

**TOWN OF BUCKSPORT CITIZEN SURVEY**

Bucksport is entering a new era. To ensure that we are prepared for what's to come in the town's future, we need your help. We would like you to share your thoughts about what you value and appreciate about living in Bucksport, and if you think any improvements are needed. The results of this survey will help town officials formulate a plan for protecting the things that make Bucksport a great place to call home. Please take a few moments and play a role in what's to come!

**QUALITY OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES**

The town offers several services aimed to make your life a little easier, a little safer, and a little more enjoyable. This section asks for your opinion about how well we are doing.

Please select a response from the four choices below that best reflects your thoughts about each municipal service included in this survey. Document your response by circling the corresponding number listed after the description of the municipal service. If you select #3 for any municipal service, we ask that you provide a brief explanation for your response. Comments on other responses are also welcomed. A separate sheet may be used if you need more space for comments.

**RESPONSES**

- 1. I think the quality of this municipal service is excellent.
- 2. I think the quality of this municipal service is good.
- 3. I think the quality of this municipal service needs substantial improvements.
- 4. I have no opinion about this municipal service.

**TOWN COUNCIL/TOWN MANAGER GOVERNMENT** (including a full-time town manager and seven-member elected council to conduct town business)

My response: 1      2      3      4      Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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**TOWN OFFICE** (including full-time staff for conducting business with the public 5 days a week)

My response: 1      2      3      4      Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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**GENERAL ASSISTANCE** (including temporary financial assistance to those in need)

My response: 1      2      3      4      Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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**TAX ASSESSMENT** (including full-time staff for assessing property and business equipment values for taxation)

My response: 1      2      3      4      Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** (including full-time staff for promoting business growth and providing assistance to businesses)

My response: 1      2      3      4      Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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**QUALITY OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES (continued)**

RESPONSES

- 1. I think the quality of this municipal service is excellent.
- 2. I think the quality of this municipal service is good.
- 3. I think the quality of this municipal service needs substantial improvements.
- 4. I have no opinion about this municipal service.

**PLANNING BOARD** (including a seven-member appointed board for reviewing new business permit applications, subdivision permit applications, and ordinance revisions)

My response: 1      2      3      4      Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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**CODE ENFORCEMENT** (including full-time staff for building, plumbing and land use permitting and enforcement of ordinances)

My response: 1      2      3      4      Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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**EMERGENCY SERVICES** (including full-time and on-call staff for police, fire, ambulance, and dispatching services)

My response: 1      2      3      4      Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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**ANIMAL CONTROL** (including part-time staff for responding to animal-related calls and maintaining animal shelter)

My response: 1      2      3      4      Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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**PUBLIC WORKS** (including full-time staff for street and sidewalk maintenance, snow plowing and sanding)

My response: 1      2      3      4      Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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**PUBLIC UTILITIES** (including full-time staff for providing sewer and water service and operation of treatment facilities)

My response: 1      2      3      4      Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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**SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL** (including full-time staff for handling solid waste disposal and operating the transfer station)

My response: 1      2      3      4      Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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**RECREATION** (including full and part-time staff for developing and operating inside and outside recreational activities)

My response: 1      2      3      4      Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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**RECREATIONAL TRAILS & WALKWAYS** (including the Penobscot River Waterfront Walkway, Miles Lane Trails and Silver Lake Trails)

My response: 1      2      3      4      Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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TOWN OF BUCKSPORT CITIZEN SURVEY

COST OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Municipal services are paid for primarily with taxes collected from the property owners of Bucksport. Please tell us what you think about how taxpayer dollars are being spent for these services. Place an 'X' next to your responses to the following questions.

1. Do you think it is possible to maintain an acceptable quality of municipal services without increasing taxes to pay for those services?

\_\_\_ YES      \_\_\_ NO      \_\_\_ NO OPINION

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Do you think it is ok to increase taxes, if necessary, to maintain an acceptable quality of municipal services?

\_\_\_ YES      \_\_\_ NO      \_\_\_ NO OPINION

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you think the current costs for municipal services could be reduced without sacrificing quality?

\_\_\_ YES      \_\_\_ NO      \_\_\_ NO OPINION

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Do you think a reduction in the quality of municipal services is acceptable, if it means a savings for taxpayers?

\_\_\_ YES      \_\_\_ NO      \_\_\_ NO OPINION

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you think sharing a municipal service with another town is acceptable, if it means a savings for taxpayers?

\_\_\_ YES      \_\_\_ NO      \_\_\_ NO OPINION

If you answered yes to question #5, please tell us what municipal service should be shared to save money.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Do you think hiring a private company to provide a municipal service is acceptable, if it means a savings for taxpayers?

\_\_\_ YES      \_\_\_ NO      \_\_\_ NO OPINION

If you answered yes to question #6, please tell us what municipal service should be hired out to save money.

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Do you think eliminating any municipal service is acceptable, if it means a savings for taxpayers?

\_\_\_ YES      \_\_\_ NO      \_\_\_ NO OPINION

If you answered yes to question #7, please tell us what municipal service should be eliminated to save money.

\_\_\_\_\_

Additional comments on the cost of municipal services:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**TOWN OF BUCKSPORT CITIZEN SURVEY**

**QUALITY OF LIFE**

Bucksport has a lot to offer to make it an inviting place in which to live, work and raise families. We would like to know what you think about that. Please select a response from the three choices below that best reflects your thoughts about each item included in this section. Document your response by circling the corresponding number listed after the description of the item. Additional comments are welcomed.

RESPONSES

- 1. I am satisfied with what this town has to offer.
- 2. We could do better.
- 3. I have no opinion.

**CHILD CARE** (including daycare/preschool facilities)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**HEALTH CARE** (including medical services, dental care services, mental health services, alternative care services)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYMENT** (including part-time and full-time jobs for every skill level and experience)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR HOMEOWNERS** (including one-family dwellings, two-family dwellings and mobile homes)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR TENANTS** (including apartments, one-family dwellings, two-family dwellings and mobile homes)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**SAFE AND SANITARY HOUSING** (including housing in conformance with building, plumbing, electrical and safety codes)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES** (including internet, telephone and TV cable service providers)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**UTILITIES** (including electrical service, and sewer and water service)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION** (including bus and taxi service)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**SENIOR CITIZENS SERVICES** (including congregate/assisted living housing, adult daycare, senior programs, meals, in-home support)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**QUALITY OF LIFE** (continued)

RESPONSES

- 1. I am satisfied with what this town has to offer.
- 2. We could do better.
- 3. I have no opinion.

**PLACES OF WORSHIP** (including multiple denominations)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**DINING/DRINKING ESTABLISHMENTS** (including restaurants, seasonal take-outs, fast-food drive-throughs, bars and taverns)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**SHOPPING CHOICES** (including retail businesses offering various consumer products)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES** (including commercial banks, credit unions, CPA & investment services, legal services)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**TRADE SERVICES** (including contractors, plumbers, electricians and others in the building trades)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSONAL CARE SERVICES** (including hair salons, barbershops, massage, tanning)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXERCISE OPTIONS** (including gyms, swimming pools, running tracks, athletic fields, ball courts)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**CULTURAL ARTS** (including theaters, museums, galleries)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**POST-SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES** (including colleges, vocational schools, remote campuses)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT** (including concerts, festivals, movies)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**YOUTH ATTRACTIONS** (including playgrounds, parks, teen centers, fun learning opportunities)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**OUTDOOR RECREATION** (including hiking & biking trails, picnic areas, hunting areas, fishing, boat landings, camping, swimming, ski and snowmobile trails)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**SOCIAL GATHERING PLACES** (including clubs, grange halls, meeting facilities)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**QUALITY OF LIFE** (continued)

RESPONSES

- 4. I am satisfied with what this town has to offer.
- 5. We could do better.
- 6. I have no opinion.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** (including serving on town boards and committees, participating in community events, working with seniors)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONNECTION WITH TOWN GOVERNMENT** (including meeting notices, public forums, cable tv broadcasts, website presence)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY** (including ADA-compliant accommodations in public buildings and workplaces)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**WALKABLE NEIGHBORHOODS** (including sidewalks, adequate lighting, feeling safe)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**CURB APPEAL** (including well-maintained neighborhoods, clean yards, healthy landscaping, bright colors, interesting architecture)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**VIBRANT AND ATTRACTIVE DOWNTOWN** (including inviting storefronts, successful businesses, ample parking spaces, easy access)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**VIBRANT AND ATTRACTIVE WATERFRONT** (including a walkway, picnic areas, fishing places, marina, docks)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**VISITOR ACCOMODATIONS** (including lodging, attractions, amenities)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**NATURAL RESOURCES** (including protected water bodies, streams, wetlands, wildlife habitat)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**HISTORICAL RESOURCES** (including protected historical buildings and properties, recognition of the town's history)

1      2      3      COMMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you very much for taking time to participate in this survey. Your opinions are very important. Before you go, we have just a few more questions for you:**

