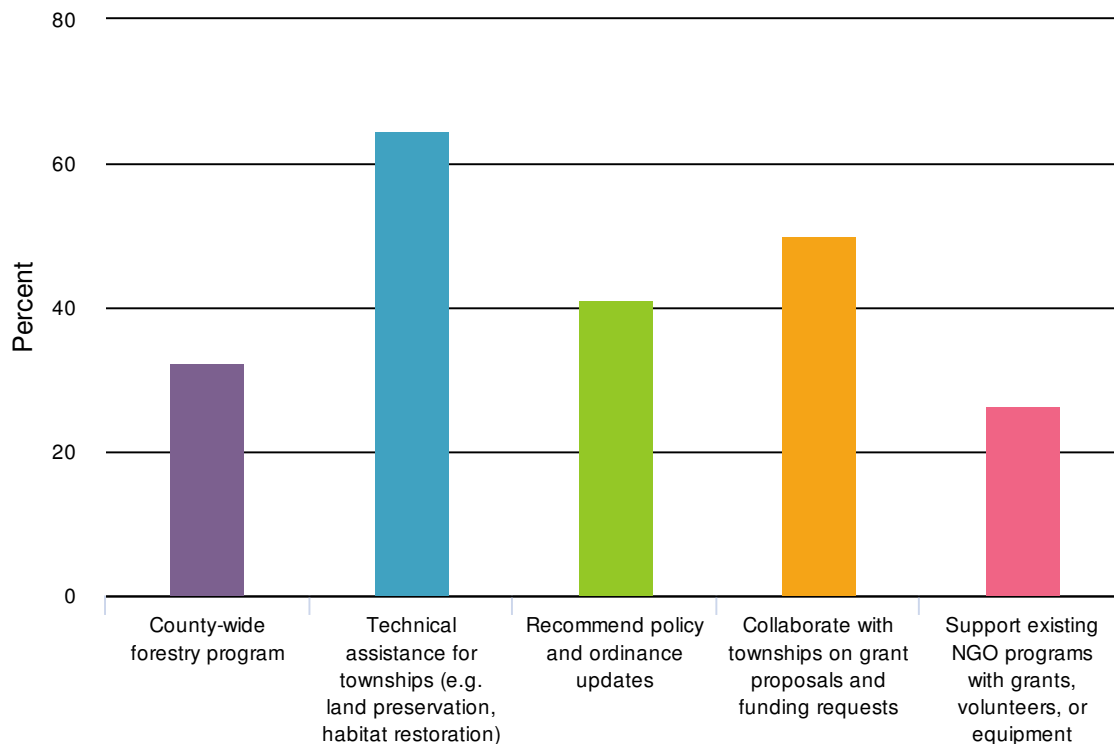
Value	Percent	Responses
Link volunteer experts with K-12 teaching opportunities	48.1%	13
Install green infrastructure or habitat restoration	44.4%	12
Coordinate internship program for high school and college students	48.1%	13
Recruit key volunteers for larger role with plant distributions	22.2%	6
Create a Steward/Ambassador program for long-term, repeat volunteers	37.0%	10
Other - Write In (Required)	3.7%	1

19. Please mark your preferences for how WCCD could Partner to Protect Land:



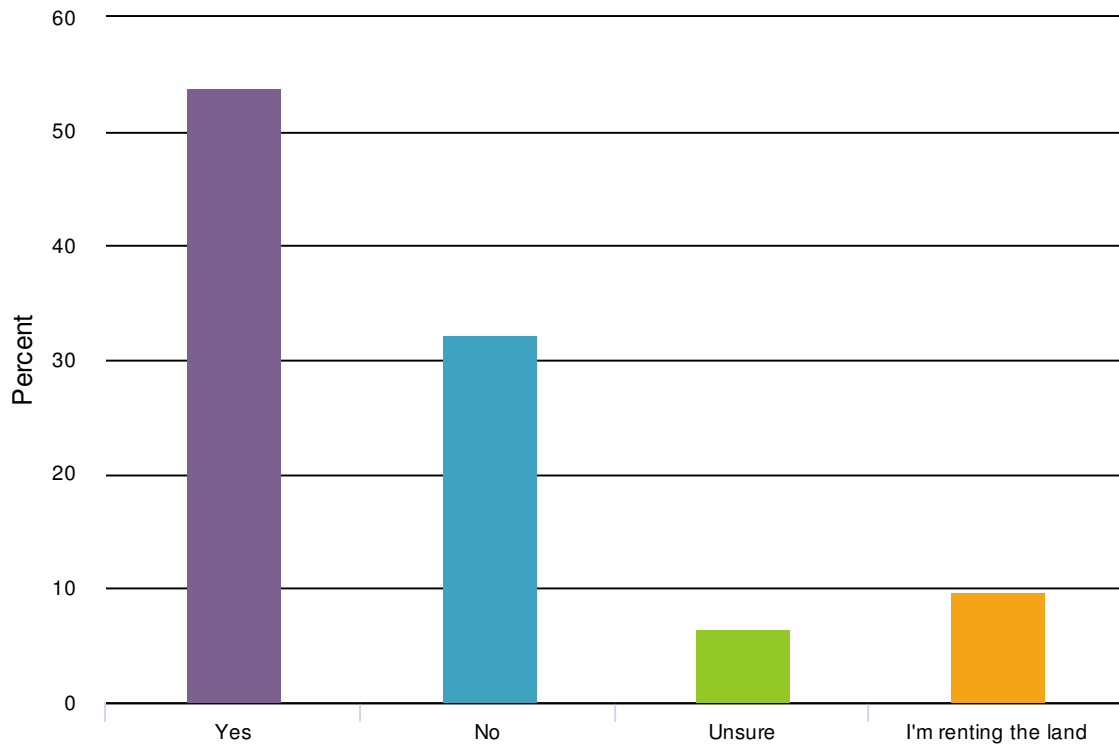
Value	Percent	Responses
Program connecting landowners and new farmers who want to buy land	56.5%	35
Farmland leasing program to increase access to new farmers	53.2%	33
One-on-one technical assistance to help with land protection and conservation options	53.2%	33
One-on-one technical assistance with conservation practices and cost-share	51.6%	32
Other - Write In (Required)	3.2%	2

20. Please mark your preferences for how WCCD could Support Other Government Programs or NGOs:



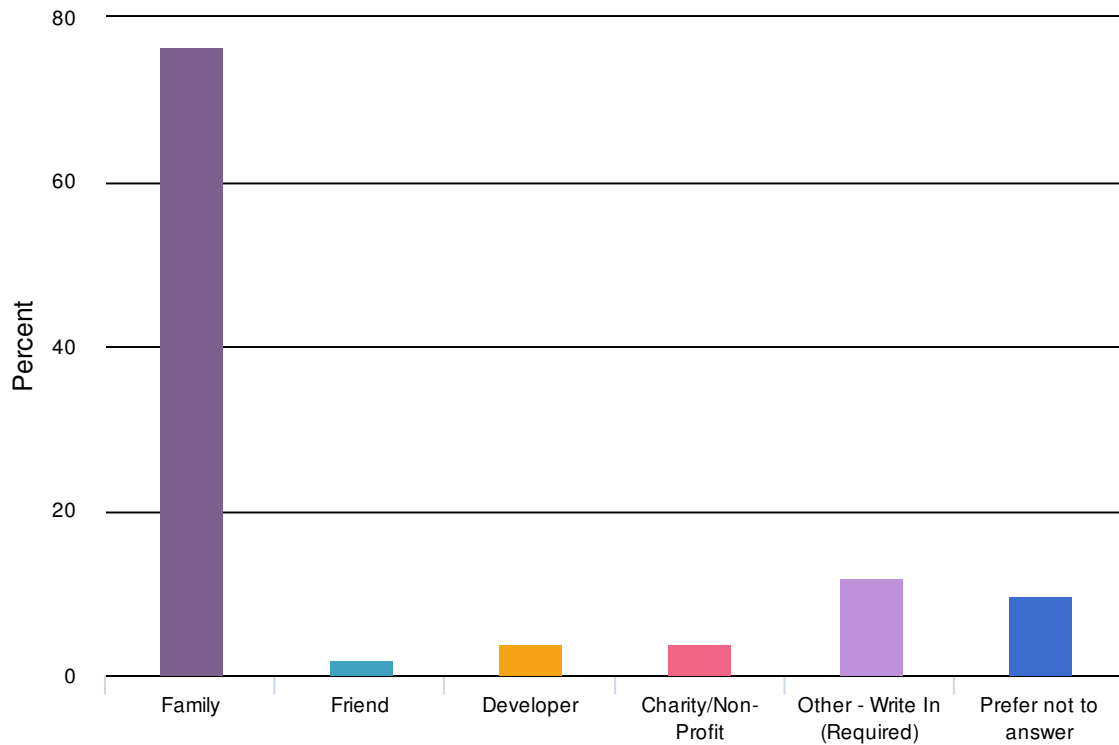
Value	Percent	Responses
County-wide forestry program	32.4%	11
Technical assistance for townships (e.g. land preservation, habitat restoration)	64.7%	22
Recommend policy and ordinance updates	41.2%	14
Collaborate with townships on grant proposals and funding requests	50.0%	17
Support existing NGO programs with grants, volunteers, or equipment	26.5%	9

21. Do you have a succession plan for your farm or property?



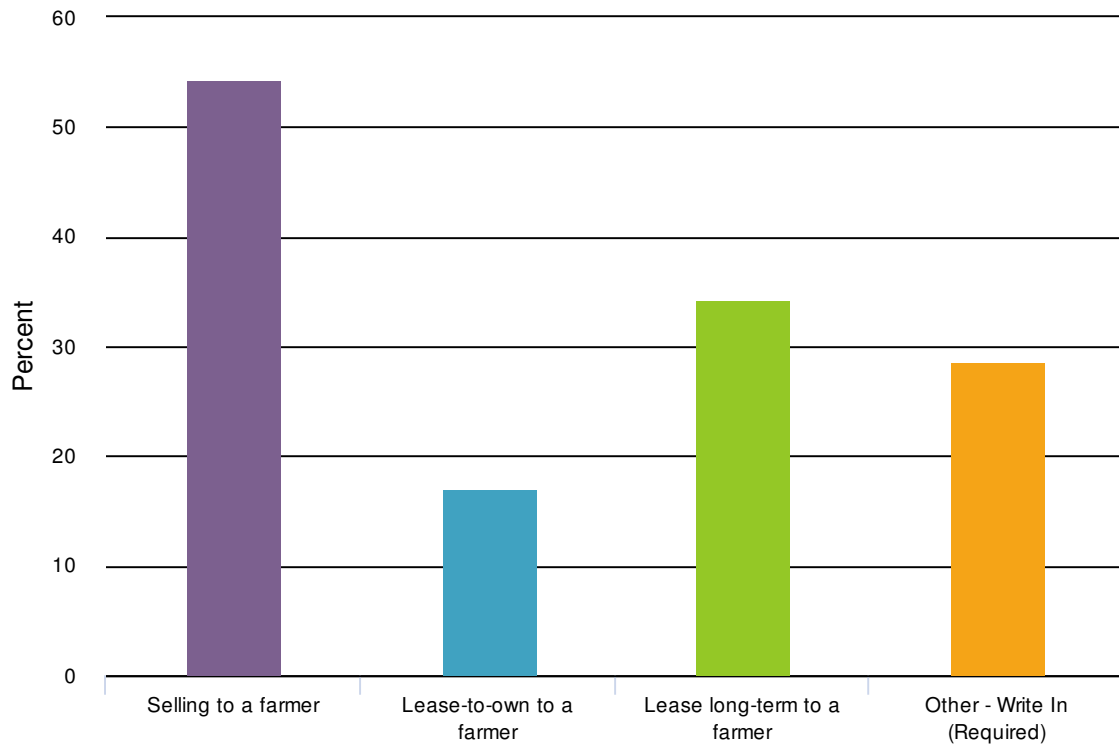
Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	53.8%	50
No	32.3%	30
Unsure	6.5%	6
I'm renting the land	9.7%	9





22. Who will be taking over your farm or property?



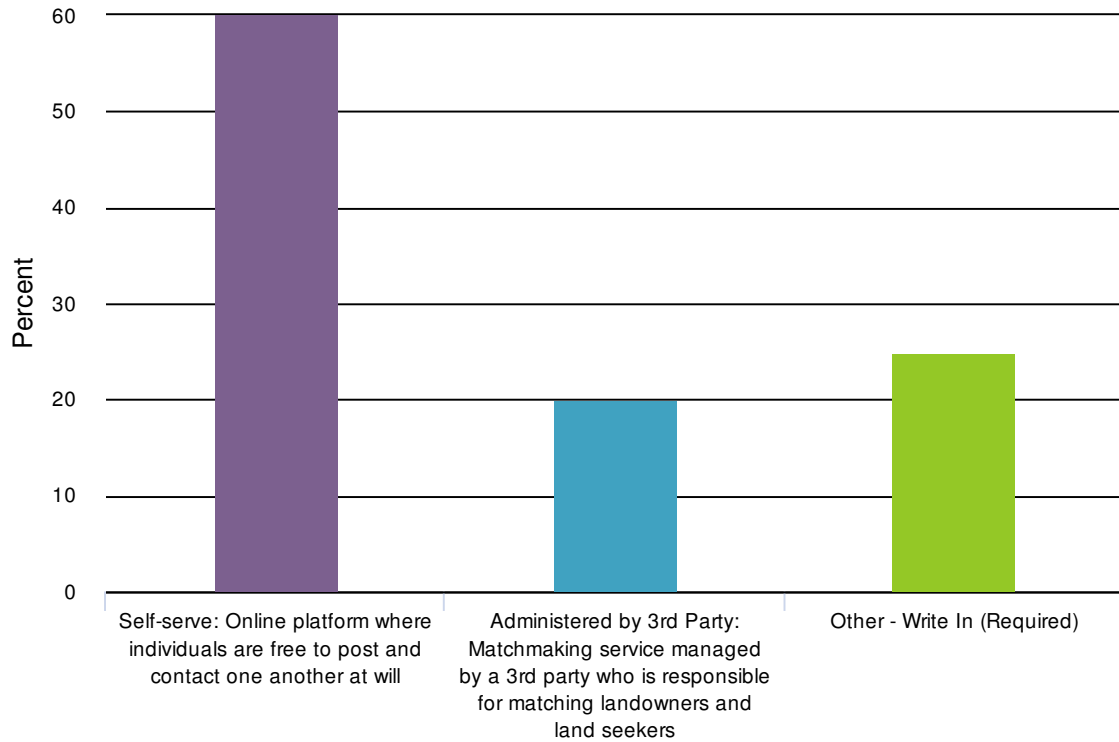
Value	Percent	Responses
Family	76.5%	39
Friend	2.0%	1
Developer	3.9%	2
Charity/Non-Profit	3.9%	2
Other - Write In (Required)	11.8%	6
Prefer not to answer	9.8%	5

23. Please select all of the following you would consider for your property:



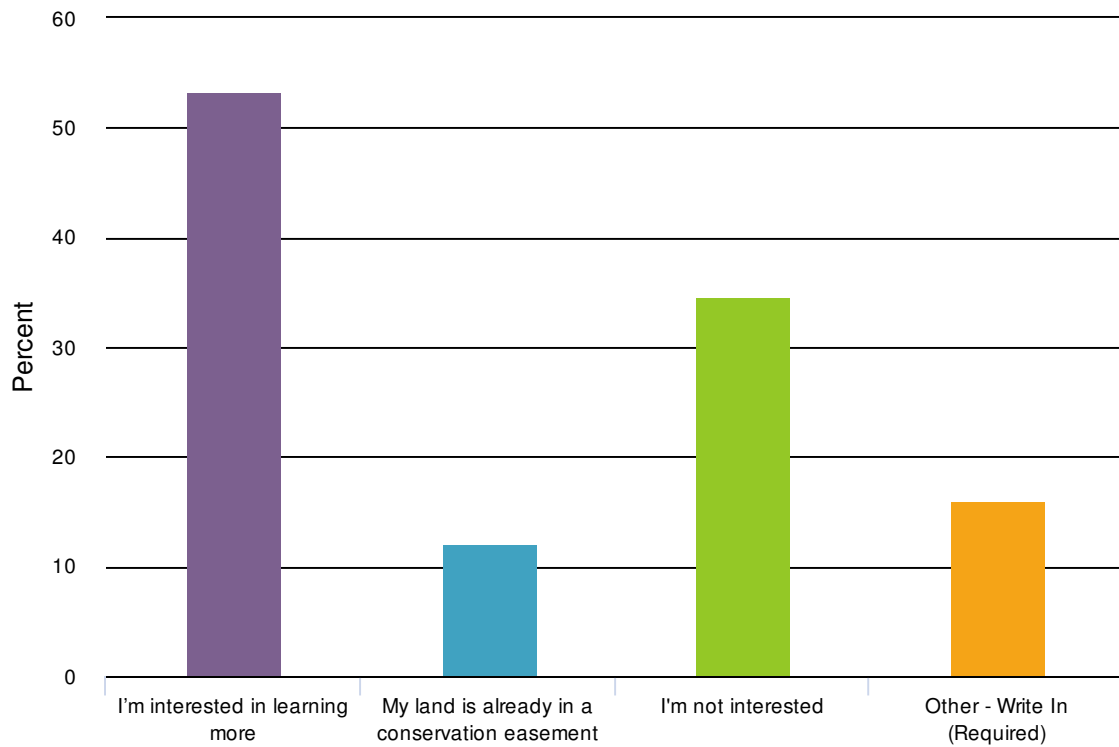
Value		Percent	Responses
Selling to a farmer		54.3%	19
Lease-to-own to a farmer		17.1%	6
Lease long-term to a farmer		34.3%	12
Other - Write In (Required)		28.6%	10





24. Please indicate your preferred method for a land linking program that would connect you to farmers interested in your property:



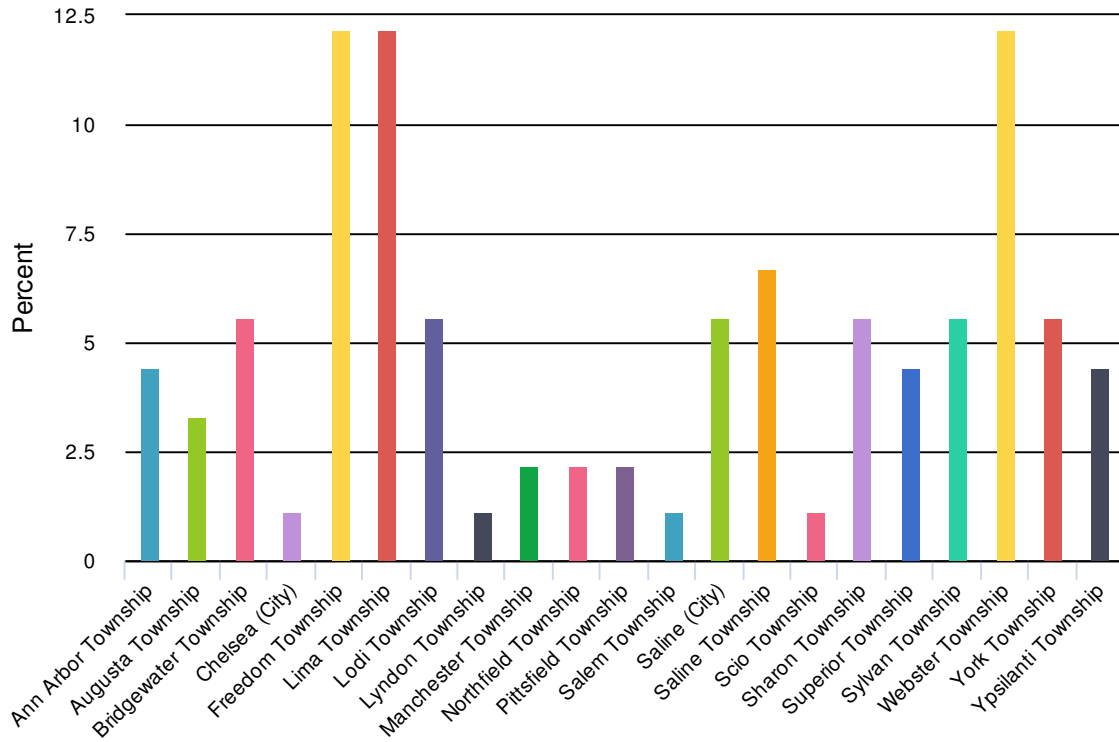
Value	Percent	Responses
Self-serve: Online platform where individuals are free to post and contact one another at will	60.0%	12
Administered by 3rd Party: Matchmaking service managed by a 3rd party who is responsible for matching landowners and land seekers	20.0%	4
Other - Write In (Required)	25.0%	5

25. A conservation easement is a voluntary, legal agreement between a landowner and a land trust or government agency that protects land from development. The landowner retains many private property rights and receives cash equal to the development value of the land as well as tax benefits for permanently protecting farmland. Please select a response:



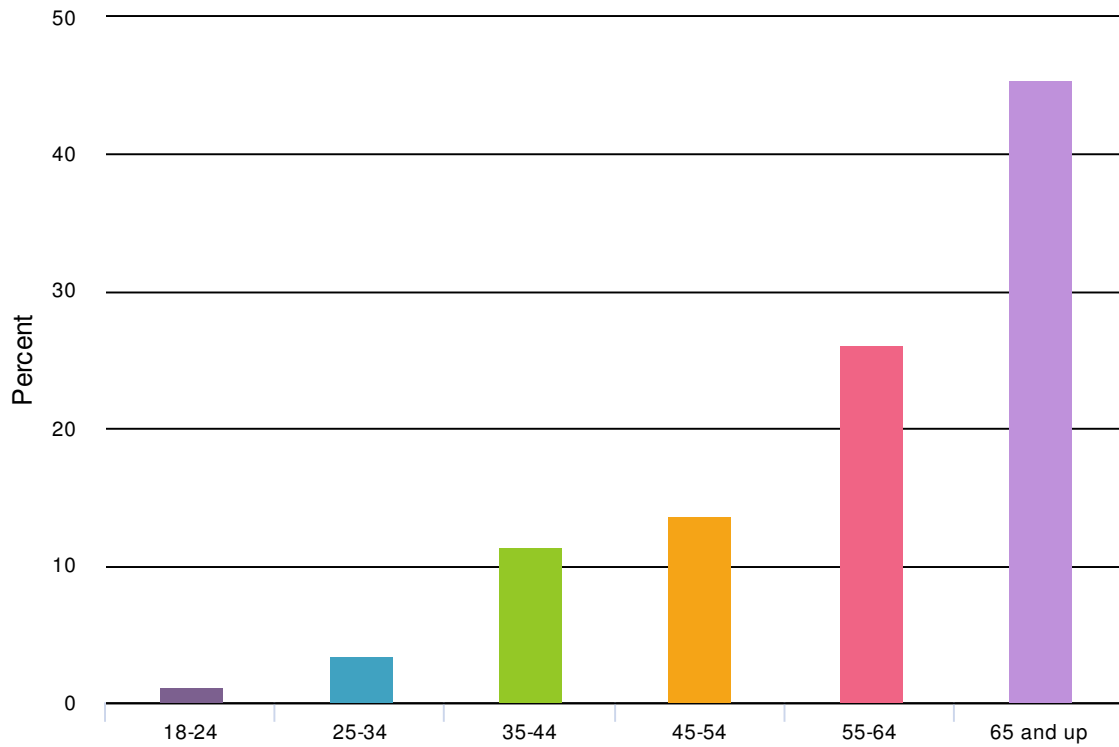
Value		Percent	Responses
I'm interested in learning more		53.3%	40
My land is already in a conservation easement		12.0%	9
I'm not interested		34.7%	26
Other - Write In (Required)		16.0%	12

27. Please select the township, village, or city in which the property is located.



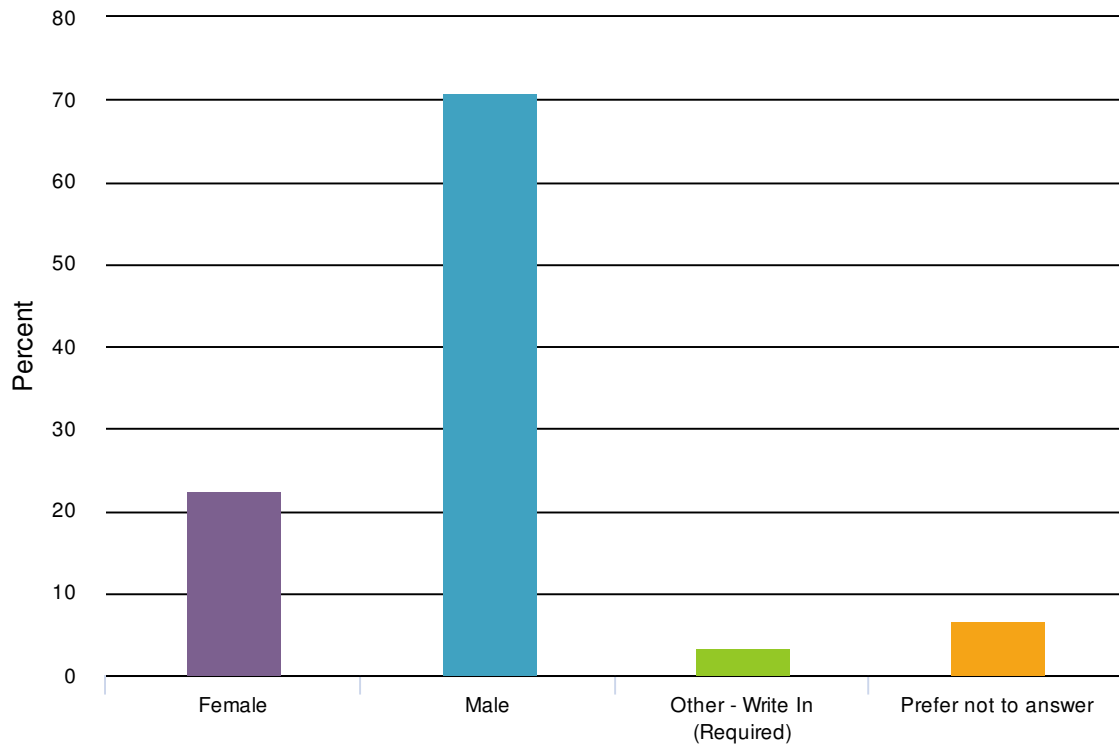
Value		Percent	Responses
Ann Arbor Township		4.4%	4
Augusta Township		3.3%	3
Bridgewater Township		5.6%	5
Freedom Township		12.2%	11
Lima Township		12.2%	11
Lodi Township		5.6%	5
Saline (City)		5.6%	5
Saline Township		6.7%	6
Sharon Township		5.6%	5
Superior Township		4.4%	4
Sylvan Township		5.6%	5
Webster Township		12.2%	11
York Township		5.6%	5
Ypsilanti Township		4.4%	4
Chelsea (City)		1.1%	1
Lyndon Township		1.1%	1
Manchester Township		2.2%	2
Northfield Township		2.2%	2
Pittsfield Township		2.2%	2
Salem Township		1.1%	1
Scio Township		1.1%	1





29. Please select your age bracket:



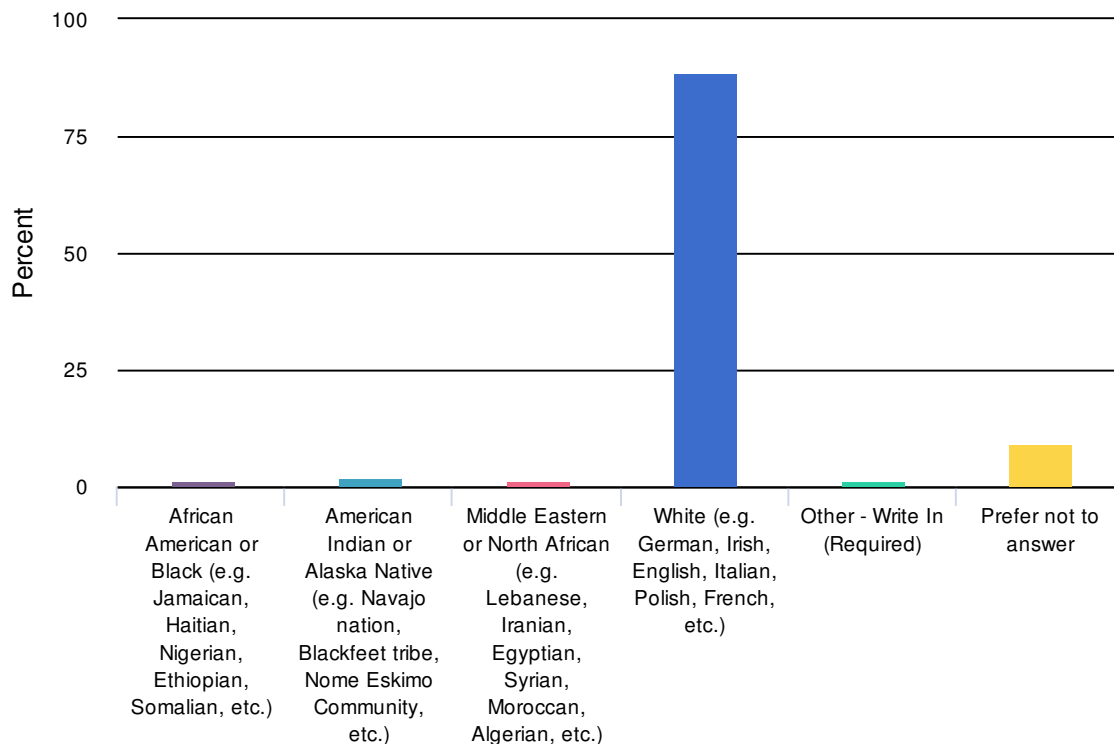
Value		Percent	Responses
18-24		1.1%	1
25-34		3.4%	3
35-44		11.4%	10
45-54		13.6%	12
55-64		26.1%	23
65 and up		45.5%	40

30. What gender do you identify as?



Value		Percent	Responses
Female		22.5%	20
Male		70.8%	63
Other - Write In (Required)		3.4%	3
Prefer not to answer		6.7%	6

31. Please select up to two race/ethnicity categories that best describe you:



Value	Percent	Responses
African American or Black (e.g. Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somalian, etc.)	1.1%	1
American Indian or Alaska Native (e.g. Navajo nation, Blackfeet tribe, Nome Eskimo Community, etc.)	2.2%	2
Middle Eastern or North African (e.g. Lebanese, Iranian, Egyptian, Syrian, Moroccan, Algerian, etc.)	1.1%	1
White (e.g. German, Irish, English, Italian, Polish, French, etc.)	88.8%	79
Other - Write In (Required)	1.1%	1
Prefer not to answer	9.0%	8