

In October, 2015, a survey was sent to all 2014 and 2015 members of TLEA to assess attitudes and concerns regarding fireworks. 510 surveys were sent and 226 were returned, a 44% response rate. 70% had concerns about the effects of fireworks on the lake. 30% were neutral or expressed only positive comments.

The concern most often voiced was the effect of the noise on the tranquility of the lake and the effect on pets, wildlife and veterans suffering from PTSD. Many were concerned about the pollution caused by the heavy metals and debris deposited by the fireworks. Debris was noted on neighboring properties and boats but most did not see any debris unless consciously sought for on the bottom of the lake directly in front of the property from which the fireworks are shot. Others were concerned about fire and the danger of exploding rockets causing injury. Those who made positive comments about fireworks noted the beauty of the display and the patriotic tradition of fireworks.

Fireworks and their effect on the lake is an experiment in progress. The frequency and number of discharges is unprecedented. Thompson is a lake with a very slow turnover.

TLEA's mission is to monitor and educate. Consider not allowing or limiting fireworks if renting,, Consider decreasing the frequency of displays. Clean up all debris including that which sinks to the bottom of the lake. Please be considerate. Moderation is always the key.

We are unable to attach the survey spreadsheets to the website. If you wish to receive them, email [mmtlea@gmail.com](mailto:mmtlea@gmail.com) and we will gladly send them to you.