

# Middlesex Landscaping Survey

All Responses

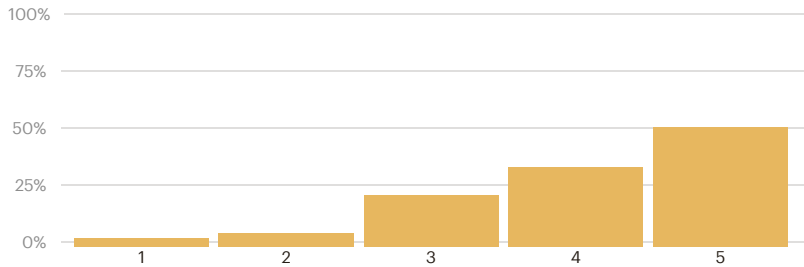
Question 1: 1. How important is the overall appearance of the two areas with the new Middlesex Beach signs?

Question 2: 2. How important is it to replace and install new trees along the east side of Route 1 to avoid open spaces and cover more of the fence line?

Question 1 has 99 answers (Range) Avg rating: 4.1



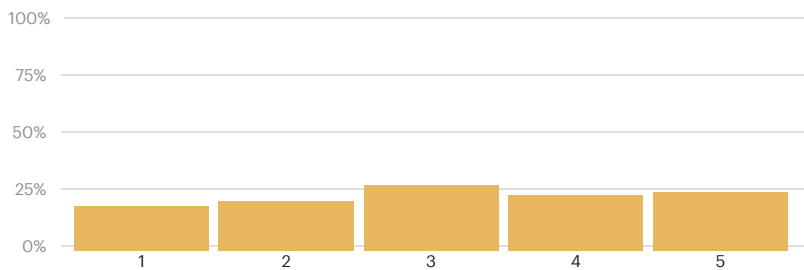
“1. How important is the overall appearance of the two areas with the new Middlesex Beach signs?”



Question 2 has 99 answers (Range) Avg rating: 3.1



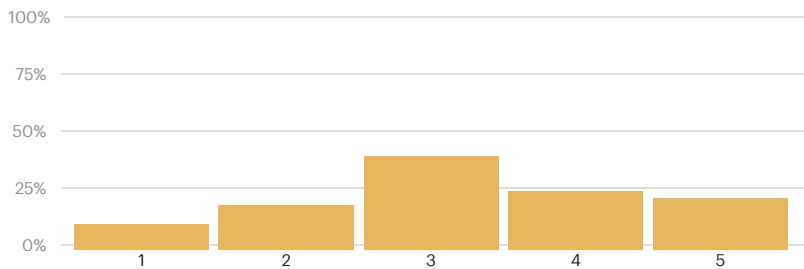
“2. How important is it to replace and install new trees along the east side of Route 1 to avoid open spaces and cover more of the fence line?”



Question 3 has 99 answers (Range) Avg rating: 3.3



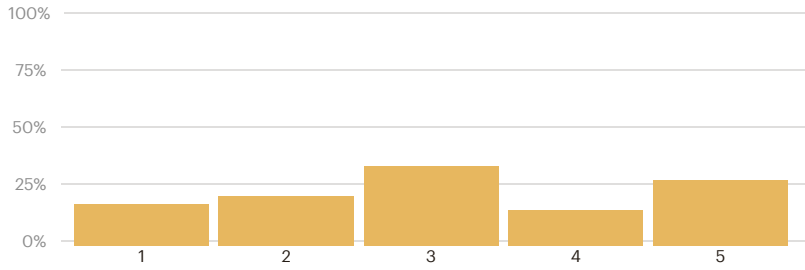
“3. How important is it to replace trees and shrubs in the median rain gardens?”



Question 4 has 99 answers (Range) Avg rating: 3.1

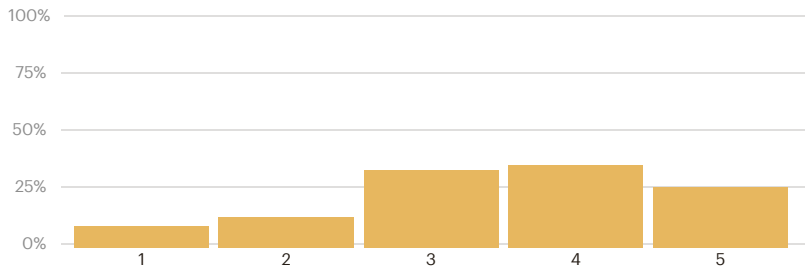


**“4. How important is the east side appearance of Dune Road?&nbsp;”**



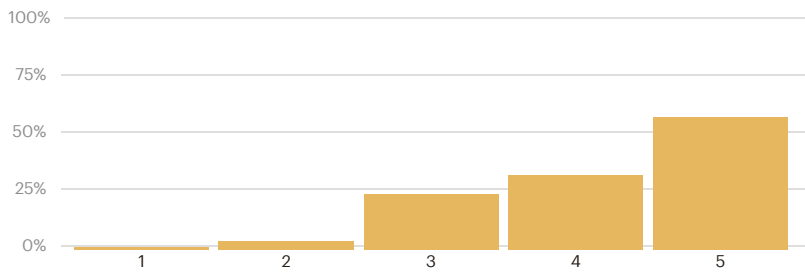
Question 5 has 99 answers (Range) Avg rating: 3.5 

**“5. How important are these areas on the beach side for new plants and more specialized maintenance?&nbsp;”**



Question 6 has 99 answers (Range) Avg rating: 4.2 

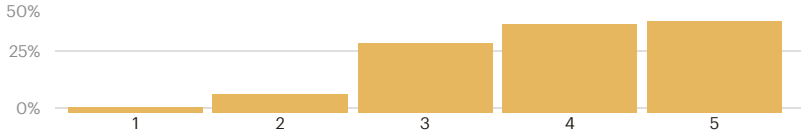
**“6. How important is the appearance of the beach side Middlesex Bridge Road vehicle entrance area?&nbsp;”**



Question 7 has 99 answers (Range) Avg rating: 3.9 

**“7. How important is the overall appearance of Beach Plum Road?&nbsp;”**

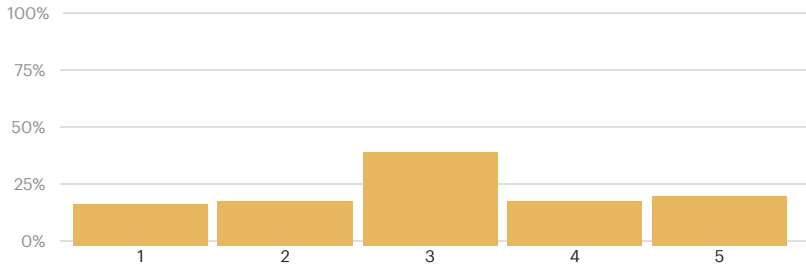




Question 8 has 99 answers (Range) Avg rating: 3.1



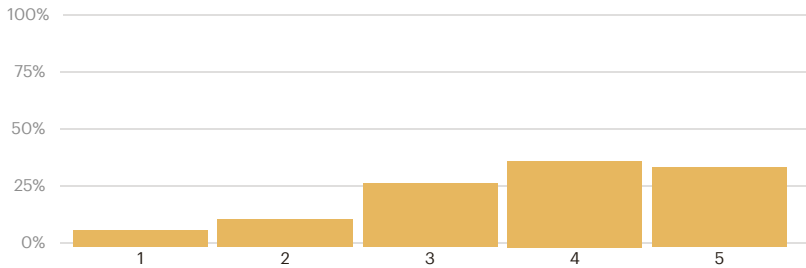
“&nbsp;8. How important is adding new trees and shrubs to Beach Plum Road?&nbsp;”



Question 9 has 99 answers (Range) Avg rating: 3.7

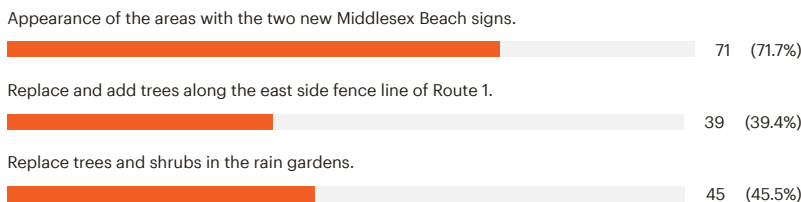


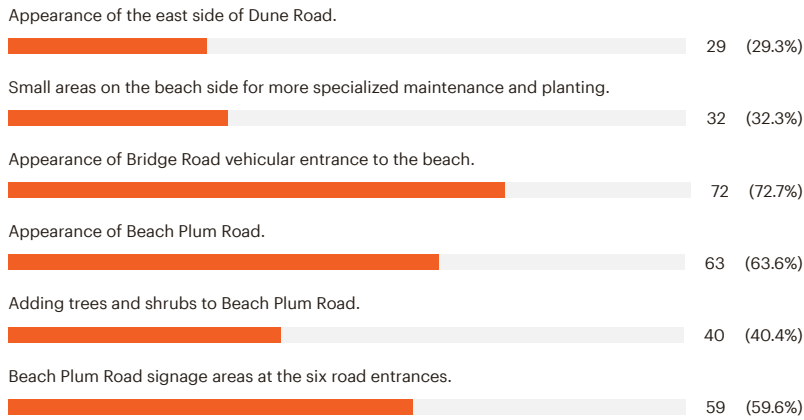
“9. How important is the appearance of the six signage areas at the road entrances on Beach Plum Road?”



Question 10 has 99 answers (Checkboxes)

“Five Top Priorities: The following are the eight landscaping questions you answered in the above section. To gauge community opinion on the list of priorities, please select what you consider to be the FIVE most important focus areas for landscaping priorities located throughout Middlesex on community property. ”





### Question 11 has 31 answers (Open Text)

#### “Space for comments:”

"I believe significant resources should be spent on enhancing the appearance of Middlesex Beach by upgrading the area along the fence line on the east side of Route one and the Bridge Rd. entrance. Thousands of people get an impression of Middlesex Beach as they drive along route one daily during the summer months. Unfortunately, what they see is the industrial I-95 style lights in the median. Fortunately, they also see attractive plantings in the median. Beach Plum Road is also attractive because tens of thousands of dollars have been spent landscaping and maintaining it over the years. The efforts of those who contribute to the appearance of Beach Plum Road is greatly appreciated. Yet, relatively few people see Beach Plum Road compared to those traveling Route one. Re-lighting the entrance signs that the Board approved a year ago. is also a much-needed improvement. I believe Middlesex Beach is the only major community from the inlet to Fenwick Island that does not have illuminated signs.

Thank you to everyone who contributes to the betterment of Middlesex Beach.  
"

"Trees/shrubs/foliage should not block/disguise/ or hinder seeing the stops signs along Beach Plum and adjoining streets."

"one of the things we love about Middlesex is the natural look of the neighborhood. it's not so manicured that we're afraid we'll mess something up and we like that. having said that, it's nice to have entrances that are well-maintained and inviting to owners and guests."

"I would remove all the grass on Plum Road Landscape the entire road and put down mulch. No one will park where there's landscaping and it'll look a lot better with a sharp edge along the road. "

"i like anything that assists the care of butterflies and other wild life. I am also interested in anything that encourages reduction of ambient light."

"Beach plum road is the busiest stretch which is why it's my top priority. Just as with the fencing along route 1 was just replaced for a consistent look, we'd like to see consistent fencing along beach plum. The split rail fence between bayberry and short is constantly broken and is an eyesore.

The west side of beach plum would benefit by a consistent look , for example continue the "large rocks against the privacy fence look" currently at the south end all the way to short road.

With water becoming a more precious resource, can we consider alternative beautification ideas such as large rocks and oyster shell mulch in the parking triangles?

Safe to assume one of the contractors will look for (and address) ivy growing up trees?

Finally with a limited budget I'd prioritize a mobey mats on the roads with parking lots over many of the landscaping ideas to make beach access easier and safer."

"there were actually NINE questions asked...but who's counting?!?"

"Do the bioretention areas in the medians actually drain into the South Bethany canals? "

"The locks on the gates on Dune Road are very difficult to open and close and should be consistent throughout the community. The areas around the gates should be maintained to facilitate access for property owners. "

"Thanks for taking the time to conduct this survey and we appreciate your attention to future projects. Our primary concern, however, is the lack of focus on routine landscaping maintenance such as pruning, excessive weeds, removing dead growth, etc. We would like to see Middlesex Beach reflect the stewardship of our neighboring communities. As always, Peggy and I are happy to participate in the work."

"It is important that we make our community and common areas look appealing. It encourages owners, tenants and passers by to take better care of their environment."

"Our cottage is on the Pine Side, so obviously our answers are a little weighted in that direction "

"The major portion of Middlesex (which is the west, non-Dune side) could benefit with improvements regarding appearance and new trees and shrubs. The medians along Coastal Hwy. and Beach Plum Rd. are the most visible and traversed areas by not only Middlesex residents but also non-residents from surrounding areas such as S. Bethany, Sea Colony, and others, including prospective buyers. In fact, we notice daily walkers, bicyclists, cars, trucks (including utility vehicles and 18-wheelers that service businesses like McDonalds, Dollar General), etc., along Beach Plum Rd.

In addition to greater curb appeal and privacy to these higher traffic areas of Middlesex, adding more trees and shrubs will also be good for the environment.  
"

"I believe letting the owners on the pine side plant flowers at the entrance signs was great. Vincas are beautiful & require less water. Less expensive and super simple / limited effort ! Shrubs behind the sign trimmed with beach plum landscaping contract. We have enough trees & shrubs along beach plum. Areas rated low my feeling is the maintenance is more important than adding new. "

"Would like to see a focus on all sustainable and native landscaping that needs less water and maintenance. Should look like a beach community not a resort."

"It's impossible to please everybody. Obviously, people care most about the areas closest to their homes. To me, the east side of Dune Road has been ignored over the years and looks terrible. I'd suggest hiring a landscape architect to develop a plan for Dune Road and the Sea Colony border to implement over a three year period."

"The most visible areas should receive the most attention...the Route 1 median areas, entrance to the beach side, and the road signage areas on Beach Plum. We do not feel that the pollinator gardens are going to enhance the appearance of our community. Perhaps shrubs along the fence would be more prudent than trees.. The tree root systems can cause damage to the fence and increase maintenance costs. Allowing homeowners to plant trees/shrubs on their own properties is preferable and would save additional expenses to the community."

"What is the deal with the pollination garden, looks horrible. In general for the community let's not create new areas that need maintenance. Let's refresh and maintain what we have or replace what needs to be replaced."

"The beach side has been lacking good landscaping, flowers etc for some time and needs attention in the common areas. "

"enthusiasm for the Beach Plum "conservation area(s)" has diminished and the area needs to be cleaned up!  
"

"The type of plants chosen is also important to me, it would be nice to add more native plants which require less watering and maintenance "

"We need to maintain the area and trim and clean.The planting and setting of new maintainace heavy areas is not needed.Minimal work and maintainace shoud be the priority."

"We think that the property owners on the east side of Dune should take responsibility for landscaping adjacent to their property, which some of them already do."

"The Pollinator's Garden has been an eye sore for almost a year now with pieces of wood laying across cardboard. If and when flowers are planted, we hope the area is better maintained and cared for since it is a major thruway of Middlesex Beach. It needs constant care. "

"Hedges between short road and sea colony replace"

"Would like to have Beach Plum rd. have a uniform appearance from Evergreen to Short. "

"Emphasis should be placed on those areas that have high visibility to pedestrian and vehicle traffic. Creating and maintaining a landscape strategy that adds beauty to the community should be the priority. "

"Thanks for taking on this issue and conducting this survey to collect input. Landscaping is definitely important. One thing I do want landscape plans to keep in mind is that parking along the east side of dune road was eliminated and landscaping encroachment on to the community right-of-way by some beachfront owners was removed to assure adequate space for passage of emergency vehicles. Any new landscaping along the east side of Dune should not create a new impediment to the passage of emergency vehicles. "

"Eliminate as much grass as possible. Replace with native grasses and/or shrubs and pine needle mulch. Clear out dead and overgrown plants but maybe not necessary to add more. Sometimes clean space is nice."

"Perhaps focus on landscaping material that requires little to no maintenance like rocks and stones for sign areas and entrances. "

"Tough choices but in the end the appearance impacts rental and property values and creates a welcoming community. A) The unintended consequences of the ditch work and DELDOT tree "pruning" have had a negative impact on appearance and some property values. B) Property owners should understand and be encouraged to protect our tree canopy. C) Although with good intentions, banks of forsythia and native plants were removed from common areas by volunteers (at west end of pine side roads) resulting in ugly view of power grid and unsightly areas that are not MBA property. If adjacent property owners were consulted, this might not have happened. D) Trash enclosures should not be on common areas. E) Communication with property owners prior to actions may create more engagement and acceptance toward the goals. Finally, I'm glad we have new contractors and I appreciate this survey and being asked for input. I hope it will go a long way in having data to justify costs and encouraging volunteers. "

**Question 12 has 99 answers (Email)**

**"Email address:"**

**Question 13 has 99 answers (Open Text)**

**"MBA address"**