



TAKOMA PARK

FOOD WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM

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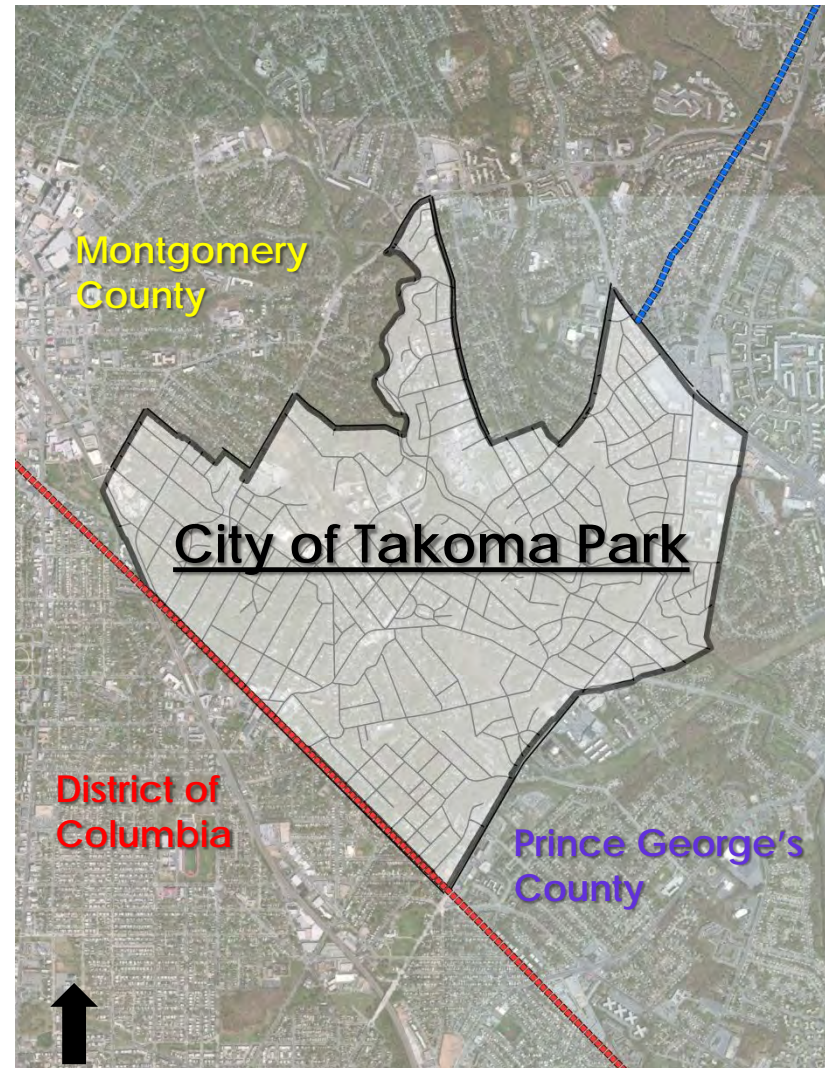
Agenda

- About Takoma Park
- Pre-Existing Curbside Programs
- Food Waste Program
 - Pilot Phase
 - Expansion
 - Current phase
- Program Evaluation
- Moving ahead
- Question

City of Takoma Park

- Incorporated in 1890
- 2.4 Square Miles
- Shares a border with the District of Columbia
- Population: 16,715 (Census 2010)
- 7,000 housing units, 52% owner occupied, 48% rental

City provides curbside collection to **3,300 homes** , primarily single family and apartments of 6 units and less



Takoma Park Pre-Existing Programs for Waste Management

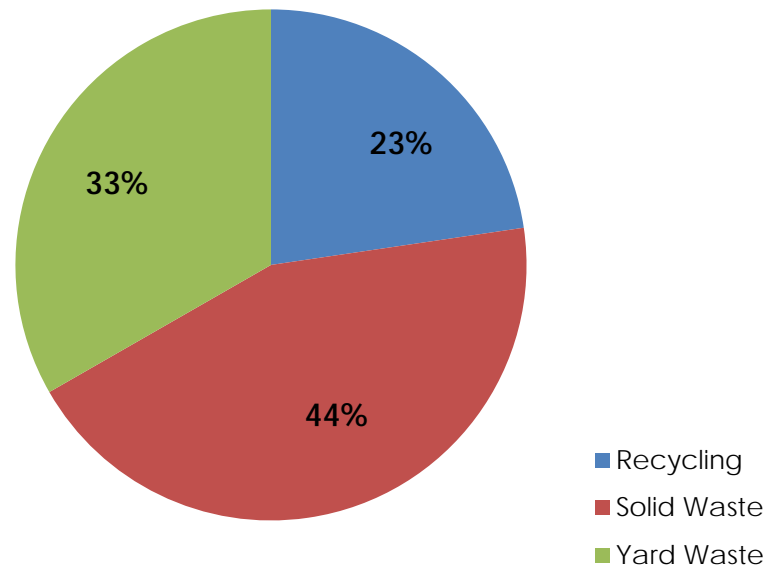
Robust curbside recycling and mandatory yard waste programs manage 56% of total Waste stream

Fiscal Year 2012

- Yard Waste: 2,240 Tons *
- Solid waste: 2,963 Tons
- Recycling: 1,526 Tons

* Yard Waste includes vacuum leaf collection each Fall as well as weekly collection of grass, leaves, branches and brush

Residential Trash Tonnage for FY 2012



Food Waste Collection Program

- Begun on February 2013 as a pilot program
- Targeted two neighborhoods with high recycling rates
- Collection by private haulers
 - The Compost Crew and
 - Growing Soul
- Voluntary Participation

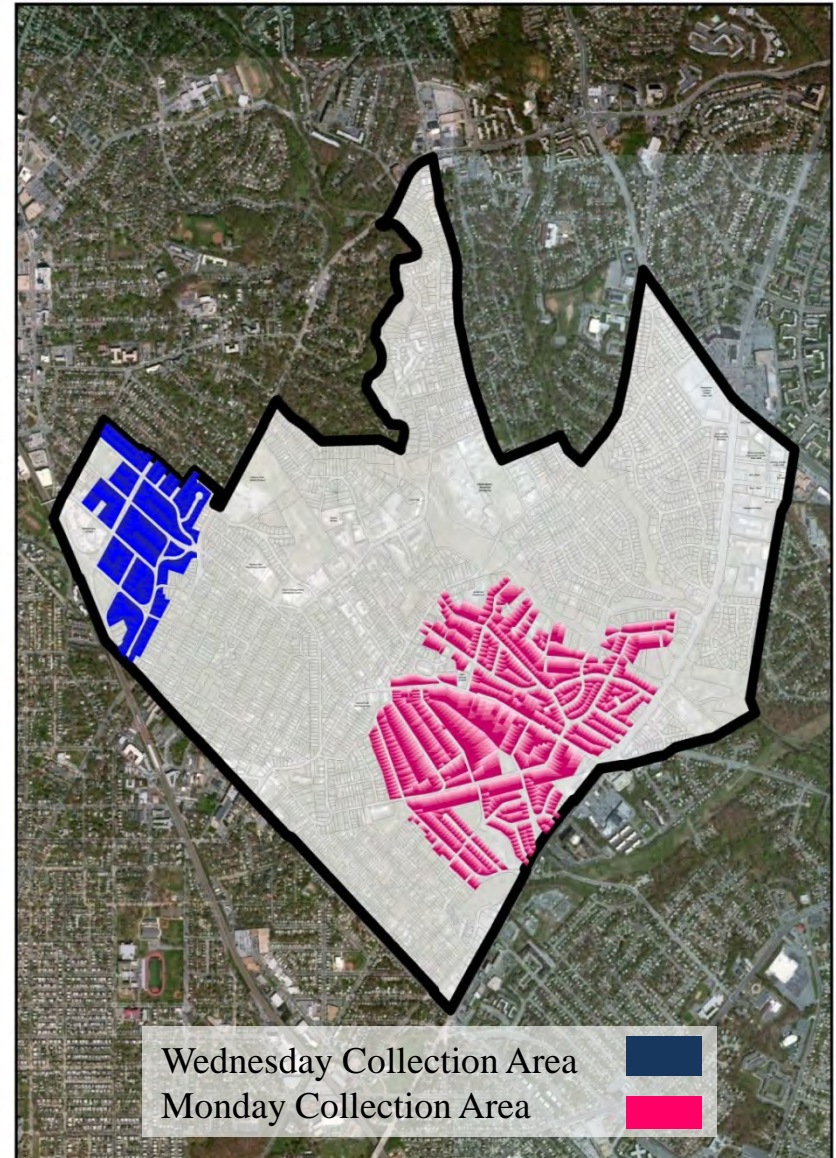
Pilot Phase

- **Area 1**

- Contractor collection on same day as trash
- 260 total homes
- 65 participants (25%)
- Growing Soul

- **Area 2**

- City collection on same day as yard waste
- 850 total homes
- 300 participants (35%)
- The Compost Crew



Food Waste Collection -Status

- Approximately 1800 homes participating in the program
- Online sign in – [Link](#)

Registration Form

Takoma Park Food Waste Collection Registration Form

The food waste collection program is now available to all the households within the City of Takoma Park. Single family and multi-family properties with twelve (12) units or less that currently receive City of Takoma Park curbside trash and recycling pickup are eligible to participate in the food waste collection program.

Households with a **Thursday trash route** or **Friday trash route** can register by filling out this form. Public Works staff will follow up with you to let you know how to get started! Households with a **Wednesday trash route** are divided into two areas and are serviced by either the Compost Crew or Public Works. Review the map above to determine your service provider. Households within the Compost Crew service area are highlighted yellow and should register on The Compost Crew's website. Households with Wednesday routes outside of the yellow area will be serviced by Public Works and can register with this form. Households with a **Tuesday trash route** should register on The Compost Crew's website.

- The Compost Crew

Full Name *

Last, First

Enter your full name here.

Email Address *

Enter your email address here.

Street Address *

Enter your Takoma Park street address here. Your household must be in the pilot area to participate.

How many people live in your household? *

Enter the total number of people living in your household.

What day of the week is your trash collected? *

- Select -

Select the day of the week you get your trash and recycling collected.

Submit

Collection Details

Each participant received:

- 5 gallon plastic bucket with screw top lid
- 6 month supply of compostable plastic bags
- Instructional information
- Website access for questions, comments

What Can Be Collected as Food Waste in Takoma Park

| Items to be included | Items not to be included |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• fruit & vegetable• scraps meat, fish, shellfish• dairy products• bread, pasta, rice, grains, cereal, baked goods, etc.• nuts, beans, seeds• coffee grounds, filters, tea bags• paper products /pizza boxes• chopsticks and popsicle sticks | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• diapers• facial tissues• fats, oils or grease• pet waste• styrofoam |

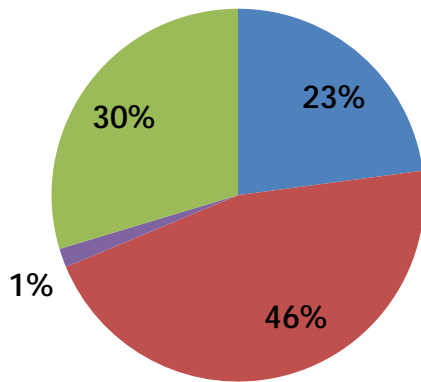
Food Waste Collection -Status

- Trash, Recycling and Food Waste all collected on the same day
- Collected 4 days a Week (Tuesday(450), Wednesday(400), Thursday (560), Friday (351))



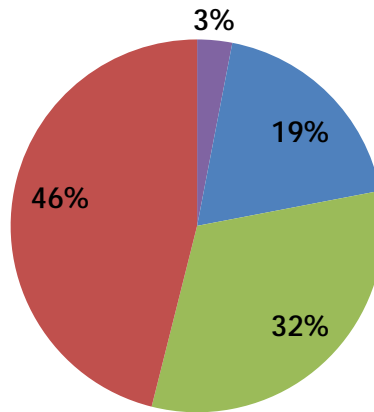
Program Evaluation

FY 2014



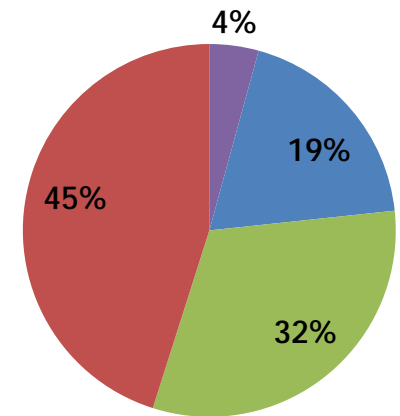
Food Waste Compost =
110 Tons

FY 2017



Food Waste Compost
= 212.49 Tons

FY 2018



Food Waste
Compost = 302.42 Tons

Fiscal Year (FY) starts July of every year and ends on June 30th

Program Evaluation

FOOD WASTE COLLECTION (Current 2018 trend)

- Average weight of food waste per house = **6.6 lbs/week**
- Percentage of households participating = **54%**

COMPARISON TO OTHER COLLECTIONS

- Average weight of weekly trash per house = **37.2 lbs**
- Average weight of weekly recycling per house = **15 lbs**
- Average weight of weekly yard waste per house = **26 lbs**

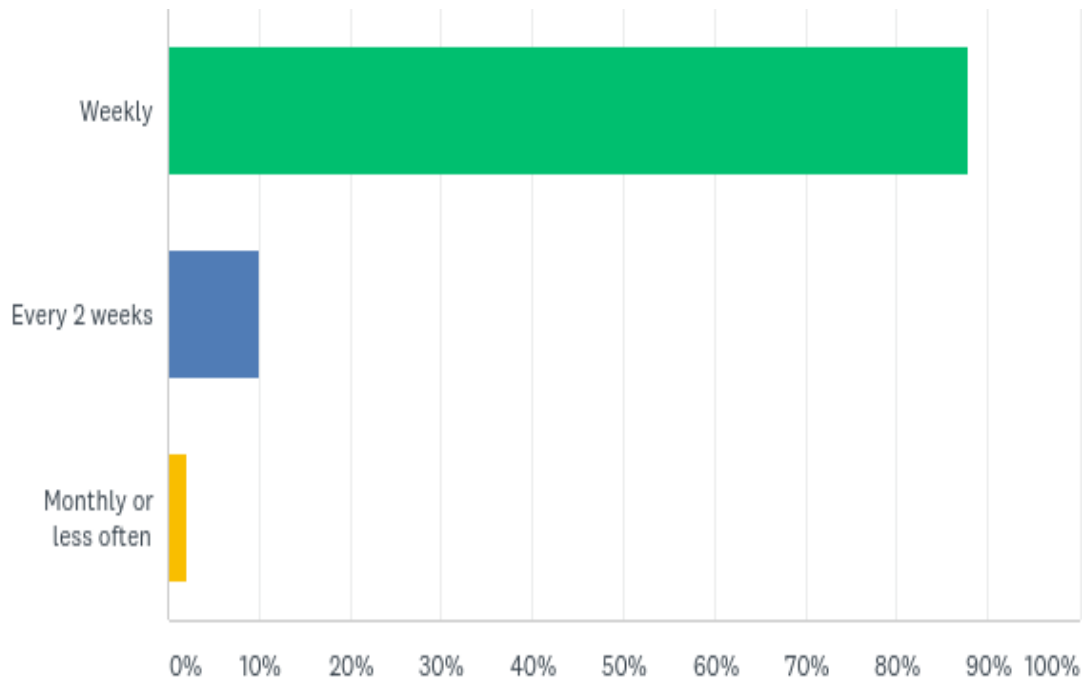
Note: If we assume the set out rate is 70%, the average household sets out 9.4 pounds per week of Food Waste

Program Evaluation

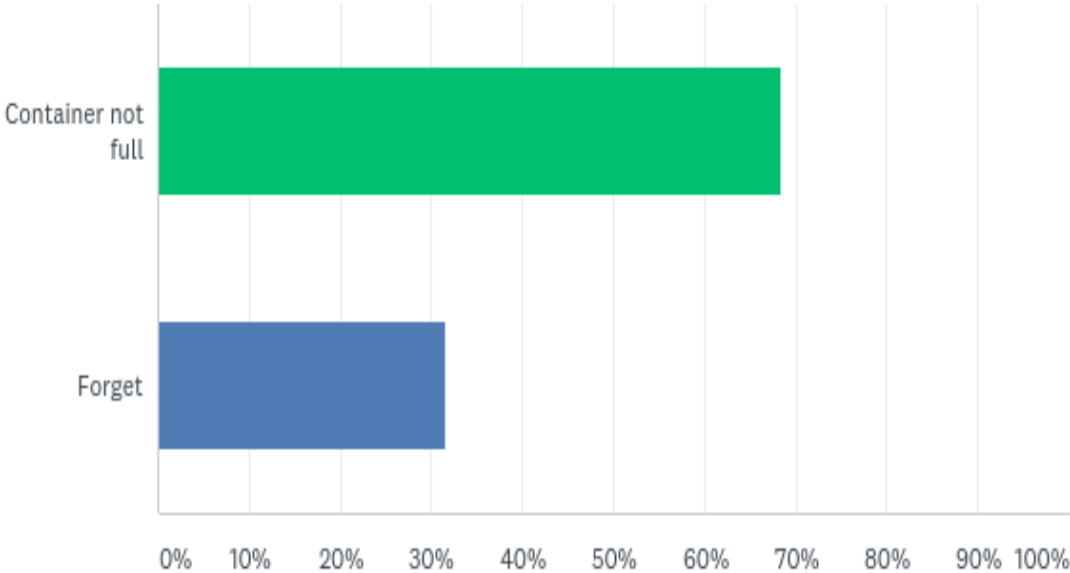
- Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T9MSZDR>
- Results: 158 responded to the survey

Q4: How often do you usually set your compost bin at the curb for pickup? Pick the choice closest to your average.

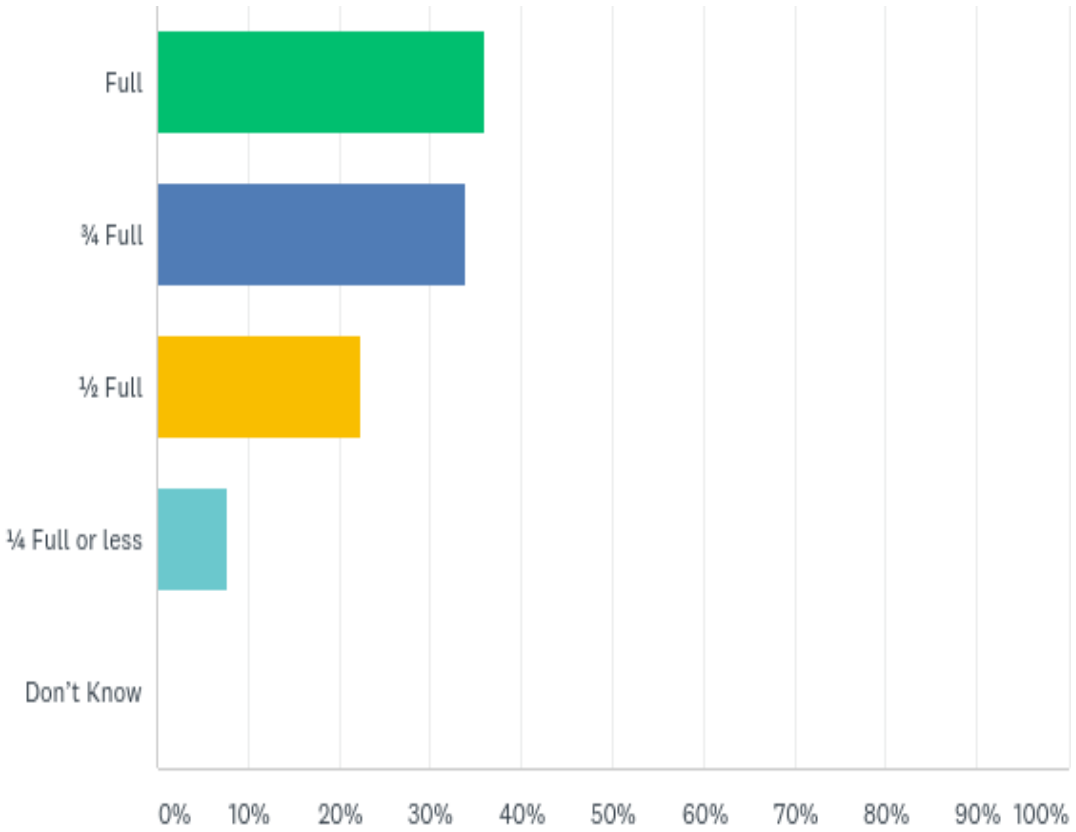
- Answered: 286 Skipped: 0



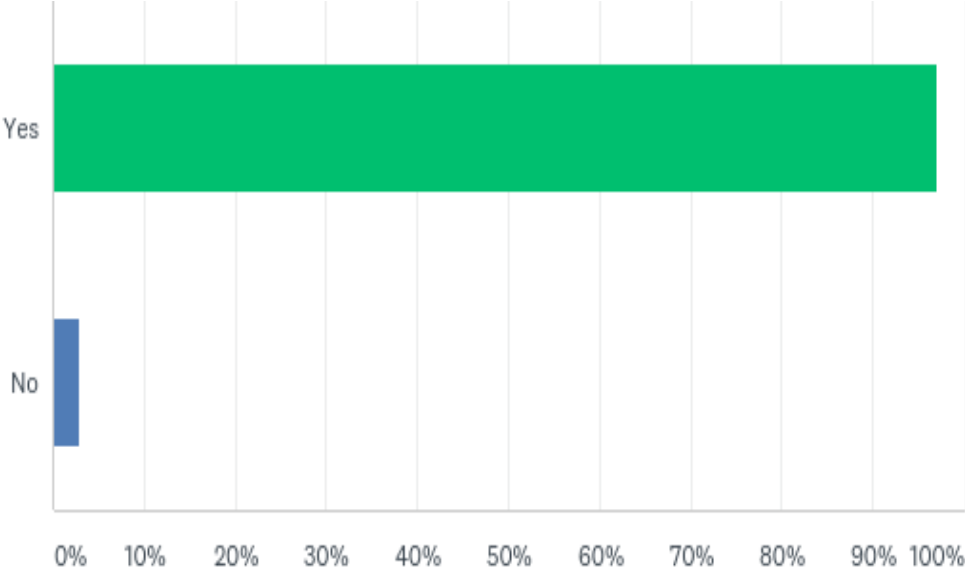
Q5: If you set out less frequently than once a week, please let us know why?



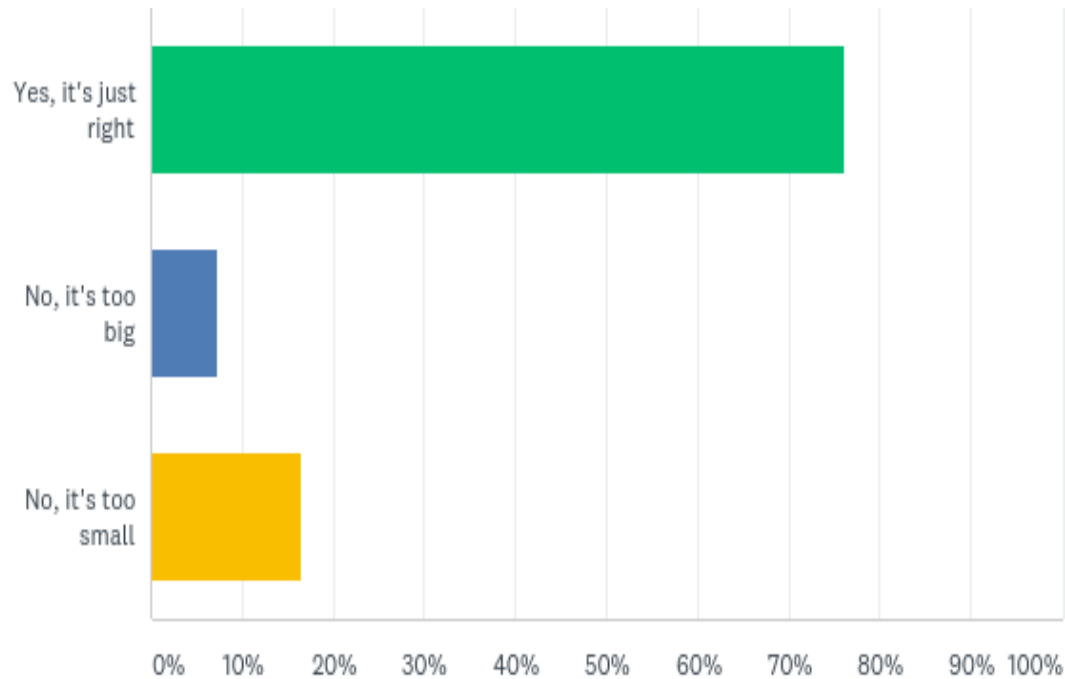
Q6: How much material do you put in your bin in a typical week? Is the bin:



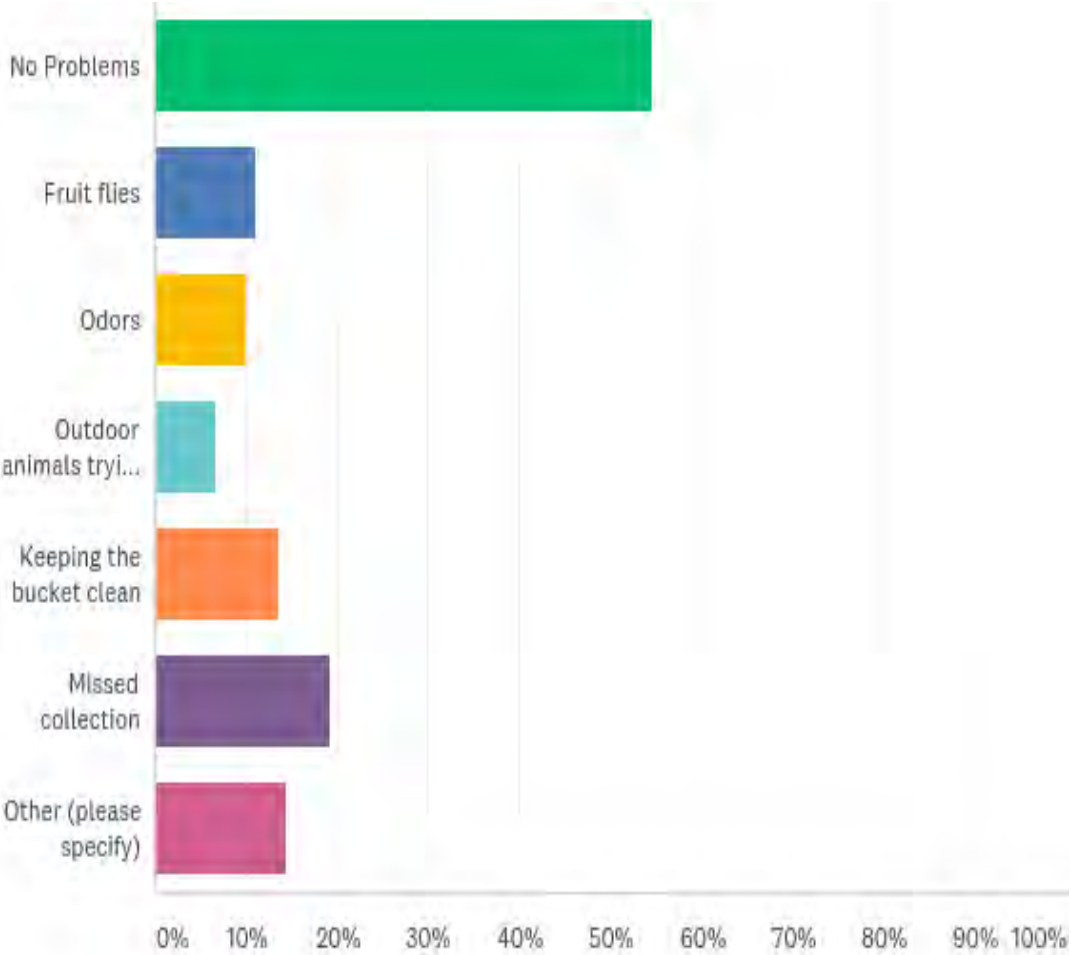
Q7: Do you have less waste in your trash can as result of composting?



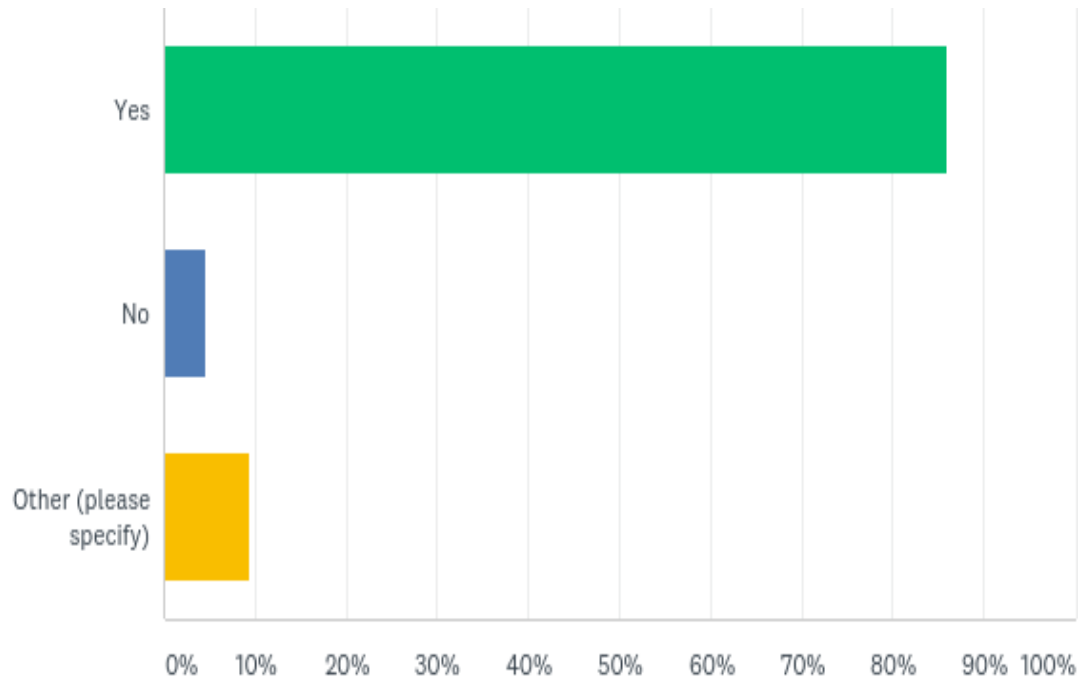
Q8: Is the 5-gallon bucket the right size for your household?



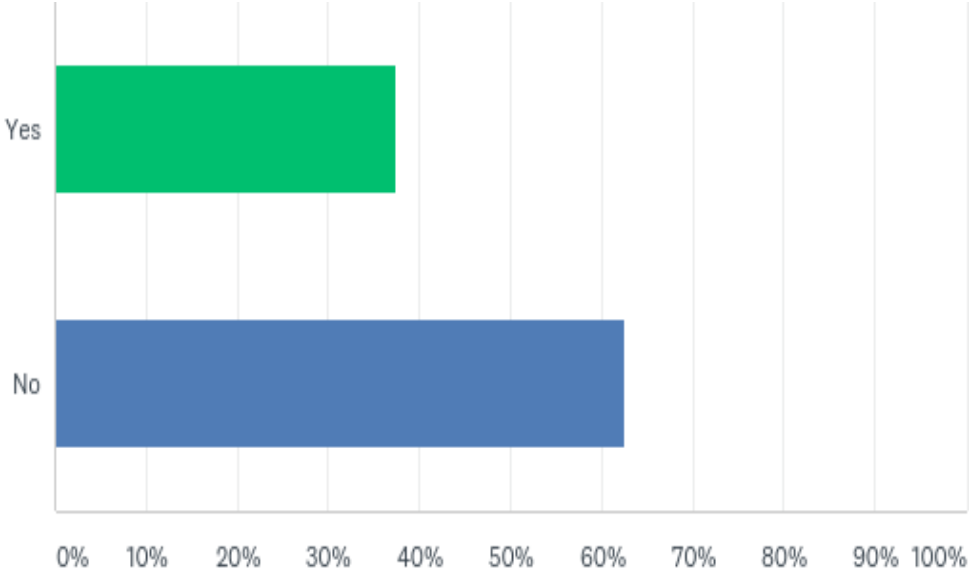
Q12: Have you had problems with the following:



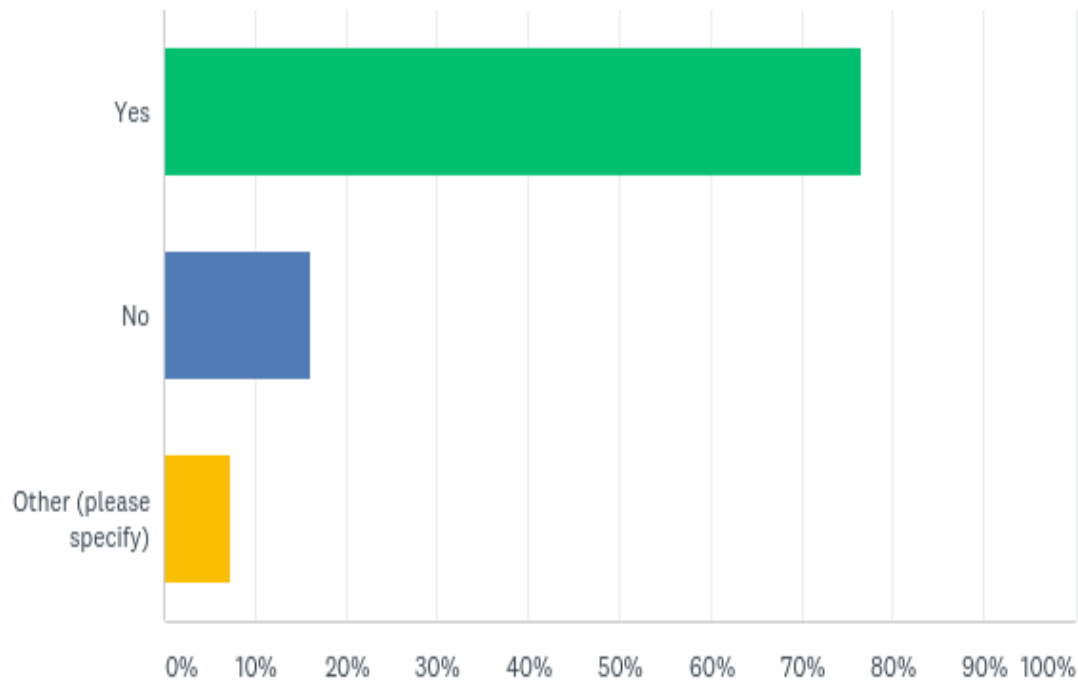
Q13: Do you like the idea of setting out food waste collection on same day as trash and recycling?



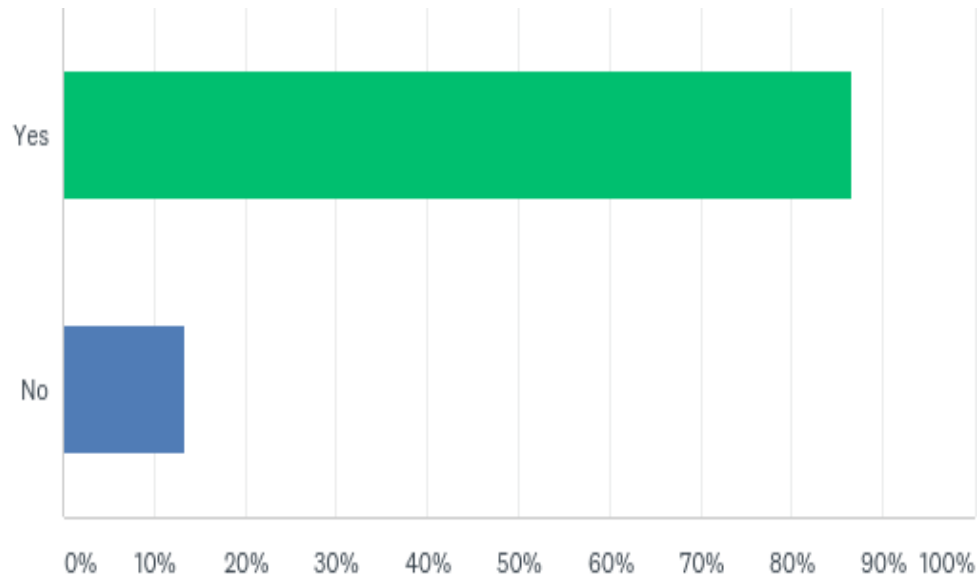
Q14: Before the Food Waste Collection program did you do backyard composting?



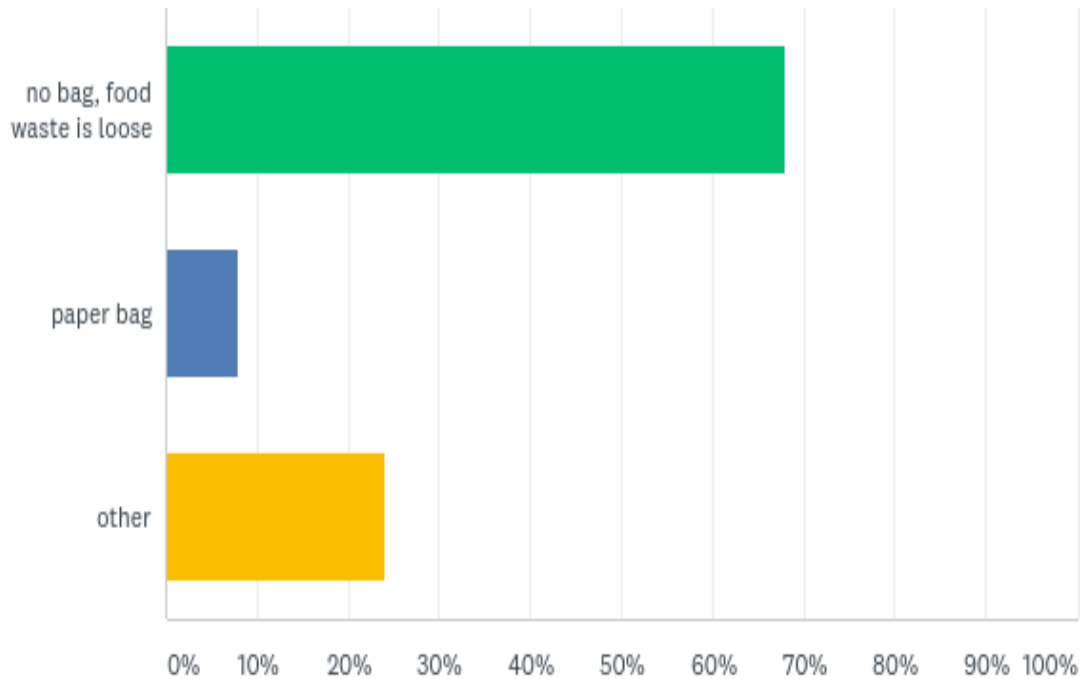
Q16: Do you have a kitchen countertop container that you use to transfer food scraps into the bucket?



Q17: Do you use compostable bags?



Q18: If you answered no to the previous question, please indicate what do you use?



Program Cost

Cost for processing and Labor

- Tipping fee= \$45/tons($302 * 45 = 13,590$)
- Travel cost (Gas) = \$700/year
- Compost Giveaway = \$500/year
- Bucket and Bins = \$10,000 (3.5 per liners and 10.5 per bucket and lid)
- Labor Cost = \$52,000(1 permanent staff with benefit)
- **Total = \$63,245**

Lesson Learned

Food Waste Truck



Compost Bin



Leachate from the food waste is corroding the truck body and fuel tank

Moving Forward

- Explore program options for businesses and institutions, current program is residential only
- Advocate for more local processing options

Question