

City of Seattle

2010 Home Organics Waste Management Survey



Prepared by

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in association with

Seattle Public Utilities

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Seattle Public Utilities 2010 Home Organics Waste Management Survey

Introduction

For nearly 25 years, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) has supported an array of organics waste management services and programs. The programs are designed to help residents reduce and manage their yard debris and food wastes. SPU not only offers residents curbside collection services for yard debris and food waste, but also provides residents with education, tools and incentives for managing organic wastes effectively in their own backyards. These efforts mesh with SPU's overall goals for solid waste management.

This study is a continuation of research first conducted in 1995 and subsequently conducted in 2000, 2005 and 2010. The primary purpose is to evaluate Seattle residents' attitudes, awareness and behaviors towards the various City-sponsored organic waste management programs. The 1995 survey was designed to investigate the variety of organic waste management activities city residents practice, and identify ways to improve SPU services. In 2000, the second survey was augmented to also include an investigation of residents' attitudes and practices toward grasscycling. In 2005 the survey was broadened to investigate the entire range of organic waste management behaviors, including participation in curbside organic pick-up services, backyard yard and food waste composting behaviors and grasscycling. The 2010 survey augmented the broadened approach to also address behaviors with fats, oils and grease generated in the kitchen, and perceptions about changing from weekly to bi-weekly garbage pick-up service.

The 2010 survey was fielded in December 2009. The survey sampled 616 Seattle residents using residential collection service. The sample size provides 95% confidence that the results will be within plus or minus 4.1% of what they would be if all Seattle residents in the targeted audience had been interviewed.

SPU Programs and Services

The programs and services SPU supports for organic waste management have evolved since 1986 when the first group of Master Composters was trained to provide residents with education on the benefits of backyard yard waste composting. In 2010, several core elements of the program still remained:

***Compost bin distribution** where residents are offered the opportunity to purchase yard waste and food waste compost bins for a subsidized price.*

***Compost hotline** that provides residents with answers to their composting questions throughout the year.*

***Master Composter** volunteer program that educates residents to educate others.*

***Curbside collection** of yard debris, food waste, and compostable paper.*

Since 1995, other SPU initiatives have expanded that complement the City’s efforts to encourage the backyard management of residential organic wastes. Of significance is SPU’s participation in grasscycling programs. These events have offered Seattle residents an opportunity to purchase mulch mowers at discounted prices.

After investigating the merits and impact, SPU added food waste to its complement of services in 2005. With the goal to divert food waste out of the residential waste stream, Seattleites are now provided the tools, education and encouragement to compost their food waste by setting it in their yard and food waste cart and taking it to the curb for collection.

Comparison with 1995, 2000 and 2005 Organics Surveys

As shown in the table below, the survey indicates that most home composting activities have decreased in the last ten years, and are often close to levels found in the 1995 survey. The recent decrease in home composting coincides with a substantial increase in those reporting that they use curbside organics collection for some of their food and yard waste.

Table 1: General Trends in Organics Activities

Question	1995 (n = 610)	2000 (n = 600)	2005 (n = 600)	2010 (n = 610)
Does your household currently compost any of its yard waste at home on your own property?	41%	46%	40%	30%
Does your household compost any of its food waste – that is kitchen scraps left over from cooking or eating – at home?	25%	31%	26%	21%
Does your household ever leave grass clippings on the lawn when it’s mowed?	46%	55%	57%	50%
When you mow your lawn or have your lawn mowed, what is typically done with the clippings – are they left on the lawn?	15%	38%	36%	26%
Does your household ever put its yard waste out at the curb or alley for collection?	59%	76%	82%	84%
Do you ever put your food waste in your yard waste container and take them to the curb or alley for pick-up	N/A	N/A	49%	87%

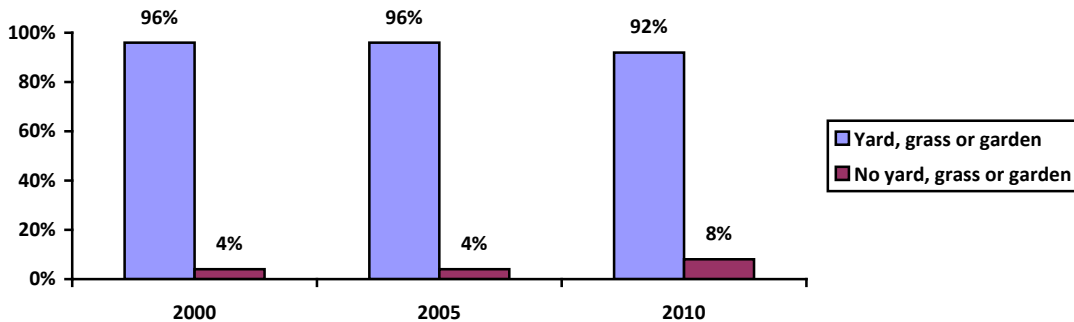
The survey indicates that the expansion of the curbside yard waste collection to include vegetative food waste and compostable paper played a role in the decline of backyard food composting activities. Of those who place some food waste in the food and yard waste bins and also compost at home, 19% reported that less food waste is composted at home now that they are using curbside collection.

Key Findings

Seattle residents have multiple options for handling their yard and food waste, including home composting, curbside organics collection, drop-off at the City's transfer stations, and curbside garbage collection. The 2010 Home Organics Waste Management Survey combined with earlier surveys presents a picture of what choices are made and what influence the utility might have on those choices.

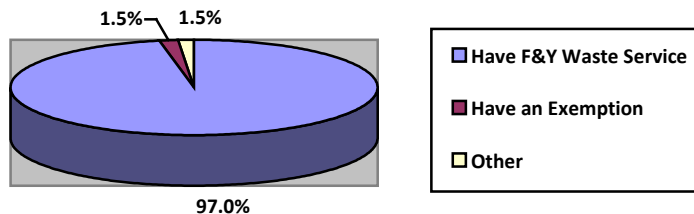
Almost all single-family households have yards.

Although most Seattleites still have a yard, grass and/or garden, the percent saying they do not have a yard, grass or garden has doubled over the past five years (from 4% in 2005 to 8% in 2010).



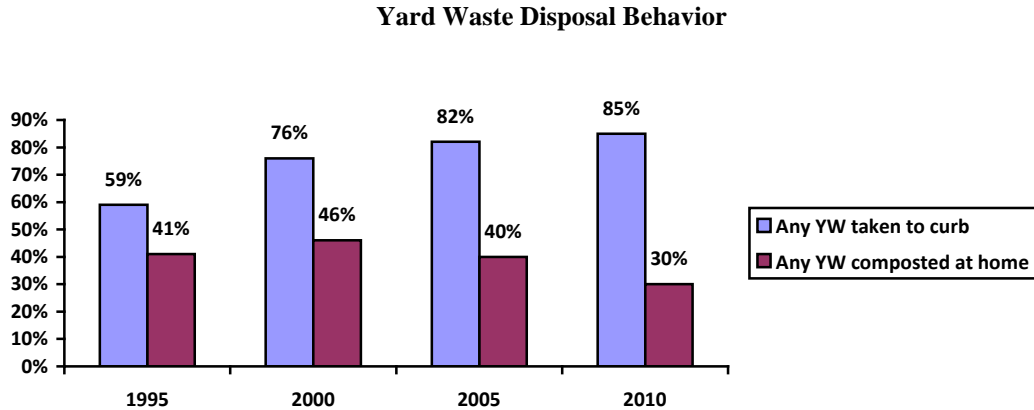
In addition to garbage, most everyone has curbside pick-up of food and yard waste.

Ninety-seven percent (97%) of residents with can service also have curbside food and yard waste pick-up service. Of the small percent (3%) who do not have food and yard waste pick-up service, about one-half say they have an exemption and the other half either does not have service or does know whether they have service.



More people are taking yard waste to the curb and fewer are composting at home.

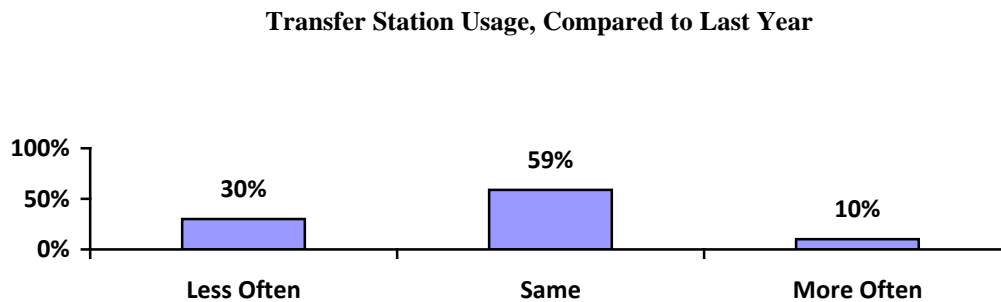
Over the past 15 years, there has been an increase in the percentage of people saying they take at least some of their yard waste to the curb for pick-up (from 59% to 85%) and a corresponding decrease in the percentage saying they compost yard waste at home (from 41% to 30%).



Likelihood to self-haul yard waste to transfer stations is low and likely to be waning.

In 2010, only 16% of Seattleites said they ever used a transfer station for their yard waste, and 61% of those said they only used it once or twice a year.

When asked how their usage of transfer stations for yard waste has changed over the past year, three times as many said that they are now using transfer stations less often (30%) as those who said they are using them more often (10%).



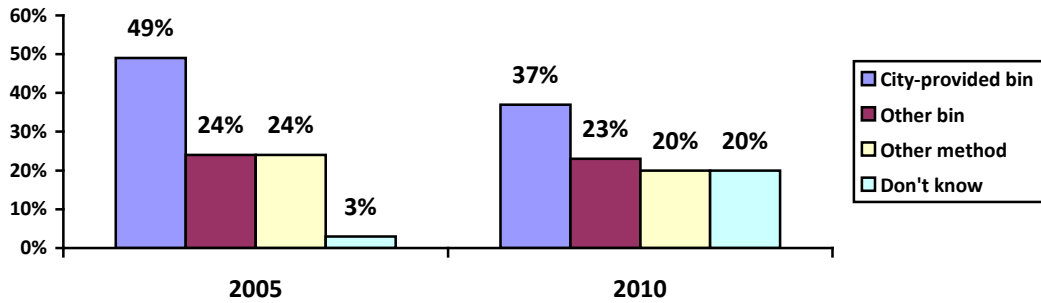
“Likely” market for home composting yard waste remains steady.

As in the 2000 and 2005 surveys, a meaningful percentage of residents (10% of those who are not currently composting) say they would be likely to undertake home composting if they received information on how to make these activities “easy and pest free.”

City-Supplied yard waste composting bins play a big role in Seattleites composting; however, there are signs of bin wear and tear.

The percent of bin-users saying that they are using a City-supplied bin remains moderate; however, it has decreased when compared to five years ago (from 49% in 2005 to 37% in 2010).

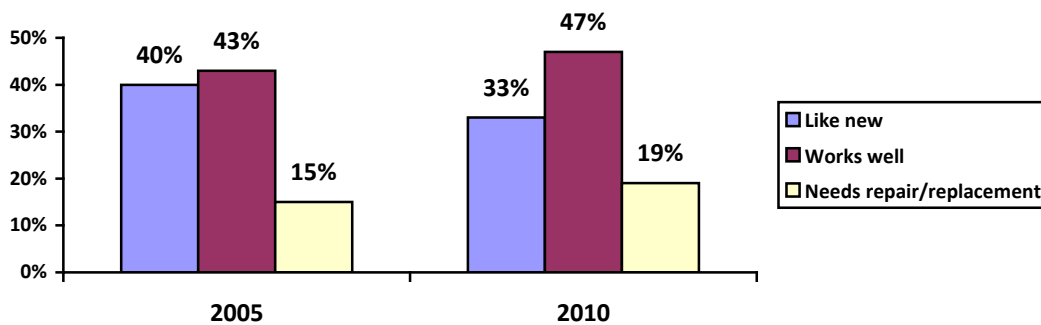
Yard Waste Bin Usage
(among yard waste composters)



Corresponding to the decrease in propensity to use a City-supplied bin, there is an increase in those who don't know where the bin they are using was obtained (from 3% to 20%). Possibly, this indicates that the bin purchase was too long ago to remember how it was obtained.

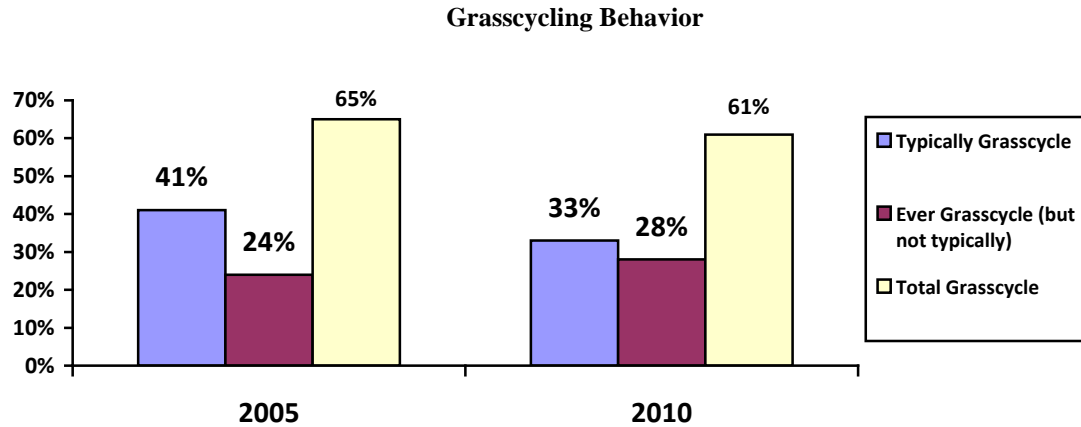
In 2010, fewer bin-users say that the condition of their bin is “like new” and more say that repair or replacement is needed (33% say that their bin is like new in 2010 compared to 40% in 2005).

Working Condition of Yard Waste Composting Bin



Grasscycling behavior has stabilized over the past five years.

Since 2005, fewer people say they typically grasscycle; however, those who ever grasscycle has remained steady.



Participation in city-sponsored or supported mower events is modest

Among the 75 respondents who currently use an electric and/or mulch mower, 13% said they had participated in a mower rebate program offered by the City of Seattle.

Among respondents who are currently using a gas-powered mower, after adjusting for follow-through, 3% indicated they would be likely to purchase a new mulch mower if one was available for 20% off the retail price.

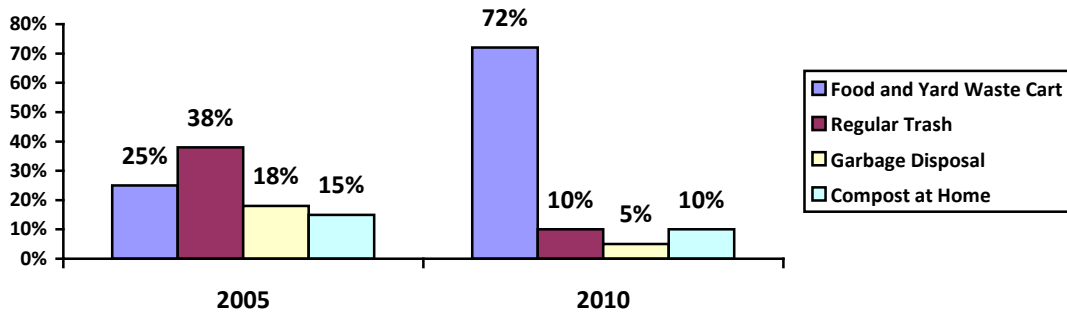
About one in ten who never grasscycle now say they might in the future.

Among those who never leave grass clippings on the lawn now, when discounted to adjust for behavioral follow-through, 9% say they are likely to start grasscycling if they had information about how it made it easier to mow and improved the health of the lawn.

Seattle’s yard and food waste pick-up program has been highly successful at diverting food scraps out of the regular garbage and away from the garbage disposal.

Compared to five years ago, three times as many households now primarily place their food scraps in the food and yard waste cart. Significantly fewer say they primarily place food scraps in the regular garbage and significantly fewer are using the garbage disposal.

Primary Disposal Method for Food Scraps



Satisfaction with food and yard waste collection service is very high.

Seattleites say they are very satisfied with the City's food and yard waste collection service. Using a seven-point scale, 80% rate their satisfaction a value of six or seven, and average satisfaction is 6.2.

Research Design

Objectives

Seattle Public Utilities has commissioned this quantitative research to determine the level at which Seattle city residents are currently participating in organic waste management activities—that is, utilization of curbside pick-up services, yard waste composting, food waste composting and grasscycling.

The specific objectives of this research were as follows:

- To examine the extent to which Seattle residents are involved in organic waste management activities, including:
 - The types of waste management activities in which they currently engage;
 - Awareness and usage of City-sponsored programs;
 - How behaviors have changed over the past several years; and,
 - Interest in increased participation of organic waste management activities.
- To examine the attitudes and behaviors of Seattle residents who are not involved in organic waste management activities, including:
 - Awareness of and interest in composting;
 - Primary reasons for not composting or grasscycling;
 - Awareness of and interest in City-sponsored programs; and,
 - Likelihood of participating in organic waste management activities.
- To explore likely satisfaction if Seattle adopts an every other week collection schedule for garbage and a weekly collection schedule for organics.
- To examine household habits with usage and disposal of fats, oils and grease generated in the kitchen.

Methodology

- Target Population:** To qualify for inclusion in this study, all respondents were screened to be 18 years of age or older and living within the city limits of Seattle. Only those living in buildings with residential garbage “can” pick-up service were considered eligible; thus, the “universe” was defined as being those who had individual household cans (as opposed to centralized containers typically seen at multi-family buildings).
- Technique:** Market Decision Corporation of Portland, Oregon conducted 616 telephone interviews. All telephone interviews were conducted by trained, professional survey-takers under the guidance of experienced supervisors. Interviewers were thoroughly briefed on the goals and objectives of the study and they were coached and monitored throughout data collection.
- Field Dates:** Telephone interviews were conducted between December 7 and December 22, 2009, and telephone calls were placed from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Questionnaire:** FBK Research designed the questionnaire in conjunction with Seattle Public Utilities. The instrument was pilot tested to ensure that the questions included would provide valid and reliable results. The initial pilot test pointed to certain areas within the questionnaire that were slightly confusing to respondents. Modifications were made and a subsequent pilot test was conducted. Following the second pilot test, the instrument was solid and approved for fielding. The survey averaged 15 minutes. (See Appendix 1 for a copy of the survey instrument and responses to each question. See Appendix 2 for a listing of verbatim comments from open-ended questions.)
- Sample:** The sample for this survey was provided by SPU using their billing system data and included a random selection of all Seattle households with residential garbage can pick-up service. Households in multi-family buildings who have centralized collection (or dumpsters) were excluded.

Sample Profile

When interpreting the findings from this survey, it is important to keep in mind the characteristics of the people interviewed. The following table presents a profile of the 616 Seattleites who were included in the survey. Here, as well as elsewhere throughout this report, percentages may not sum to 100 because of rounding error, because of the acceptance of multiple responses and/or because of the exclusion of answers with very low frequencies.

For comparison purposes, the table below also shows information obtained from the 1995, 2000, 2005 and 2010 Seattle Organics Surveys.

Table 2: Demographic Data

		December 2010 (616)	December 2005 (600)	January 2000 (600)	January 1995 (610)	Census 2000 ¹
Gender:	Male	47%	42%	42%	39%	
	Female	53%	58%	58%	61%	
Age:	18 to 24 years	1%	1%	6%	8%	3%
	25 to 34 years	12%	13%	20%	24%	20%
	35 to 44 years	26%	26%	28%	23%	23%
	45 to 54 years	19%	23%	21%	16%	23%
	55 to 64 years	20%	20%	12%	9%	12%
	65 years or older	19%	16%	12%	17%	18%
Ethnicity: ²	Caucasian	81%	79%	84%	71%	78%
	African-American	4%	3%	4%	6%	7%
	Asian	5%	4%	5%	10%	10%
	Hispanic/Latino	2%	1%	1%	3%	3%
	Native America	1%	1%	1%	3%	1%
	Other (mixed)	2%	4%	2%	2%	4%
	Don't know/Refused	7%	9%	5%	6%	
Dwelling Type:	Single-Unit	96%	94%	91%	84%	83%
	Multi-Unit	4%	6%	9%	16%	17%
Ownership:	Own	88%	86%	77%	71%	71%
	Rent	9%	12%	21%	28%	29%
# in Household:	One	16%	16%	16%	17%	
	Two	39%	44%	43%	36%	
	Three	18%	17%	18%	21%	
	Four	18%	17%	15%	15%	
	Five or more	7%	5%	7%	10%	
Education:	High School or less	7%	8%	11%	19%	
	Some college	17%	22%	24%	26%	
	4-year college	38%	31%	39%	28%	
	Graduate work	33%	36%	25%	23%	

¹ While now old, the 2000 Census data is the most recent data available.

² The Census has a category for race, which includes the groups listed in Table 2 with the exception of the Hispanic/Latino group. The Hispanic/Latino category is considered an ethnic, as opposed to racial, identifier and is tracked in addition to race. For this reason the Census percentages in the ethnicity section of this table exceed 100%.

Table 2: Demographic Data

		December 2010 (616)	December 2005 (600)	January 2000 (600)	January 1995 (610)	Census 2000 ³
Income:	Under \$30,000	5%	7%	10%	NA	
	\$30,000 - \$50,000	9%	13%	21%	NA	
	\$50,000 - \$75,000	14%	15%	24%	NA	
	\$75,000 - \$100,000	15%	20%	15%	NA	
	\$100,000 or more	31%	25%	15%	NA	
	Don't know/Refused	26%	21%	15%	9%	

The demographic characteristics of Seattle residents who live in a single-family home, a duplex, tri-plex or four-plex has changed over the past 15 years.

- While the data indicates that this population was getting older between 2000 and 2005, there have been no significant changes in age distribution over the last five years. In 2000, 45% of Seattle residents were 45 years of age or older. In 2005, 59% were 45 years of age or older and today 58% are 45 years of age or older.
- The percentage who own their home rather than rent increased between 2000 and 2005, but has remained steady since then.
- Seattle residents living in these types of dwellings now have significantly higher levels of education. Today, 71% say they have completed at least a four-year college degree. Ten years ago, 64% reported that they had completed at least a four-year college degree.
- Along with the increase in educational achievement, there has been a corresponding trend upward in household income. Today, 31% report that the income earned by household members is at least \$100,000 a year. Ten years ago, 15% reported the same.

Yard waste composting necessitates having a yard—a lawn, a garden or both—and grasscycling necessitates having a grass lawn. Respondents in this research were asked to provide information about their households and yards to determine the extent to which they had the need to compost yard waste and to grasscycle. The following table provides this information. To facilitate comparison, similar information is presented from the research conducted in 2000 and 1995.

³ While now old, the 2000 Census data is the most recent data available.

Table 3: Household Yard Characteristics

		December 2010 (616)	December 2005 (600)	January 2000 (600)	January 1995 (610)
Yard:	Yes	95%	98%	96%	95%
	No	5%	2%	4%	5%
Lawns:	Yes	80%	87%	88%	85%
	No	20%	13%	12%	15%
Ever Care for Yard: ⁴	Yes	100%	96%	94%	79%
	No	0%	4%	6%	21%
Have a Garden:	Yes	74%	74%	71%	57%
	No	26%	26%	29%	43%
Garden Type:	Food	48%	37%	37%	35%
	Flower	61%	63%	63%	51%
	Other	16%	13%	8%	1%
	None	22%	26%	29%	43%

While there were some changes between 1995 and 2010 in the percentage of residents who reported caring for their yard and having a garden, these and other characteristics reported above have remained very stable since 2000.

- The vast majority (95%) report that they have a yard—a percent that is no different from 1995 (95%).
- Five out of six (84%) report that they have a lawn. 85% said the same in 1995.
- Seventy-eight percent (78%) report having a garden—a percent that has inched up from 71% in January 2000. Only 57% reported the same in 1995.
- The percent saying they have a food garden increased significantly between 2005 and 2010 (from 37% to 48% today).

⁴ A change in questionnaire wording between 1995 and 2000 makes it difficult to compare directly the percent that “ever” care for their yard. All evidence suggests that an extremely high percentage continue to take responsibility for at least some of their yard care.

Household Garbage Service

With regard to garbage service levels, just about as many have a 32-gallon container as those who have a smaller container. Of the total sample of 616 households:

- 18% have a micro garbage container;
 - 26% have a mini container;
 - 39% have a 32-gallon container;
 - 4% have a 64-gallon container;
 - 3% have a 96-gallon container; and,
 - 10% don't know the size of the garbage container.
- } 44%
- } 39%
- } 7%

Rebasing the data to exclude those who did not know, the data indicates that subscription levels among those in our sample over-represents those with a micro container (20% of these respondents compared to 9% of the City with this subscription level) and under-represents those with 32-gallon service (43% compared to 58% of the City with one-can service).

	December 2010 Survey Data	City Subscription
Micro garbage container	20%	9%
Mini container	29%	26%
32-gallon container (one-can)	43%	58%
64-gallon or larger container	7%	8%

Most people take their garbage out to the curb every week:

- 92% say they take their garbage out every week;
- 4% say they take it out every other week; and,
- 2% say they take it out less frequently.

Survey Limitations

A sample size of 616 is sufficient to provide 95% confidence that the resulting data will be within plus or minus 4.0% of what it would be if all Seattle households with residential pick-up service were interviewed. That is, in theory, had all people in the target population been interviewed, there is a 95% chance the results would be within plus or minus 4.0% of the results obtained from this sample. This error range is calculated at the 50%-50% response rate to any two-part questions (e.g., 50% “yes” and 50% “no”) and is therefore the maximum error range that can be expected from a sample this size.

This report addresses results from several specific subgroups. The following table presents some of these subgroups, the number of interviews conducted and the associated error range.

Table 4: Survey Subgroup Error Ranges

Subgroup	Number of Interviews	Associated Error Range
Total Sample	616	+/- 4.0%
Back Yard Yard Waste Composters	186	+/- 7.3%
Back Yard Food Waste Composters	125	+/- 8.9%
Grasscyclers	296	+/- 5.8%
Yard Waste Only Composters	97	+/- 10.2%
Food Waste Only Composters	36	+/- 16.7%
Compost Both Yard and Food Waste	89	+/- 10.6%
Compost Neither Yard nor Food Waste	394	+/- 5.0%
Use curbside for yard waste	520	+/- 4.4%
Use curbside for food waste	552	+/- 4.3%

The data presented in this report provides a very reliable and valid picture of Seattleites' attitudes and behaviors with regard to organic waste management activities. This data is very useful when assessing the size of the current market and the future market for program enhancement and expansion. However, it must be kept in mind that this survey cannot predict the future. While great care and the most advanced methods were employed in the design, execution and analysis of this study, these results should be interpreted only as representing the view of these respondents at the time they were interviewed.

Current Market – Detailed Findings

Curbside Pick-Up Service for Food and Yard Waste

Ninety-seven percent (97%) of the Seattle households with garbage services say they are signed up for Seattle’s curbside yard and food waste pick-up service.ⁱ About one-half (50%) have been signed up for fewer than five years:ⁱⁱ

- 17% have been signed up for less than one year;
- 20% have been signed for at least one year, but fewer than three years;
- 13% have been signed up for at least three years, but fewer than five years;

- 17% have been signed up for five years, but fewer than 10 years; and,
- 26% have been signed up for 10 years or more.

Of the 97% that are signed up for organics pick-up service, about one-half (48%) say that they currently have the 96-gallon food and yard waste cart. One-quarter (23%) have the 32-gallon cart and 16% have a 13-gallon cart.ⁱⁱⁱ

Looking at it from the total market perspective (616 households):

- 46% of can customers have a 96-gallon organics cart;
- 22% have a 32-gallon organics cart;
- 15% have a 13-gallon organics cart;
- 13% don’t know the size of their organics cart; and,
- 3% are not signed up for organics collection service.

Among the 3% who are not signed up for organics collection (21 people), one-half (48%) say they have an exemption, 33% say they do not have an exemption and 19% don’t know whether or not they have one.^{iv}

Characteristics of the Backyard Composting Market

Among the 616 Seattle residents interviewed, about one out of every three (36%) are currently composting yard and/or food waste at home and 64% are composting neither food nor yard waste at home.

- 97 (16%) currently compost yard waste but not food waste (referred to as “yard waste only composters” in this report);
- 36 (6%) currently compost food waste but not yard waste (referred to as “food waste only composters” in this report);
- 89 (14%) currently compost both yard and food waste (referred to as “yard and food waste composters” in this report); and,
- 394 (64%) currently do not compost either yard or food waste (referred to as “non-composters” in this report).

Together,

- 186 (30%) currently compost yard waste (and may or may not compost food waste); and,
- 125 (20%) currently compost food waste (and may or may not compost yard waste).

The following table compares this information to similar information collected in 2005, 2000 and 1995:

Table 5: Current Composting Behavior^v

	December 2010 (616)	December 2005 (600)	January 2000 (600)	January 1995 (610)
<i>Base: Total Sample</i>				
Yard Waste Only	16%	16%	19%	19%
Food Waste Only	6%	2%	4%	3%
Both Yard and Food Waste	14%	24%	27%	22%
Neither Yard nor Food Waste	64%	58%	50%	57%
Total Yard Waste	30%	40%	46%	41%
Total Food Waste	20%	26%	31%	25%

The percent of households that report composting yard and/or food waste in 2010 has decreased significantly since 2000 (from 50% in 2000 to 36% in 2010).

The table below provides information about the demographic characteristics of those who currently compost yard waste, those who currently compost food waste, and those who compost neither. For comparison purposes, the percentages for the total sample are repeated here.

Table 6: Profile of 2010 Composters and Non-Composters

		Total Sample (616) (100%)	Yard Waste (186) (30%)	Food Waste (125) (20%)	Non- Composters (394) (64%)
Base: (% of Sample)					
Gender:	Male	47% (100%)	49% (32%)	54% (23%)	44% (61%)
	Female	53% (100%)	51% (29%)	46% (18%)	56% (67%)

Table 6: Profile of 2010 Composters

Base: (% of Sample)		Total Sample (616) (100%)	Yard Waste (186) (30%)	Food Waste (125) (20%)	Non- Composters (394) (64%)
Age:	Under 25	1% (100%)	1% (29%)	2% (43%)	1% (57%)
	25 – 34	12% (100%)	7% (17%)	10% (17%)	14% (73%)
	35 – 44	26% (100%)	28% (33%)	31% (25%)	25% (62%)
	45 – 54	19% (100%)	18% (28%)	18% (20%)	20% (66%)
	55 – 64	20% (100%)	23% (36%)	19% (20%)	19% (61%)
	65 years or older	19% (100%)	19% (31%)	15% (16%)	19% (63%)
Ethnicity:	Caucasian	81% (100%)	80% (30%)	82% (21%)	81% (64%)
	Asian	5% (100%)	3% (19%)	4% (16%)	6% (78%)
	African American	4% (100%)	3% (23%)	2% (14%)	4% (64%)
	Latino/Hispanic	2% (100%)	2% (29%)	2% (14%)	2% (64%)
	American Indian	1% (100%)	2% (60%)	2% (60%)	<1% (20%)
	Mixed (Other)	2% (100%)	2% (29%)	2% (14%)	2% (71%)
Dwelling Type:	Single-unit	96% (100%)	97% (31%)	96% (20%)	94% (64%)
	Multiple-unit	4% (100%)	3% (20%)	4% (20%)	6% (68%)
Home Ownership:	Own	88% (100%)	90% (31%)	89% (20%)	88% (64%)
	Rent	9% (100%)	6% (21%)	8% (17%)	10% (69%)
Number in Household:	One	16% (100%)	12% (23%)	10% (13%)	18% (71%)
	Two	39% (100%)	35% (28%)	34% (18%)	41% (67%)
	Three	18% (100%)	23% (39%)	28% (32%)	15% (53%)
	Four	18% (100%)	18% (31%)	19% (22%)	17% (63%)
	Five or more	7% (100%)	8% (30%)	7% (20%)	7% (63%)

Table 6: Profile of 2010 Composters and Non-Composters

		Total Sample	Yard Waste	Food Waste	Non- Composters
Base: (% of Sample)		(616) (100%)	(186) (30%)	(125) (20%)	(394) (64%)
Education:	High school or less	7% (100%)	4% (16%)	5% (13%)	9% (82%)
	Some college / AA degree	17% (100%)	17% (31%)	18% (22%)	16% (62%)
	4-year college degree	38% (100%)	36% (28%)	34% (18%)	40% (66%)
	Graduate work/degree	33% (100%)	35% (32%)	38% (23%)	32% (61%)
Income:	Under \$30,000	5% (100%)	6% (34%)	7% (28%)	5% (63%)
	\$30,000 - \$50,000	9% (100%)	9% (30%)	10% (22%)	8% (61%)
	\$50,000 - \$75,000	14% (100%)	10% (23%)	14% (21%)	15% (71%)
	\$75,000 - \$100,000	15% (100%)	14% (28%)	14% (18%)	15% (65%)
	\$100,000 or more	31% (100%)	32% (32%)	34% (22%)	30% (62%)

When looking at the characteristics of those who compost, the following highlights emerge:

- Men and women are equally likely to compost yard waste and food waste.
- Although these sample sizes are too small to have confidence that the results are not due to chance, it appears that those who are under 25 years of age tend to have a higher likelihood of composting. And, Asians tend to be less likely than other groups to report that they compost.
- Those who compost either yard and/or food waste tend to have more educational experience than do those who do not compost either.

Current Behavior with Yard Waste

The following table summarizes the yard waste behavior of the total sample of 616 respondents and compares this information to that learned in the 1995, 2000 and 2005 research. As depicted, the percent who say they do not have a yard, grass and/or garden has recently increased. Twice as many have no yard, grass or garden in 2010 compared to 2005. A change in the questionnaire wording resulted in a smaller percent saying that they care for their yard in 2000; however, this percent has remained stable since then.

**Table 7: Comparison of Yard Waste Composters
Based on the Total Sample^{vi}**

	December 2010 (616)	December 2005 (600)	January 2000 (600)	January 1995 (610)
Base: Total Sample				
No yard, grass and/or garden	8%	4%	4%	5%
Do not ever care for yard	0%	0%	2%	8%
All yard waste taken to curbside	59%	49%	43%	33%
Compost and use curbside	26%	33%	33%	26%
All yard waste composted at home	4%	7%	13%	15%
Neither compost nor use curbside	3%	6%	6%	13%

The percent reporting that they take all of their yard waste to the curbside for pick-up by the City has steadily increased. One-third (33%) of the Seattle residents interviewed in 1995 reported that they took all of their yard waste to the curbside. This has increased to 59% in 2010.

The percent of Seattle residents who report that they compost all of their yard waste at home has decreased since 1995. While 15% reported that they composted all of their yard waste in 1995, only 4% reported the same in 2010.

Compared to 1995, the percentage of Seattle residents who neither compost nor use curbside yard waste pick-up services has decreased substantially. In 1995, 13% reported that they used neither of these methods for their yard waste and only 3% reported that they used neither in 2010.

The Eligible Yard Waste Composting Market

Between 1995 and 2000, changes in the questionnaire (wording and skip patterns) made it impossible to compare answers about yard care across the five-year time period. To correct for these questionnaire changes, information about disposal methods for yard waste was based on the “eligible market.” Rather than including the entire sample, the eligible market includes only those people who have a yard or garden and who ever care for it themselves.

The following table summarizes the yard waste behavior of the eligible market, and compares this information to that from 1995 and 2000.

**Table 8: Comparison of Yard Waste Composters
Based on the Eligible Market**

	December 2010 (566)	December 2005 (574)	January 2000 (568)	January 1995 (527)
Base: Eligible Market				
All yard waste taken to curbside	64%	51%	45%	38%
Compost and use curbside	28%	34%	35%	30%
All yard waste composted	5%	8%	14%	17%
Neither compost nor use curbside	3%	6%	6%	15%

Even when adjusted for better comparisons, the same situation is evident. The percent of Seattle residents who take all of their yard waste to the curbside for pick-up has steadily increased over time. Fifteen years ago, 38% of those who care for a yard said they disposed of all of their yard waste by taking it to the curbside and this percentage has increased to 64% today.

The percent who compost all of their yard waste has decreased over the years and is now about one-third of what it was in 1995 (from 17% in 1995 to 5% today). Only 3% of Seattle residents in 2010 say that they neither compost nor use curbside—a percent that has decreased from 15% in 1995.

Composting and tending a food garden seem to go together. Those who compost at least some of their yard waste are more likely than their non-composting counterparts to have a food or herb garden. Ninety-nine percent (99%) of those who compost yard waste have a food or herb garden compared to 65% of those who do not compost.

Curbside Service Usage among Households with a Yard

In total, 92% of those with a lawn or garden report that they use the curbside yard waste pick-up service provided by the City. This percentage has steadily increased since 1995 (85% used yard waste pick-up service in 2005, 80% used it in 2000 and 68% used it in 1995).

In 2010, respondents who use curbside collection service were asked whether their household has changed the amount of yard waste that is picked-up at the curb or alley over the past year.^{vii} Among these people:

- 43% said, compared to last year, more yard waste is now picked up at the curb;
- 47% said the amount has not changed over the past year; and,
- 6% said that less yard waste is now picked up at the curb.

A majority of the 226 respondents who take out more yard waste to the curb (43% of those with curbside service) report that they feel they put their yard waste cart out more because they put more food waste in it:^{viii}

- 74% said that they leave more yard waste at the curb simply because there is more food and/or other compostable materials inside the cart;
- 14% said they are doing more yard work now;

- 8% said that since it was now mandatory to have a yard and food waste cart, they were using it more; and,
- 4% said that since they received a bin from the City and now had curbside service, they were using that service (more).

Yard Waste Self-Haul Behaviors

People with yard waste were asked whether they ever took their yard waste to centralized facilities (like a transfer station) for composting.^{ix} Eighty-three percent (83%) said they never haul their own yard waste to transfer stations. Among the 16% who do use transfer stations for yard waste, the typical person made three trips:^x

- 31% self-hauled yard waste **one time** in the past year;
- 31% did it **twice** in the past year;
- 18% did it **three times**; and,
- 10% did it **four or more times** in the past year.

Users of transfer stations tend to be male and those with higher levels of education. Twenty-one percent (21%) of males used a transfer station last year compared to 12% of females. Twenty-two percent (22%) of those with at least some post graduate work used a transfer station last year compared to 14% of those with less education.

When asked whether they used transfer stations more often, less often, or about the same this year compared to last:^{xi}

- 59% said their usage frequency hasn't changed;
- 30% said they use transfer stations for yard waste less often;
- 10% said they use transfer stations for yard waste more often.

Yard Waste Composting Behaviors at Home

One-third (33%) of those with yard waste reported that they compost at least some of that yard waste at home, and 67% do not compost yard waste at home. When asked how much of their yard waste they compost, roughly as many people say they compost at least one-half of all their yard waste at home (52%) as those who say they compost less than one-half of it (48%):^{xii}

- 27% compost all or almost all of their yard waste;
 - 8% compost about three-quarters of it;
 - 17% compost about one-half of it;
- } 52%
- 22% compost about one-quarter of it; and,
 - 26% compost less than one-quarter of it.
- } 48%

Of those who compost yard waste at home, two-thirds (67%) say that they are composting just as much now as they did last year. Compared to last year, 19% say they are composting more now and 13% say they are composting less.^{xiii}

Among the 24 people who are composting less than they did last year, many say this behavior change has something to do with the fact that they are now using their curbside service more:^{xiv}

- 40% say that they compost less because they now use the bin for both food and yard waste;
- 28% specifically say it's an easier process to use the curbside bin than it is to compost; and,
- 24% gave a general response, just saying that they are using curbside more often than before.

Households that compost at home report that they are composting an average of three different types of vegetation:^{xv}

- 79% compost leaves;
- 72% compost grass clippings;
- 57% compost whole plants;
- 48% compost small twigs and branches; and,
- 48% compost weeds.

Use of City-Provided Bins

Of those who compost yard waste at home, the percent saying that they use a bin has trended downward over the past five years.

Table 9: Use of Yard Waste Composting Bin^{xvi}

Base: Composters	December 2010 (186)	December 2005 (238)
Use a bin	64%	75%
Pile it up without a bin	20%	24%
Other	11%	0%
Don't know	4%	1%

Of the 119 people who use a bin, 55% know that they are using a bin provided by the City of Seattle. The evidence suggests that another 3% may be using a bin that was originally obtained through a City-sponsored distribution program. Thus, 58% of the bin users say that the bin they are using is probably one provided by the City. In 2005, the percent saying that they used a City-provided bin was 66%.

To summarize the use of City-provided yard waste composting bins among those who are yard waste composters:

**Table 10: Use of Yard Waste Composting Bin^{xvii}
Among all Yard Waste Composters**

	December 2010 (186)	December 2005 (238)
Base: All yard waste composters		
Use a City-provided bin (probably)	37%	49%
Use a bin obtained elsewhere	23%	24%
Pile the compost without using a bin	20%	24%
Other / Don't know	20%	3%

The vast majority of bin users report that the bin they currently use still works well enough to use. The following table presents respondents' self-assessment of the working condition of the bin(s) they use:

Table 10: Condition of Back Yard Composting Bin^{xviii}

	December 2010 (119)	December 2005 (178)
Base: Bin Users		
Bin is like new	34%	40%
Not like new, but works very well	46%	43%
In need of some repair, but working	11%	9%
In need of replacement	8%	6%

Those who compost their yard waste at home were asked to report how likely they were to get a new bin within the next year if cost was not a consideration:

Table 12: Likelihood to Get a New Bin – Cost Not Considered^{xix}

	December 2010 (186)	December 2005 (238)
Base: All yard waste composters		
Extremely likely	6%	5%
Very likely	10%	7%
Somewhat likely	9%	15%
Not very likely	25%	26%
Not at all likely	50%	46%

To convert these responses describing intentions into a realistic estimator of actual behavior, the same process used in the 2000 and 2005 study was employed:

Follow-through Estimator, a method to convert stated intentions to an estimate of likely behavior. The percentage of those who say they are *extremely likely* to perform the act in question is discounted by 25% (so, 75% are considered as likely to following through) and the percentage who said they are *very likely* to perform the act in question is discounted by 67% (so, 33% are considered as likely to follow through).

In this case, the percentage of yard waste composters likely to purchase a new bin is estimated to be about 8% -- which is the same percentage as those who say their bin is in need of replacement. Five years ago (in 2005) 6% of the yard waste composters said they were likely to purchase a new bin.

Although cell sizes are too small to draw conclusions, the data indicates that females and those who are under 45 years of age are more likely than their counterparts to be extremely interested in purchasing a new bin next year.

In 2010, backyard composters were told that the City of Seattle distributes yard waste composting bins at a cost of \$35 each. This represented a \$10 increase over the \$25 price investigated in the 2005 research.

When the cost of getting a new bin from the City is \$35, the percentage of composters who are likely to purchase a new bin decreases.

Table 12: Likelihood to Get a New Bin @ \$35^{xx}

	December 2010 (186) (At \$35)	December 2005 (238) (At \$25)
Base: All yard waste composters		
Extremely likely	4%	4%
Very likely	4%	4%
Somewhat likely	6%	14%
Not very likely	31%	30%
Not at all likely	55%	47%

When discounted to adjust for the likelihood to follow through on stated intentions, this equates to a market size of about 4% of current back yard composters – the same percentage as reported in 2005 for a bin costing ten dollars less.

To understand more about price sensitivity, those who compost yard waste at home were asked how likely they would be to purchase a City-provided bin for ten dollars less at \$25.

Table 14: Likelihood to Get a New Bin @ \$25^{xxi}

	December 2010 (186) (At \$25)	December 2005 (238) (At \$25)
Base: All yard waste composters		
Extremely likely	6%	4%
Very likely	6%	4%
Somewhat likely	3%	14%
Not very likely	30%	30%
Not at all likely	54%	47%

When discounted to adjust for the likelihood to follow through on stated intentions, this equates to a market size of about 7%. Thus, the market size almost doubles when the price is dropped from \$35.00 to \$25.00.

When cost is introduced as a factor, women tend to become less interested than men in purchasing a new bin. Regardless of whether the cost is \$35 or \$25, those with at least one child at home are more interested than those without children in purchasing a new bin.

Lawn Care Activities and Behaviors

Eighty percent (80%, 491 people) live in households that have a lawn. These 491 Seattle residents were asked to describe their yard care activities and behaviors.

The following table presents the methods typically used for dealing with grass clippings among those with a lawn. The percentages from 2010 are compared to those from 2005 and 2000.

Seattle residents who reported some behavior other than leaving their grass clippings on the lawn were asked if their household ever left its grass clippings on the lawn when the lawn was mowed. The following table summarizes the percentage of households that ever grasscycle:

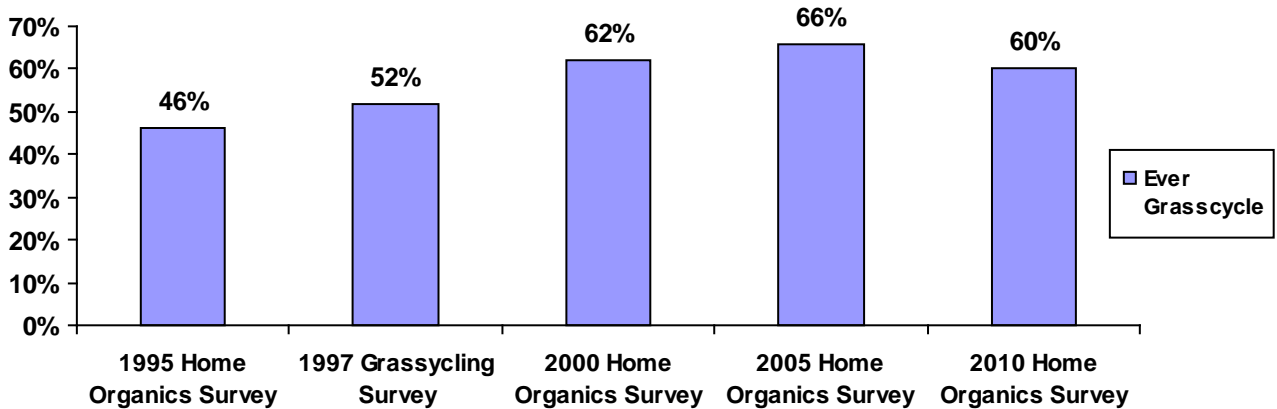
Table 17: Summary of Grasscycling Behavior^{xxiii}

<i>Base = Have a lawn</i>	December 2010			December 2005			January 2000		
	Total (491)	Compost (159)	Do Not (332)	Total (522)	Compost (211)	Do Not (311)	Total (528)	Compost (256)	Do Not (272)
Typically grasscycle	33%	38%	31%	41%	47%	37%	42%	49%	36%
Ever grasscycle	28%	28%	27%	24%	28%	22%	19%	21%	18%
Total grasscycling behavior	61%	64%	58%	65%	75%	59%	62%	70%	54%
Never grasscycle	39%	35%	40%	35%	25%	41%	38%	30%	46%

Yard waste composters continue to be more likely than their non-composting counterparts to report that they grasscycle (64% versus 58% in 2010).

After seeing a consistent increase in likelihood to grasscycle between 1995 and 2005, grasscycling behavior has begun to fall.

Table 18: Comparison of Total Grasscycling Behavior



To understand more about when people tend to leave their grass clippings on the lawn, grasscyclers were asked to report if they “regularly,” “occasionally,” “rarely,” or “never” grasscycled in spring, summer and fall. The following table presents this information for 2010:

Table 19: Regularity of Grasscycling in 2010^{xxiv}

	Spring	Summer	Fall
Regularly	58%	64%	58%
Occasionally	29%	20%	22%
Rarely	8%	8%	10%
Never	3%	6%	8%

Consistently, grasscyclers have reported that they grasscycle at least occasionally, regardless of the season. Usually, likelihood to regularly grasscycle is higher in summer than it is in either spring or fall.

Those who are most likely to regularly grasscycle, regardless of season, are those with at least a four-year college education. Those with less education tend to leave their grass clippings on the lawn less often (occasionally rather than regularly).

The 24 respondents who ever leave grass clippings on the lawn, but only do so rarely, were asked how likely they would be to start leaving clippings on the lawn more often if they knew that doing so made it easier to mow, improves the quality of the lawn and saves money on fertilizer. This type of information is likely to influence about one-quarter of these people:

Table 20: Impact of Having More Information about the Benefits of Grasscycling^{xxv}

- 21% said they would be extremely likely to start grasscycling more;
- 8% said they would be very likely;
- 29% said they would be somewhat likely;
- 8% said they would not be very likely; and,
- 17% said they would not be at all likely.

Usage of and Interest in Purchasing Mulch Mowers

Among the 296 respondents who ever grasscycle, 55% reported that they currently use a mulch mower.^{xxvi} Although not statistically significant, this has trended up from 50% who said the same in 2005.

The data suggests that there may be some confusion about how a mulch mower functions and/or what it means to grasscycle. 43 people (9% of the 491 with a lawn) said that they used a mulch mower and said that they never left grassclippings on the lawn.

The type of mower used by the household differs depending on grasscycling behavior. Two-thirds (65%) of households that never leave grass clippings on the lawn use a gas powered mower versus 41% of those who ever leave grass clipping on the lawn. About one-third of those who ever leave grass clipping on the lawn (31%) use an electric mower⁶, compared to 16% of those

⁶ 20% are using a corded electric mower, 9% are using a cordless electric mower and 2% don't know or refused.

who do not leave grass clippings on the lawn. One quarter of the grasscyclers (27%) use a push reel mower versus 10% of the non-grasscyclers.

The 75 people who were using an electric and/or mulch mower were asked if they had ever participated in a program offered by the City of Seattle where they received a rebate on the purchase of an electric mulch mower.^{xxvii} Ten people (13% of those with an electric and/or mulch mower) reported that they had participated in this program.

The 245 people who mow their lawn using a gas powered mower were asked how likely they would be to turn in their mower for an electric mulch mower if they received a \$25 rebate to participate.^{xxviii} Eight percent (83%) were either “extremely” or “very” likely to purchase one:

- 1% said they were *extremely likely* to purchase one;
- 7% said they were *very likely*;
- 21% said they were *something likely*;
- 23% said they were *not very likely*; and,
- 41% said they were *not at all likely*.

Discounting these percentages to adjust for follow through on intentions, roughly 3% of those who own a gas powered mower are likely to purchase a new electric mulch mower for a \$25 rebate.

Lawn Height

Those who mow their own lawn were asked to report where they usually keep the blade set on their mower.^{xxix} Just fewer than one-half (44%) said that they keep their blade set so that the grass will be two inches tall. Seventeen percent (17%) said the blade was set lower than that, keeping the grass at one inch, and 14% said the blade was set higher, keeping the grass at three inches or higher. One quarter (24%) said they did not know where the blade was usually set.

Current Food Waste Behavior

The Eligible Food Waste Composting Market

The eligible market for managing food waste is considered to be 100% since all households generate food scraps. As the following table shows, households use a variety of methods for disposing of food scraps:

Table 21: Total Food Waste Disposal Behaviors^{xxx}

Put at least some food scraps ...

	December 2010 (616)	December 2005 (600)
Base: Total Sample		
In the yard and food waste cart	87%	49%
In the garbage disposal	63%	49%
In the regular trash	25%	66%
In the back yard and compost	20%	26%

The percent of households using their yard and food waste cart for food scraps and the percent using the garbage disposal has increased dramatically over the past five years (from 49% in 2005 to 87% today). Over the same time period, the percent placing food scraps in the regular trash has decreased dramatically (from 66% in 2005 to 25% today).

Males are more likely than females to report that they occasionally compost food scraps (23% versus 18% respectively), and males are more likely to say that they put food scraps in the regular garbage (28% versus 21% respectively). The regular trash can is also more likely to be used for food scraps among those with higher levels of education.

Table 22: Most Used Waste Disposal Methods^{xxxi}

Where most of the household's food scraps go...

	December 2010 (616)	December 2005 (600)
Base: Total Sample		
In the yard and food waste cart	72%	25%
In the garbage disposal	5%	18%
In the regular trash	10%	38%
To compost bin/pile at home	10%	15%

The data indicates that food scraps have been diverted from the regular trash, from the garbage disposal and from back yard composting in favor of the yard and food waste cart. Compared to five years ago, today three times as many people primary use their organics cart for disposing of food scraps (up to 72% from 25%).

Offering the service of disposing food scraps in the yard waste curbside collection container has changed the way Seattle residents deal with their food scraps. The following chart is presented as a summary to facilitate comparisons with prior years:

Table 23: Summary of Food Waste Composters

Base: Total Sample	Dec 2010 (616)	Dec 2005 (600)	Jan 2000 (600)	Jan 1995 (610)
Food waste taken to curbside (not composted)	70%	38%	NA	NA
Compost and use curbside	16%	13%	NA	NA
Food waste composted (no curbside use)	5%	13%	31%	25%
Neither compost nor use curbside	7%	35%	69%	75%

This data indicates that while back yard composting only of food waste has declined over time (from 31% in 2000 to 21% today), the decline has been relatively slow and fairly steady.

Those who compost (at least) some of their food scraps and put (at least) some of their food scraps in the organics container were asked how the amount of food in their organics cart has changed.^{xxxii} Among those who both compost and use the organics cart:

- 57% say that they are composting just as much now as they were before;
- 18% say they are now composting less;
- 14% say they are now composting more; and,
- 11% don't know how the amount has changed since they started doing both.

Those who put at least some of their food scraps in the yard and food waste cart were asked how many years they've been doing this.^{xxxiii} About one-half (51%) say they've been doing it one year or less:

- Less than one year, 14%
- One year, 37%
- Two years 16%
- Three to five years, 16%
- Six years or more, 3%
- Don't know, 14%

People under 45 years of age are more likely than their counterparts to report using the organics cart longer (2.1 years versus 1.5 years). Those with children in the household are more likely than others to report using the organics cart for food scraps longer (2.0 years versus 1.6 years).

When asked how much of their total food scraps ends up in the organics cart, two-thirds (66%) reported that all, or almost all, of the food scraps go to the cart.^{xxxiv}

- 66% say that all or almost all of their food scraps go into the organics cart;
- 13% say that about three-quarters go in;
- 7% say about one-half go in;
- 7% say about one-quarter go in; and,
- 6% say that less than one-quarter of the food scraps go in.

Females are more likely than males to report that all or almost all of their food scraps go into the cart (69% versus 61% respectively).

Those who use the organics cart for at least some of their food scraps and who also use the regular garbage for some food scraps were asked how their behaviors with each method has changed since they started using the curbside cart.^{xxxv} Of those who put some food scraps in their organics cart and put some of their food scraps in the regular garbage:

- 63% say that the amount of food they put in the garbage has decreased since they started using the organics cart for food scraps;
- 31% say the amount of food scraps they put in the garbage has remained the same; and,
- 6% say they now put even more food scraps in the regular garbage.

Among the 68 people who now put fewer food scraps in the regular garbage:^{xxxvi}

- 53% say they have not considered changing the size of their regular garbage can; and,
- 43% say they have considered making a change in the size of their can.

Males are more likely than females to have considered making a change in the size of the garbage can they use (53% of males have considered it versus 41% of females).

When asked why they have not considered making a change in the size of their can, most people say that the current can size still works well enough for them:^{xxxvii}

- 53% say that their current can size works well enough and they don't want to change;
- 22% say they already have the smallest can size available so they can't go any smaller;
- 8% say they want the extra room because sometimes they use it; and,
- 8% say they need the additional space because they have children/diapers.

Only 2% of the Seattle households compost their food scraps and do not use any other means of disposal. This exclusive commitment to composting has remained relatively stable over time.

Table 24: Time Trended Commitment to Food Waste Composting

	December 2010 (616)	December 2005 (600)	January 2000 (600)	January 1995 (610)
Base: Total Sample				
Primarily compost food scraps	10%	15%	18%	14%
Use alternative means in addition to composting	8%	11%	13%	11%

Among the 125 respondents who compost at least some food scraps, a little over one-half (57%) say that they compost at least one-half of all their food scraps:^{xxxviii}

- 27% compost all or almost all of their food scraps;
 - 13% compost about three-quarters of it;
 - 17% compost about one-half of it;
- } 57%
- 11% compost one-quarter of it; and,
 - 21% compost less than one-quarter of it.
- } 32%

Among these food waste composters, most say they are composting about as much food waste today as they were a year ago:^{xxxix}

- 49% compost about the same amount now as they did a year ago;
- 26% compost more now than they did last year; and,
- 14% compost less now than they did last year.

Those who compost less now usually say that improvements in the City’s curbside service have contributed to their change in behaviors:^{xl}

- 38% say they compost less now because the City has improved curbside services;
- 22% say that it’s easier to use the City’s curbside service than it is to compost;
- 17% say that it’s too hard to compost;
- 11% say that the City has started offering curbside to them now; and,
- 11% say they are generating too few kitchen scraps to worry about composting.

Sixteen percent (16%) of the 616 households say that they both compost at home and occasionally put food scraps in their organics cart. Among these people, most say that they amount of food they compost has remained the same over the years:^{xli}

- 56% say that the amount of food they compost has not changed since they started using their organics cart for food waste;
- 19% say that the amount of food they compost has decreased; and,
- 14% say that the amount of food they compost has increased.

Use of City-Supplied Bins

The 125 people who currently compost at least some of their food waste were asked if they used any type of outdoor bin or container for composting these food scraps. About two-thirds (64%) said that they used an outdoor bin or container for composting food scraps. This is down substantially from five years ago when 84% said they used an outdoor bin for composting their food scraps.

Table 25: Bin Usage for Food Scraps^{xlii}

	December 2010 (125)	December 2005 (156)
Base: Compost food scraps		
Use an outdoor bin or container	64%	84%
Do not use an outdoor bin	29%	16%

Among those who have an outdoor bin, about one-half say that the bin was obtained from the City.

Table 26: Usage of City-Provided Bin^{xliii}

	December 2010 (125)	December 2005 (156)
Base: Compost Food Scraps		
Provided by/Received from the City	30%	45%
Obtained elsewhere	31%	36%
Do not use a bin	29%	16%

Of the 37 people who have a City-provided bin:^{xliiv}

- 62% have a green cone;
- 14% have a worm bin; and,
- 24% don't know what type of a bin it is.

Most people with a City-provided bin say that the bin is in good working order:^{xliv}

- 32% say the bin is like new;
- 38% say it's no longer like new, but it is still working very well;
- 22% say it's in need of some repair, but still working fairly well; and,
- 5% said it was in need of replacement.

Those who compost food waste were asked about their likelihood of purchasing a new composting bin in the next year or so:^{xlvi}

- 5% were *extremely likely* to purchase a new bin;
- 7% were *very likely*;
- 13% were *somewhat likely*;
- 22% were *not very likely*; and,
- 46% were *not at all likely*.

After applying the standard discount algorithm, about 6% of the food waste composters say they are likely to purchase a new bin in the next year or so (without considering cost).

If the cost of a new food waste bin from the City was \$35, about 14% said they were at least somewhat likely to purchase one:^{xlvii}

- 3% were *extremely likely* to purchase a \$35 bin;
- 3% were *very likely*;
- 8% were *somewhat likely*;
- 26% were *not very likely*; and
- 51% were *not at all likely*.

Applying the discount factors to account for the disparity between intentions and behaviors, the demand for a City-provided bin is estimated at 3% of the food waste composters at a price of \$35.

If the bins were \$10 less expensive and sold for \$25 per bin, interest increases a little:^{xlviii}

- 5% of the food waste composters were *extremely likely* to purchase one;
- 6% were *very likely*;
- 6% were *somewhat likely*;
- 26% were *not very likely*; and,
- 50% were *not at all likely*.

Applying the discount factors, at a cost of \$25, this equates to a demand among food waste composters equaling 5%. This level of demand is remarkably similar to five years ago when 7% of those who composted food waste said they would be in the market for a \$25 bin.

Garbage Disposal Usage

Among the 616 Seattle residents, 90% report that they have a garbage disposal and 30% of those with a garbage disposal say they use it at least occasionally for food scraps. This is dramatically lower than was discovered five years ago when 60% of those with a garbage disposal said they used it at least occasionally.

Among the 30% who report at least occasional use, about one-half (46%) say that they use it at least once a day. Among those who ever use their disposal, the regularity of usage has trended downward.

**Table 27: Regularity of Garbage Disposal Usage^{xlix}
Among Those Who Ever Use the Disposal**

December 2010 December 2005

Base: Use Disposal

Use it several times a day	20%	29%
Use it about once a day	26%	27%
Use it no more than a few times a week	34%	28%
Use it less often than a few times a week	17%	14%

In summary, compared to five years ago, there are just as many households that own garbage disposals; however, only half as many households are using them and those who do use them tend to do so less regularly.

Among those who have and use a garbage disposal, the percentage who also compost some food scraps has remained stable and the percentage who also put some in their organics cart has increased significantly:

Table 28: Food Waste Disposal Behaviors among Garbage Disposal Users

December 2010 December 2005

Base: Have and Use Disposal

Also compost	16%	18%
Also use the curbside organics cart	84%	45%

The decreased usage of garbage disposals has not contributed to an increase in composting behaviors. Among those who either do not have or do not use a garbage disposal, the percentage who are composting some food scraps has decreased over the past five years:

**Table 29: Food Waste Disposal Behaviors
Among Those Without Garbage Disposals**

December 2010 December 2005

Base: Do Not Have / Use Disposal

Compost at least some food scraps	22%	33%
Put at least some food scraps in organics cart	88%	53%

Use of Curbside Pick-Up Services

Now that the opportunity has been available for about six years, 87% of all Seattle residents report that they are putting food scraps in their food and yard waste container. This is up significantly from five years ago when 49% of all Seattle households were using this service.

Of those who are putting at least some food waste in their yard waste container for pick-up (537 people), 50% report that they exclusively use this organics cart for food scraps. The other one-half are also using alternative methods for at least some food waste:

- 18% also compost some food scraps;
- 20% also put some food scraps in the regular garbage; and,
- 26% also put some food scraps in the garbage disposal.

Storage of Curbside Bound Food Scraps

Seventy-two percent (72%) of those who place at least some of their food scraps in their curbside food and yard waste cart say that they store those foods scraps in a container in the kitchen before taking them to the cart.ⁱ This percentage has not changed since 2005 when 71% said they do the same. Eighteen percent (18%) say they immediately take these food scraps outside and 5% say they refrigerate or freeze the food scraps.

Of those who store their food scraps in a container in the kitchen (419 people):ⁱⁱ

- 69% use a reusable kitchen container;
- 12% use a compostable bag;
- 10% use a plastic bag;
- 7% use a paper bag; and,
- 2% us a waxed milk carton.

Females are more likely than males to use a reusable kitchen container (73% versus 64% respectively) and males are more likely than females to use a regular plastic bag (14% compared to 6% respectively).

Regardless of how food scraps are stored in the kitchen, most people say that the food scraps placed in the yard waste container are loose (55%).ⁱⁱⁱ Males are more likely than females to place food scraps in loose (62% versus 50% respectively). Paper bags are the most frequently mentioned container system used:

- 55% deposit their food scraps in with their yard waste loose;
- 24% contain them inside a paper bag;
- 16% contain them in a compostable bag;
- 9% wrap them in newspaper; and,
- 4% put them in a plastic bag.

Satisfaction with Food and Yard Waste Pick-Up Services

Overall, satisfaction with the City's food and yard waste collection service is very high.ⁱⁱⁱⁱ Using a seven-point scale, the average satisfaction rating is 6.2:

- 61% rated their satisfaction a value of seven;
- 18% rated it a value of six;
- 12% rated it a value of five; and,

- 8% rated it a value of four or below.

When asked what could be done to improve: ^{liv}

- 38% said there was nothing the City could do to improve the service;
- 6% said the price could be lowered;
- 6% said the quality of the containers needed to be improved;
- 5% said the City should offer more garbage container sizes;
- 4% requested that the City offer more container sizes without specifying what type;
- 3% said the City should provide more or better education to people about what and can't be recycled or put in the organics cart; and,
- 3% said that yard waste should be collected more often.

Potential Market – Detailed Findings

Potential Yard Waste Market

Sixty-seven percent (67%) of those with a lawn or garden currently either do not (or do not know if they do) compost their yard waste. This is up from 59% of the eligible market in 2005.

Ninety-five percent (95%) of those who do not compost use curbside pick-up service for yard waste. This is up from 88% in 2005 and 2000.

Those who were not composting their yard waste were asked how likely they might be to do so in the next year or so if they were provided more information about how to make it easier and pest free.

**Table 30: Likely to Compost Yard Waste in the Next Year
Among Non-Composters of Yard Waste^{iv}**

<i>Base = Non-yard waste composters</i>	December '10 (380)	December'05 (336)	January '00 (294)
Extremely likely	9%	7%	7%
Very likely	11%	14%	14%
Somewhat likely	23%	27%	33%
Not very likely	22%	21%	23%
Not at all likely	32%	28%	19%

The percent of non-yard waste composters who are likely to compost in the future has not changed over the past ten years. When discounted to better reflect likely behaviors, the data continues to indicate that about 10% of the non-yard waste composters are likely to start composting in the next year.

That said, the strength of conviction about likelihood to compost has changed over the past ten years. Compared to 2000, the percentage saying they are “somewhat” likely to compost can go down by 10 percentage points and the percentage saying they are “not at all likely” to compost has gone up by 13 percentage points.

Bin Distribution

The percentage of non-yard waste composters who have a City-supplied bin has not changed in the past five years:

Table 31: Possession of Composting Bin^{lvi}

Base = Non-yard waste composters	December '10 (380)	December '05 (336)	January '00 (294)
Have any yard waste composting bin they could use	16%	13%	17%
Have a City-supplied bin they could use	10%	8%	8%

Without regard to cost, interest in purchasing a bin designed specifically for yard waste composting in the next year or so is moderate:^{lvii}

- 7% are *extremely likely* to purchase a composting bin;
- 7% are *very likely*;
- 16% are *somewhat likely*; and,
- 67% are *not very* or *not at all likely* to purchase a composting bin.

Discounted to better reflect likely behaviors, this equates to demand among roughly 8% of the non-yard waste composting households.

Assuming a price of \$35 per bin, interest in purchase a City-provided bin decreases:^{lviii}

- 4% are *extremely likely* to purchase a composting bin;
- 5% are *very likely*;
- 12% are *somewhat likely*; and,
- 76% are *not very* or *not at all likely* to purchase a \$35 composting bin.

Adjusting these numbers to better predict behaviors, roughly 5% of the non-yard waste composters are likely to purchase a bin from the City at a price of \$35.

Assuming a lower price of \$25 per bin, interest in purchasing a City-provided bin increases a little bit:^{lix}

- 7% are *extremely likely* to purchase a composting bin;
- 7% are *very likely*;
- 11% are *somewhat likely*; and,
- 72% are *not very* or *not at all likely* to purchase a \$25 composting bin.

Adjusting these numbers to better predict behaviors, roughly 7% of the non-yard waste composters are likely to purchase a bin from the City at a price of \$25.

Potential Grasscycling Market

About four out of ten (39%) of those who have a lawn report that they never leave grass clippings on their lawn. This has trended upward since 2005 when 33% reported the same.

Respondents were asked how likely they would be to leave grass clippings on the lawn in the future if they had more information about how this makes mowing the lawn easier, improves the health of the lawn, and saves money on fertilizer applications.

Table 32: Likelihood of Grasscycling in the Future^{lx}

Base = Those who never grasscycle	December '10 (191)	December '05 (170)	January '00 (185)
Extremely likely	6%	6%	10%
Very likely	12%	15%	21%
Somewhat likely	23%	28%	26%
Not very likely	22%	24%	19%
Not at all likely	30%	22%	18%

Intentions to grasscycle in the future have declined over the past 10 years. In 2010, 18% stated they were likely to grasscycle if they had information about how it made it easier to mow and improved the health of the lawn. Ten years ago in 2000, about one and one-half times as many people stated the same (31%).

Discounted to reflect likely behaviors, the 2010 data suggests that even with an effective and compelling educational program, about 9% of the population with a lawn who never grasscycle will start leaving clippings on the lawn.

Potential Food Waste Composting Market

Among the 491 Seattle residents who are not currently composting their food scraps, likelihood to start composting in the next year or so is relatively low:^{lxi}

- 3% say they are *extremely likely* to start composting food waste;
- 7% say they are *very likely*;
- 13% are *somewhat likely*;
- 26% are *not very likely*; and,
- 48% are *not at all likely*.

Applying the discount factors, these results indicate that about 5% of the non-food waste composters are likely to start composting within the next year or so. This is comparable to 2005 when 4% of the non-food waste composters said they were likely to start composting in the next year.

Bin Distribution

Sixteen percent (16%) of the non-food waste composters (491 people) report that they own a compost bin that they could use if they wanted to.^{lxii} Of these 79 people who currently own a bin:^{lxiii}

- 25% say it is not a bin provided by the City;
- 43% say it is a green cone provided by the City;
- 11% say it is a worm bin provided by the City; and,
- 21% say they don't know what type of bin it is.

Among those who are likely to start composting, interest in purchasing a new food waste composting bin in the next year or so is moderate.^{lxiv} Among these 114 people:

- 13% say they are *extremely likely* to purchase a new bin;
- 25% say they are *very likely*;
- 28% are *somewhat likely*;
- 17% are not *very likely*; and,
- 13% are *not at all likely*.

Applying the discounts, we might expect to see about 18% of the people who are likely to compost interested in purchasing a new bin if cost is not a consideration.

Interest in purchasing a new composting bin from the City, at a cost of \$35, is lower:^{lxv}

- 7% say they are *extremely likely* to purchase a \$35 bin;
- 16% say they are *very likely*;
- 33% say they are *somewhat likely*;
- 23% say they are *not very likely*; and,
- 18% say they are *not at all likely*.

When discounted, about 10% of those likely to compost food scraps would be interested in purchasing a \$35 bin.

Interest in a bin for \$25 is a little higher:^{lxvi}

- 12% say they are *extremely likely* to purchase a \$25 bin;
- 24% are *very likely*;
- 25% are *somewhat likely*;
- 19% are *not very likely*; and,
- 17% are *not at all likely*.

Using the discounts to adjust for likely future behavior, at a cost of \$25 we may expect to see a potential market of about 17% of those likely to start composting.

Usage of Curbside Pick-up for Food Scraps

Of the small percentage of the market who do not use curbside pick-up for food scraps (57 people), 72% are aware that food waste can be placed in the organics bin.^{lxvii} Their primary reasons for not putting food scraps in the organics cart are:^{lxviii}

- 21% compost food scraps instead;
- 21% are concerned about the health hazards and attracting rodents;
- 14% say it's too time consuming and/or too big a hassle; and,
- 14% say they don't have enough food scraps to make it worth their time.

These 57 people who were not using the curbside service for food waste were asked how likely it is that their household will start putting at least some of the food waste in the organics cart within the coming year:^{lxix}

- 11% said their household is *extremely likely* to start;
- 18% said they are *very likely*;
- 30% said they are *somewhat likely*;
- 16% said they are *not very likely*; and,
- 26% said they are *not at all likely*.

Discounted, the data indicates that about 14% of the non-curbside organics service households will start using the curbside cart in the coming year.

Among these 57 people, likelihood to start putting food scraps in the organics cart does not change much if the collection schedule is changed so that the regular garbage is picked up every other week instead of every week.^{lxx} Under an every other week schedule:

- 11% said they are *extremely likely* to start using the organics cart for food scraps;
- 16% said they are *very likely*;
- 19% said they are *somewhat likely*;
- 16% said they are *not very likely*; and,
- 35% said they are *not at all likely*.

Discounted, with a change in collection schedule, about 13% of these households will start putting food scraps in the food and yard waste cart.

Every Other Week Garbage – Detailed Findings

All respondents were told that the City is considering changing garbage to an every other week (EOW) collection schedule and asked how satisfied they would be with that service level.^{lxxi} Most people lack enthusiasm for this potential change:

- 6% said they would be *extremely satisfied* with EOW garbage service;
- 13% said they would be *very satisfied*;
- 23% said they would be *somewhat satisfied*;
- 24% said they would *not be very satisfied*; and,
- 29% said they would *not be at all satisfied*.

Satisfaction is lowest among those who subscribe to larger can service. Only 11% of those with 64-gallon (or more) can service say they would be satisfied with EOW garbage service compared to 21% of those with a micro or mini can. Satisfaction is also lower among those with children in the household (14% versus 21% of those without children say they would be satisfied with this reduced level of service).

Compared to Caucasians, those who are not white are less likely to be satisfied with EOW garbage service. Twenty-one percent (21%) of Caucasians said they would be “extremely” or “very” satisfied with EOW garbage service compared to 10% of those who are not white. |

Fats, Oils and Grease – Detailed Findings

Respondents were asked how their household usually deals with grease that is left-over from cooking meats like bacon.^{lxxii} Most people report that they throw grease in the regular garbage:

- 56% say they throw it in the regular garbage;
- 20% say they put it in their food and yard waste container for curbside pick-up;
- 7% say they put it down the garbage disposal;
- 3% say they put it down their sink drain (no garbage disposal); and,
- 3% put it in their compost bin or pile at home.

About one-half of these households say that they generate this type of cooking grease no more than once a month (51%):^{lxxiii}

- 1% say they generate this type of grease daily;
 - 6% say several times a week;
 - 12% say about one time a week;
 - 24% say not once a week, but several times a month;
 - 22% say about once a month;
 - 29% say less often than once a month.
- } 43%
- } 51%

Usage of a deep fat fryer is infrequent.^{lxxiv} Eighty-five percent (85%) of the households say they never use a deep fat fryer, and 5% say they use one only about once a year. Those who ever use a deep fat fryer were asked how they disposed of the used grease or oil.^{lxxv} About one-half (54%) said that they put the grease in a container and put that container in with the regular garbage:

- 54% place the grease inside a container in their regular garbage;
- 9% put it in a container in the food and yard waste cart;
- 6% put it in their food and yard waste cart without using a container;
- 6% pour it down their household drain;
- 6% say they recycle or reuse the oil;
- 3% say they compost it at home; and,
- 2% say they put it in their garden.

Appendix 1
Questionnaire and Frequencies

Hello, this is with Market Decisions, an independent market research firm in the Northwest. Today/Tonight we are conducting a survey for the City of Seattle about yard and food waste. Your answers will help the City plan their yard and food waste programs. This interview will take about 15 minutes.

N =		616	100%
OK-->Start the survey from the beginning.....1	=> CTIM1	616	100%
Respondent Not Available-->Enter disposition.....2		0	0%
OK-->Start the survey with LANGUAGE LINE on the phone.....3	=> CTIM1	0	0%

S1. Do you live in this household and are you 18 years of age or older?

N =		616	100%
Yes.....1		616	100%
No.....2		0	0%
DK/REF.....3		0	0%

S2. Do you live within the city limits of Seattle? PROMPT IF NEEDED: The city limits include the area north of 100th Street in South Seattle and south of 145th Street in North Seattle.

N =		616	100%
Yes.....1	=> QS3	616	100%
No.....2		0	0%
DK/REF.....3		0	0%

S3. How many years have you lived in Seattle? (RECORD NUMBER) (USE 99 FOR LESS THAN ONE YEAR)

\$E 1 96

N =		616	100%
Less than 1 year.....99		8	1%

F4. What type of home do you live in? Is it:

N =		616	100%
A single-family house.....1		591	96%
A duplex.....2		11	2%
A triplex or townhome with 3 units.....3		14	2%
A four-plex.....4		0	0%
An apartment, condominium or townhouse with more than four units...5		0	0%
Something else.....6		0	0%
DK/REF.....7		0	0%

S4. For this survey, I need to speak with the person in this household who is most responsible for handling the household's organic waste-that is, yard waste and food waste. Would that be you?

N =		616	100%
Yes, I am responsible.....1		573	93%
Shared equally with another.....2		43	7%
No, I am not responsible.....3		0	0%
DK/REF.....4		0	0%

S5. Does your home have a yard?				
N =	.....		616	100%
Yes	.....1		586	95%
No	.....2	=> QS7	28	5%
DK/REF	.....3	=> QS7	2	0%

S6. Do you personally take care of your yard at home, does someone else in your household take care of it, do you hire a professional landscaper, or do you hire someone else to do it?				
N =	.....		586	100%
I do it/I'm equally responsible for it	.....1		475	81%
Someone else in household takes care of it	.....2		37	6%
Have a landscaper	.....3		27	5%
Hire someone else	.....4		38	6%
Other	.....5		8	1%
DK/REF	.....6		1	0%

S7. Does your household have curbside pick-up service for yard and food waste?				
N =	.....		616	100%
Yes	.....1		595	97%
No	.....2	=> QS10	20	3%
DK/REF	.....3	=> QS10	1	0%

S8. For how many years has your household had yard and food waste curbside pick-up service at this address? Would you say... (READ LIST)				
N =	.....		596	100%
Less than 1 year	.....1		99	17%
1 year, but less than 3 years	.....2		121	20%
3 years, but less than 5 years	.....3		78	13%
5 years, but less than 10 years	.....4		100	17%
10 years or more	.....5		154	26%
DK/REF	.....6		44	7%

S9. What size container does your household have? Is it a ...				
N =	.....		595	100%
13-gallon container (that costs \$3.60 per month or \$7.20 on your bi-monthly bill)	.....	=> CTIM2	95	16%
32-gallon container (that costs \$5.40 per month or \$10.80 on your bi-monthly bill)2	.....	=> CTIM2	137	23%
96-gallon container (that costs \$6.90 per month or \$13.80 on your bi-monthly bill)3	.....	=> CTIM2	284	48%
DK/REF	.....4	=> CTIM2	79	13%

S10. Does your household have a special exemption from the City saying you don't need to sign up for curbside pick-up for yard and food waste?				
N =	.....		21	100%
Yes	.....1		10	48%
No	.....2		7	33%
DK/REF	.....3		4	19%

A1. These next questions are about your yard. Does your home have a lawn-that is, an area with grass?

N =	586	100%
Yes.....1	491	84%
No.....2	94	16%
DK/REF.....3	1	0%

A2. Does your home have a garden?

N =	586	100%
Yes.....1	457	78%
No.....2	127	22%
DK/REF.....3	2	0%

A3. Is it a vegetable or fruit garden, a flower garden, or some other type of garden? (ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES)

N =	457	100%
Vegetable and/or fruit garden.....01	280	61%
Flower.....02	358	78%
Herb.....03	70	15%
Rock.....04	26	6%
Other (SPECIFY).....99	4	1%
DK/REF.....06	2	0%
TREES.....07	18	4%
GARDEN OF LOCAL/NATURALLY OCCURRING PLANTS OF THE AREA 08	0	0%
SHRUB/SHRUBBERY/BUSHES.....09	0	0%

A4. These next questions ask how your household manages its yard waste. For the purposes of this survey, when we use the word "compost" it means the breakdown of food or yard waste into a material that can be used to improve the soil. Does your household ever put yard waste out at the curb or alley for collection?

N =	567	100%
Yes.....1	520	92%
No.....2	=> QA7 45	8%
DK/REF.....3	=> QA7 2	0%

A5. How has your household changed the amount of yard waste that is picked-up at the curb or alley? Compared to last year, would you say that your household now takes more yard waste to the curb, less yard waste, or has the amount not changed?

N =	520	100%
More yard waste is picked up at the curb.....1	226	43%
The same amount.....2	=> QA7 245	47%
Less yard waste is picked up.....3	=> QA7 32	6%
DK/REF.....4	=> QA7 17	3%

A6. What changed? Why does your household now have more yard waste picked up at the curb?

N =	227	100%
Input verbatim.....99	0	0%

A7. Does your household ever take yard waste to a central facility-like a transfer station-where they compost your yard waste?				
N =			566	100%
Yes.....1			93	16%
No.....2	=> QA10		471	83%
DK/REF.....3	=> QA10		2	0%

A8. Thinking about the past year, how many times have you or has someone in your household, dropped off yard waste at a transfer station?				
N =			94	100%
Once.....1			29	31%
Twice.....2			29	31%
3 - 4 times.....3			17	18%
5 - 9 times.....4			6	6%
10 - 14 times.....5			1	1%
15 or more times.....6			3	3%
DK/REF.....7			9	10%

A9. Compared to last year, is your household taking yard waste to transfer stations more often, less often or about the same amount?				
N =			93	100%
More often.....1			9	10%
Same amount.....2			55	59%
Less often.....3			28	30%
DK/REF.....4			1	1%

A10. Does your household currently compost any of its yard waste at home on your own property?				
N =			566	100%
Yes.....1			186	33%
No.....2	=> QA21		379	67%
DK/REF.....3	=> QA21		1	0%

QA10b. About how much of the yard waste that your household generates - including leaves, grass, prunings, etc. - would you estimate you compost on your property? Would you say you compost:				
N =			186	100%
All or almost all of your yard waste on your property.....1			51	27%
About three-quarters of it.....2			14	8%
About one-half of it.....3			31	17%
About one-quarter of it or.....4			41	22%
Less than that.....5			50	26%
DK/REF.....6			2	1%

A11. Thinking about just the yard waste that you compost on your own property, compared to last year, would you say that you now compost more yard waste at home, less yard waste, or are you composting about the same amount of yard waste at home?

N =		186	100%
More now	=> QA13	35	19%
About the same	=> QA13	126	67%
Less now		24	13%
DK/REF	=> QA13	3	2%

A12. Why does your household compost less at home than you did last year?
(OPEN END) (ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES)

N =		24	100%
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A13. Which of the following types of yard waste materials are you currently composting at home? Are you composting: (READ LIST) (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

N =		187	100%
Grass		135	72%
Leaves		148	79%
Weeds		89	48%
Whole plants - like tomato vines or annual flowers		106	57%
Small twigs and branches		90	48%
OTHER (specify)		16	9%
DK/REF		3	2%
FOOD WASTE/SCRAPS		0	0%

A14. Does your household use a yard waste compost bin, do you pile it up without a bin, or do you do something else with it?

N =		187	100%
USE IT AS COMPOST MATERIAL ON THE YARD		10	5%
Use a bin		119	64%
Pile it up without a bin	=> QA18	37	20%
Other (specify)	=> QA18	7	4%
DK/REF	=> QA18	8	4%
BURRY IT/PUT IN THE GROUND		2	1%
WORM BOX		4	2%

A15. To the best of your knowledge, is the bin you have one that was purchased from the City, or did you get it some other way?

N =		119	100%
Purchased from the City	=> QA17	66	55%
Got it some other way	=> QA17	42	35%
DK - bin was here when we moved in		5	4%
DK/REF		6	5%

A16. Can you please describe what your bin(s) looks like? (PROBE FOR SHAPE, MATERIAL AND COLORS) (DO NOT READ LIST)

N =	11	100%
Input verbatim	0	0%
The Earth Machine/Squat Black Cone with Small Door.....	0	0%
City of Seattle/Green Cylinder With Black Top and Bottom.....	5	45%
LARGE PLASTIC ROUND GREEN BIN	3	27%
LARGE PLASTIC ROUND BROWN BIN.....	2	18%
OTHER.....	1	9%

A17. How would you describe the condition of the bin that you have? Would you say that it is:

N =	119	100%
Like new	40	34%
No longer like new, but still working very well	55	46%
In need of some repair, but still working fairly well	13	11%
In need of replacement	9	8%
DK/REF.....	2	2%

A18. Just thinking about the next year or so, and assuming that cost was not a consideration, how likely are you to get a (new) composting bin for the yard waste you compost on your own property? Would you say you are:

N =	187	100%
Extremely likely to purchase a (new) backyard composting bin.....	12	6%
Very likely.....	18	10%
Somewhat likely	17	9%
Not very likely.....	46	25%
Not at all likely	94	50%

=> PA21
=> PA21

A19. As you may know, the City of Seattle distributes yard waste composting bins designed specifically for backyard composting. This bin is a plastic cylinder with green sides and a black top and bottom. It stands 3 feet tall and is about 2 feet in diameter. The bins are available online-through the City's website, or you can call the City to order it. Next year, assuming the price is \$35 per bin, how likely are you to purchase a new yard waste composting bin from the City? Would you say you are:

N =	47	100%
Extremely likely	7	15%
Very likely.....	7	15%
Somewhat likely	11	23%
Not very likely.....	11	23%
Not at all likely	10	21%
DK/REF.....	1	2%

=> PA21

A20. Next year, assuming the price is \$10 less than that, at \$25 per bin, how likely are you to purchase a new yard waste composting bin from the City? Would you say you are:

N =		40	100%
Extremely likely	1	5	13%
Very likely.....	2	11	28%
Somewhat likely.....	3	6	15%
Not very likely.....	4	9	23%
Not at all likely.....	5	7	18%
DK/REF.....	6	2	5%

A21. Even though you may not be using it, does your household currently have a compost bin that you could use if you decided to compost your yard waste at home?

N =		380	100%
Yes.....	1	63	17%
No.....	2	=> QA24 312	82%
DK/REF.....	3	=> QA24 5	1%

A22. Is this a compost bin that you got from the City, or do you have some other type of bin?

N =		63	100%
Have a City-supplied bin.....	1	=> QA24 34	54%
Have some other type of bin.....	2	=> QA24 19	30%
DK-Bin was here when we moved in.....	3	5	8%
DK/REF.....	4	5	8%

A23. Can you please describe what your bin looks like? (PROBE FOR SHAPE, MATERIAL, COLOR) (DO NOT READ LIST)

N =		10	100%
Input verbatim	99	0	0%
The Earth Machine/Squat Black Cone with Small Door.....	01	0	0%
City of Seattle/Green Cylinder With Black Top and Bottom.....	02	4	40%
LARGE PLASTIC ROUND GREEN BIN.....	11	1	10%
LARGE PLASTIC ROUND BROWN BIN.....	12	1	10%
OTHER.....	96	0	0%

A24. How do you feel about composting your yard waste at home? If you got information about how to make it easy and pest free, how likely would you be to start composting yard waste in the next year or so? Would your household be:

N =		380	100%
Extremely likely to compost yard waste in the next year or so.....	1	33	9%
Very likely.....	2	40	11%
Somewhat likely.....	3	89	23%
Not very likely.....	4	=> PA29 85	22%
Not at all likely.....	5	=> PA29 122	32%
DK/REF.....	6	=> PA29 11	3%

A25. Thinking about the next year or so, and assuming that cost was not a consideration, how likely are you to get a (new) bin designed specifically to compost yard waste at home? Would you say you are:

N =		162	100%
Extremely likely to purchase a (new) composting bin.....1		28	17%
Very likely.....2		26	16%
Somewhat likely.....3		59	36%
Not very likely.....4	=> PA29	31	19%
Not at all likely.....5	=> PA29	15	9%
DK/REF.....6		3	2%

A26. Were you aware that the City offers a yard waste compost bin designed specifically for composting yard waste at home?

=> +1 if QA22=1

N =		107	100%
Yes.....1		32	30%
No.....2		73	68%
DK/REF.....3		2	2%

A27. As you may know, the City of Seattle offers bins that are designed specifically for composting yard waste at home. The bin is a plastic cylinder with green sides and a black top and bottom. It stands 3 feet tall and is about 2 feet in diameter. The bins are available online by visiting the City's website, or you can call the City to order it. Assuming the price per bin is \$35, in the next year or so, how likely are you to purchase a yard waste composting bin from the City for your home? Would you say you are:

N =		116	100%
Extremely likely .....1	=> PA29	15	13%
Very likely.....2		19	16%
Somewhat likely.....3		47	41%
Not very likely.....4		22	19%
Not at all likely.....5		13	11%
DK/REF.....6		0	0%

A28. Assuming the price per bin is \$10 less at \$25, in the next year or so, how likely are you to purchase a yard waste composting bin from the City for your home? Would you say you are:

N =		101	100%
Extremely likely .....1		11	11%
Very likely.....2		25	25%
Somewhat likely.....3		41	41%
Not very likely.....4		15	15%
Not at all likely.....5		7	7%
DK/REF.....6		2	2%

A29. Now about your lawn. When you mow your lawn, or have your lawn mowed, what is typically done with the grass clippings? (DO NOT READ)

N =		491	100%
Put in yard waste bin and taken to the curb.....01		190	39%
Raked or bagged and taken to the curb.....02		19	4%
Raked or bagged and taken to the transfer station.....03		4	1%
Composted in the yard or somewhere on my property.....04		72	15%
Leave them on the lawn/Leave them on the ground/Mulch them with a mulching mower.....05	=> QA32A	162	33%
Don't mow .....06	=> QA39	4	1%
Landscaper hauls them away.....07		25	5%
Other (SPECIFY) .....99		2	0%
DK/REF.....09		14	3%

A30. Does your household ever leave grass clippings on the lawn when it's mowed?

N =		337	100%
Yes.....1		143	42%
No.....2		184	55%
DK/REF.....3		10	3%

A31. What might make you want to leave your grass clippings on your lawn? If you had more information about how leaving the grass clippings on makes mowing easier, improves the health of the lawn, and saves money on fertilizer applications, how likely would you be to start leaving your clippings on the lawn? Would you be :

N =		191	100%
Extremely likely .....1	=> QA34	12	6%
Very likely.....2	=> QA34	22	12%
Somewhat likely.....3	=> QA34	44	23%
Not very likely.....4	=> QA34	42	22%
Not at all likely.....5	=> QA34	57	30%
DK/REF.....6	=> QA34	14	8%

A32A. When your household's lawn is mowed during the Spring (March, April, May), how often do you leave your grass clippings on the lawn? Would you say the grass clippings are left on the lawn regularly, occasionally, rarely or never?

N =		293	100%
Regularly .....1		169	58%
Occasionally.....2		85	29%
Rarely.....3		23	8%
Never.....4		8	3%
DK.....5		8	3%

A32B. How about when it's mowed in the Summer (June, July, August)? Would you say you leave your grass clippings on the lawn regularly, occasionally, rarely or never?

N =	293	100%
Regularly .....1	188	64%
Occasionally .....2	58	20%
Rarely .....3	24	8%
Never .....4	19	6%
DK .....5	4	1%

A32C. How about when it's mowed in the Fall (Sept, Oct, Nov)? Would you say you leave your grass clippings on the lawn regularly, occasionally, rarely or never?

N =	293	100%
Regularly .....1	171	58%
Occasionally .....2	64	22%
Rarely .....3	31	11%
Never .....4	24	8%
DK .....5	3	1%

A33. If you had more information about how leaving the grass clippings on makes mowing easier, improves the health of the lawn, and saves money on fertilizer applications, how likely would you be to start leaving your clippings on the lawn? Would you be :

N =	24	100%
Extremely likely .....1	5	21%
Very likely.....2	2	8%
Somewhat likely .....3	7	29%
Not very likely.....4	2	8%
Not at all likely .....5	4	17%
DK/REF.....6	4	17%

A34. What type of a mower is typically used for mowing your household's lawn now? Is the mower a mulch mower-that is, a mower designed specifically to chop grass clippings into small pieces so they can be left on the lawn?

N =	487	100%
Yes, use a mulch mower.....1	206	42%
No, not a mulch mower .....2	203	42%
Someone else mows .....3	30	6%
DK/REF.....4	48	10%

A35. And, is the mower...

N =	487	100%
A push reel mower.....01	98	20%
A corded electric mower .....02	80	16%
A cordless electric mower .....03	36	7%
A gas-powered mower.....04	245	50%
Or, some other type of mower (SPECIFY) .....99	1	0%
Don't know/Refused .....06	24	5%
WEED WHACKER .....11	3	1%

A36. Where is the blade on your mower set? Is it set to cut the lawn about 1 inch tall, about 2 inches tall, 3 inches tall, or even taller? (PROBE FOR "BEST ESTIMATE")

N =	487	100%
1 inch.....1	83	17%
2 inches.....2	215	44%
3 inches.....3	60	12%
Taller than 3 inches.....4	10	2%
DK.....5	119	24%

A38. Assume that you could purchase a new mulch mower made by a well-known mower manufacturer for about 20% off the retail list price. In the next year or so, how likely is your household to purchase a mulch mower like I described?

N =	487	100%
Extremely likely.....1	6	1%
Very likely.....2	12	2%
Somewhat likely.....3	58	12%
Not very likely.....4	128	26%
Not at all likely.....5	263	54%
DK/REF.....6	20	4%

=> +1 else => QA40 if QA34=1 AND QA35=02,03

N =	0	100%
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A39. Have you ever participated in a program offered by the City of Seattle where you got a rebate on the purchase of an electric mulch mower for recycling your used gas powered lawn mower?

N =	75	100%
Yes.....1	10	13%
No.....2	62	83%
DK/REF.....3	3	4%

A40. If the City of Seattle offered a program where you could turn in your old gas powered lawnmower and receive a \$25 rebate on the purchase of an electric mulch mower, how likely would you be to participate?

N =	245	100%
Extremely likely.....1	2	1%
Very likely.....2	18	7%
Somewhat likely.....3	52	21%
Not very likely.....4	56	23%
Not at all likely.....5	101	41%
DK/REF.....6	16	7%

B1. These next questions are about food waste-that is, table or kitchen scraps left over from eating or cooking, including the scraps left on plates after a snack or meal. These include paper napkins, greasy cardboard pizza boxes, used coffee filters and teabags, along with leftover bones, meat, cheese, grains, fruit and vegetables. In your household, who is usually in charge of organizing what happens with food scraps in the kitchen, that is, organizing how the food scraps are handled, stored and disposed? Would that be... (PROBE FOR WHO IS "USUALLY" IN CHARGE) (USE "SHARED EQUALLY" ONLY WHEN ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY)

N =	616	100%
You.....01	495	80%
Your spouse or partner .....02	51	8%
A child.....03	1	0%
Some other family member .....04	6	1%
Someone else (SPECIFY) .....99	0	0%
(DO NOT READ) Shared Equally .....07	60	10%
DK/REF.....06	3	0%
CLEANING SERVICES/MAID .....11	0	0%

B2. And, who is usually in charge of taking the food scraps out -- that is, who puts them in the garbage or the compost? Would that be... (PROBE FOR WHO IS "USUALLY" IN CHARGE) (USE "SHARED EQUALLY" ONLY WHEN ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY)

N =	616	100%
You.....01	460	75%
Your spouse or partner .....02	78	13%
A child.....03	16	3%
Some other family member .....04	9	1%
Someone else (SPECIFY) .....99	3	0%
(DO NOT READ) Shared Equally .....07	46	7%
DK/REF.....06	2	0%
CLEANING SERVICES/MAID .....11	2	0%

B3.1. When you think about these food scraps, or other types of food waste that you need to dispose of, what does your household do with them? Do you ever: Put them in your regular trash can

N =	616	100%
Yes.....1	151	25%
No.....2	455	74%
DK.....3	10	2%

B3.2. When you think about these food scraps, or other types of food waste that you need to dispose of, what does your household do with them? Do you ever: Put them down the garbage disposal

N =	616	100%
Yes.....1	167	27%
No.....2	386	63%
DK.....3	2	0%
Don't Have.....4	61	10%

B3.3. When you think about these food scraps, or other types of food waste that you need to dispose of, what does your household do with them? Do you ever: Put them in your food and yard waste cart and take them to the curb or alley for pick-up

N =	616	100%
Yes.....1	537	87%
No.....2	68	11%
DK.....3	4	1%
Don't Have.....4	7	1%

B3.4. When you think about these food scraps, or other types of food waste that you need to dispose of, what does your household do with them? Do you ever: Put them in your compost bin or compost pile at home

N =	616	100%
Yes.....1	125	20%
No.....2	420	68%
DK.....3	5	1%
Don't Have.....4	66	11%

B4. You mentioned that you use a garbage disposal for some of your food waste. How often does your household use the garbage disposal? Do you use it: (READ LIST)

N =	167	100%
Several times a day.....1	33	20%
Once a day.....2	44	26%
A few times a week.....3	57	34%
Once a week,.....4	16	10%
Less often than once a week, or.....5	12	7%
Never.....6	4	2%
DK/REF.....7	1	1%

N =	607	100%
Put into the regular trash can.....01	72	12%
Put down the garbage disposal.....02	85	14%
Put in a food and yard waste cart that you then take to the curb or alley for pickup03	383	63%
Put in a compost bin or pile at home.....04	67	11%
Other (specify).....99	0	0%
DK/REF.....06	0	0%

N =	295	100%
Put into the regular trash can.....01	64	22%
Put down the garbage disposal.....02	70	24%
Put in a food and yard waste cart that you then take to the curb or alley for pickup03	112	38%
Put in a compost bin or pile at home.....04	49	17%
Other (specify).....99	0	0%
DK/REF.....06	0	0%

N =	74	100%
Put into the regular trash can	15	20%
Put down the garbage disposal	12	16%
Put in a food and yard waste cart that you then take to the curb or alley for pickup03	40	54%
Put in a compost bin or pile at home	7	9%
Other (specify).....	0	0%
DK/REF.....	0	0%

N =	4	100%
Put into the regular trash can	0	0%
Put down the garbage disposal	0	0%
Put in a food and yard waste cart that you then take to the curb or alley for pickup03	2	50%
Put in a compost bin or pile at home	2	50%
Other (specify).....	0	0%
DK/REF.....	0	0%

B5. When you think about all the table scraps, kitchen scraps or food waste that your house generates, how do you handle most of it? Does most of your food waste get: (READ LIST)

N =	297	100%
Put into the regular trash can	40	13%
Put down the garbage disposal	23	8%
Put in a food and yard waste cart that you then take to the curb or alley for pickup.....	171	58%
Put in a compost bin or pile at home	49	16%
Other (specify).....	5	2%
DK/REF.....	9	3%

B5. When you think about all the table scraps, kitchen scraps or food waste that your house generates, how do you handle most of it? Does most of your food waste get: (READ LIST)

N =	9	100%
Put into the regular trash can	0	0%
Put down the garbage disposal	1	11%
Put in a food and yard waste cart that you then take to the curb or alley for pickup.....	5	56%
Put in a compost bin or pile at home	2	22%
Other (specify).....	1	11%
DK/REF.....	0	0%

B5. When you think about all the table scraps, kitchen scraps or food waste that your house generates, how do you handle most of it? Does most of your food waste get: (READ LIST)

N =	306	100%
Put into the regular trash can	38	12%
Put down the garbage disposal	24	8%
Put in a food and yard waste cart that you then take to the curb or alley for pickup03	176	58%
Put in a compost bin or pile at home	48	16%
Other (specify).....	11	4%
DK/REF.....	9	3%

B6a. For how many years has your household been putting food scraps into your food and yard waste cart? (RECORD WHOLE NUMBER) (IF LESS THAN 1 YEAR, CODE AS 0)

N =	543	100%
DK/REF.....9	77	14%

B6b. Of all the food scraps your household has, how much would you say goes into your food and yard waste cart? Would you say that...

N =	543	100%
All or almost all of your household's food waste goes into the food and yard waste cart.....1	356	66%
About three quarters.....2	72	13%
About one-half.....3	39	7%
About one-quarter, or.....4	40	7%
Less than that.....5	34	6%
DK/Refused.....6	2	0%

B7. Now that you're putting food scraps in your curbside food and yard waste cart, has the amount of food that you compost in your backyard increased, decreased or stayed about the same ?

N =	99	100%
Increased.....1	14	14%
Stayed the same.....2	56	57%
Decreased.....3	18	18%
DK/REF.....4	11	11%

B8. And, since you started putting food scraps in your curbside food and yard waste cart, has the food that you put into your regular garbage increased, decreased or stayed about the same?

N =	108	100%
Increased.....1	=> QB11 6	6%
Stayed the same.....2	=> QB11 33	31%
Decreased.....3	68	63%
DK/REF.....4	=> QB11 1	1%

B9. Since you've decreased what goes into your regular garbage, have you changed or considered changing the size of the garbage can you use?

N =	68	100%
Yes.....1	=> QB11 29	43%
No.....2	36	53%
DK/REF.....3	=> QB11 3	4%

B10. Why haven't you considered changing the size of the garbage can you use? PROBE WITH: What other reasons or why else have you not considered changing the size of the garbage can?

N =	36	100%
Input verbatim.....99	0	0%

B11. In your household, what is typically done with food scraps at the time they are generated? Do you usually store them in a container in the kitchen, do you refrigerate or freeze them, do you immediately take them outside, or is there a better description?

N =		543	100%
Store them in a container in the kitchen .....	.01	391	72%
Refrigerate or freeze them .....	.02	29	5%
Immediately take them outside.....	.03	=> QB13 97	18%
Other (SPECIFY) .....	.99	=> QB13 10	2%
DK/REF.....	.05	=> QB13 7	1%
STORE THEM IN A COMPOSTABLE BAG .....	.11	6	1%
GARBAGE DISPOSAL.....	.13	3	1%

B12. What do you usually store them in? (DO NOT READ) (IF BAG PROBE FOR TYPE OF BAG) (MULTIPLE RESPONSES OKAY, BUT PROBE FOR WHAT THEY USUALLY STORE THEM IN)

N =		411	100%
Reusable kitchen container.....	.01	290	71%
Compostable bag .....	.02	50	12%
Paper bag .....	.03	30	7%
Plastic bag.....	.04	40	10%
Wrapped in newspaper .....	.05	3	1%
Cardboard food box (crackers, cereal, etc.).....	.06	4	1%
Waxed milk carton .....	.07	7	2%
Other (SPECIFY) .....	.99	21	5%
DK/REF.....	.09	4	1%

B13. When you put your food scraps inside your curbside food and yard waste cart, do you usually put the food scraps in loose, do you contain them inside a paper bag, do you wrap them in newspaper, or do you handle it some other way? (DO NOT READ) (IF BAG PROBE FOR TYPE OF BAG) (MULTIPLE RESPONSES OKAY, BUT PROBE FOR WHAT THEY USUALLY STORE THEM IN)

N =		543	100%
Loose .....	.01	300	55%
Compostable bag .....	.02	88	16%
Paper bag .....	.03	130	24%
Plastic bag.....	.04	21	4%
Wrapped in newspaper .....	.05	51	9%
Cardboard food box (crackers, cereal, etc.).....	.06	4	1%
Waxed milk carton .....	.07	6	1%
Other (SPECIFY) .....	.99	11	2%
DK/REF.....	.09	11	2%

B15. Overall, how satisfied are you with the City's food and yard waste collection service? Would you rate this a 7, meaning you are extremely satisfied, a 1 meaning you are not at all satisfied, or would you rate it some number in between?

N =	577	100%
7 - Extremely Satisfied	354	61%
6.....	104	18%
5.....	70	12%
4.....	22	4%
3.....	11	2%
2.....	6	1%
1 - Not at all Satisfied.....	8	1%
DK/Refused.....	2	0%

B16. What could be done to make the service better?

N =	577	100%
Input verbatim	0	0%

B17. You mentioned that you are not currently putting food scraps in your food and yard waste cart for curbside pickup. Before now, were you aware that the City picks up food scraps as part of its curbside yard waste pickup service?

N =	57	100%
Yes.....	41	72%
No.....	11	19%
DK/REF.....	5	9%

=> QB19

=> QB19

B18. For what reasons don't you put your food scraps in with your yard waste for pickup?

N =	41	100%
Input verbatim	0	0%

B19. As you may know, as part of its food and yard waste pickup program, the City picks up food waste that is placed inside the yard waste cart. Knowing that, how likely is your household to start putting at least some of its food waste in your food and yard waste cart within the next year or so? Is your household:

N =	57	100%
Extremely likely	6	11%
Very likely.....	10	18%
Somewhat likely.....	17	30%
Not very likely.....	9	16%
Not at all likely.....	15	26%
DK/REF.....	1	2%

B20. If the City of Seattle changed from a weekly garbage pickup schedule to an every other week garbage pick-up schedule, and kept picking up food and yard waste every week, how likely would you be to start putting your food scraps in with your food and yard waste cart? Would you be...

N =	57	100%
Extremely likely	6	11%
Very likely.....	9	16%
Somewhat likely.....	11	19%
Not very likely.....	9	16%
Not at all likely.....	20	35%
DK/REF.....	2	4%

B21. Right now the City picks up garbage on a weekly basis. They also pick up food and yard waste every week. Now that food scraps are allowed in the weekly yard and food waste service, the City is considering changing garbage to an every other week service. If this change was made, how satisfied would you be?
(READ LIST)

N =	616	100%
Extremely satisfied	38	6%
Very satisfied.....	78	13%
Somewhat satisfied.....	139	23%
Not very satisfied.....	149	24%
Not at all satisfied.....	181	29%
DK/REF.....	31	5%

N1. You mentioned that you (also) compost some food scraps at home. How much of your food waste do you compost at home? Would you say...

N =	125	100%
All or almost all of it	34	27%
About three-quarters of it	16	13%
About one-half of it	21	17%
About one-quarter of it.....	14	11%
Or less than that?	26	21%
DK/REF.....	15	12%

N2. Compared to last year, would you say that you now compost more food waste at home, less food waste at home or are you composting about the same amount?

N =	125	100%	
More now	32	26%	=> QB22
About the same.....	61	49%	=> QB22
Less now.....	18	14%	
DK/REF.....	15	12%	=> QB22

N3. Why does your household compost less food waste at home now?

N =	18	100%
Input verbatim	0	0%

B22. Does your household currently use any type of outdoor bin or container for composting these food scraps?					
N =	.....			125	100%
Yes.....	1			80	64%
No.....	2	=> QN5		36	29%
DK/REF.....	3	=> QN5		9	6%

B23. What type of food waste composting bin do you have? Do you have a food waste composting bin or container that you purchased or received from the City?					
N =	.....			80	100%
Yes.....	1			37	46%
No.....	2	=> QN5		39	49%
DK/REF.....	3	=> QN5		4	5%

B24. What type of food waste or composting bin do you have from the City? Is it a:					
N =	.....			37	100%
Green cone.....	01			23	62%
Worm bin.....	02			5	14%
Or, is there a better description? (SPECIFY)	99			0	0%
DK/REF.....	04			9	24%
BLACK BIN.....	11			0	0%

N4. How would you describe the condition of the food waste composting bin that you have? Would you say it is...					
N =	.....			37	100%
Like new	1			12	32%
No longer like new, but still working very well	2			14	38%
In need of some repair, but still working fairly well	3			8	22%
In need of replacement	4			2	5%
DK/REF.....	5			1	3%

N5. Just thinking about the next year or so, and assuming that cost was not a consideration, how likely are you to get a (new) food waste composting bin for the food waste you compost on your own property? Would you say you are...					
N =	.....			125	100%
Extremely likely to purchase a (new) food waste composting bin	1			6	5%
Very likely.....	2			9	7%
Somewhat likely	3			16	13%
Not very likely.....	4	=> QC1		27	22%
Not at all likely	5	=> QC1		58	46%
DK/REF.....	6	=> QC1		10	8%

B26. As you may know, the City of Seattle has a program to sell bins for composting food scraps like fruits and vegetables at home. These bins are green plastic cones that stand about two and a-half feet tall. They are a low-maintenance way to compost food wastes. If the program was available within the next year or so, how likely would you be to purchase a (new) food waste composting bin or container from the City if it was available for \$35? Would you be:

N =		31	100%
Extremely likely	1	=> QC1 4	13%
Very likely	2	4	13%
Somewhat likely	3	10	32%
Not very likely	4	6	19%
Not at all likely	5	7	23%
DK/REF	6	0	0%

B27. How likely would you be to purchase a (new) food waste composting bin or container from the City if it was available for \$10 less, at \$25? Would you be:

N =		27	100%
Extremely likely	1	2	7%
Very likely	2	7	26%
Somewhat likely	3	7	26%
Not very likely	4	5	19%
Not at all likely	5	5	19%
DK/REF	6	1	4%

B28. I understand that you are not composting food waste at home right now. Even though you may not be using it, does your household own any kind of bin or container that is designed for composting food waste at home in your yard if you wanted to? Please do not include the yard waste container that you take to the curbside if you have one.

N =		491	100%
Yes	1	79	16%
No	2	=> QB31 399	81%
DK/REF	3	=> QB31 13	3%

B29. What type of bin do you have? Do you have a food waste composting bin or container that you purchased or received from the City?

N =		79	100%
Yes	1	55	70%
No	2	=> QB31 20	25%
DK/REF	3	=> QB31 4	5%

B30. What type of bin do you have from the City? Is it a:

N =		55	100%
Green cone	01	34	62%
Worm bin	02	9	16%
Or, is there a better description? (SPECIFY)	99	0	0%
DK/REF	04	13	24%
BLACK BIN	11	0	0%

B31. Thinking about the next year or so, how likely are you to start making some of your own compost by depositing your own food scraps at home on your property? Would you say you are:

N =		491	100%
Extremely likely	1	17	3%
Very likely	2	34	7%
Somewhat likely	3	63	13%
Not very likely	4	=> QC1 126	26%
Not at all likely	5	=> QC1 236	48%
DK/REF	6	=> QC1 15	3%

N6. Thinking about the next year or so, and assuming that cost was not a consideration, how likely are you to get a (new) bin designed specifically to compost food waste at home? Would you say you are...

N =		114	100%
Extremely likely to purchase a (new) food waste composting bin	1	15	13%
Very likely	2	29	25%
Somewhat likely	3	32	28%
Not very likely	4	=> QC1 19	17%
Not at all likely	5	=> QC1 15	13%
DK/REF	6	4	4%

B32. As you may know, the City of Seattle has a program to distribute bins for composting food scraps like fruits and vegetables at home. These bins are green plastic cones that stand about two and a-half feet tall. They are a low-maintenance way to compost food wastes. If the program was available within the next year or so, how likely would you be to purchase a (new) food waste composting bin or container from the City if it was available for \$35? Would you be:

N =		80	100%
Extremely likely	1	=> QC1 8	10%
Very likely	2	18	23%
Somewhat likely	3	38	48%
Not very likely	4	7	9%
Not at all likely	5	6	8%
DK/REF	6	3	4%

B33. How likely would you be to purchase a (new) food waste composting bin or container from the City if it was available for \$10 less, at \$25? Would you be:

N =		72	100%
Extremely likely	1	6	8%
Very likely	2	27	38%
Somewhat likely	3	29	40%
Not very likely	4	3	4%
Not at all likely	5	4	6%
DK/REF	6	3	4%

C1. How does your household handle getting rid of fats, oils and grease? When you have left-over grease from cooking meats like bacon, what does your household usually do with the grease? Do you... (OKAY TO ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES, BUT PROBE FOR USUAL BEHAVIOR)

N =		616	100%
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C2. Regardless of where this type of grease comes from, about how often do you have grease that you need to get rid of each month? Is it: (READ LIST)

N =	616	100%
Daily	7	1%
Several times a week	35	6%
About 1 time a week	73	12%
Not once a week, but a couple of times a month	148	24%
About once a month	137	22%
Less often than once a month	179	29%
DK/REF	37	6%

C3. Thinking about a normal year, about how many times do you cook using a deep fat fryer? Please stop me when I reach the correct category for you. Would you say: (READ LIST)

N =	616	100%
Never	526	85%
About 1 time a year	31	5%
Between 1 and 5 times a year	27	4%
Between 6 and 11 times a year	11	2%
About once a month or 12 times a year	6	1%
More often than once a month	7	1%
DK/REF	8	1%

C4. When you want to get rid of the grease that you use in your deep fat fryer, what do you usually do with it? Do you: (MULTIPLE RESPONSES OKAY, BUT PROBE FOR WHAT THEY USUALLY DO)

N =	91	100%
Put it in a container and throw it in the regular garbage	49	54%
Put it in a container and throw it in with your food and yard waste	8	9%
Throw it in with your food and yard waste without putting it in a container	5	5%
Compost it in your backyard	3	3%
Pour it down a household drain	5	5%
Put it in the garden	2	2%
Or, is there a better description (SPECIFY)	1	1%
DK/REF	17	19%
FREEZE THEN THROW IN TRASH	2	2%
RECYCLE/REUSE	5	5%

D1. These next questions are about regular garbage service. How often does your household put its garbage can out for pick-up? Is it... (READ LIST)

N =	616	100%
Every week	569	92%
Every other week	25	4%
Three times a month	9	1%
Once a month	7	1%
Less often than once a month	0	0%
DK/REF	6	1%

D2. What size is the garbage can that you currently use? Are you using a...			
N =	616	100%	
Micro container that holds 12 gallons (and costs \$14.05 per month or \$28.10 on your two-month bill).....1	112	18%	
Mini container that holds 20 gallons (and costs \$17.15 per month or \$34.30 on your two-month bill).....2	158	26%	
A 32-gallon container (that costs \$22.30 per month or \$44.60 on your two month bill).....3	238	39%	
A 64-gallon container (that costs \$44.60 per month or \$89.20 on your two month bill).....4	27	4%	
A 96-gallon container (that costs \$66.90 per month or \$123.80 on your two month bill).....5	19	3%	
DK/REF.....6	62	10%	

F2. Do you own or rent the home you live in?			
N =	616	100%	
Own	542	88%	
Rent	58	9%	
Other.....	4	1%	
DK/REF.....	12	2%	

F3. How many years have you lived in your current home? (LESS THAN 1 YEAR = 0)			
\$E 0 99			
N =	616	100%	

F5. What is your home zip code? (USE "99999" FOR DON'T KNOW/REFUSED)			
N =	616	100%	
DK/Ref .....99999	19	3%	

F6. What are the nearest cross streets that are closest to your home?			
N =	0	100%	
Input verbatim	0	0%	

F7. Including yourself, how many people currently live in your household?			
N =	616	100%	
One	98	16%	=> QF9
Two.....	239	39%	
Three.....	111	18%	
Four	108	18%	
Five.....	37	6%	
Six.....	5	1%	
Seven	3	0%	
Eight or more.....	1	0%	
DK/REF.....	14	2%	

F8. And how many of those are over 18 years of age?		
N =	518	100%
One	25	5%
Two.....	361	70%
Three.....	68	13%
Four	26	5%
Five.....	10	2%
Six.....	2	0%
Seven	0	0%
Eight or more.....	0	0%
DK/REF.....	26	5%

F9. Please let us know which of the following best identify your race or ethnicity. (READ LIST) (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY) CLARIFY "INDIAN" WITH: "Is that American Indian or Asian Indian?" (ASIAN INCLUDES GROUPS SUCH AS: CHINESE, INDIAN (ASIAN), KOREAN, JAPANESE, CAMBODIAN) (PACIFIC ISLANDER INCLUDES GROUPS SUCH AS FILIPINO, HAWAIIAN, SAMOAN)

N =	616	100%
Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino.....	14	2%
White or Caucasian.....	499	81%
Black or African American.....	22	4%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	5	1%
Asian.....	33	5%
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian.....	7	1%
Some other race? [SPECIFY].....	1	0%
DON'T KNOW.....	4	1%
REFUSED	43	7%

F10. What is the primary language spoken at your home? (READ LIST ONLY IF NECESSARY)

N =	616	100%
English.....	587	95%
Spanish	1	0%
Other [SPECIFY]	6	1%
Russian	0	0%
Vietnamese	2	0%
Chinese / Mandarin / Cantonese.....	3	0%
Refused.....	17	3%

F11. What is the highest level of education you have had the opportunity to complete?

N =	616	100%
High school graduate or less.....	45	7%
Some college / Technical school / AA Degree	102	17%
4-year college degree.....	236	38%
Post graduate work/degree	205	33%
DK/REF.....	28	5%

F12. And finally, into which of the following categories did your household's total annual income for 2008 fall? Was it:

N =	616	100%
Under \$30,000.....1	32	5%
\$30,000 - \$50,000.....2	54	9%
\$50,000 - \$75,000.....3	84	14%
\$75,000 - \$100,000.....4	93	15%
\$100,000 - \$150,000.....5	96	16%
\$150,000 - \$200,000.....6	43	7%
\$200,000 or over.....7	51	8%
DK/REF.....8	163	26%

F13. Record gender (BY OBSERVATION)

N =	616	100%
Male.....1	288	47%
Female.....2	328	53%

Appendix 2
Verbatim Comments

A6. WHAT CHANGED? WHY DOES YOUR HOUSEHOLD NOW HAVE MORE YARD WASTE PICKED UP AT THE CURB?

- Because the City changed the rules about what kinds of food you can take out. We can take more food out now than before.
- I don't use a professional service anymore, so I get rid of it myself. They would take off the shrub clippings and stuff. Most of the grass I mulch and put back on the lawn. It's all landscaping, I used to compost, but I don't have any more room.
- Because I'm putting more food waste in the cart. We put meat, vegetables, fruits, dairy products, pizza boxes, and everything you can think of, I love it. I have the mini can for garbage for this purpose.
- Because we put food waste in the cart now.
- I guess it's no different, we fill up the yard waste whenever you're working in the yard, we do the recycling, which is the paper and plastic, and a few other things since they widened the scope of the disposals.
- Because we now put food waste into it and now we started the meat and dairy scraps too.
- Because they supplied us with a food yard waste bin. Because they told us we had to do it, the City of Seattle told us. The City of Seattle was looking into bins and fining people that weren't using their food and yard waste cart. Nothing more.
- Just increased amount of attention to the yard. Yard work for the house to look better. That is the main factor why.
- Because they said to do it, the City of Seattle. I put in more food waste like bones, vegetables, and all the food possible.
- We put more in there; we don't have much garbage anymore. More things can go into the yard waste can than used to.
- Probably because we down-graded on the landscapers, so we have more to put out.
- Because I put in more food scraps. We are also doing more yard work. Nothing more.
- We got rid of mass blackberries in the back yard.
- Because we can now recycle pizza boxes and all sorts of stuff that we couldn't before; it's just because of the stuff we can put in now that we couldn't before.
- We have had a lot more education on composting from the City, and it encouraged us to recycle everything that we possibly can.
- Because we can add more food to our yard waste.
- There was an increase in food content, and an increase in other compostable items that are now permitted.
- Ever since the City passed that law to let us mix the items, the pile has only gone up in the cart.
- Because I'm throwing more things in there like milk cartons and food containers that we can throw in and some food waste and things like that. And since they pick up every week, I put more things in there.
- They pick it up. I don't know what else. That is all.
- Now you can put the food recyclables into it, so there's more to put in it.
- Because you can now put food material and pizza boxes and stuff in with it.
- Because we are more aware of what items go into the different containers. Like food and kitchen waste, and how to dispose of them.
- You except turkey parts and all that compared to last year, because they used to not let us do that.
- They're taking things like meat, bones and cheese, other products that they were not taking before. It just happened this year. They would take vegetable and fruit before, now you can put pizza boxes, bones, meat and soiled paper products.

- They will accept more variety now. There are a lot of things that you couldn't put in the bin but now you can. Certain times of the year more yard work is needed. Nothing more.
- We are able to recycle more waste like food, meats, paper items, and oils and grease.
- I believe the City started taking more and more to the yard waste cart including food waste, so we put as much as we can in there.
- Because we are allowed to put our waste like food, grease, meat, and paper items into the waste bins.
- Because they added more food stuff that you can throw away.
- Food waste has increased in the past year. Well, I mean we have the same yard waste that comes from the yard, but we add more food now. Nothing more
- Because they have allowed us to add more food waste to be added to our pick up. Like pizza boxes, meats, grease and paper items like plates and napkins.
- We add the food waste to the yard waste and we add more stuff because of this new program from the City.
- Because food scraps are now accepted, before this last year they were not accepted.
- Before we didn't have yard waste collection and now that we ordered yard waste collection, we can put more out there, we put the leaves in my area out there.
- The City is allowing more food to be composted. It used to be just vegetables, but now it's meats and things like that.
- Because the food was added, more than we thought now since it's allowed.
- The change by City of Seattle that allows for more things to be picked up. Like food, cardboard, and grease.
- I've just been doing more in the yard like trimming, raking leaves; clean up, replanting, mulching, pruning, taking down some large limbs, and food scraps now go in every week.
- Because we added food waste to it. Now we can add food with the yard waste.
- The City changed their regulations on what could go into the waste pick up. It allows us to dispose of more items like cardboard boxes, grease, food, meats and oils.
- Because I used to take it to the transfer stations before and now have the canisters that I put them in. The food waste.
- Because we add the food waste to it, they didn't use to collect with the food and yard waste and they started this a year ago. I have done yard waste pick up for ten years. The fact that we can put food waste into the yard waste our garbage volume has decreased.
- Because the collection was every other week, so we could not put a lot out, but with weekly pickups now, we can put a lot more out. We used to compost, but we put in with the yard waste now.
- I guess when I took over the property and I garden more than the people before me. That's all.
- We just have more food wise.
- It's just become more of an important thing to do for my wife and I.
- We been finding more to be picked up. That's the only reason why.
- Just because they now take all of our food waste.
- I think it's just because of all the food waste we add to it now.
- We have three different cans. We do recycle the cans. Along with garbage and yard waste cans. That's the only reason why.
- We been doing more work on the yard, like pulling the weeds. That's all.
- The rules have changed; we are allowed to mix both now.
- It includes more kitchen waste that we can put in with our yard waste. I love it that we can put more food waste.
- I think we are more conscientious of composting and I think the addition to food waste has increased the volume and the inclusion of paper products and compostable food containers.
- Because of the paper-soiled products.
- Now you include more things, we are better able to include more. That's all.

- Because that they now allow other things to be put in with the yard waste.
- Because you can put more things, like food waste and yard waste all goes in the same container.
- Just because a year ago I didn't have that service.
- We put all the leftover food in the waste cart, all the stuff that we're allowed to put in it, we do.
- I wasn't living there a year ago, so I just started using it.
- Because they have added food waste.
- Now we can add the food waste to it as well. That's all.
- The City accepts more kinds of food waste and we have been gardening more. We grew a vegetable garden and we put some food scraps in there.
- It became accessible to take it to the curb. Just more accessible. That's all.
- Because of the composting adjustments, like being able to put more in there.
- More food scraps now, not just yard waste, like napkins too, and takeout food containers, just general fish and chicken scraps.
- We moved in and it was under construction.
- We're putting in more of the tree debris.
- Because of the table scraps.
- I think just because of the expanded list of items that we can put in our food and yard waste bin is the only reason it has increased.
- Various things. Like food waste. That's all I can think of.
- Because we can now put in meat and protein and eggs and fish.
- Now that they allow food waste as well, we have more.
- One thing, I never bothered putting vegetable things in the garbage, but now I do.
- Because in the winter time, you can't put in the garden compost because the yard is too wet and the dirt is too hard, and you can't till it in.
- We are putting all the compost in there including the food waste. That's all.
- We can put fish and meat scraps in there, so we are putting more in there. That's all.
- Because of food scraps and plus we're doing additional landscaping.
- Because they're accepting more things now. Composting more things now and that decreases the amount of garbage.
- The neighbor put in bamboo and I have to pick up after it.
- They started taking bones and meat, so we put more stuff in.
- I'm putting more in there from the vegetables and peels and all that. That's all.
- The rules changed, we have to have a pickup of our food scraps, meat especially we couldn't put that in before, but we started having pickups more often for food items.
- We are using more because we are doing food waste as well.
- We can put food in with the yard waste. That's the reason why.
- We have included food. It is now food and yard waste. That's all.
- Because food waste is now accepted as yard waste.
- I throw regular garbage in the bin now like bananas and coffee filters because before you could not.
- More food waste.
- The food waste is also in there. I'm putting in vegetables and fruits. Food waste is now in the yard waste. That's all.
- Because now you can put meat and bones; all the things we can put in it, we do, and we have very little garbage because we recycle everything here.
- I think because now it allows you to put meat and dairy in with the yard waste.
- The amount is the same, but it just wasn't going into the yard waste, just trash before.
- Because we can have yard and food waste in there now. We have more things to put at the curb.
- They are collecting more of organic waste. That's all.
- Because of food.

- They take more stuff. That is all.
- We have a lot more organic waste.
- Because they started accepting food waste.
- Because of all the extra yard work I've been doing.
- Now they accept more residue items, not just food scraps.
- Because they required us to have a yard waste pick up, otherwise we wouldn't have one at all.
- More of the food waste is put in there. That's all.
- We compost food scraps, paper towels, and stuff that can go in with the yard waste.
- I don't know.
- I don't know.
- Because the City allows more things to be put into it. Paper napkins and paper items of that nature, not only plant or food related.
- Because of the composting, it is easier to compost with the food scraps.
- Because they just started a year ago doing this, accepting food scraps with the yard waste.
- We started taking care of it. We were not taking care of it last year. I would mow the lawn, but would not trim the hedges.
- I got more trees in the yard.
- Because we quit composting as much. Just for convenience.
- Because we can put more things in the yard waste bin than before.
- Having the frequent pickups and availability helps us organize our chores, and that's why we have been putting more out there.
- Because we put more food waste into the recycle bin, that we have for the yard waste.
- We can add meat and food now.
- They changed the program so they expanded the items that can go in. We can recycle more items.
- Well in Seattle we can put out our food and pizza boxes now.
- Food waste service is now available, it has more things like napkins, paper towels, meat and bones not like before.
- Because they pick up weekly. I don't have enough room in my compost bin, so weekly I'm more likely to put it on the curb than compost myself. More kinds of stuff can go in now, kitchen waste, bones, more can go in it.
- It takes more. Now take more stuff. We put everything they take. So we have more to go in. That's all.
- Well I think I have started to recycle more than I did in the past.
- The ability to put food waste in as well.
- Now we can put more things into the yard waste bin.
- Since food scraps can be placed in them, we put more in.
- We added the food scraps.
- We have food waste now, so that's where there's more with all the stuff that's included.
- Now they take kitchen waste in with the yard waste also.
- The food waste that we are able to put out now is good.
- We started pruning more, and have more food waste that can be added.
- We had more plants removed from the garden.
- We are not composting as much as last year.
- More tree clippings, more food waste from inside the house.
- Food waste.
- Changing the way we run the house, putting more in now.
- Because the food waste just came into effect this year.
- Because we can put food in with the yard waste.
- More things qualified as yard waste including soiled boxes and food.

- Because of Seattle, you now have to pick up the food waste, so it makes sense to do it all. That's pretty much it.
- They take more food scraps. There were limits and they increased the amount they collect.
- We recycle food.
- They changed what you can put out; they now take meat and dairy.
- Because the way they changed, now they can pick up more like milk and meat.
- Now we include food waste in addition to yard waste.
- Well, because we have to put our food waste in it.
- We put our food in there now.
- Because of the food scraps.
- It's just the criterion that has changed and you can take more in the compost.
- Paper towels, paper plates, pizza containers, and egg shells and bones, and fish.
- Because of the food waste, we are able to compost food waste.
- Because we have more food waste.
- I don't know.
- Because they're taking food waste now.
- Because what they accepted as yard waste has changed.
- Because they now allow food and other waste products that weren't allowed before.
- Because we can put all kinds of bones in there, we can put paper towels, paper cups, toilet paper rolls, it's different from before, they changed it this year.
- They changed it where they included more items you can leave at the curb including meats.
- I don't know.
- We decided to stop the compost pile.
- Because I used to not have it. It used to be not mandatory.
- Because of the green container, the one that is for food and yard. We have three, one for recycle, black that is put in grown stuff that you bury, the green one we don't put much in it, we put mainly a few scraps of food and yard waste.
- Well because they will take it away. They didn't always do that and now they do.
- Because Seattle said we could.
- I have done more pruning, the person that mows my lawn puts the grass in the yard waste and we didn't do that, we used to mulch it.
- We include food now.
- Because they accept food scraps now.
- Because we can put food waste in it now.
- We are gardening.
- They start taking food waste and meat and stuff.
- Because we can put more food in the garbage.
- Well there is more food and kitchen waste taken than there used to be.
- Because the City has changed their rules about recycling, so we can add more things to the yard waste bin for compost.
- It's the food waste.
- Well mainly because they pick it up every week and now we have our own trash can that we have to do.
- We are using a lawn mower that holds the grass.
- I think of added food scraps and the yard waste.
- Because we can put more yard waste into the cart.
- With the addition of the things like the pizza boxes.
- Because of the food composting.
- The changes that allowed the food waste to be deposited.
- We compost our food.

- Because of the composting.
- More yard and food scraps.
- Curbside pickup.
- Well now that the trash and food waste can go in the same container, we put it all in the container.
That's all
- Food waste. We didn't have this last year.
- Because I will be fined if I don't.
- Well we compost more. Our food waste went up.
- Because we did not put food in and now we do put food scraps into the cart.
- Because now we can combine all of our garbage into one.
- We just put more to the curb.
- Because we are adding food waste.
- Because we put less in the garbage.
- Because they made me. Seattle Public Utilities said that you had to have yard waste and food composting. Prior to that, I just did it in the corner in my yard and the food went in the garbage. They told you that you could not put food in with garbage anymore.
- Because it includes the food waste now.
- The food waste.
- More because now we are allowed to put food scraps and yard waste into the bin.
- Because you added the food and scraps.
- The food waste goes in with it and they expanded the waste accepted.
- I used to put my scraps in the trash, but now they are put in the yard waste container.
- Because we couldn't compost more food products into our compost pile anymore. We have to use the bin.
- I don't know.
- We're tackling a Loral hedge this year, so we have a lot of yard waste.
- Because we are using less garbage and using more yard and food waste.
- We've been taking care of the yard more. More pruning and trimming.
- Because they reclassified what can go into the yard waste.
- Because of our composting.
- The pickup policy changed so before we had stuff in the house that went into the trash and now it goes into the yard cart.
- I have a large yard.
- Because now we add our compost items to it.
- More food products.
- Because of the regular food garbage - they didn't have food waste available before this year.
- They have the new food waste going on with the City that has changed so you can put everything in it, and now I have the small container and I can go and throw everything else in the food and yard cart there; it's great.
- Because we can now currently put food and yard waste into the bin.
- The City now takes food waste not just yard waste.
- Well it's more food waste now than garden waste.
- Doing the food waste thing also.
- Because we are allowed to compost more things now in the cart.
- Because of the new law on the container.
- Because we are now allowed to put food scraps in there.
- Because we do it weekly and we get out and do more yard work, and because of the food scraps.
- The food scraps that we put out.
- Because the Seattle policy of taking all food scraps.

- You know, it's mostly because we put our household compost into it.

A12. WHY DOES YOUR HOUSEHOLD COMPOST LESS AT HOME THAN YOU DID LAST YEAR?

- Because I spend less time doing it.
- The City picks up more of it.
- Since we're composting food waste, we just put everything into the bin rather than separating it.
- Um the effort. I mean the effort on our part, we are getting older and it is much harder for us to compost at home.
- It's more convenient to have the City pick it up. We don't use it as much because we don't have that much to compost.
- Because I have gotten lazy.
- Now I am not picking it up, just letting them lay there. The garden is growing into nature pretty much.
- Because we can put it in the yard waste container now.
- I don't know why, I just put it all in the bin.
- It is easier to do it all in one place. That's it.
- We got the yard waste cart.
- Because of the curb side pickup.
- We can put the food waste in the yard waste now. That's all.
- Because we're putting more in the container from the City.
- When I prune yard waste, as in roses or plants, I put it into the yard waste bin.
- My age, I find it easier to put to curb.
- I don't have a chipper/shredder.
- I was not happy the way it came out and how I did it, so I stopped.
- Because they pick up more.
- It just sort of happened that way. It depends what bin we're closer to.
- I don't know. I dump the composter and my husband and son take care after that. They take it to the curb.
- The person that mows my lawn puts it in the yard waste.
- Get rid of non organic stuff.
- I ran out of space.
- Because I'm paying for it, so I might as well use it. I'm paying for it. If I don't take my can to the curb, I still have to pay. So basically, I might as well use it because I'm paying for it.
- Because the curbside pickup is every week.

B10. WHY HAVEN'T YOU CONSIDERED CHANGING THE SIZE OF THE GARBAGE CAN YOU USE?

- I think the next size down; we would be pushing the limit.
- I have children who are in diapers, so I can use all the space I can get.
- Because it meets my needs, some weeks I might skip the garbage collection.
- I have a big family and we created a lot of garbage and I like the one I have now.
- Because it's extremely small already.
- Well sometimes there is a lot of garbage and it's safe to have a can that is big enough to put trash in when needed. Nothing more.
- Because occasionally we still use the bulk of our trash can.
- Because we have the smallest size already.
- Because the amount of trash that we have does not require a bigger trash bin.
- It takes about two bags of garbage and that's what I generally generate.
- I just haven't thought about it.
- Because I'm okay with it.
- Sometimes we have more garbage than others and it's not much of a difference in price.
- It's quite big enough.
- It hasn't changed enough. No other reasons
- I just don't want to.
- I got the smallest one, well, second smallest one.
- We still come close to filling it up once a week.
- Not crossed my mind.
- I had a baby, so we will have more.
- The short answer is it's good to have a little extra room sometimes.
- The garbage, well I guess, I need a smaller can. Just hadn't thought about it before.
- Not changed much.
- Well because the City only had offered this service for the last 12 months, so there's no option to change yet and I haven't quite found the need yet.
- I don't know, we always need to fill it up with something. We fill it up pretty well. There's always something we can put in there.
- We already have the smallest container available.
- Because right now it gets filled up enough. I have a roommate that is not good at yard waste recycling.
- I just haven't paid that much attention to it.
- Because we already have the smallest container.
- I still use most of the garbage can.
- Because over the course of the past year we have had a roommate move in and the amount in general has decreased not considering the roommate, but when that person leaves we will down size.
- I already have the smallest can available.
- Because we have a small child.
- I don't know.
- Because it's making a phone call to the City and it takes too long.
- It's always just been here, so it would be kind of a hassle to change.

B16. WHAT COULD BE DONE TO MAKE THE SERVICE BETTER?

- Nothing.
- Not sure.
- Nothing.
- It is fine.
- Not sure what they could do.
- Don't know.
- Nothing, it's good.
- Nothing, it's fine the way it is.
- It's good the way it is.
- I don't know.
- It's all good.
- We're doing okay with it now.
- It's fine.
- Nothing more.
- It's fine the way it is.
- Don't know.
- I guess maybe just offer some kind of container for indoors that would be air tight and sanitary looking, so that we could transfer the food scraps to the proper container. Also maybe some better discounts offered for an electric mulching mower.
- I would like to see better communication and more pick ups. I sometimes get charged for trash that isn't mine. They don't always pick up on time either.
- Other than if they can make a container that I can keep in my home, which would have to be odor free, they are doing a very good job, and I don't see a need to change anything.
- Keep doing a good job and it would automatically improve.
- Just an easier way to get into the container. Perhaps a smaller container that you can put the waste into before the larger container. Nothing more.
- I like the idea of getting people involved in doing their own composting at home if they're letting people get bins for very cheap. Not much else that I can think of. But I like that they are picking it up once a week now. Maybe listing what is allowed too.
- I don't know.
- I don't know, it's pretty good. Maybe just educate people more on compost in general. Also prevent plastic, so people don't put non-compostable things in the composting containers, so more education about not putting plastic in the composting bins.
- I can't think of anything, it's fine as it is.
- Well I think they can be 100 percent on their service. They have missed my pick up about four times in the past year. Overall, they do a great job. Nothing more.
- I honestly don't know, I'm so happy about it now. I guess the only thing that might be better is to allow us to do it at home, but we can't do that because of the wild animals like raccoons and squirrels.
- Nothing that I can think of. Oh, maybe wash the can out, so I don't have to, but I think maybe that's too much to ask for.
- Haven't thought about it. I don't know.
- I can't think of anything, it works very well.
- Nothing. I cannot think of any changes.
- I don't know, it's kind of unpleasant to play with food scraps, I just don't know. I think 6 is good, 7 would be them coming to my house and scraping my plates off for me.
- I would say more customer education on how to dispose of stuff properly.
- I think they ought to encourage restaurants and retail places to recycle a lot more and also find some way for condos and apartment houses to compost that kind of stuff. There's a huge amount that is being thrown away.
- It is a pain in the butt. And I don't know what you can do. That is all.
- I feel like they dictated that we have to do this, like if we don't do it, how they say then they are not going to pick up our trash, so that's our motivation.
- Pick up recycling every week.

- The City could make it free for composting, or at least a reduced cost. Nothing more.
- I guess have some sort of smaller size of bin or container that I could put on top of my kitchen counter, where we would just collect our food waste and empty it like every 3 or 4 days.
- I can't think of anything right now. I'm really satisfied. They pick up my garbage once a week and I'm extremely satisfied with them.
- Some sort of container to put in our house, instead of just outside.
- I don't really know what else they can take, it seems like we recycle everything we can recycle, between the recycle containers and the food waste bin, and there just is not enough room for the trash bin. I wouldn't mind if they picked up recycling every week instead of every other week.
- Lower rates on garbage. The price, nothing more.
- Nothing that I can think of. Everything is fine and I do not think that they could do anything more.
- Nothing, nothing really, they collect the trash every week and that's good enough.
- Nothing that I can think of off the top of my head, it's been great.
- Educate some of the people that don't have any idea on what to do with composting. The difference between trees and limbs, some way to educate people and what goes into it. What I see is a lot people throwing table scraps into their regular garbage bin.
- I guess one month they could wash the container, because it is such a pain in the butt, and I don't like to do it.
- Larger bins for my family. They used to take more yard waste. Also collect the recycling bin on a weekly basis. We have more recycling stuff than yard waste and they need to change the yard waste pick to an every other week.
- Nothing, they are doing everything they can now.
- Not sure.
- It's pretty great; I don't have any recommendations at this time.
- I don't know.
- Trash cans could be a little more efficient. Just better made. Incompetent, rude and that's pretty much it. The people who pick up the bins lack customer service. Nothing more.
- I don't know, it pretty much meets my needs.
- I'm totally happy with it, I have no suggestions.
- Nothing that I can think of, they are already doing everything they can. I am very satisfied.
- Put more out without charging more, they have a limit on how much stuff you can put out especially in the spring, if you put a second can with waste in it, they charge you extra.
- If the City would provide some sort of smaller kitchen container that would be handy. A liner provided for the can. Biodegradable bags for the bins. That would almost be easier to have a lined can. I think that once a week pick up is sufficient.
- I don't have any specific things.
- I wish they would not miss us when it is our day for service pick up. They have missed us a few times. Then we have to call and have them come out another day.
- I can't think of anything at the moment.
- I think there are more paper food containers that we should be able to put there. We should be able to put a lot more stuff than the City tells us to put in there.
- Nothing I know of.
- I have no complaints so I really don't know.
- I think they are doing a good job. I don't have any complaints about it, except they should get a sweeping machine for the leaves that fall in the community because it clogs the drainage.
- For the most part it's working, I mean they miss it sometimes, but it's seldom. Oh I know, recycling used to be done weekly now they don't, that would be something they could do better.
- Anything that encourages and makes things easier to compost. Anything that encourages the use of the compostable matter rather than being thrown out with trash. Politically there can be a lot done. If there was some kind of reward for people who compost.
- I think it's just fine now; it just sucks when it snows and they don't come.
- It could be cheaper. I feel that the main thing is that they do not have a method for getting rid of soil, large rocks, and tree branches. They should do something to accommodate the customers with this issue.
- I don't know.
- I think it is great because we can put more stuff in the compost bin. I love it.
- I can't think of anything else they could do.

- Nothing right off hand.
- Can't think of anything. They seem to be doing a good job.
- I feel that they should provide a small container for the food scraps for everyone. Especially like in winter when we do not have much waste.
- Nothing, it's fine.
- Leaving the garbage cans up, not thrown somewhere.
- I think that some kind of a decomposting bag or container/garbage liner or pail liner could be given to the residents. I hate to use a plastic bag, it's almost wasteful. If there was a liner, it would be interesting to see how that would work. Nothing more.
- I think it's great the way it is. I guess I want to emphasize that it has reduced our garbage by half.
- It's fine.
- To give you an extra bin after a year of service.
- I don't know. You guys are doing a great job.
- I don't know. Can't think of anything.
- If they had some sort of container for the kitchen instead of what I am using, a plastic bucket. Also a small container for the food waste instead of the 96-gallon because in the winter not nearly enough food is used to fill that.
- I can't think of anything right now, it's easy to use, and it reduces the amount of garbage we put in our garbage can.
- Nothing.
- I can't think of anything. I don't really know.
- I am very impressed and pleased with it. I don't have anything to recommend.
- Just more size options. They are either really big or too small. Need something in-between. That's all.
- I can't think of anything.
- If somebody would come do it for me.
- It would be nice to have a container in the winter that is not as big because in the winter we don't usually have that much yard and food waste, and it's a hassle trying to haul that big bucket up the hill.
- Haven't thought about that. Can't think of anything.
- I don't know, I think it is fine.
- Can't think of anything.
- I'm happy with it as it is.
- Nothing. It is fine.
- I do have the trimming from the last time that the gardener came over, and they have not pick them up, but it is my fault because they were not in the bin.
- Nothing.
- I can't think of anything right now. It works so well because we have a variety of what we can dispose of. I think the disposal of the yard waste and food waste is recycled like compost. The pickup is regular and consistent.
- I think they're doing fine. I can't think of anything else to improve.
- The only thing is during certain times during the year, if we could leave extra bundles out and now you can only leave the bin. Just like an allowance for putting them out longer. Just take more during certain times of the year, especially during the growing season.
- I think it's really good. I can't think of anything.
- Nothing, they already do a good job.
- Don't know. Don't charge extra for it. That's all.
- When they pick stuff up, they are kind of messy; they could at least pick up what they spill.
- For one when they changed to have food waste, they limited the amount of yard waste that I can put out at any point in time. I have a huge yard, so I can't dispose of all my leaves and other yard waste. I have bags of them around that I have to dispose of.
- Completely empty the containers, I just took them in tonight and when I brought them back to the backyard, I looked inside and there was still stuff at the bottom.
- I wish the yard waste could be collected twice a week; it creates nasty things and is full of waste.
- I would say everything is fine, no need to change or add anything.
- I don't know, it is fine as it is.
- They could pick up the garbage and food and yard waste closer to my house. I have to take my garbage and stuff half a block away. Also sometimes they don't even pick mine up and they completely miss it.

- Nothing.
- I would say design bins that are smaller and kitchen friendly. It would really help with the food scraps and paper goods that have to be disposed of.
- I can't think of anything, we've never had any problems.
- If they could find a way we could put more stuff in there. That's all I can think of.
- The one thing that I could think of would be that it is unpredictable when they are coming around the holidays, it is very confusing.
- Nothing.
- I think it's fine, I have no suggestions.
- I don't know right now, a better solution for that compost container.
- Nothing that I can think of.
- I don't know.
- Well having a smaller bin for food scraps where we could keep it in our kitchen. Also it would have to be one that would not attract ants and other insects into it.
- If they put the container where it is supposed to be instead of in the middle of the road. Sometimes they block the sidewalk.
- Less cost.
- I don't know of anything.
- Nothing.
- I don't know.
- They need to make a 46-gallon container so that it isn't hard to drag around, because the 96-gallon container is too big.
- I have never given it any thought, I just do it to help be the environment and to keep stuff out of landfills.
- Nothing.
- Nothing, everything is just right.
- I prefer the garbage picked up bi-weekly. That's how much waste we produce. We don't need it every week because that's too expensive for us.
- Nothing.
- It's a nuisance. The thing that could make it better is if they all did it for us.
- I really don't know.
- I can't answer this question at the moment.
- Charge based on amount versus the volume of the container and it doesn't seem right that we get charged for extra yard waste if there's more than just one bin.
- Nothing.
- I think if it was possible to put stuff with wax coating like wax paper plates, the meat packaging from the deli, mostly just any food container with the waxy coating.
- It seems like it is pretty well organized, I can't think of any improvements. I would suggest offering weekly service.
- I don't have a clue.
- Make a container for the kitchen.
- Right now I have to take out three cans every week; I just feel that there are too many bins that I have to take out.
- If it was more frequent like twice a week or if it had like a charcoal compartment for the odor.
- I like the idea. I can't think of anything.
- Lower the price.
- If they could provide us with some kind of bag to put in the cart, it would be helpful because cleaning out the bin is tiring after a while.
- Maybe frequency of collection during lawn mowing seasons, like spring through summer.
- I don't think they should be composting meat and dairy products and I don't put them in the food waste. I don't think there should be compost with animal scraps.
- To have something that prevents fruit flies.
- I don't know. I just hate the mandatory idea. It's difficult to figure out what to do with everything that you need to get rid of. It's too complex.
- It is fine as it is, I can't think of anything.
- Nothing, I am satisfied.

- I see some people putting in plastic bags. If you put it in loose, the liquid kind of stays in the container when they empty it unless you continually wash that out. And when you go to the stores, they don't usually have paper bags, just plastic. Provide compostable bags.
- I can't think of anything.
- I don't know really.
- I'm a pretty big fan. Nothing really, though. It would be great to have an unlimited amount of leaves that are able to be put into the cart in the fall.
- It's better now that it is every week because my yard has a lot of trees in it and generates way too many leaves to compost for my 5000 square foot lot. I must put it in the yard waste and I regularly run out of space, so I would say more bins for no additional cost.
- It's fine, we have a system set up. I appreciate that the City has this for us.
- It's more than enough.
- I don't know right now.
- Nothing at the moment.
- I live under the largest tree in Seattle and just living under a tree, I should be allowed more yard waste per week at the same price because it isn't my fault. I can fill the 96-gallon plus 4 regular size bins in a week.
- It's up to us to provide the container for inside, it would be nice if they also provided a container for the inside.
- Nothing.
- I am just delighted that they have one.
- Make sure restaurants and stores are doing this also because they are generating a large percent of waste.
- Nothing. It is good.
- Not for us, nothing.
- Give me a free Tupperware container for my house. That's all.
- I don't have an answer.
- I don't know, they're doing a great job.
- Figure out some way to keep containers clean. We wash them out when we can, but the weather is freezing. We put newspapers in the bottom, but it doesn't solve the problem.
- Nothing really.
- It's pretty incredible, I can't think of anything.
- I don't expect much more from them.
- They should make the pickup weekly.
- They seem to be pretty good. I don't know exactly what they have going on.
- We're supporters of it, so I can't see anything they should do better.
- I don't know, I don't think anything.
- I guess I just don't even believe in it and it attracts flies. I have apartments next to my house. The tenants put out all kinds of garbage and it attracts flies. It's not a good system, but I don't have any ideas to make it better.
- It could be cheaper.
- I can't think of anything.
- I don't have any suggestions. It is fine.
- I don't know.
- Not really, you are pretty on time, you pick up the garbage and I don't have any complaints.
- Nothing as far as I can tell.
- I don't know, I'm happy with the system and the service.
- Nothing. Everything is good.
- Lower the price. Overall the entire thing. It is too high. That's all.
- I don't know.
- Not much.
- They have excellent service; I don't know what could be done.
- I think the city could advertise a little more that they would take paper towels and napkins, you mentioned it, I have increased my paper towel disposal because some napkins are bond with resin and I want to know how that works with the system.
- Having less stuff to get rid of.

- I do not know, they do not allow me to put my food waste in another container; I have to put it in the yard waste cart. I have another cart for waste, but I can't use it.
- Don't charge for the paper bags that we use. We are already getting charged for everything else. I mean the paper bags that we get from the grocery store.
- I think it's fine.
- It works just fine. Don't change anything more.
- Eliminate food off people's plates and eliminate meat products. I should say animal products. It makes me queezy knowing I have that in my yard. It is a real pain to take the food waste in with the yard waste. I'm doing it since they said. Wish I had a better container for the house.
- Make people do it, make the whole country do it. I have no complaints or comments about it.
- I can't come up with anything.
- Nothing.
- Some way to have the curbside containers rinsed out because a lot of the time a lot of the stuff stays stuck inside.
- It's wonderful right now. I am disabled and the City workers usually come and pick up all my yard waste, and take my trash from the back yard for me.
- I worry about the putting of the meats and vegetables out. The animals it can attract or the maggots that might grow. So far it is working fine. That's all.
- I have no idea.
- Not much.
- Nothing really.
- Having more incentives to compost your food waste at home or have them penalized if they don't compost.
- It's fine as is for me since I don't produce much. If pick up was an every other week service that would be a little more convenient.
- I think it's fine.
- I wish that they would allow us to switch carts back and forth. I like the smaller ones during the winter. It is a pain in the ass, and the cost is the same. They should allow switching back and forth. I like the big one in the summer and the little one in the winter.
- I don't know, it's good.
- I'm not sure how they can improve; as long as it is done, I'm fine. Actually I would love to see a discount for a certain amount from them. The people who have a contract with the City that compost since we are giving them a material, we should get a discount.
- Nothing.
- To provide low cost closed composting containers for the kitchen. That's all.
- I don't have anything to say at this time; they do a good job.
- Nothing.
- I don't know, it's fine. I wish we could have the choice to have a little bin and large one. A little one for the winter.
- Better job of explaining what we can and can't do.
- I don't know.
- Well, for one thing they could provide containers for food scraps because they are very expensive in the stores.
- I don't know they do pretty well.
- Not collecting the food waste often enough, I get too many bugs in the summer and now in the winter I don't have that much trash.
- Occasionally the bins are over filled. It would be nice if I knew I could put out an extra container, or they would tell me what to do with extra leaves.
- Not a thing I can think of.
- I don't really have an opinion on that.
- I don't know.
- I would say better communication with respect to the schedule of what they are picking up and when, it's a week to week alteration and we don't know what needs to go out when.
- I don't know, maybe for them to come and wash out the bin, I don't know.
- It's fine the way it is.

- We could have the recycling picked up every week. Make it so that there is a bin that can be used in the house that you can take out to the curb.
- I don't think it can get better. It is great.
- I'm really happy right now.
- Unfortunately they don't come around as often as I'd like, come more often. It comes once a week for recyclables and once a week for garbage. It causes a problem because the recyclables pile up faster than the garbage, but you're stuck with it that way until the next week.
- I cannot put out very much yard waste and it varies every season and I pay a lot for it. I was using my own carts. It used to be every two weeks that you put yard waste out and now it's so much more expensive. I don't like the container they gave me.
- I don't know.
- I don't know.
- Quit changing your minds about putting stuff in what and how, I'm getting tired of deciding which one goes "where".
- I'm not sure, I'm pretty satisfied.
- No, since they pick it up every week, it makes it a little bit better, it works out fine.
- I don't know.
- Well I don't know what could be done to make the service better. It works great for us. There are only two of us living in this household.
- I don't know.
- I can't think of anything. They are doing a very good job.
- Making sure that people know about it.
- Providing some better way to compost the things in the kitchen. It's a hassle to put it into different things just to put it in the compost bin. They need to have a personal compost bin; we just need one for the kitchen to make it easier.
- Provide on the counter kitchen containers, nice looking containers.
- I can't think of anything.
- In the summer pick it up more often. It gets stinky.
- I don't know. Occasionally I need additional bins or containers.
- For me, I just need a larger bin.
- One thing that I have a problem with is that they charge extra for yard waste when we did not put any out. It is someone else's.
- I don't really know.
- I don't think anything could make it better, it's already really good.
- Cut the price.
- I think it's fine.
- Not to pay for pick up.
- Everything is fine.
- I love it.
- You know if they offered compost material for them to put on my lawn, I would buy that for my lawn and I think the container sizes are too big. I'm one person; I'm fighting with this big ass bin. I use a micro can for my garbage. Their freaking huge bin, well sometimes I accidentally throw some other stuff in there.
- They could lower the price of garbage pickup.
- The only issue I have is the city doesn't pick up recycling every week.
- I think they should give people small containers in their house so they can take them out and dump them instead of putting them in your own container and washing them. One that is not too large that has a lid on it and stuff.
- I would like to be notified about extra garbage and how I should handle it.
- Nothing.
- Nothing.
- Well it's a 7 so I have no complaints.
- I have no idea.
- Like to see them be able to handle lids for containers. As far as recycling goes, I'd like them to handle more plastics, things like plastic bags; you know what your bread comes in and grocery bags for apples and such.

- Not anything.
- I can't think of anything. How about weekly throughout the winter too.
- I'm not sure.
- Nothing, it is fine.
- I only need pickup every other week because I compost every week. My amount of garbage is tiny so I only need garbage pickup every other week. I live by myself so I don't need it picked up every week.
- I don't know, maybe if we didn't have to bundle things up together and sometimes they don't take it because the branches are too long.
- It would be better if we had a container that was smaller for the inside and I could use that and then be able to take it outside when full.
- What would really make the service better would be to have the transfer station to be free. Don't charge for green clean branches. I have to pay for it and I don't think it's fair. It would keep people from disposing of their clean green and over flow in other places.
- I honestly can't think of anything.
- I think it is doing okay, but the compost bins are a bit expensive.
- Nothing, they do great.
- When the leaves fall, we use all of the bin. The rest of the year we use half of it. If you can pick up once a month or so, it would not be so pricey for me and you.
- Have multiple sized bins.
- I believe it's fine.
- I can't think of anything. They are doing an all around good job.
- I think they are very accurate. They never miss.
- I don't know.
- Rinse my bucket out for me.
- Nothing, I love it.
- I can't really think of anything
- I guess if it took more stuff.
- Lower the price they charge us and then turn around and sell it. They would be making double!
- They could pick up recycling weekly. That's all.
- I don't really have any complaints; it's working pretty well for us.
- I think it's fine.
- Trucks leak, so maintain their trucks better, smelly garbage juice makes the neighborhood smell and the trucks damage the streets.
- Nothing that I can think of.
- Let's see... nothing.
- Nothing. It is really good.
- I'm not real sure.
- At times I've been confused in what goes in the bin, and it changes, but the current year has gotten better.
- Haven't thought about it.
- Just in the fall don't have a charge for it because there are a lot of leaves.
- The 96-gallon is not used up most of the time. I do not like the leftovers, the way you can't get it all out.
- If we could have the big container for when we have to rake leaves and the smaller for the times when we just have food waste.
- I can't think of anything. I'm proud to be a resident of Seattle and use its resources for my waste.
- I think they are doing an excellent job.
- Nothing.
- Because we have a big large container, we don't use all of it and I think I am paying more than what I use. I am not too sure; I think I have to look into that.
- They should offer recycling every week as well and the bins should be able to accommodate larger chunks of debris.
- I would like a better way to keep it in my kitchen. I know they have options out there, but I have not had the opportunity to get some.
- I am not sure, they do a good job.
- Make it cheaper.
- Yes I got some literature today and nothing comes to mind.
- Free service.

- Nothing at this time.
- I don't know.
- At this point I don't know what to say.
- I don't know.
- It will be nice to have a house container, to fill up, and then put it outside.
- If you don't have much yard waste in the winter, then give people a small waste bin.
- I really don't think there is much to add. They are here timely in collecting it. I like that they collect it every week that is very timely so the food won't start to stink.
- To accept more, because we have a lot of overflow, which we get charged for.
- I don't know.
- More information on food waste.
- I don't know, I think it's great.
- Provide an in-house temporary container for the inside. That's all.
- It is just fine.
- I don't know.
- It works. I can't think of what to do.
- Nothing that I can think of.
- I feel the City is doing an extremely poor job of informing customers about food waste.
- Nothing I can think of other than the collection.
- I don't know. They are efficient.
- I think it is okay now.
- I don't know.
- It improved so much nothing could make it better. As I get older they will come and get it and I don't have to worry about it. I like that.
- Probably the actual trucks that come by need to show on the trucks that it is picking up yard waste only because I have seen the trash man throw yard waste in with the regular trash.
- Nothing that I know of; it works great.
- It could reward composting and recycling. We need to get a percent off of our bills; you know an incentive for doing it.
- Nothing.
- A 13-gallon can is a little small. Having a bigger yard waste bin is something that I would approve for my own situation.
- Nothing, I'm satisfied with everything.
- Nothing.
- I don't suppose anything at this time; I am perfectly fine with it.
- I don't know.
- Well I really don't know.
- I don't know; I think more frequent pickups around the holidays and in the fall.
- The only problem on my end is just getting enough yard waste mixed with food waste.
- I can't think of anything at this moment.
- You know one thing that might be good is to have a cart to be used inside the house too. In addition to one outside.
- My feeling is the more you can compost the better, I think if we can add more things to it, it would be better. Anybody who doesn't recycle in Seattle is lazy. It's so easy to do here. I think that there needs to be more education.
- There is definitely an issue around smell and animals. If there was a way for the lids to be better secured.
- It's pretty darn good.
- Nothing I can think of at the moment.
- I can't really think of anything. The biggest difficulty about food waste is it smells and it is inconvenient to put them into the yard waste.
- I don't know.
- Not much. The problem is recycling not being picked up often enough. I have a lot of package materials.
- Have bigger bins.
- A particle disintegrator or stop raising the prices.
- I can't think of anything.
- I can't think of anything.

- I don't know.
- I think it's fine the way it is.
- I don't know. They do a good job.
- Fine as it is.
- There are just so many bins, too many to put on the curb.
- To make the bags that you buy at the store to be able to fit them in the compost bin because they don't quite fit.
- To provided compost bags for the kitchen.
- Nothing I can think of anymore. After they added the new disposal of food waste and other substances, I am pretty much happy now.
- It can't get any better. It's picked up every week. It used to be every other week, but now that we put food scraps into the bin, it is picked up every week.
- I'm not sure. It's really good now. I don't see any other changes needed.
- More frequent pickups.
- Nothing.
- In the winter you still get charged for that many cans, even though there's less use, then I think I should have a lesser charge because I'm not doing my garden in the winter. I don't use them in the winter, but I still have to pay for them.
- Clean up the cans every so often.
- I don't know.
- I don't know.
- Nothing.
- If those trucks didn't make so much noise in the morning when I'm trying to sleep, it would be nice.
- It would be better to know which days are the pickup days, to receive an email to tell us, we have to go online and look it up and it would be nice to just get an email that tells us.
- I have a philosophical difference with the City. I think this policy is going to be shut down at the court level. That whatever they come up with they need to make sure that it won't be declared unconstitutional and be trumped a few years down the road.
- More frequent pickups in warm weather because we get a lot of fruit flies.
- Nothing at this time.
- I would like to also have a small waste container for food and a large one for yard. I was told I could only have one, but I think they should offer both.
- I like the service fine, nothing wrong with it.
- That it's increasingly complicated to take out garbage.
- Cheaper, just so that it would cost less, if something could make it cost less, I would be interested in my own compost rather than putting in the food scraps.
- Just to pick it up on time.
- Nothing.
- Because of the cost.
- Nothing.
- It's pretty good.
- I am happy with it.
- Well like I said, I have a problem myself. I live by myself, I don't have a lot of yard waste during the winter time and I would like a smaller container.
- Nothing.
- Less expensive, I think we should be able to, I don't like to have to pay to have it picked up every week, should be able to choose when. The neighbors put theirs right almost with ours and wouldn't pick up their cans and left it out for days.
- I have a small bin.
- I don't know.
- Rinse out our bins.
- Oh I guess I wish I could turn the food waste into warm food in the backyard instead of sending it to the City.
- I think they are collecting every week and it is organized much better.
- I don't think anything.
- I have no complaints.

- Well, I'm still getting used to it because it's fairly new. It was very confusing at first. I didn't know what you can put out and what you can't. Even the City didn't know so things were changing a lot, but I'm getting use to it and I like it a lot.
- I don't know.
- We could use a smaller bin that is more convenient for us just for kitchen use, and then it could be taken out to the bigger bin.
- I don't know.
- In the summer you get food flies and they are hard to get rid of. I try my best to contain them and you'll get them no matter what, but if they can make a container to make that go away that would be amazing.
- It is fine.
- I don't know that there is anything.
- I don't know.
- Just schedule more weekly pickups and just that they actually pick up my trash and not miss me.
- They could provide maybe inside containers for the food waste.
- They need to come more than every other week.
- They are hard for elderly people to move them.
- They could be more reliable and pick everything up the same time in the morning; sometimes it sits out until noon. They changed our day. I'd rather have it earlier in the week. But that's just the day change. When the weather's not good, they don't get here.
- Please charge per usage, so if you don't put it out, you shouldn't get charged as much.
- I like it; nothing to change here.
- I think it's great the way it is.
- Nothing.
- No issues.
- They do a great job.
- Well, if the mayor would come over and throw my trash for me. They're doing the best they can.
- To be more flexible on the size of the containers because I usually change my size of container depending on what season it is.
- Nothing.
- You know, well I wish they would take other recycling. I'm happy that we can put almost everything in it.
- Inside bins that collect more scraps.
- I don't like the idea to put them in loose.
- I don't have any complaints.
- I don't know. Everything has been great.
- I don't know, they have to design something to stick into the ground so that when the wind comes. It does not roll away.
- Nothing.
- It's really good right now.
- I can't think of anything.
- Lower the price but it's great; it's worth it.
- Nothing. I'm pretty content with the service so far.
- Sometimes I wish there were more than three sizes of containers available.
- For me personally, a container that would fit into my kitchen.
- Well sometimes they miss us because we currently live at the end of the block, so I guess just to make sure they pick it up weekly.
- I can't think of anything else.
- Not sure.
- I don't know.
- Nothing, I think it is the best in the country and the City has been great. The only thing is that maybe providing compostable bag discounts and it would be great if they could continue doing that in their newsletters.
- Nothing that I can think of.
- Well sometimes we have a lot of yard waste. It would be nice to have a smaller bin and be charged for that when we use it. They should have bar codes for the sides, so they can charge us for the right ones when we use them. Sometimes I don't use all of the bin.

- Not sure, it's pretty good service.
- Nothing I can think of right now. I'm kind of disabled, so I just have someone else take my trash out, but I'd say it's pretty good.
- Nothing I can think of.
- Can't think of anything.
- I don't know, I just follow the rules. I haven't really ever thought of anything, I haven't given it any thought.
- I don't need it as often particularly in the fall and winter months. What would be more efficient for the City would be to pick up the food and yard waste less often, probably about once or twice a month in the winter.
- Nothing.
- I am happy with it now.
- A smaller, easier to move container, downsize of our current one. We only use it to capacity once a year and it takes too much space.
- I think the service is expensive. Other than that, it's fine.
- Give options to pick up every other week not just every week.
- Maybe just to provide more information on about what specifically can go into the garbage and what cannot.
- Nothing. I do not know of anything at the moment.
- They need better containers; maggots crawling on top of the lid are just disgusting.
- I don't know.
- I would like it to come more frequently; we fill it up very quickly.
- It should be picked up twice a week.
- I can't really think of anything. Making sure it's tested for safety quality.
- To extend the service to apartments or multi-story dwellings and require restaurants to use composting.
- I think I should be able to put more yard waste out without being charged for it, I wish I could have a smaller can some of the time.
- No input, I think they are doing a great job.
- More selections on the sizes of containers.
- It's a good program.
- Actually, probably nothing. I used to complain that they used to leave half of it out when they drove off.
- I am very satisfied.
- I guess information on what goes in and what stays out of the container.
- I'd say the service in my area is pretty darn good.
- Nothing.
- If the City would listen to some reasoning instead of being bureaucratic.
- Not that I know of.
- I can't think of anything.
- Nothing, the service is very good.
- I think they are doing a good job, I suppose that there is always room for improvement.
- I don't know.
- I can't think of anything.
- I think they're doing a great job. I don't know how they could do it better.
- Making it truly optional. It's not optional. I have no choice, I have to use it.
- If they could compost pet waste.
- I only wish there was a cart that had wheels on it, that was small enough to lift down stairs. Lots of us on Queen Anne have steps up to the house. There's just no way to take those large food waste cans up those stairs. A smaller size with wheels would be good.
- Downtown glass recycling is horrible, so many bars throw away bottles.
- I'd say the service is pretty good and I don't really know what they'd do to improve it anyways.
- The drivers need to be more considerate with the neighborhood. They hit my bushes and broke some of my cans.
- Well, I think it's fine.
- Recycling could come more often.
- I really can't think of anything.
- I think it should be free; you can't make something mandatory and then make people pay for it.

- During the winter time I have a very large bin and I have very little food waste.
- Nothing really; they do a pretty good job.
- I would like containers to be longer and narrower.
- I don't know.
- I guess it doesn't seem to be as regular; there are some misunderstandings when it's picked up.
- Maybe figure out how to make the garbage not smell as bad during the summer.
- Not really. It's very adequate.
- Nothing really. I would have said the frequency of collection, but they have improved that as of last year.
- Nothing.
- I don't know. My yard waste container is disgusting, maybe if there's a way to clean it or something. If I knew what I could put in their so the food scraps aren't loose, that would be helpful.
- I can't think of anything at this time.
- No opinion.
- I don't know.
- I don't know.
- Having an easier way to way clean the containers, maybe give out some bags.
- I don't have suggestions.
- I think it would be nice if the City made an indoor container that's easy to use.
- Keeping the containers clean.
- I'm really concerned about the smell of meat and dairy. The stench is horrendous and there are raccoons and possums and I don't know how to get rid of the smell. The City should pressure wash them at least once of month. I keep getting billed double when I shouldn't.
- It is good as it is.
- Nothing, I am happy with our service.
- Better pick up service in the spring and fall.
- I am happy with service.
- Better indoor bin. If they gave us indoor bins that go on the kitchen counter.
- We could have smaller and easier rolling bins.
- Nothing.
- I think they do a great job.
- I can't really think there's anything. There is nothing what would make it actually better.
- I really don't have any complaints.
- The can needs to be better.
- We should have gotten a bigger trash bin.
- To provide a smaller container for the food waste because we don't have a full container of yard waste every week, and a smaller food waste bin.
- Nothing, I am very happy with the service I receive.
- Come get the recycle more often.
- I wish that I could use my own bin.
- I don't know.
- Providing something to line the bins with.
- I would say probably clean out the yard bins. They get pretty nasty after a while.
- It's great; works great for us.
- The City should offer some inside the house container that could be emptied regularly into the big bin.
- The service itself? I don't have a problem with the service itself.
- Nothing, they do a great job overall.
- I don't know.
- I can't think of anything else it seems pretty good.
- I don't know.
- They could replace the can when asked to do so.
- To actually pick up the waste.
- Nothing that I know of, make it free. I don't know; it works fine.
- Nothing; I love it.
- I think its fine.
- Nothing.
- Nothing much, the service is pretty good.

- I can't put the big pizza boxes in because they don't fit in the tiny container, but I don't want to buy a bigger container. It would be better for the pizza boxes to be recycled rather than putting them in the bin.
- I guess I don't have any complaints.
- Nothing really, it's great as it is.
- I want recycling picked up once a week.
- Better cleaning of the bins.
- I have no idea. It's a new service so it's good so far.
- Pick it up for free.
- It's not picked up often enough; it smells, especially in the summer. The container is dirty and hard to wash.
- Let us put out one additional bin. Well two additional bins that is in the summer for no charge.
- Education of the community, because a lot of people leave it loose and creatures tip it over and it spills all over the place. If you put meat and such in loosely, it's more likely to get rats and things like that.
- I don't know, I'm pretty happy with the way it is. I can't think of anything that can change.
- It's fine.
- I don't think they do a great job of taking all of the trash. Sometimes they miss and it falls into the alley and it stays there because they don't pick it up, so they can be better with that.
- I guess I am more of a you know if it can be composted, that's better, so really I just put stuff in the waste bin that I don't want in my own yard like pizza boxes. It's a good program.
- Don't charge for extra yard waste in the summer months.
- Pick it up when they say they are.
- Nothing.
- Garbage is garbage to me.
- To not come at the crack of dawn.
- Nothing, the service is good.
- More rat control programs in Seattle.
- They can provide smaller containers for kitchen use, so I wouldn't have to go out all the time.
- I can't really think of anything to make it better.
- I need a bigger cart. So I would say some additional cans without being charged extra for them.
- Smaller bins that are easier to manage.
- I guess I need to know a cleaner way to put the food scraps in. Sometimes it's kind of messy.
- Nothing.
- It seems like every once in a while we get missed.
- You know they pick up every week, I think that's pretty good.
- Little compost pails that you can keep in your sink. Something for the kitchen that encourages people to take it out to the yard waste bin.
- Nothing, don't try to fix it if it isn't broken.
- Not much.

B18. FOR WHAT REASONS DON'T YOU PUT YOUR FOOD SCRAPS IN WITH YOUR YARD WASTE FOR PICKUP?

- Because I have always put it in the garbage. That's why.
- Because it's stupid, it's a waste of time, too time consuming and I don't care too much for it.
- We don't because we just compost ourselves; it just makes the soil better.
- I thought it was suppose to be separate. The reason you need the yard waste is for the yard waste. That is what I was thinking. That's the only reason why.
- Indoor food scraps get composted in the worm factory. That's all.
- I am afraid it can attract rodents. More likely to do it if it was a small bin. I would have a separate thing for the greasy products and food waste. That's all.
- Because we don't subscribe to yard waste pick, we are 100% for compost. We don't have a yard waste container because they raised the rates.
- We don't have any food waste to speak of, we don't waste food.
- It is the way the City wants us to. That's all.
- Because it's outside. I don't enjoy going outside to put a few food scraps in the trash bin.
- It's too inconvenient.
- They didn't deliver the bin to my house and they haven't yet.
- One, convenience and two, we are afraid it's going to attract flies, and also separating it, they want us to refrigerate it and one of the tenants did that and she got moths in her house. We had to pay an exterminator \$200 to get rid of them.
- Laziness is not getting it done. That's all.
- I have to walk to the front porch instead of the back porch. If they came to the kitchen to pick them up, it will be better.
- I don't put soup or chicken bones or stuff like that because it's too messy, I don't want animals in it and I don't want a can that's all "gummy".
- It stinks up the garbage can and bags, and I'm not interested in having animals visit me.
- The convenience of throwing them away instead of putting into a separate container.
- The container lids are never placed on the container and rats get into it.
- Because I compost.
- I don't have the can, but I try to recycle the best I can.
- I don't know.
- Because I don't have much meat. I like to compost.
- I don't have yard waste.
- I don't have the yard waste put out every week so I don't want it to start stinking so I don't put it in there as much.
- Don't really have food scraps.
- Attracts pests.
- Because of the health hazards, it attracts rats, crows, and raccoons when it sits outside.
- I usually just put it in my compost pile and really my wife and I don't eat that much anyway, so there's not much to throw away.
- The maggots.
- I don't know.
- No idea.
- I have not gotten used to it.
- I don't know.
- Because the soil needs the food scraps.
- I do it sometimes; I put a lot in the compost bin.
- The garbage disposal is faster.
- We just haven't done it.
- Our cabinet only holds two bins.
- We are composting it at home.
- Because it's my choice on what I do with my garbage and I don't think I should have to pay for a mandatory recycle bin that I don't even use.
- Because we have so little.

N3. WHY DOES YOUR HOUSEHOLD COMPOST LESS FOOD WASTE AT HOME NOW?

- The City expanded how much could be put in the container. That is all.
- Again it would be the effort on our part. Age has to do a lot with it.
- We can now put scraps in the yard waste cart.
- We just never get around to putting them in the garden, just because we are gardening less.
- Because I don't want to put meat and stuff in my backyard.
- Because the City has the recycle program now.
- I'm eating less. When you're 88, you don't eat much. That's all.
- Because I got into the habit of just putting it in the food and yard waste bin.
- Because it is easier to put it all in the alley composting for pickup. That's it.
- Because I can take it to the curbside pickup.
- The yard waste bin is really convenient.
- More convenient, easier than separating it.
- Because we are using the City curbside compost cart.
- Busy with kids.
- It's easier to put it on the curb. It makes more sense.
- Because of the yard container accepting food scraps.
- Because we use the bins that the City provided.
- Because we put more in the food scrap bin than in the compost pile.

Endnotes

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- ⁱ S7: Does your household have curbside pick-up service for yard and food waste?
- ⁱⁱ S8: For how many years has your household had yard and food waste curbside pick-up service at this address?
- ⁱⁱⁱ S9: What size container does your household have?
- ^{iv} S10: Does your household have a special exemption from the City saying you don't need to sign up for curbside pick-up for yard and food waste?
- ^v A10: Does your household currently compost any of its yard waste at home on your own property?
- B3.4: When you think about these food scraps, or other types of food waste that you need to dispose of, what does your household do with them? Do you ever put them in your compost bin or compost pile at home?
- ^{vi} A4: Does your household ever put yard waste out at the curb or alley for collection?
- A10: Does your household currently compost any of its yard waste at home on your own property?
- ^{vii} A5: Compared to last year, would you say that your household now takes more yard waste to the curb, less yard waste, or has the amount not changed?
- ^{viii} A6: What changed? Why does your household now have more yard waste picked up at the curb?
- ^{ix} A7: Does your household ever take yard waste to a central facility—like a transfer station—where they compost your yard waste?
- ^x A8: Thinking about the past year, how many times have you or has someone in your household dropped off yard waste at a transfer station?
- ^{xi} A9: Compared to last year, is your household taking yard waste to transfer stations more often, less often or about the same amount?
- ^{xii} A10b: About how much of the yard waste that your household generates—including leaves, grass, prunings, etc.—would you estimate you compost on your property?
- ^{xiii} A11: Thinking about just the yard waste that you compost on your own property, compared to last year, would you say that you now compost more yard waste at home, less yard waste, or are you composting about the same amount of yard waste at home?
- ^{xiv} A12: Why does your household compost less at home than you did last year?
- ^{xv} A13: Which of the following types of yard waste materials are you currently composting at home?
- ^{xvi} A14: Does your household use a yard waste compost bin, do you pile it up without a bin, or do you do something else with it?
- ^{xvii} A15: To the best of your knowledge, is the bin you have one that was purchased from the City, or did you get it some other way?
- ^{xviii} A17: How would you describe the working condition of the bin that you have?
- ^{xix} A18: Just thinking about the next year or so, and assuming that cost was not a consideration, how likely are you to get a (new) composting bin for the yard waste you compost on your own property?
- ^{xx} A19: Next year, assuming the price is \$35 per bin, how likely are you to purchase a new yard waste composting bin from the City?
- ^{xxi} A20: Next year, assuming the price is \$10 less than that, at \$25 per bin, how likely are you to purchase a new yard waste composting bin from the City?
- ^{xxii} A29: When you mow your lawn, or have your lawn mowed, what is typically done with the grass clippings?
- ^{xxiii} A29: When you mow your lawn, or have your lawn mowed, what is typically done with the grass clippings?
- A30: Does your household ever leave grass clippings on the lawn when it's mowed?
- ^{xxiv} A32 (A-C): When your household's lawn is mowed during the (spring, summer, fall) how often do you leave your grass clippings on the lawn?
- ^{xxv} A33: If you had more information about how leaving the grass clippings on makes mowing easier, improves the health of the lawn and saves money on fertilizer applications, how likely would you be to start leaving your clippings on the lawn?
- ^{xxvi} A34: What type of mower is typically used for mowing your household's lawn now?
- A35: And, is the mower (push reel mower, corded electric, cordless electric, gas-powered, other)?
- ^{xxvii} A39: Have you ever participated in a program offered by the City of Seattle where you got a rebate on the purchase of an electric mulch mower for recycling your used gas-powered lawn mower?

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- ^{xxviii} A40: If the City of Seattle offered a program where you could turn in your old gas powered lawnmower and receive a \$25 rebate on the purchase of an electric mulch mower, how likely would you be to participate?
- ^{xxix} A36: Where is the blade on your mower set?
- ^{xxx} B3.1-B3.4: When you think about these food scraps, or other types of food waste that you need to dispose of, what does your household do with them?
- ^{xxxi} B5: When you think about all the table scraps, kitchen scraps or food waste that your house generates, how do you handle most of it?
- ^{xxxii} B7: Now that you're putting food scraps in your curbside food and yard waste cart, has the amount of food that you compost in your backyard increased, decreased or stayed about the same?
- ^{xxxiii} B6a: For how many years has your household been putting food scraps into your food and yard waste cart?
- ^{xxxiv} B6b: Of all the food scraps your household has, how much would you say goes into your food and yard waste cart?
- ^{xxxv} B8: Since you started putting food scraps in your curbside food and yard waste cart, has the food that you put into the regular garbage increased, decreased or stayed about the same?
- ^{xxxvi} B9: Since you've decreased what goes into your regular garbage, have you changed or considered changing the size of the garbage can you use?
- ^{xxxvii} B 10: Why haven't you considered changing the size of the garbage can you use?
- ^{xxxviii} N1: How much of your food waste do you compost at home?
- ^{xxxix} N2: Compared to last year, would you say that you now compost more food waste at home, less food waste at home, or are you composting about the same amount?
- ^{xl} N3: Why does your household compost less food waste at home now?
- ^{xli} N2: Compared to last year, would you say that you now compost more food waste at home, less food waste at home, or are you composting about the same amount?
- ^{xlii} B22: Does your household currently use any type of outdoor bin or container for composting these food scraps?
- ^{xliii} B23: Do you have a food waste composting bin or container that you purchased or received from the City?
- ^{xliv} B24: What type of food waste or composting bin do you have from the City?
- ^{xliv} N4: How would you describe the condition of the food waste composting bin that you have?
- ^{xlvi} N5: Just thinking about the next year or so, and assuming that cost was not a consideration, how likely are you to get a (new) food waste composting bin for the food waste you compost on your own property?
- ^{xlvii} B26: If the program was available in the next year or so, how likely would you be to purchase a (new) food waste composting bin or container from the City if it was available for \$35?
- ^{xlviii} B27: How likely would you be to purchase a (new) food waste composting bin or container from the City if it was available for \$10 less, at \$25?
- ^{xliv} B4: How often does your household use the garbage disposal?
- ⁱ B11: What is typically done with food scraps at the time they are generated?
- ⁱⁱ B12: What do you usually store them in?
- ⁱⁱⁱ B13: When you put your food scraps inside your curbside food and yard waste cart, do you usually put the food scraps in loose, do you contain them inside a paper bag, do you wrap them in newspaper or do you handle it some other way?
- ^{liii} B15: Overall, how satisfied are you with the City's food and yard waste collection service?
- ^{liv} B16: What could be done to make the service better?
- ^{lv} A24: If you got information about how to make it easy and pest free, how likely would you be to start composting yard waste in the next year or so?
- ^{lvi} A21: Even though you may not be using it, does your household currently have a compost bin that you could use if you decided to compost your yard waste at home?
- A22: Is this a compost bin that you got from the City, or do you have some other type of bin?
- ^{lvii} A25: Thinking about the next year or so, and assuming that cost was not a consideration, how likely are you to get a (new) bin designed specifically to compost yard waste at home?
- ^{lviii} A27: Assuming the price per bin is \$35, in the next year or so, how likely are you to purchase a yard waste composting bin from the City for your home?

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- ^{lix} A28: Assuming the price per bin is \$10 less at \$25, in the next year or so, how likely are you to purchase a yard waste composting bin from the City for your home?
- ^{lx} A31: If you had more information about how leaving the grass clippings on makes mowing easier, improves the health of the lawn, and saves money on fertilizer applications, how likely would you be to start leaving your clippings on the lawn?
- ^{lxi} B31: Thinking about the next year or so, how likely are you to start making some of your own compost by depositing your own food scraps at home on your property?
- ^{lxii} B28: Even though you may not be using it, does your household own any kind of bin or container that is designed for composting food waste at home in your yard if you wanted to?
- ^{lxiii} B29: Do you have a food waste composting bin or container that you purchased or received from the City?
- ^{lxiv} N6: Thinking about the next year or so, and assuming that cost was not a consideration, how likely are you to get a (new) bin designed specifically to compost food waste at home?
- ^{lxv} B32: If the program was available within the next year or so, how likely would you be to purchase a (new) food waste composting bin or container from the City if it was available for \$35?
- ^{lxvi} B33: How likely would you be to purchase a (new) food waste composting bin or container from the City if it was available for \$10 less, at \$25?
- ^{lxvii} B17: Before now, were you aware that the City picks up food scraps as part of its curbside yard waste pickup service?
- ^{lxviii} B18: For what reasons don't you put your food scraps in with your yard waste for pick-up?
- ^{lxix} B19: How likely is your household to start putting at least some of its food waste in your food and yard waste cart within the next year or so?
- ^{lxx} B20: If the City of Seattle changed from a weekly garbage pickup schedule to an every other week garbage pickup schedule, and kept picking up food and yard waste every week, how likely would you be to start putting your food scraps in with your food and yard waste cart?
- ^{lxxi} B21: Right now the City picks up garbage on a weekly basis. They also pick up food and yard waste every week. Now that food scraps are allowed in the weekly yard and food waste service, the City is considering changing garbage to an every other week service. If this change was made, how satisfied would you be?
- ^{lxxii} C1: How does your household handle getting rid of fats, oils and grease? When you have left-over grease from cooking meats like bacon, what does your household usually do with the grease?
- ^{lxxiii} C2: Regardless of where this type of grease comes from, about how often do you have grease that you need to get rid of each month?
- ^{lxxiv} C3: Thinking about a normal year, about how many times do you cook using a deep fat fryer?
- ^{lxxv} C4: When you want to get rid of the grease that you use in your deep fat fryer, what do you usually do with it?