

# City of Boulder 2009 Curbside Compost Collection User Survey

---

## REPORT OF RESULTS



Prepared by:



3005 30<sup>th</sup> Street  
Boulder, Colorado 80301  
303-444-7863  
[www.n-r-c.com](http://www.n-r-c.com)

## Table of Contents

---

	Page
<b>Survey Background</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<i>Developing the Questionnaire</i> .....	3
<i>Collecting the Data</i> .....	3
<i>Survey Analysis and Reporting</i> .....	3
<b>Survey Results</b> .....	<b>5</b>
Experiences with New Curbside Compost Collection Program.....	5
Impact of Program on Trash .....	6
Storage and Placement of Curbside Collection Carts.....	7
Amount and Type of Trash.....	8
Amount And Type Of Compost .....	9
Experiences With Wildlife Disturbances.....	11
Support For or Opposition To Potential Program Changes.....	12
<b>Appendix A: Responses to Survey Questions</b> .....	<b>13</b>
<b>Appendix B: Responses to Open-Ended Questions</b> .....	<b>19</b>
<b>Appendix C: Questionnaire</b> .....	<b>65</b>

## Table of Figures

---

	Page
Figure 1: Frequency With Which Respondents Place Compost For Pick-up.....	5
Figure 2: Ratings of Curbside Compost Collection Program.....	5
Figure 3: Impact of Curbside Compost Collection on Amount of Trash .....	6
Figure 4: Awareness of Ability to Reduce Trash Collection to Every Other Week.....	6
Figure 5: Storage Location of Curbside Collection Carts .....	7
Figure 6: Time of Curbside Collection Cart Placement .....	7
Figure 7: Types of Materials Usually Found in Trash.....	8
Figure 8: Methods of Disposing of Yard and Garden Waste Materials .....	9
Figure 9: Amount of Yard and Garden Waste Materials Disposed of Every Two Weeks in Curbside Compost.....	9
Figure 10: Methods of Disposing of Food Waste.....	10
Figure 11: Amount of Food Waste Disposed of Every Two Weeks in Curbside Compost .....	10
Figure 12: Number of Times Experienced Wildlife Disturbances of Carts .....	11
Figure 13: Animal(s) That Disturbed Carts (If Known).....	11
Figure 14: Support For or Opposition to Potential Program Changes.....	12

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Survey Background

The City of Boulder's Community Planning and Sustainability Department's Local Environmental Action Division contracted with National Research Center, Inc. (NRC) to conduct a survey of those with curbside compost collection about their experiences with the program. A random selection of 2,500 addresses was chosen from data of all Boulder households with curbside compost collection to receive the survey. These recipients were mailed a postcard in October 2009 inviting them to complete a Web-based survey. (The URL for the survey was included on the postcard.) A week later, a reminder postcard was mailed, inviting someone from the same 2,500 households to complete the survey if they had not already done so. Of the 2,363 households receiving an invitation to complete the survey (37 postcards were returned as "undeliverable" by the post office from vacant addresses), a total of 744 completed the survey online, for a response rate of 31%. The 95 percent confidence level around survey results is generally no greater than plus or minus four percentage points.

### Frequency of Use of Curbside Compost Collection Program

Most of those who completed the survey were regular users of curbside compost collection. The proportion who said they place compost for pick-up was:

- ◆ Every other week, when it is collected, 73%
- ◆ About once a month, 14%
- ◆ About every other month, 4%
- ◆ Very rarely, 5%
- ◆ Never, 4%

### Satisfaction with Curbside Compost Collection Program

Satisfaction with the curbside compost collection program was high. The proportion of survey participants rating each aspect of the program as "excellent" or "good" was:

- ◆ Frequency of pick-up, 82%
- ◆ Quality of containers, 85%
- ◆ Explanation of what can and can't go in composting containers, 85%
- ◆ Overall satisfaction with the program, 77%

### Perceived Impact of Curbside Compost Collection Program on Trash Volume

Sixty-two percent of respondents reported that because of the curbside compost collection program, they have decreased the amount of materials they place in their trash; 30% said they have decreased their trash volume by a "great amount." About a third felt their trash volume has remained about the same, while six percent feel their trash volume has increased.

### Amount of Materials Placed in Curbside Compost Collection

Those completing the survey were asked about the amount of yard and garden waste material typically disposed of in curbside compost. Sixteen percent said they do not put any yard and garden waste out for curbside compost collection. Nearly half (42%) said they disposed of about three-quarters to a nearly full 32-gallon cart of yard and garden waste materials. Another 29% disposed of less than that, while 11% disposed of more than that amount.

Respondents also were asked about the amount of food waste material they typically disposed of in curbside compost; 35% said they did not put any food waste in curbside compost collection. Nineteen percent said they put out less than one gallon, 44% said they put out one gallon or more, and 2% said they were not sure.

### Experiences With Wildlife Disturbances

Survey respondents were asked if their trash, recycle or compost collection carts had ever been disturbed by wildlife. The proportion reporting the number of disturbances was:

- ◆ Never, 75%
- ◆ Once or twice, 18%
- ◆ About 3 to 5 times, 5%
- ◆ More than 5 times, 2%

The type of cart most likely to be disturbed was a trash cart (78%). Just over two-thirds (37%) who had experienced disturbances said the compost cart had been disturbed. Only 8% reported the recycling cart had been disturbed.

Those who had experienced a wildlife disturbance of their carts were asked what type of animal had been involved. Respondents could give more than one answer; the proportion reporting each type of animal (among those who said they had a disturbance) was:

- ◆ Raccoon, 65%
- ◆ Bear, 17%
- ◆ Fox or coyote, 8%
- ◆ Other, 7%
- ◆ Mountain lion, 2%
- ◆ Don't know, 26%

## SURVEY BACKGROUND

The City of Boulder's Community Planning and Sustainability Department's Local Environmental Action Division (LEAD) contracted with National Research Center, Inc. (NRC) to conduct a survey of those with curbside compost collection about their experiences with the program.

### Developing the Questionnaire

The questionnaire was developed by the LEAD staff, with some input from the NRC staff. The questionnaire was reviewed and revised until the final version was accepted. A copy of the questionnaire can be found in *Appendix C: Questionnaire*.

### Collecting the Data

Addresses were chosen from data of all Boulder households with curbside compost collection service, with 2,500 addresses being randomly selected as survey recipients. These recipients were mailed a postcard the second week of October 2009 inviting them to complete a Web-based survey. (The URL for the survey was included on the postcard.) A week later, a reminder postcard was mailed, inviting someone from the same 2,500 households to complete the survey if they had not already done so.

Of the 2,363 households receiving an invitation to complete the survey (37 postcards were returned as "undeliverable" by the post office from vacant addresses), a total of 744 completed the survey online, for a response rate of 31%.

It is customary to describe the precision of estimates made from surveys by a "level of confidence" (or margin of error). The 95 percent confidence level for this survey is generally no greater than plus or minus four percentage points around any given percent reported for the entire sample.

### Respondent Demographics

The curbside compost collection program primarily serves those who live in single-family homes. Thus, the vast majority of respondents lived in single family homes (94%, see *Table 23* in *Appendix A: Survey Questions*). Virtually all respondents owned their place of residence (93%, see *Table 22*). Many survey participants were long-time residents of Boulder; just over half (51%, see *Table 21*) had lived here more than 20 years, while another 45% had lived here between 10 and 20 years. Three-quarters of respondents were 45 years old or older (see *Table 24*), with 18% aged 65 or older. Residents over age 65 may have responded at a lower rate than those in other age categories due to limited access to the Internet, or limited experience with using the Internet for surveys of this type. As is typical with many surveys, female respondents slightly outnumbered male respondents, 55% versus 45% (see *Table 25*).

### Survey Analysis and Reporting

Since the surveys were completed online, the data were automatically saved electronically. The data were then exported for analysis. The anonymity of all survey respondents is fully maintained as no names or other unique identifiers were recorded.

The electronic dataset was analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). A complete set of frequencies for each survey question is contained in *Appendix A: Survey Questions*. Verbatim responses to open-ended questions can be found in *Appendix B: Responses to Open-Ended Questions*.

On many of the questions in the survey, respondents could answer, “don’t know.” The proportion of respondents giving this reply is shown in the full set of responses included in *Appendix A: Survey Questions*. However, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in the body of the report. In other words, the tables display the responses from respondents who had an opinion or knowledge about a specific item.

For some questions, respondents were permitted to select multiple responses. When the total exceeds 100% in a table for a multiple response question, it is because some respondents are counted in multiple categories. When a table for a question that only permitted a single response does not total to exactly 100%, it is due to the customary practice of rounding percentages to the nearest whole number.

## SURVEY RESULTS

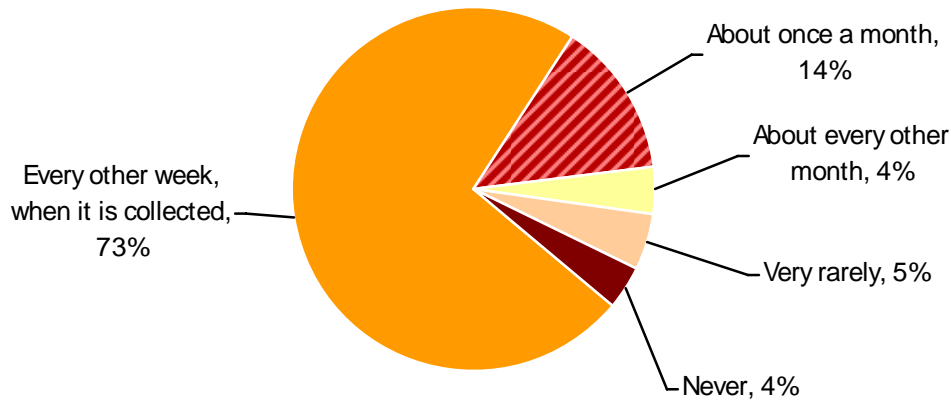
### Experiences with New Curbside Compost Collection Program

Most of those who completed the survey were regular users of curbside compost collection. About three-quarters (73%, see Figure 1) said they place compost for pick-up every other week. However, 9% of respondents said they very rarely or never place compost out for collection. The remaining 18% place compost curbside for collection about once a month or every other month.

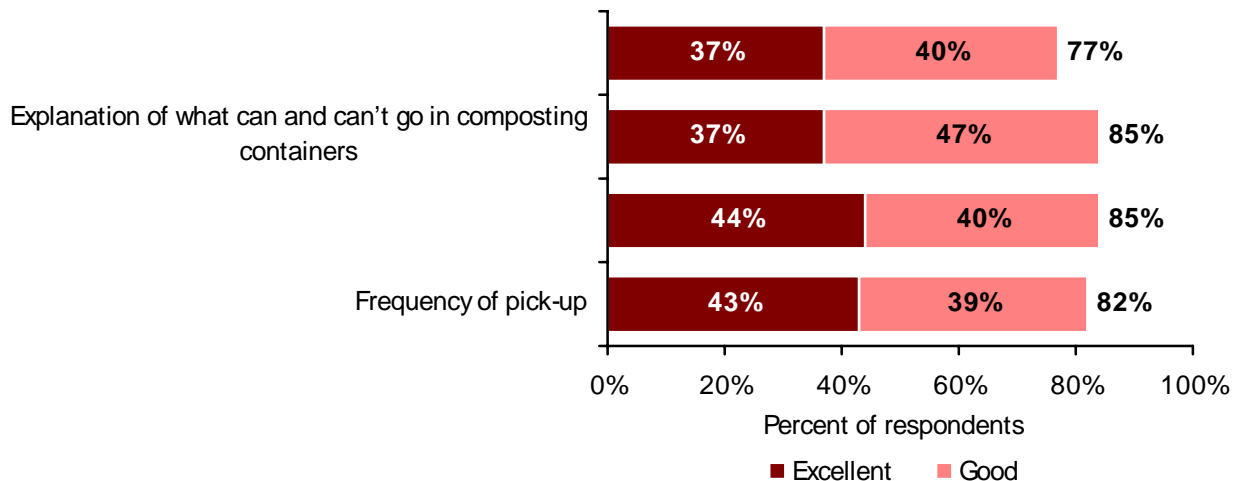
Those completing the survey were asked to rate various aspects of their experience with curbside compost collection. Just over three-quarters of respondents rated their overall satisfaction with the program as “excellent” or “good” (see Figure 2). More than 80% rated the quality of containers used in the program, the frequency of compost collection and the explanations about what can be put out for compost collection as “excellent” or “good.”

Respondents were asked to write, in their own words, what they liked about the curbside compost collection program and what they would change about the program. Most respondents gave an answer to these two questions; these responses can be found in *Appendix B: Responses to Open-Ended Questions*.

**Figure 1: Frequency With Which Respondents Place Compost For Pick-up**



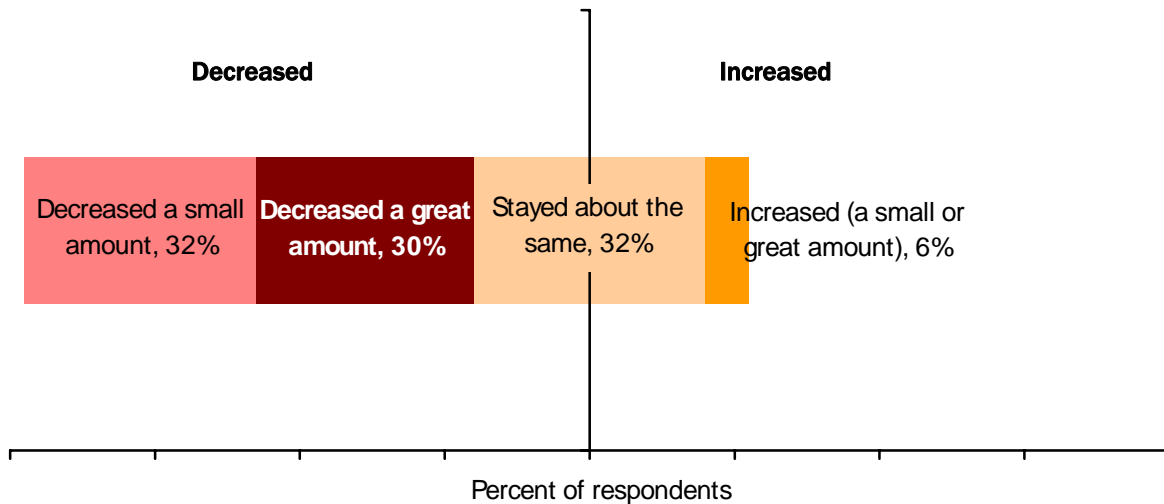
**Figure 2: Ratings of Curbside Compost Collection Program**



## Impact of Program on Trash

Sixty-two percent of survey respondents reported that because of the curbside compost collection program, they have decreased the amount of materials they place in their trash; 30% said they have decreased their trash volume by a “great amount.” About a third (32%) felt their trash volume has remained about the same, while a small percent (6%) feel their trash volume has increased.

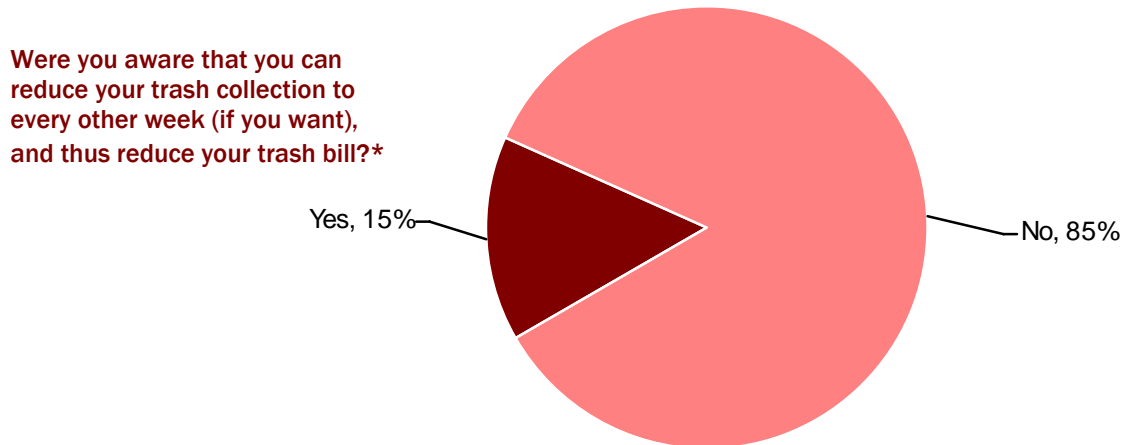
**Figure 3: Impact of Curbside Compost Collection on Amount of Trash**



Most respondents (91%) have their trash collected every week. Of these, two-thirds have a 32-gallon trash cart, 30% have a 64-gallon trash cart, and 4% were not sure what size trash cart they had. (See [Table 12](#) and [Table 13](#) in *Appendix A: Survey Questions*.)

Among those who have their trash collected every week, only 15% were aware that they could reduce their trash collection to every other week if they wanted.

**Figure 4: Awareness of Ability to Reduce Trash Collection to Every Other Week**

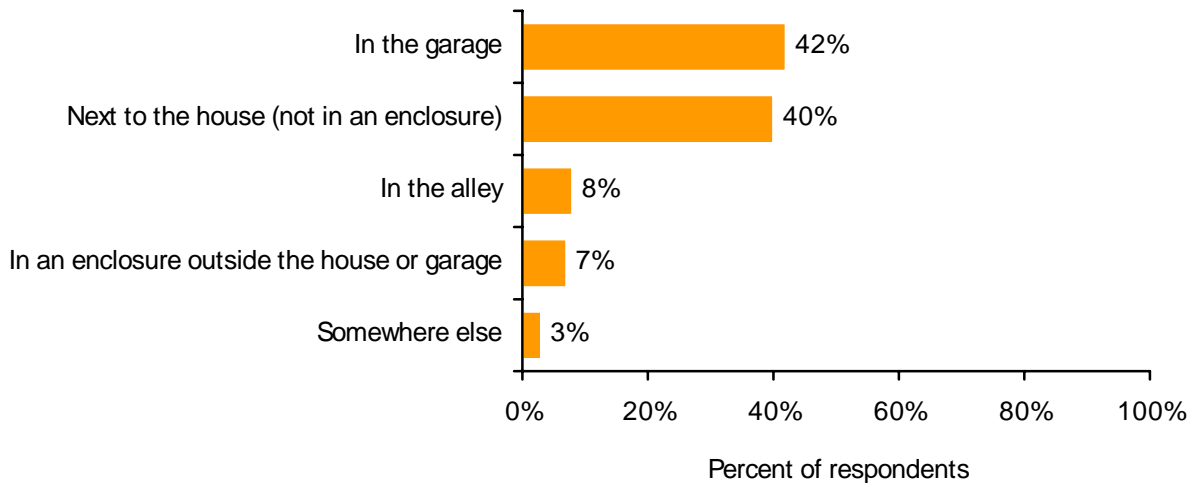


\* Question asked only of those who have their trash collected every week.

## Storage and Placement of Curbside Collection Carts

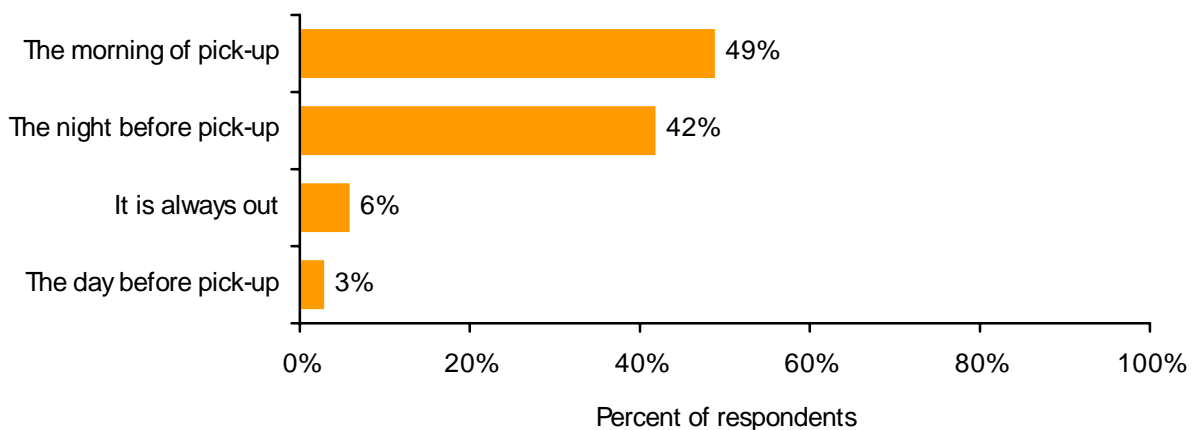
The most common storage location for curbside collection carts was outside the house; 40% of respondents said they kept their carts next to the house but not in an enclosure, while another 8% kept their carts in an enclosed area outside the house or garage (see [Figure 5](#)). Another 8% kept their carts in the alley by their homes. Forty percent of respondents kept their carts in their garage.

**Figure 5: Storage Location of Curbside Collection Carts**



About half of respondents (49%) said they usually place their carts curbside the morning of pick-up (see [Figure 6](#)). Forty-two percent said they put out their carts the night before pick-up, while another 3% said they place their carts out the day before pick-up. Six percent of respondents reported their carts are always out.

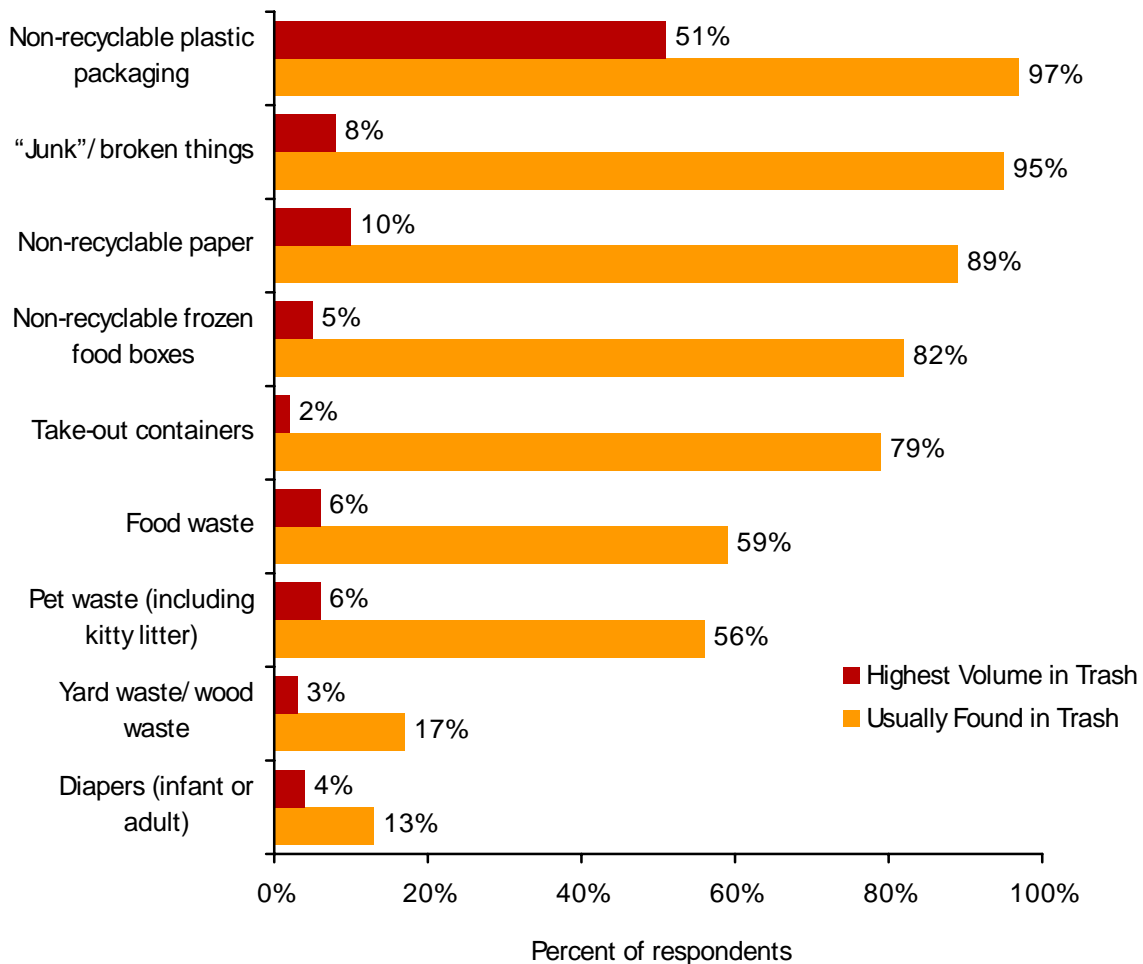
**Figure 6: Time of Curbside Collection Cart Placement**



## Amount and Type of Trash

Those completing the survey were asked about the types of materials usually placed in their trash. Nearly all respondents (95% or more) said their trash included non-recyclable plastic packaging and “junk” or broken things. The trash of about 8 in 10 respondents included take-out containers, non-recyclable frozen food boxes or non-recyclable paper. Over 50% of respondents said their trash includes food waste or pet waste. Yard or wood waste could be found in 17% of respondents’ trash. Diapers were in the trash of 13% of respondents. The type of material most commonly reported as taking the highest volume was non-recyclable plastic packaging.

**Figure 7: Types of Materials Usually Found in Trash**

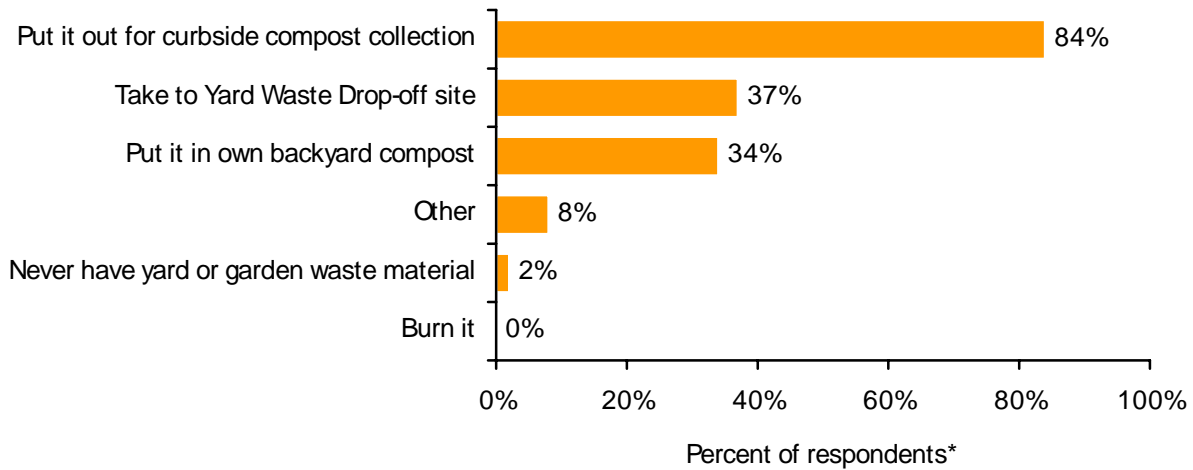


## Amount And Type Of Compost

Most respondents (91%) reported they had a 32 gallon size compost cart. Six percent said they had a 64 gallon size cart, while 4% weren't sure what size cart they had. (See [Table 4](#) in [Appendix A: Survey Questions](#).)

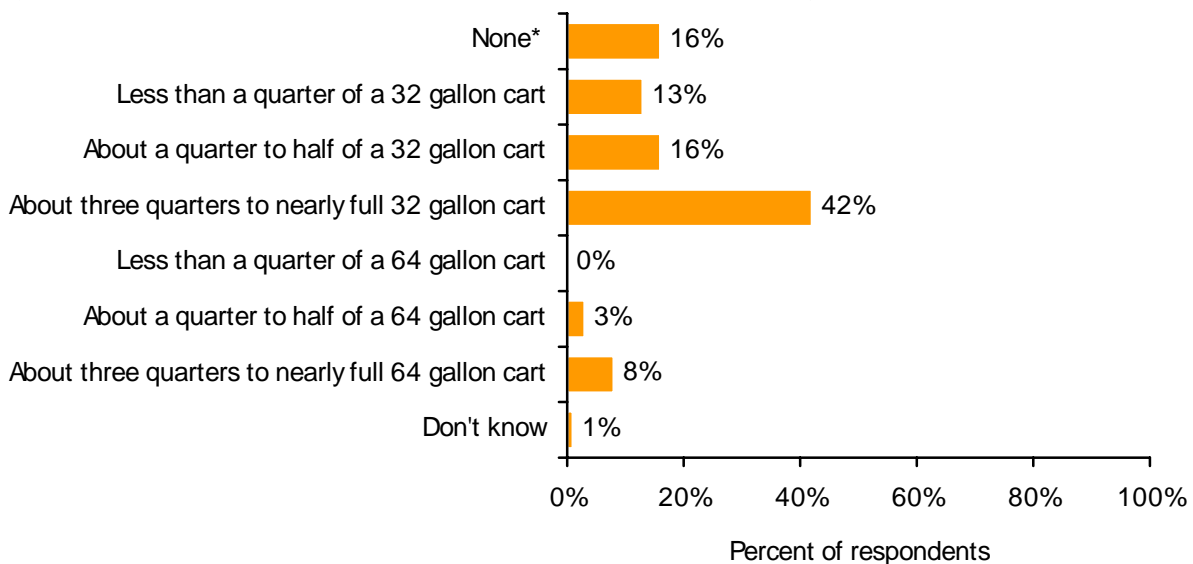
When asked how they dispose of yard and garden waste materials, most respondents (84%) put these materials out for curbside compost collection. Respondents could report more than one method, and 37% of respondents said they also take these materials to the Yard Waste Drop-Off site. About a third (34%) also reported that they put these types of materials in their own backyard compost. No respondent reported burning these types of materials. The amount of yard and garden waste material typically disposed of in curbside compost is shown in [Figure 9](#) below.

**Figure 8: Methods of Disposing of Yard and Garden Waste Materials**



\* Percents may add to more than 100% as respondents could give more than one answer.

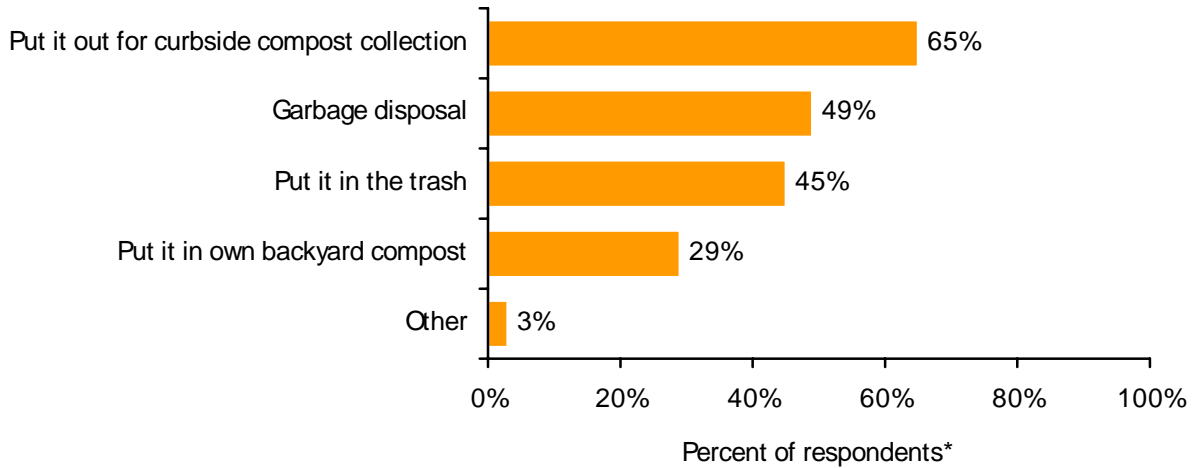
**Figure 9: Amount of Yard and Garden Waste Materials Disposed of Every Two Weeks in Curbside Compost**



\* Those who did not say they disposed of yard and garden waste materials in curbside compost were assumed to dispose of "none."

Respondents were also asked how they usually disposed of food waste. About two-thirds said they use the curbside compost collection for this type of waste (see **Figure 10**). Nearly half (49%) use the garbage disposal. The garbage disposal is used for at least some food waste by 45% of respondents. Twenty-nine percent of respondents said they put this type of waste in their own backyard compost.

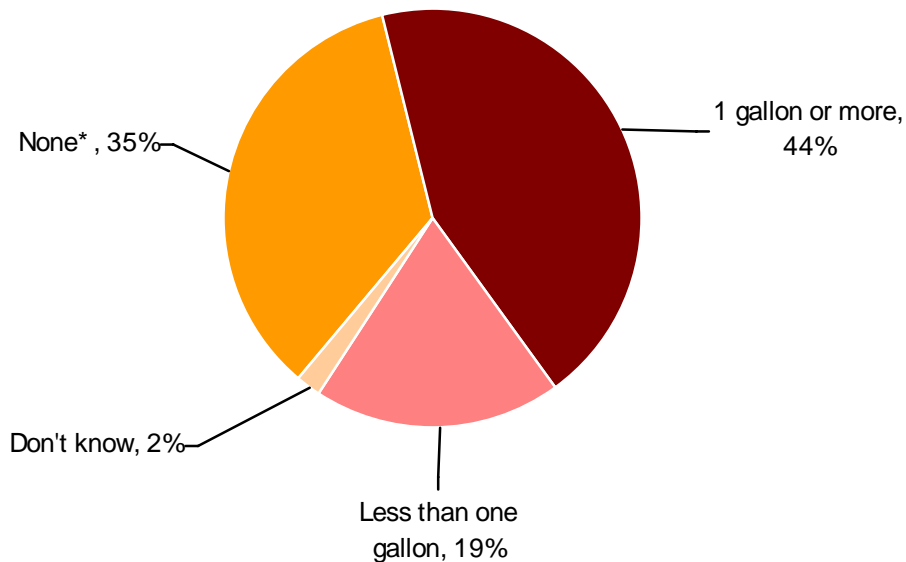
**Figure 10: Methods of Disposing of Food Waste**



\* Percents may add to more than 100% as respondents could give more than one answer.

Those who do use the curbside compost collection program for at least some of their food waste were asked about how much food waste they typically placed in their curbside carts every two weeks. Among those who said they do place food waste in curbside compost, about two-thirds said they placed one or more gallons of food waste in the collection cart every two weeks. This represents 44% of all respondents (see **Figure 11**).

**Figure 11: Amount of Food Waste Disposed of Every Two Weeks in Curbside Compost**



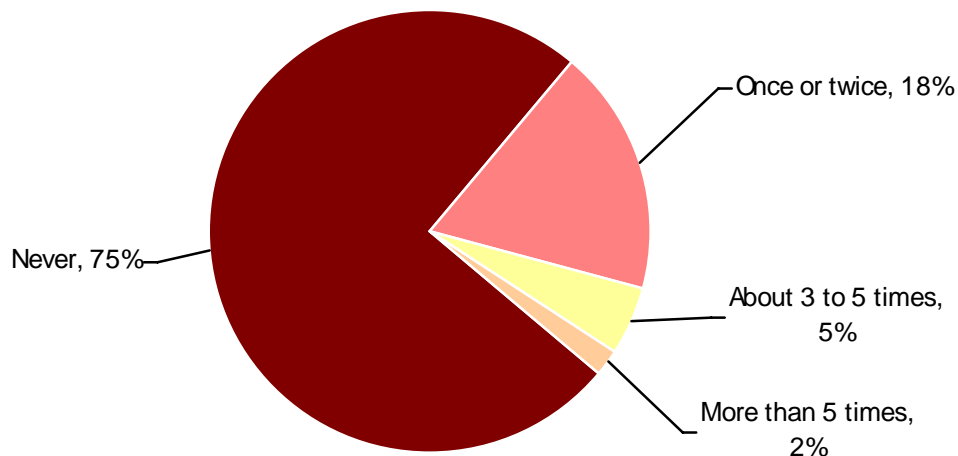
\* Those who did not say they disposed of food waste in curbside compost were assumed to dispose of "none."

## Experiences With Wildlife Disturbances

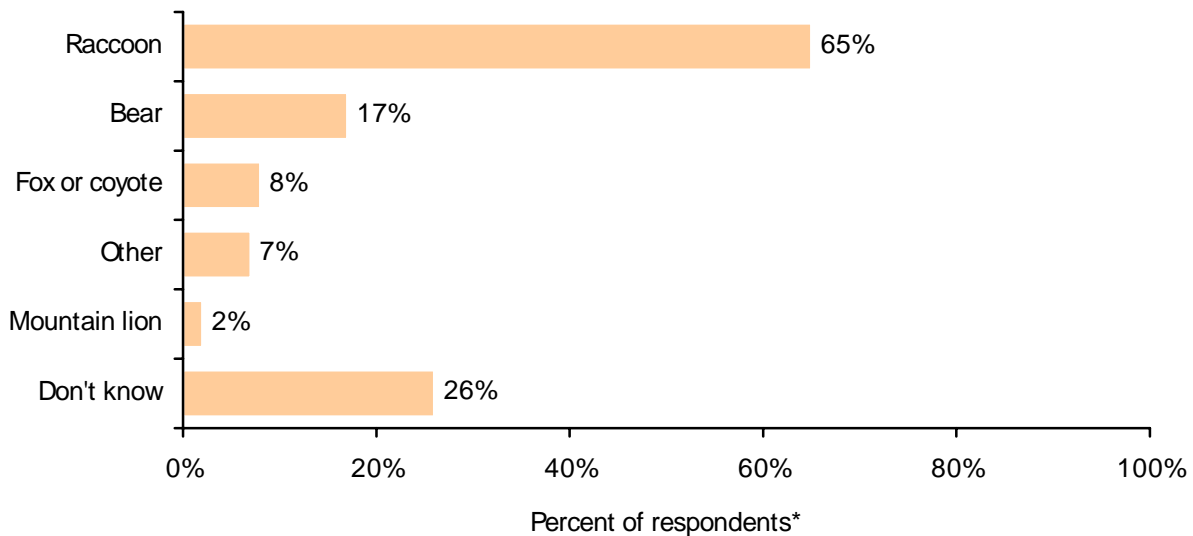
Most respondents (75%) reported that they had never experienced any disturbances of their trash, recycle or compost collection carts by wildlife (see [Figure 12](#)). Most of those who had experienced a wildlife disturbance had only had it happen once or twice (18%), while a few (2%) had experienced more than 5 incidents.

The type of cart most likely to be disturbed was a trash cart (78%). Just over two-thirds (37%) who had experienced disturbances said the compost cart had been disturbed. Only 8% reported the recycling cart had been disturbed. Most respondents (97%) who had experienced wildlife disturbances had not reported the incident to anyone. (See [Table 17](#) and [Table 18](#) in [Appendix A: Survey Questions](#).) The type of animal most likely to be involved in the incident was a raccoon (65%, see [Figure 13](#)). Bears were involved in about 17% of the incidents.

**Figure 12: Number of Times Experienced Wildlife Disturbances of Carts**



**Figure 13: Animal(s) That Disturbed Carts (If Known)**

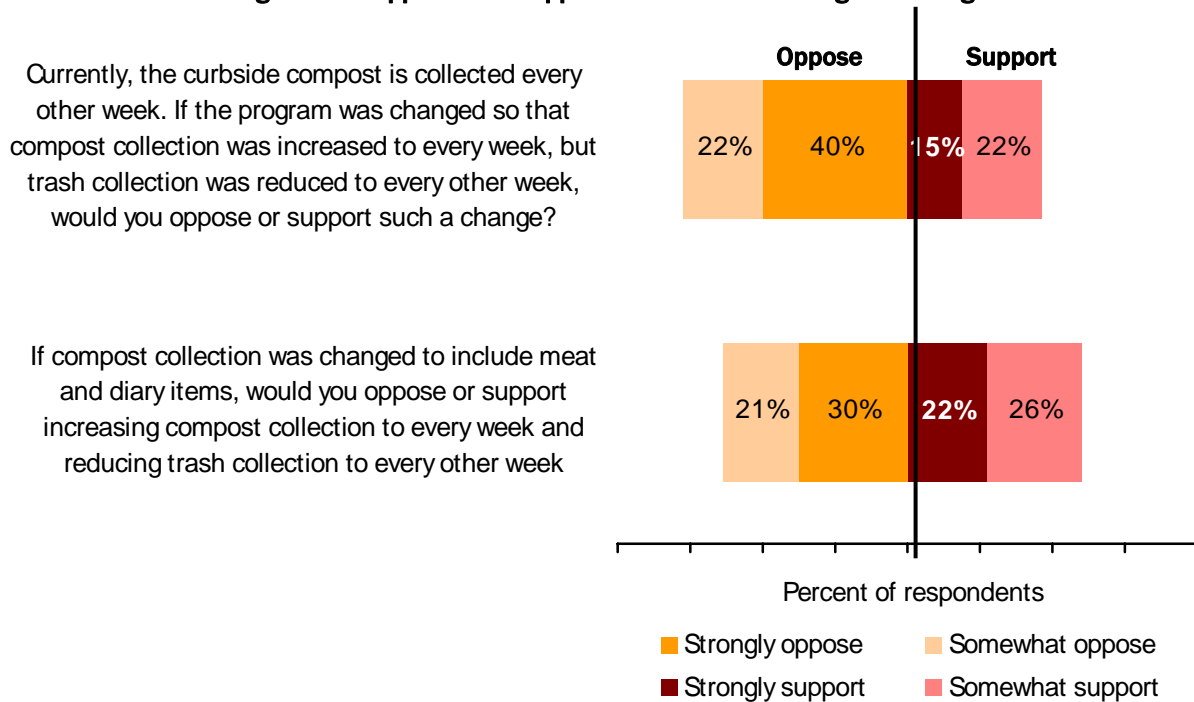


\* Percents may add to more than 100% as respondents could give more than one answer.

## Support For or Opposition To Potential Program Changes

Respondents were asked about their support for or opposition to potential changes to the curbside compost collection program. When asked whether they would support a change in which compost collection was increased to every week, but trash collection was reduced to every other week, nearly two-thirds (62%) of respondents opposed such an idea, while about a third supported the idea (see [Figure 14](#)). However, if the compost collection program was changed to include meat and dairy items, then a few more respondents were likely to support the increase in compost collection frequency with the accompanying decrease in trash collection frequency. Nevertheless, a slight majority (51%) still opposed this potential change.

**Figure 14: Support For or Opposition to Potential Program Changes**



## APPENDIX A: SURVEY QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

The following pages contain a complete set of responses to each question on the survey.

**Table 1: Question #1**

<b>About how often, if ever, do you put out your compost cart for collection?</b>	<b>Percent of Respondents</b>
Never	4%
Very rarely	5%
About every other month	4%
About once a month	14%
Every other week, when it is collected	73%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 2: Question #2**

<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of the curbside compost collection program.</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>	<b>Total</b>
Frequency of pick-up	42%	38%	11%	7%	2%	100%
Quality of containers	44%	40%	9%	5%	1%	100%
Explanation of what can and can't go in composting containers	37%	47%	13%	2%	1%	100%
Overall satisfaction with the program	36%	39%	12%	11%	2%	100%

**Table 3: Question #3**

<b>Would you say that the amount of materials you place in your trash (separate from compost or recycling) has increased, decreased or stayed about the same since the curbside compost collection program was started?</b>	<b>Percent of Respondents</b>
Increased a great amount	3%
Increased a small amount	3%
Stayed about the same	32%
Decreased a small amount	32%
Decreased a great amount	30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 4: Question #4**

<b>What size compost cart do you have?</b>	<b>Percent of Respondents</b>
32 gallon	91%
64 gallon	6%
Don't know	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 5: Question #5

Where do you store your curbside collection carts?	Percent of Respondents
In the garage	42%
In an enclosure outside the house or garage	7%
Next to the house (not in an enclosure)	40%
In the alley	8%
Somewhere else	3%
Total	100%

Table 6: Question #6

When do you usually place your curbside carts out for collection?	Percent of Respondents
The day before pick-up	3%
The night before pick-up	42%
The morning of pick-up	49%
It is always out	6%
Total	100%

Table 7: Question #7

What ways, if any, do you dispose of yard or garden waste materials? (Please check all that apply.)	Percent of Respondents*
Never have yard or garden waste material	2%
Put it out for curbside compost collection	84%
Put it in own backyard compost	34%
Take to Yard Waste Drop-off site	37%
Burn it	0%
Other	8%

\* Percents may add to more than 100% as respondents could give more than one answer.

Table 8: Question #7a

About how much yard or garden waste material (in season) do you put in the compost cart every two weeks? (32 gallons is the size of a typical outdoor trash can).	Percent of Respondents
None	1%
Less than a quarter of a 32 gallon cart	15%
About a quarter to half of a 32 gallon cart	19%
About three quarters to nearly full 32 gallon cart	50%
Less than a quarter of a 64 gallon cart	0%
About a quarter to half of a 64 gallon cart	3%
About three quarters to nearly full 64 gallon cart	10%
Don't know	1%
Total	100%

Table 9: Question #8

What ways do you dispose of food waste? (Please check all that apply.)	Percent of Respondents*
Garbage disposal	49%
Put it in the trash	45%
Put it in own backyard compost	29%
Put it out for curbside compost collection	65%
Other	3%

\* Percents may add to more than 100% as respondents could give more than one answer.

Table 10: Question #8a

About how much food waste is in your curbside compost cart when it is collected every other week?	Percent of Respondents
None	1%
Less than one gallon	29%
1 gallon or more	67%
Don't know	3%
Total	100%

Table 11: Question #9

Please indicate whether or not each of the following materials is typically in your trash (not recycled or composted). Then check the one material that typically produces the highest volume of your trash.	Yes, in my trash	No	Total	HIGHEST VOLUME*
Non-recyclable plastic packaging	97%	3%	100%	51%
Pet waste (including kitty litter)	56%	44%	100%	6%
Diapers (infant or adult)	13%	87%	100%	4%
Non-recyclable paper	89%	11%	100%	10%
Food waste	59%	41%	100%	6%
Yard waste/wood waste	17%	83%	100%	3%
Take-out containers	79%	21%	100%	2%
Non-recyclable frozen food boxes	82%	18%	100%	5%
"Junk"/broken things	95%	5%	100%	8%
Other	90%	10%	100%	9%

\* Percents may add to more than 100% as respondents could give more than one answer.

Table 12: Question #10

How often is your trash collected?	Percent of Respondents
Every week	91%
Every other week	9%
Total	100%

Table 13: Question #10a

What size trash cart do you have?	Percent of Respondents
32-gallon	66%
64-gallon	30%
Not sure	4%
Total	100%

Table 14: Question #10b

Were you aware that you can reduce your trash collection to every other week (if you want), and thus reduce your trash bill?	Percent of Respondents
Yes	15%
No	85%
Total	100%

Table 15: Question #11

In the past 12 months, about how many times, if ever, have you had wildlife disturb your curbside carts (garbage, compost and/or recycling carts)?	Percent of Respondents
Never	75%
Once or twice	18%
About 3 to 5 times	5%
More than 5 times	2%
Total	100%

Table 16: Question #12

If you have some evidence, what animal(s) have disturbed your carts? (Please check all that apply.)	Percent of Respondents*
Don't know	26%
Raccoon	65%
Fox or coyote	8%
Bear	17%
Mountain lion	2%
Other	7%

\* Percents may add to more than 100% as respondents could give more than one answer.

**Table 17: Question #13**

<b>Which carts have been disturbed? (Please check all that apply.)</b>	<b>Percent of Respondents*</b>
Trash	78%
Recycle	8%
Compost	37%
Unknown	3%

\* Percents may add to more than 100% as respondents could give more than one answer.

**Table 18: Question #14**

<b>To whom, if anyone, was the incident(s) reported? (Please check all that apply.)</b>	<b>Percent of Respondents*</b>
No one	97%
Open Space Mountain Parks	1%
City of Boulder's Animal Control	1%
City of Boulder Environmental and Zoning Enforcement	0%
City of Boulder's Wildlife Coordinator	0%
Police	1%
Trash hauler (Western Disposal, One-Way or Allied)	1%
Don't remember	1%

\* Percents may add to more than 100% as respondents could give more than one answer.

**Table 19: Question #15**

<b>Currently, the curbside compost is collected every other week. If the program was changed so that compost collection was increased to every week, but trash collection was reduced to every other week, to what extent would you oppose or support such a change?</b>	<b>Percent of Respondents</b>
Strongly oppose	40%
Somewhat oppose	22%
Somewhat support	22%
Strongly support	15%
Total	100%

**Table 20: Question #16**

<b>If compost collection was changed to include meat and dairy items, would you oppose or support increasing compost collection to every week and reducing trash collection to every other week.</b>	<b>Percent of Respondents</b>
Strongly oppose	30%
Somewhat oppose	21%
Somewhat support	26%
Strongly support	22%
Total	100%

Table 21: Question #19

About how long have you lived in Boulder?	Percent of Respondents
Less than 2 years	4%
2-5 years	10%
6-10 years	11%
11-20 years	23%
More than 20 years	51%
Total	100%

Table 22: Question #20

Do you rent or own your residence?	Percent of Respondents
Rent	7%
Own	93%
Total	100%

Table 23: Question #21

Please check the one box which most closely describes the type of housing unit you live in.	Percent of Respondents
A detached single family home	94%
An apartment in an apartment complex	0%
An apartment in a single family home	1%
A condominium or town house	3%
A mobile home	0%
Other	2%
Total	100%

Table 24: Question #22

In which category is your age?	Percent of Respondents
Less than 24 years	1%
25-34 years	6%
35-44 years	19%
45-54 years	25%
55-64 years	32%
65 years or older	18%
Total	100%

Table 25: Question #23

What is your gender?	Percent of Respondents
Female	55%
Male	45%
Total	100%

## APPENDIX B: RESPONSES TO OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

Verbatim responses to the open-ended questions are included in this Appendix.

### Question #5: Where do you store your curbside collection carts? (Somewhere else: specify)

- ◆ 2 32 gal behind house;64 gal by garage
- ◆ alley in the summer, garage in the winter
- ◆ back of house under extended rooftop
- ◆ Behind and against the rear of my garage
- ◆ between sheds in the back yard
- ◆ Car port
- ◆ car port
- ◆ Compost bin outside of garage-
- ◆ compost in garage, single stream in alley
- ◆ compost in garage, single stream outside
- ◆ Compost out in back yard
- ◆ Do not have a cart. Will only use bags
- ◆ i need the cart, no one has brought one
- ◆ In the yard, next to fence in the yard, but we have a privacy fence
- ◆ Inside fence, near alley
- ◆ inside my fenced backyard near alley
- ◆ Near the house in a semi sheltered area
- ◆ next to garage not enclosed area near the sidewalk, unenclosed
- ◆ next to street next to our carport, not in an enclosure
- ◆ next to the neighbor's garage
- ◆ next to unattached garage
- ◆ not the compost. That one is in the yard
- ◆ ON THE DRIVEWAY
- ◆ our driveway off the alley
- ◆ Outside for composting container
- ◆ rec./garage compost side of house
- ◆ shed
- ◆ trash/comingles- garage,compost-carport
- ◆ trash-garage, yard waste outdoors
- ◆ under a tree near where it is picked up

### Question #7: What ways, if any, do you dispose of yard or garden waste materials? (Other: specify)

- ◆ Add to garbage if comp container is full
- ◆ also put it in trash if compost if full
- ◆ Annual spring clean-up
- ◆ backyard compost and curbside pick-up
- ◆ branches in bin, grass in backyard pile

- ◆ chip myself for mulch
- ◆ Collected by landscaping service
- ◆ Compost bins are too small--we use both
- ◆ container, backyard compost, and drop of
- ◆ curbside compost collection & drop-off..
- ◆ Curbside trash collection
- ◆ gardener removes
- ◆ Gardener takes yard waste away with him
- ◆ have it picked up by private party
- ◆ have it taken away by gardeners
- ◆ Have limbs on side yard for spring pick
- ◆ heavy use of the yearly limb clooecton
- ◆ Hire contractor to pick up leaves
- ◆ home compost pile
- ◆ i put coffee in my own compost.
- ◆ if it fits compost bin, if not -drop off
- ◆ in compost bin AND fall leaves to dropo
- ◆ In Fall, some leaves in Trash.
- ◆ Landlord/owner of the house takes care
- ◆ lawn service
- ◆ leaves are composted, grass is mulched.
- ◆ liked spring pick up when we had it
- ◆ mow leaves and leave on lawn
- ◆ Mulch grass clippings
- ◆ mulch it
- ◆ mulching mower
- ◆ mulching mower takes care of grass
- ◆ My lawn service takes care of it somehow
- ◆ need to haul excess away, but can't
- ◆ past leaf collect at N Bld Pk
- ◆ place into regular garbage
- ◆ Place it in the trash
- ◆ Put in regular trash
- ◆ put in trash
- ◆ put in trash bin when compost bin full
- ◆ put in trash can
- ◆ put in trash can if compost bin is full
- ◆ put in trash collection; haul to Western
- ◆ put in trash container
- ◆ put in trash container
- ◆ Put it in regular trash bin
- ◆ Put it in regular trash collection

- ◆ Put it in the trash bin
- ◆ put it in with regular trash
- ◆ put it regular garbage that is picked up
- ◆ put with regular garbage
- ◆ REALLY miss the big yardside waste pick-up
- ◆ sometimes in trash when compost is full.
- ◆ take it to the recycling center
- ◆ Take some to Waste Drop-off site .
- ◆ Take take to drop off when possible
- ◆ The mower removes the waste he makes.
- ◆ Throw it in my trash for weekly pick-up
- ◆ Trash
- ◆ Trash
- ◆ trash
- ◆ use leaves to cover garden beds in fall
- ◆ Used to use the autumn leaf drop offs
- ◆ Want to put more in compost bin too small
- ◆ what to do with leaves is unknown
- ◆ With this program, this is a big problem
- ◆ worm bin
- ◆ yard crew composts some

**Question #8: What ways do you dispose of food waste? (Other: specify)**

- ◆ 50/50 trash/compost bin
- ◆ all of the above except backyard
- ◆ because a neighbor got maggots w/food wa
- ◆ buy individual
- ◆ compost jar by sink
- ◆ container, backyard compst, and drop off
- ◆ dog...
- ◆ Feed it to chickens
- ◆ Feed it to in-laws
- ◆ Fly problem, summer trash, winter compos
- ◆ give it to the racoons
- ◆ In warm weather, I freeze it till pick-up
- ◆ Meat scraps go in trash
- ◆ meat waste goes into trash
- ◆ Rotting food breeds odor, disease, BAD
- ◆ some in trash and some in compost collec
- ◆ Some in trash, some in composte&disposal
- ◆ Take it to Charm
- ◆ Trash for meat...but everything in compo

- ◆ trash if not allowed in compost collecti
- ◆ Vegetable in my compost, meat in the tras
- ◆ We do worm composting - some there
- ◆ we have dogs
- ◆ Worm bin
- ◆ worm bin
- ◆ worm bin
- ◆ Worm farm composter
- ◆ would put more in compost if weekly

**Question #12: If you have some evidence, what animal(s) have disturbed your carts? (Other: specify)**

- ◆ Bear lately. Bin was wiped clean
- ◆ dogs
- ◆ dogs, cats
- ◆ Magpie
- ◆ maybe dogs?
- ◆ not wildlife - MAGGOTS!
- ◆ squirrel
- ◆ squirrels
- ◆ squirrels
- ◆ squirrels
- ◆ teenager
- ◆ Undergraduate?
- ◆ wasps!!!!
- ◆ we have an influx of RATS

**Question #17: What, if anything, do you like about the curbside compost collection program?**

- ◆ -- recycling organics
- ◆ -- fairly "clean" not much mess or odor
- ◆ I am learning to stage the yard waste ( so I am continually adding rather than doing "one big dump"). I still need to take yard waste to the Western facility in the spring clean up.
- ◆ I am orange bag "user", and live alone.  
Appreciate Western picking up the garbage every other week, as the orange bag is typically not filled for 6 to 8 weeks.
- ◆ I can dispose of yard waste (broken branches, weeds, etc.) regularly, rather than having it pile up for "spring cleanup" or until I haul it.
- ◆ I love that our county participates in turning "trash" into treasure.
- ◆ I love the "set it out and forget about it" way I can now compost.
- ◆ It got me to start composting.  
I use the orange trash bags for my trash and put them out only about every 4--6 weeks when full. I don't have a garbage bin so answered "not sure" under the size of bin.
- ◆ It is a good way to reduce the amount of "stuff" going into our landfills.
- ◆ On the question regarding my trash and what it is composed of and which of those items accounts for the highest volume, I answered "other" because there is not one item. The items are about equally distributed. I like the curbside recycling program, but we have sooooo many leaves that I know this fall will be challenging.
- ◆ that we reuse "waste" materials avoiding putting them in the landfill; it encourages better yard cleanup; it provides compost a chance to get rid of stuff that is too big to compost, such as branches
- ◆ a great step in a good direction to reduce landfill use.
- ◆ A method to dispose of kitchen waste instead of trash or disposal. Have way more yard waste then I can compost or get rid of in former yearly cleanup.
- ◆ Ability to compost materials I do not want in my own backyard compost (due to the nutrients I am striving for my next year's plantings).
- ◆ ability to include paper towels and tissues. Not having to deal with composting in our back yard
- ◆ Ability to pick up yard waste bundles of branches
- ◆ Ability to put yard clippings in it.
- ◆ All of it.
- ◆ allows me to easily dispose of yard waste.
- ◆ Although I understand the desire behind the curbside composting I believe it is a terrible waste of limited resources. It is infrequent that I actually have a full composting container and that only occurs when I do yard clean up. Then I have to have yard waste hanging around for weeks, or take it to the recycling center, which is what I normally do. I can't imagine what people who used to avail themselves of the yearly yard waste recycling do. I have a large vehicle that I use to get the waste to the recycling center.
- ◆ Appreciate being able to recycle some paper products that were previously not recyclable.
- ◆ As a result of the composting program (primarily) every week I generally put out less than 1 grocery bag of trash!
- ◆ Autumn leaf collection
- ◆ Avoids having to take leaves to dropoff and putting any compostables in trash

- ◆ awesome that it exists! i just moved to boulder and there was no composting where i came from, at all. it's great that it's here! it's the only way i can convince some of my roommates to compost, as we don't have a pile in our backyard.
- ◆ Because it's not trash!!!!
- ◆ Before, I was taking my compost to put in the neighbor's compost pile. This is more convenient.
- ◆ Being able to compost organic waste instead of having it go to the landfill where it creates methane, and having it picked up at the curb
- ◆ being able to tie up sticks outside bin since nothing real fits inside bins in any useful volume. Being able to dispose of sticks throughout the year.
- ◆ better means of disposing food and year waste
- ◆ better than spring cleanup of prior years
- ◆ Better that yard compost pile I've had for years. Works fine for us. We keep material collected in-house until morning of collection to avoid active wildlife.
- ◆ Better to collect the compost.
- ◆ can dispose of weeds and organic materials that I don't want in my back yard compost pile.
- ◆ Can get pick-up of vegetable compost and leaves.
- ◆ collect compost and trash every week, but every other week collect recycling
- ◆ collect yard waste
- ◆ Collection of yard waste
- ◆ Compost curbside collection is NOT needed in our household. Please remove this service from your billing and return to separating paper, plastic, and glass containers pick-up service.
- ◆ composting perishables
- ◆ Composting yard waste.
- ◆ container not big enough and Western disposal not interested in providing a larger one.
- ◆ convenience
- ◆ convenience
- ◆ convenience
- ◆ convenience
- ◆ Convenience. Doing something for the environment
- ◆ Convenience. I'd like the single-stream recyclables to be collected every week.
- ◆ convenient
- ◆ Convenient mostly for yard waste. We already compost food waste and other items.
- ◆ convenient way to get rid of yard waste. This is my largest item of material.
- ◆ convenient,  
wide selection of items accepted,  
ability to have extra bags of leaves and bundles of branches removed at no extra charge
- ◆ Convenient  
consistent
- ◆ convenient. Three bundles of branches is also convenient.
- ◆ convenience
- ◆ Curbside compost allows the community to reduce waste and convert organics back to the soil.
- ◆ curbside compost is a program that I NEVER use. It is a hassle, and the cost to have someone sort recyclable paper from recyclable plastic and metal has probably increased. What's the big deal about a few melon rinds and minor amount of vegetable matter in the landfill?

- ◆ Curbside is great. We already compost in our back yard, but we like it for lawn waste, and as a general service to the public.
- ◆ decreases trash, easy to use.  
Whole family participates due to great education of school aged family members.
- ◆ definitely like an idea of doing compost and somewhat reducing amount of trash.
- ◆ Delays trip to yard waste center.
- ◆ Diversion of organic material out of landfill...reduced greenhouse gases.
- ◆ Do not have to bundle up and take elsewhere. Very convenient
- ◆ Don't have to store my yard waste for one time spring pick-up or take it to the compost center. I just wheel the cart around my yard on the week-ends and fill it.
- ◆ Don't have to take as much yard waste to Western Disposal
- ◆ Don't like anything about it - would rather have spring cleanup.
- ◆ Don't really like it.
- ◆ don't use it
- ◆ Don't use it - waste of time.
- ◆ During the fall I'd like to be able to put out larger volumes of yard/leaf waste
- ◆ During the summer, it is pretty full. During the winter, it's maybe once a month.
- ◆ Ease of disposal, convenience.
- ◆ Ease of use
- ◆ easier to get rid of branches
- ◆ Easy and convenient. Don't have to compost in the limited space of the back yard (good for both space and smell).
- ◆ Easy disposal of material
- ◆ Easy to do and saves an enormous amount of material from going to the landfill.
- ◆ easy to use for misc stuff and convenient that it is every 2 weeks
- ◆ Easy way to get rid of yard waste that I cannot compost.
- ◆ Easy way to recycle yard waste.
- ◆ Easy.
- ◆ eliminates some trash
- ◆ encourages our family to compost food scraps. Able to get rid of tree branches, leaves, etc.
- ◆ Encourages sensible separation of materials, allowing for re-use (composting).
- ◆ Environmental benefits
- ◆ Environmentally sensitive.
- ◆ everything except I wish I could include meat/dairy products assuming it could be done without attracting wildlife.
- ◆ Everything! It has SIGNIFICANTLY reduced my trash volume and has really helped keep the yard waste (leaves, clippings, plant material) at a manageable level in my yard. LOVE IT!!!!
- ◆ everything! pleasepleaseplease continue this easy, sustainable, smart program. It's community action at its best. we also buy organic compost from the city in the spring. great deal!
- ◆ Everything! Great program. Between the recycling and composting, we have relatively little trash anymore. Bravo!
- ◆ Excellent program, we love it and have totally gotten rid of our trash collection.

- ◆ Excellent program. So happy to be rid of the Spring Cleanup. No piles of branches around for long periods of time.
- ◆ Fantastic program which makes higher quality compost than I used to at home. Saves me time compared to making my own. Accepts more materials than I can successfully compost at home because you get the compost to proper temperature. Also, you kill weed seeds I probably don't with home composting.
- ◆ Feel good about reducing waste in landfills. Convenient.
- ◆ Feels like I'm doing something good
- ◆ find ways to encourage more participation. many people in my neighborhood don't use it, which is very sad. many people are simply too lazy to separate their compost. maybe some incentive?
- ◆ FYI, there's not an option for trash pick-up that covers me--about every 3-4 weeks (I use bags). What I like about compost recycling is that you offer it...it's a great service.
- ◆ Get rid of curbside compost, what a waste... we compost everything in backyard or feed to chickens
- ◆ Get rid of yard waste.
- ◆ gets rid of our compost pile/yard waste pile in the yard. Saves trips out to yard waste site. Reduces trash
- ◆ gives me a place to put garden waste on regular basis
- ◆ gives me a place to put yard stuff and compost material
- ◆ glad to have it at all
- ◆ Good for community.
- ◆ good for environment
- ◆ Good for the environment.
- ◆ good for yard waste
- ◆ Good idea, but we have almost nothing to compost.
- ◆ Good opportunity to dispose of yard waste.
- ◆ good program overall.
- ◆ Good way to get rid of yard waste, I would never put food in it as it would stink up garage and putting outside would encourage the mountain lions and raccoons in neighborhood.
- ◆ Good way to segregate compostable stuff.
- ◆ Great for yard waste.
- ◆ great program!
- ◆ Great program! Like everything!
- ◆ Great program. Has significantly reduced our trash output.
- ◆ great program. Thanks!
- ◆ Great way to get rid of food waste.
- ◆ Great way to keep volume out of landfills.
- ◆ Great way to recycle leaves as they fall. Great way to get rid of modest amounts of garden waste and dry plants.
- ◆ greatly reduce what I put into the trash can. Makes me more conscious of packaging and what can't be composted (so I try to buy less non-compostable material)
- ◆ Greatly reduces my trash, relieves me of the chore of my own compost pile, reduces my need to haul yard waste
- ◆ Having our own compost is not feasible right now, and I never like having all the veg. material in the garbage.
- ◆ Having somewhere besides trash to put my food waste

- ◆ Having three containers in the garage takes up too much space. Bad smell in garage that filters into the house.
- ◆ Helping some garden somplace
- ◆ Helping the environment. duh!
- ◆ Helps get rid of tree limbs, since City dumped the annual pick-up. We compost, so would prefer return to annual pick-up.
- ◆ Helps reduce trash collection
- ◆ Hope that it helps the environment
- ◆ I am a strong supporter and advocate.
- ◆ I am always happy to recycle and have reused throwaways.
- ◆ I am happy that items that I can't use in my garden compost pile --like kleenex, egg shells, citrus peels -- can be processed to make compost for others and won't be going in the landfill. I use Western Disposal's prepaid trash bags instead of a 32-gal. trash container and I only fill a bag every 6 or so weeks.
- ◆ I am so grateful to the City for offering this program. Our trash can is nearly empty every week. it makes me feel so much better about our consumption patterns.
- ◆ I appreciaste that it exists, that Boulder is trying to decrease the waste stream.
- ◆ i beleive it makes a difference.
- ◆ I can compost paper towels, paper plates
- ◆ I can put out things I couldn't/didn't want to put in my own compost, like #7 compostable cups, corn cobs, etc.
- ◆ I compost everything that can go in the curbside containers except for twig, branches, roses cuttings, and plants that have mildew or some sort of disease. So, while I appreciate the service, I don't use it very often. I would be willing to put meat and dairy in a curbside container but I also don't produce much of this type of waste (less than a quart of so a week).
- ◆ I do not like it. I think it is a waste of money.
- ◆ I don't currently compost b/c I cannot find a bag that will fit inside of the compost bin without falling down into it and making a terrible mess. Also the smell is unbearable (especially in summer) for 2 weeks. I would need to have weekly pick-up of compost AND trash for me to compost.
- ◆ I don't have a compost pile so I like that some waste is getting composted
- ◆ I don't have space to compost so I love it that we have a collection program. It's really easy to compost now and I am so glad that waste isn't going into the garbage.
- ◆ I don't like it.
- ◆ I DON'T like the program. Containers have flies and stink, even if you follow recommendations of using paper layering etc.
- ◆ I don't send as much yard waste to the landfill.
- ◆ I don't think it's necessary. I liked the old system of commingled containers one week and paper, etc. the next. We do our own composting and never really use the curbside.
- ◆ I don't use it at all- have backyard composting
- ◆ I feel good about reducing the landfill
- ◆ I find it is more useful than I expected
- ◆ I generate a lot of food waste (5-10 gal/week). Before curbside started, I was hauling it over to CHARM, which was a hassle. It saves me a stinky trip (esp in summer).
- ◆ I had tried to use a composting container myself and couldn't succeed, so this is great. I now have a good conscience about food waste disposal.
- ◆ I hardly ever need to go to the yard waste recycling.

- ◆ I hate it because it now limits the frequency of recycled container pick-up.
- ◆ i have a choice of where to put compost-able material that will not function well in my backyard compost
- ◆ I have a compost ben in my yard I put kitchen waste and a lot of yard waste in but i use my curbside compost for yard waste when my compost ben becomes full. I use my curbside compost mostly in the summer.
- ◆ I have a tenant who insists upon using paper plates all the time. It is nice that I can put these in the compost bin instead of the trash. I normally use my compost pile for my food and yard waste.
- ◆ I have more compostable material most weeks than will fit in the container.
- ◆ I have much woody plant material and weeds,etc. I would like to just put it out on designated days, instead of waiting for every other week sometimes.
- ◆ I have put my compost bin out full every pick up day. I have not had to load the car and take yard waste to the Valmont/Western disposal place a single time since this started. Even with spring pick-up, I used to take full station wagon loads of yard waste out five or more times a year. I love the compost bin program!! No more molding bags of vegetation in my side yard and no more loading these messy bags into my car for recycling.
- ◆ I just LOVE the fact that our family can reduce our environmental footprint.
- ◆ I like almost nothing about the compost collection. The container is too small and we lost our seasonal pick-up. I'd like to see seasonal pick-up or unlimited yard waste bags during spring and fall. We don't use the compost for food because compost bags are expensive and we don't want to dump food in the container because it smells. Also, the recycle container fills ups too fast since now has mixed streams.
- ◆ I like being able to compost cardboard that I couldn't recycle, like pizza boxes. And I like being able to put in paper towels, paper plates, etc. that I had to put in the trash before.
- ◆ I like being able to get rid of my yard waste every week. I have a huge perennial and vegetable garden and have a lot of waste to deal with and curbside composting makes that VERY easy.
- ◆ I like being able to get rid of things I don't want in my home compost bin--woody waste (branches), seedy weeds, etc. I love that my neighbors who aren't interested in composting at home finally have a good way to have their organic wastes diverted from the landfill.
- ◆ I like being able to put out yard items-leaves, branches, vines. I like the 3 paper bags of yard stuff that one can put out.
- ◆ I like being able to put out yard waste instead of always driving to drop-off site with it all in my car.
- ◆ I like everything about curbside compost collection.
- ◆ I like everything about it!
- ◆ I like having a place to deal with yard refuse, the compost of food gets too funky on a QOW pick up schedule.
- ◆ I like how I can put food items like stale bread, or cooked veggies - things I wouldn't put in my own backyard compost. I also like that I can put papertowels and napkins in compost.
- ◆ I like it - I am glad to have the program - and have ways of reducing the amount of trash we are generating.
- ◆ i like it as it cuts down on regular trash and feels better for the environment
- ◆ I like it for yard waste. I do not think food waste should be included because of the smell, insects, and animal problems.
- ◆ I like it in principal but don't understand all the rules
- ◆ I like knowing that it is reducing our waste to the dump and helping people (I hope) understand how they can impact what goes into a landfill.
- ◆ I like not having to take my compost waste anywhere else. I like having a place for yard waste year round--- I used to throw out more.
- ◆ I like nothing about it. I do not like being forced to pay for something that I will not ever use.

- ◆ I like reducing trash and doing composting. I would never do it in my back yard on my own.
- ◆ I like reducing volume going into land fill
- ◆ I like that Boulder is trying to reduce trash and help the environment.
- ◆ I like that garbage and pet waste is picked up every week. If reduced frequency and I missed a week that could be a problem. I travel a lot.
- ◆ I like that I can put gardening waste into it (i.e. leaves, twigs, etc.). This helps me keep a regular gardening routine with regular yard waste disposal.
- ◆ I like that I can put my smaller lawn clippings in it. It beats having to wait for the old curbside annual pick-up.
- ◆ I like that I can put stuff out year round that I used to save up for the Spring Cleanup. Things like tree limbs that don't fit in my garden compost bins well.
- ◆ I like that it helps us reduce what goes in the landfill.
- ◆ I like that it is available, however, we really only use it for yard waste....mostly leaves and trimming trees, weeds, etc. Therefore, we actually prefer the previous spring/fall pick-up because it mirrored our actual use better. The compost is nice, but we are going to have to ration our leaves between 5 or so pick-ups or bring a load ourselves to drop off. I prefer the fall pick-up where we could get rid of it all at once.
- ◆ I like that it reduces my overall garbage. I like we have curbside pick-up because it makes it easier to compost (if I had to bring it somewhere, I probably wouldn't do it).
- ◆ I like that the emissions from decomposing plant based items in our trash are hopefully being reduced and that as someone without a big yard to compost at home, my compost can be used by someone else.
- ◆ I like that the items are reused for a good product. I like that less is going to the landfill.
- ◆ I like that there is a place to put plants and compostable containers
- ◆ I like that there is an effort being made to sort out better disposal methods.
- ◆ I like that we can compost
- ◆ I like that we have access to curbside compost. In the summer it is very messy since it is collected every other week and the food compost starts fermenting and composting and rotting. The bins get stinky and it's difficult to leave them in the garage as our HOA covenants require.
- ◆ I like that you can also put three bundles of branches out for no additional charge.
- ◆ I like the ability to be able to dispose of seasonal yard waste that would otherwise not find its way into my backyard compost bin. This includes sticks, small tree branches, and excess potted plant material.
- ◆ I like the ability to dispose of yard waste throughout the year rather than one big push at spring clean up.
- ◆ I like the convenience of bi-monthly pick up, but don't like the bins. Having 3 bins takes up too much garage space.
- ◆ I like the convenience, the reduction of trash, and being able to put out up to 3 biodegradable bags and 3 bundles of limbs whenever I have that much.
- ◆ I like the curbside compost program. I am a wood worker and enjoy having an easy way to get rid of wood wast. The pick up frequency is just right.
- ◆ I like the efficiency of separating out the compost from the trash.
- ◆ I like the every week pick up of our trash because the odor of adult diapers becomes overwhelming in summer months and HOA rules require garage storage of bins. We have no such odor issues with the alternate week pick up of the compost collection.
- ◆ I like the fact that I have been able to eliminate so much trash by using compost for napkins, paper towels, and tissue.
- ◆ I like the fact that less trash is going into the landfill
- ◆ I like the fact that you allow comingling of the paper products & bottles & cans.

- ◆ I like the idea that not all is going to be in a landfill somewhere that some of my garbage is reusable. Makes sense and makes us think twice about what we buy and discard also.
- ◆ I like the idea that we are composting, but I do not like to compost because it brings in fruit flies.
- ◆ I LIKE THE PROGRAM VERY MUCH, I FIND THAT IN THE FALL AND IN THE SPRING THE CONTAINER IS VERY INADEQUATE TO HANDLE THE YARD WAST AND DEBRIS.
- ◆ I like the program. I like being able to compost branches and garden waste that I don't put in our backyard compost bin.
- ◆ I like the variety of compostable items
- ◆ I like the way you can dispose of yard waste frequently and not have to store and wait until Spring or haul to facility.
- ◆ I like to help the recycling effort to reduce trash.
- ◆ I like to send out the stuff to compost and not put it in trash
- ◆ I like to send these materials to be composted away from my property. We're not good at composting anyway, and the animals are attracted to it.
- ◆ I like yard waste pick up (bags of leaves and bundles of branches) as a part of compost pick up, since I can avoid trips to western disposal. I like that composting reduces my trash volume.
- ◆ I liked it a lot until recent incursions by a large bear. I have no garage. Now I have to stop recycling food scraps of any kind. Before this I put a lot of vegetable, fruit, bread, paper towels, etc. in. damn
- ◆ I love being able to compost. It reduces the amount of trash our family has by quite a bit.
- ◆ I love being able to find a useful outlet for the material.
- ◆ I love having a place to put things too big for my own compost. I also love being able to compost things that won't decompose at home, like some paper and corn products.
- ◆ I love having a way to dispose of all our yard waste. I have a 96 gallon container and it's almost always totally full. We don't have a way of taking the yard waste to the recycling center.
- ◆ I love it - it really makes me feel good to be able to compost materials I don't put in my backyard compost.
- ◆ I love it and have expanded my compostables a ton since inception.
- ◆ I LOVE IT because it is easy and I feel like we are making a difference!
- ◆ I love it the way it is, but if there was something better, it would be to increase it to every week and decrease trash to every other week.
- ◆ I love it! I would like clearer guidelines about what to do with excess yard waste...it completely fills the cart sometimes and I'm not clear about if I could have it in bags or next to the cart to be picked up during certain times of the year.
- ◆ I LOVE it. It's easy, convenient and efficient
- ◆ i love it. i am really proud that we can compost at the curb. i just need a 64 gallon bin. because i produce a very large amount of yard waste at spring and fall clean up time, i really appreciate the service
- ◆ I love knowing that this is not going into the landfill - will be used for something helpful.
- ◆ I love that it diverts the food waste form the landfill. For our yard waste i typically put out a large paper yard waste bag next to compost container. I can put G compostable diapers in. (just wet ones)
- ◆ I love that it exists!
- ◆ I LOVE that we have the option and use it to it's capacity. I keep our food scraps in a 5 gallon bucket and dump them in the newspaper or leaf lined can just before pick up.
- ◆ I love the curbside compost collection program! I have in the past made at least one trip to the drop-off site and had a huge pile for spring cleanup. This year I have been able to keep up with my yard with the curbside pick-ups alone. I requested and received the larger compost bin (I think it is the 32 gallon one) earlier in the summer and I have been able to fill it completely every two weeks except once when I was on vacation. We rarely fill our trash can more than one third full (32 gallon as well), even before the compost collection

began. I requested the smaller can but was denied this because we live in the Orchard Creek subdivision and the whole neighborhood has a contract with Western Disposal.

- ◆ I love the fact that it exists at all. Now, when traveling, I feel terrible when I can't compost.
- ◆ I love the fact that, even though I live in an apartment, I can compost. I was looking into buying composting worms just before you started the program, and it seemed expensive and complicated. I was thrilled when I found out about your composting program.
- ◆ I LOVE the program! We don't have adequate room for a compost bin, so I appreciate not being forced to contribute to the landfills and water pollution.
- ◆ I love the program. Increasing it to once a week would help with the only problem I have, which is that the bio-bags tend to start degrading in the two week period and make a mess of the garbage can. But I don't really have enough to warrant every week, mostly
- ◆ I love the service in the spring and summer, when I have lots of yard waste.
- ◆ I need a bigger compost bin
- ◆ I no longer need to pile up garden waste for the spring haul-to-curb and pick up.
- ◆ I really like being able to 'recycle' my yard waste curbside.
- ◆ I really like recycling of paper, glass and metal items. I have also become more conscientious over the years about energy and composting in general as a result of living in Boulder.
- ◆ I really like that this waste is being used for something vs. just landfilled
- ◆ I really like the program. A lot of our compost is yard waste that I used to take to the recycling center myself so being able to have it picked up has reduced my need to drive to the center.
- ◆ I really like this option and feel good about not putting compost into the trash.
- ◆ I reduce the amount of garbage out each week. Noticed right away!
- ◆ I simply love that the trash amount is decreased.
- ◆ I think it discourages good organic composting in our own yard which then can be turned into soil amendments....at least it avoids the costly spring pick-up of the past that had organics, mostly
- ◆ I think it is a complete waste. It just means that my recycling collection was cut in half. I don't want rotting food in my container for two weeks waiting on a pick up.
- ◆ I think it is a good idea ecologically
- ◆ I think it is great but that weekly pick-ups, and including proteins, would be even better.
- ◆ I think it is great to have an outlet for compostable plastics etc as these do not break down in a home compost pile. This encourages local businesses to supply compostable containers for take out.
- ◆ I think it's a good idea however, if the containers do get very stinky.
- ◆ I think it's an awesome, important service.
- ◆ I think it's fantastic that Boulder does this and we have definitely reduced the amount of trash we put in the bin.
- ◆ I think it's FANTASTIC to have curbside composting, especially given the wildlife issues with having a backyard composter ourselves. It's extremely convenient and I feel good about everything I put in my compost container, knowing it's not going to the landfill.
- ◆ I think it's great! It has reduced my trash a lot, and is very convenient for yard waste -I have too much for my own compost bin at some seasons. I like it that non-recyclable paper is included.
- ◆ I think that it has helped to encourage people to compost. I have always composted all of my organic kitchen scraps.
- ◆ I think that it is great that I no longer have to drive to the yardwaste site each month.
- ◆ I think the whole concept is great! I have a small compost pile at home and it's nice to be able to compost with the city too.

- ◆ I thought it already included all table scraps including meat and dairy.
- ◆ I thought it was great for food scrapes until the summer and then the fruit flies were awful, so now we only use it for leaves and sticks only.
- ◆ I use for yard / landscape waste only. Find dangerous to wildlife (could attract them) to put food scraps. Also, way to stinky in Summer. I live in a very wildlife prone part of N. Boulder.
- ◆ I used to take our compost once a week to ecocycle, so curbside collection is much more convenient.
- ◆ I value the idea of composting rather than placing that material in a landfill.
- ◆ I will probably switch to using it for all my food compost rather than backyard compost over the next year. I do like being able to put out bundles of branches.
- ◆ i wish the recycle bin could be picked up more often than every other week, ours is always too full and we have the 64 gallon.
- ◆ I would not be composting at all if it weren't for curbside collection. I also like the fact that my trash is reduced.
- ◆ I would rather not have compost collection and cheaper garbage fees...I do not have enough compost
- ◆ I'd like to have a larger container at no additional cost to me.
- ◆ If it stays to every other week, then I might get the 64 gal container
- ◆ I'm a single guy with a normal sized yard for south boulder and the compost collections are too small. In addition, the cancellation of the curbside spring and fall cleanups has meant that I now have to make extra trips to the dump in my own truck.  
Furthermore, the change to every other week recycling has meant that I am always storing extra recyclables because the pick-up and size of my bin is not sufficient. I have a 64 gallon recycling bin and it's always full. We need weekly recycling pick-ups AND weekly compost pick-ups AND at least a twice a year curbside yard waste pick-up.  
I generate tons of yard waste and recycling, but very little trash. I can't imagine how a family of four can fit all of their recycling into the 64 gallon containers twice weekly.  
Trash pick-up could be twice monthly.
- ◆ I'm just happy that it is an option.
- ◆ In the winter I would prefer once a month collection.
- ◆ including shredded paper & yard waste.
- ◆ Increases awareness of composting
- ◆ It allows me to dispose of tree and shrubs branches which i cannot put in my compost pile.
- ◆ It allows me to dispose of yard waste without driving to the recycling center.
- ◆ It allows more things to be kept out of the trash.
- ◆ It allows us to compost our paper products that we would otherwise throw away.
- ◆ It allows us to throw away less trash and is very easy to walk it to the alley where someone else picks it up.
- ◆ It cleans up clutter and makes it so you don't have to do the old spring pick up
- ◆ It cut our trash output by one-third and it is very convenient. We really like the program and like knowing that it is being used.
- ◆ It cuts down on trips we have to make to Western (except in the fall).
- ◆ It decreases the trash that goes to the landfill
- ◆ It decreases trash amount . But I still like weekly trash collection to decrease the odor.
- ◆ It diverts organic material from landfills, reducing methane production.
- ◆ It diverts re-cycleables from waste stream.
- ◆ it exists -- really helps with yard waste and trimmings
- ◆ It exists, it's cost is moderate

- ◆ it gets other people to compost that wouldn't otherwise do it.
- ◆ It has changed our lives! We are VERY aware now and recycle EVERYTHING we can. Our animal waste is big because we VOLUNTARILY clean up the Washington School park every week to keep our area nice.
- ◆ it has greatly reduced my trash
- ◆ it has reduced amount of trash
- ◆ It has served our purpose well.
- ◆ It is a convenient way to dispose of yard waste as it accumulates during the growing season.
- ◆ It is a good opportunity to get rid of organic.
- ◆ it is convenient
- ◆ It is convenient. I like helping the environment.
- ◆ It is easier, in that, I can every other week dispose of yard waste.
- ◆ It is easy for me to compost large amounts of seed-bearing plant stalks in my native yard.
- ◆ It is easy for us, as we don't have an outside composter and like to support the environment in this fashion.
- ◆ It is easy to place compost items in the bins.
- ◆ it is efficient and the volume of garbage has decreased significantly
- ◆ It is excellent! Has reduced our trash and made us more aware of composting.
- ◆ It is good for hard to compost woody plants and tree branches(that I used to save for the spring clean up!). The day of pick up is somewhat of a joke, with the trucks way ahead of garbage pick-up since there is rarely anything in most of the bins. Meanwhile, I have 64 gallons of recyclables that have no more room for more... and a week to go!!
- ◆ It is great for low volume yard cleanup but container is too small for fall leaf disposal. It does not work at all for kitchen waste because two weeks is too long to have it around in the summer. But there is not enough volume for weekly pick-up.
- ◆ it is nice to be able to get rid of food waste in a responsible way.
- ◆ It is one of the best municipal programs that I know of. Keep up the good work!
- ◆ It is put to use, rather than ending up at landfill
- ◆ it is the right thing to do and i love it that the city does it! it definitely reduces the amount of our trash.
- ◆ It is the right thing to do!
- ◆ It is the wrong program and it is a complete waste for us.
- ◆ it is very convenient when I do need it but that isn't very often
- ◆ It is very convenient.
- ◆ it lets me compost so much more yard waste that my home composter won't handle
- ◆ It lets you put out yard waste anytime.
- ◆ It makes both environmental/green sense and economic sense. Good program.
- ◆ It makes composting easy and diverts compostable materials from the trash.
- ◆ It makes it easier to dispose of yard and garden waste
- ◆ It makes it much easier for people to compost.
- ◆ It makes use of much of our disposables for someone else to use in their garden.
- ◆ It occasionally (but not often) saves me a trip to the Western lot to drop off yard waste.
- ◆ It offers the ability to dispose of yard waste (grass clippings, primarily) throughout spring/summer months.
- ◆ It reduces our amount of trash.
- ◆ it reduces our trash, and we don't have to do our own compost in our yard
- ◆ It reduces the amount of material put in the trash. I believe it will be used. Reduces the amount of material in the landfill

- ◆ It reduces the amount of waste sent to the landfill (it is good for the environment). It is convenient.
- ◆ It reduces the need to take yard waste to the central collection point.
- ◆ It reduces the number of trips I have to make to 63rd street with my yard waste.
- ◆ It saves me from driving to Western Disposal drop off
- ◆ It saves me trips to recycle center.
- ◆ It seems to work ; we have adapted to it. Don't have enough for weekly pick-upbut don't like storing the compost in the garage in the summer.
- ◆ It takes care of my food waste, branches, material I don't want to put into my own backyard compost. It's awesome that it is provided community wide. It has definitely reduced my conventional trash. I will follow up and check out every other week trash collection. You should make that more widely known. I thought my only choice was to go to the trash bag service.
- ◆ It takes weeds that I prefer not to put in our garden compost.
- ◆ It works
- ◆ It works for me. The schedule and cost make it work.
- ◆ It would be great if it worked better.
- ◆ It would be nice to have the option not to participate since we use almost all of our compost ourselves on our own garden. We're paying for a service we don't use.
- ◆ itis of value--esp.since the City stopprd the annual pick-up!!!!!!!!!!!!!!we are willing to pay for an pick-up!!!
- ◆ its a good idea
- ◆ It's a good idea to recycle the compsot items.
- ◆ It's a good way to get rid of weeds that we can't compost because of the seeds.
- ◆ It's a good way to get rid of yard waste. We have a compost pile in back, but still usually fill up the compost bin with just yard waste from weeding, fallen tree branches, etc.
- ◆ It's a great idea that is nearly useless to us. We work hard to minimize our waste stream, so don't have much to compost. What I really need is to be able to put out my yard waste - leaves, tree trimmings, etc - every once in a while, and that's loads more stuff than the can holds. Thanks for having the survey!
- ◆ It's a great program. Appreciate especially the ability to dispose conveniently of yard waste in spring and autumn.
- ◆ It's a great service - more communities should do it.
- ◆ It's a terrific system of discarding limbs, leaves, etc
- ◆ It's a very progressive program, thanks!
- ◆ It's at least a start on disposing of leaves, tree limbs, grass, etc.
- ◆ It's convenient and is good for the earth. It makes us feel good about our community.
- ◆ It's convenient.
- ◆ It's convenient.
- ◆ It's easier to do every other week rather than once for the spring cleanup.
- ◆ It's easy, convenient, and makes me feel good about doing my part to help reduce landfill waste.
- ◆ Its existence.
- ◆ It's existence. It's terrific
- ◆ It's good for yard cleanup.
- ◆ It's great being able to divert items from my trash to the compost.
- ◆ It's great for the yard clippings that I don't want to cut up for my own compost pile. It's also good for winter when my compost pile is too cold to add to.
- ◆ it's great that there is that option

- ◆ It's great to have. We like that we can include shredded paper.
- ◆ It's great!
- ◆ It's great! I use it for both yard waste and food waste.
- ◆ It's making us take better care of our yard.
- ◆ It's nice to get rid of stinky, rotten organic materials on a frequent basis.
- ◆ it's nice to have a way to get rid of yard waste
- ◆ It's terrific that compostable items can be recycled and not put in a landfill.
- ◆ it's time for leaf disposal.  
a 32 gal container is no use.  
prefer having the neighborhood drop off sites rather than going to butte mill
- ◆ It's very convenient.
- ◆ I've been using compost collection program and hardly ever using my disposal.
- ◆ just like that you're doing it.
- ◆ Keeps garden waste out of trash
- ◆ keeps me doing yard cleanup regularly
- ◆ keeps my trash to a minimum
- ◆ Large amount of waste can be composted, which helps reduce overall garbage
- ◆ less trash
- ◆ less trash in landfill.  
like yard debris pick up
- ◆ less trash produced for the dump
- ◆ Less trips to the yard waste.
- ◆ Like getting rid of yard waste. Believe composting is a good practice.
- ◆ like it. It works well.
- ◆ Like that it is reducing the amount of trash going to a landfill  
Like that something is being done with the material
- ◆ like that its offered - has encouraged me to compost more
- ◆ Like the convenience and opportunity to keep things out of my trash that can recycled.
- ◆ Love how easy it is to reduce the amount of material going into landfills. I like being able to compost garden/yard materials every two weeks rather than once a year or taking it someplace.
- ◆ Love it! Definitely seen an impact in reducing our trash.
- ◆ Love it, love it, love it! We feel great being able to do our part to decrease trash land fill. The curbside compost program allowed me to divert more trash to composting, helping me move to a smaller trash container and SAVING ME MONEY! THANKS!
- ◆ Love the ability to compost easily!
- ◆ Love the program except for that there is no seasonal yard waste pick up. That was really nice because I could dispose of large items. Now that I can' dispose of larger branches, I don't end up disposing of yard waste at all :(Glad we have the program!!!)
- ◆ Love the program. I need a larger container, just haven't taken the time to have it replaced.
- ◆ Makes me feel good to put yard waste in it and not in the trash.
- ◆ More space in trash cart.
- ◆ most of my compost are leaves in the fall. I like that I can put them out and not have to go to the center all the time. but when I have large loads I will continue to use the center
- ◆ Mostly that it is available, and that there are so many things already that can go into it.

- ◆ My biggest issue is non-recyclable items. These will not be reduced by increasing compost pick-up. However, I do not fill the 32 gal bin every week so could be OK with your proposed plan. It is great that your curbside plan allows me to compost yard waste throughout the year, and also napkins, paper towels, bright paper that can't recycle.
- ◆ My garbage bin is the smallest of the three. In the past most of my garbage was compostable and it was often overflowing. My compostable container is actually 96 gallons and it is usually full during the growing season.
- ◆ My private compost was getting pretty full, and we have a tiny yard with not much use for compost, so I was glad to have the service.
- ◆ My trash bin is full every week so every other week would not work for me.
- ◆ My trash has significantly decreased. It used to hold alot of otherwise compostable products. I feel good that I am making a positive contribution to the community by recycling. And the collection service is outstanding.
- ◆ NA
- ◆ Neutral
- ◆ Nice alternative for those who CHOOSE to use it although the city instituted it at the expense of the recycling program.
- ◆ nice to be able to remove small amounts of garden waste
- ◆ nice to keep it out of the trash!
- ◆ No Comment
- ◆ No more need to use sink disposal except for chicken and turkey bones. Really like being able to put all vegatable fruit waste in compost bin.
- ◆ No opinion
- ◆ None. This is a very wasteful and inefficient program. So many compost cart contents have been spilled out due to high winds, animals, vandals. The spillage brings odor, trashy neighborhood, and possible diseases.
- ◆ not having to go to the yard waste often
- ◆ Not much - it is almost irrelevant to me since I maintain my own composting.
- ◆ Not much. We never use it.
- ◆ Not putting grass clippings or leaves into the trash.
- ◆ Not too much.
- ◆ Nothing
- ◆ Nothing
- ◆ Nothing
- ◆ Nothing
- ◆ nothing
- ◆ nothing
- ◆ Nothing.
- ◆ Nothing. I much prefer a yearly cleanup collection as we have had most of my 30 years in Boulder.
- ◆ Nothing. It actually reduced the quality of my prior service.
- ◆ nothing. it's a wast of taxpayers money.
- ◆ Nothing. The spring cleanup was a better idea.
- ◆ Nothing. It draws wild animals. We've had bears as much as 5 nights a week. There is a large amount of rats in the neighborhood. As well as opossum,fox and raccoons.
- ◆ Nothing. It's a bad and expensive and unpractical idea.We live in North Boulder (not in the mountains) and cannot put food items on the compost or in the curbsite compost bin. We have racoons, bears and mountain

lions going through everything. When the composting curbside started- we had best intentions - even bought compostable plastik bags for the food items. It was terrible in the garge, and we can't keep it outside. It's WAY too small for the garden compost

- ◆ Nothing. It's unnecessary. Bring back Spring cleanup!
- ◆ Opportunity to be more environmentally mindful.
- ◆ Our trash is greatly reduced!
- ◆ Partially makes up fot the spring trash haul
- ◆ Pick-up at other weeks than the old spring cleanup.
- ◆ Previously, I always took my yard waste to Western to dispose of it. With the curbside compost collection I have to do that less often. The curbside compost collection encourages my paying attention to my yard all the time rather than at times when spring clean-up or fall leaf raking happens.
- ◆ Promotes more sustainable practices for homeowners! Reduces trash to provide another viable useful product.
- ◆ Provides an alternative to my backyard composting program when I can't put the volume in my backyard site.
- ◆ putting less in trash
- ◆ raises awareness, promotes further sorting of trash for better processing
- ◆ recycling is crucial
- ◆ reduce landfill material
- ◆ Reduce waste
- ◆ Reduced amount I have put into trash. Like being able to put extra garden waste into compost.
- ◆ Reduces a lot the volume of trash I create
- ◆ Reduces amount trash. We don't have extra bags of leaves and branches.
- ◆ Reduces landfill
- ◆ reduces landfill waste
- ◆ Reduces load of foodwaste that would otherwise go down the sink disposal.
- ◆ Reduces our total waste in garbage
- ◆ reduces trash
- ◆ reduces trash
- ◆ Reduces trash and saves trips to CHaRM and to Yard-Waste drop-off sites
- ◆ Reduces trash and waste. Takes over the effort of composting CORRECTLY which I would likely not do a good job at and perhaps cease to do.
- ◆ reduces trash in landfill
- ◆ reduces trash production and keeps yard cleaner
- ◆ Reduces trash somewhat but see below.
- ◆ Reduces trash, diverts from landfill to useful applications.
- ◆ reduces waste in landfill
- ◆ reduceese what goes to a landfill!
- ◆ reduction of trash and the idea of composting
- ◆ reduction of trash to landfill
- ◆ Regular service -- can count on the truck being there
- ◆ reliable, curbside schedule.
- ◆ Saves effort of taking lawn debris to collection center
- ◆ Saves filling land fill. Helps environment.

- ◆ Saves me a few trips per year to Western Disposal's yard waste facility.
- ◆ Saves me a trip to the yard waste disposal site
- ◆ Saves taking yard waste to the Western disposal depot.
- ◆ Saves trips to yard waste disposal (doesn't eliminate, but still welcome)
- ◆ Saves us driving to the yard waste facility
- ◆ Simply that it exists! It's been wonderful to feel that our household is reducing our waste and becoming more aware of our environmental impact.
- ◆ since it is available - I do it!
- ◆ Since we've used a worm bin for years, the biggest advantage for us is yard waste and other large items the worms won't eat, like corn cobs, plus compostable food containers.
- ◆ Single stream recycling is great but the compost program is not needed nearly as much.
- ◆ so far has been very helpful. reduces trash waste.
- ◆ Takes yard waste (but small container- in summer sometimes need to use trash for yard waste too)
- ◆ Thank you for this program -- it's great! We fill up a 32-gallon can every 2 weeks and have reduced the volume of our trash. Still lots of paper, packaging, etc., so we need weekly trash pick-up.
- ◆ That compost is being made and not wasted by being put down the disposal or in the trash can. Boulder should be leading the way in this arena. I am proud we are.
- ◆ That for a small fee, I can compost my food.
- ◆ That I am part of a reuse program, and don't have to put compostable materials into landfills. I really do like this program, entirely.
- ◆ That I can put in the container all the things I do not want to compost in my back yard: tree branches, weeds and other things that do not decompose easily
- ◆ that it accepts shredded paper. that what little plant stuff I have from my townhouse has a place.
- ◆ that it exists
- ◆ That it exists!
- ◆ That it exists.
- ◆ that it takes the yard waste I can not put/fit into my compost bin
- ◆ That it's curbside!
- ◆ That it's offered! It's working well.
- ◆ that it's there and that I don't have to throw things into trash
- ◆ that there is a compost program
- ◆ That these reusable materials aren't taken to the landfill and it requires very little effort on the part of our household to participate.
- ◆ That we are on the cutting edge of trying to do something about trash.
- ◆ That we can put soaked shredded papers into it. That we can recycle small branches and prunings which don't go into our backyard recycle bins.
- ◆ That we can recycle food waste!
- ◆ That we have a non-trash way of getting rid of some kitchen waste.
- ◆ That yard waste is being utilized instead of just being trash.
- ◆ The ability to discard of compostable materials in a good way.
- ◆ The ability to compost yard waste which previously went into the trash.
- ◆ The ability to have yard waste removed at the curb
- ◆ The ability to take care of yard waste during the summer

- ◆ the concept, the option to pick up the finished compost, and occasionally the chance to contribute unusually large amounts of food trimmings when it's close to our pick-up date
- ◆ The convenience. It is not possible for me to drop of garden waste at the Yard Waste Drop Off.
- ◆ The Curbside Composting is really a mess. There were two weeks where maggots were like something you would see in a horror picture. I find that I have to jam pack yard waste as there is no longer a curbside pick up once a year.
- ◆ The fact that Boulder has a curbside compost collection program is great. The rest of the world needs to catch up with Boulder
- ◆ The fact that it happens.
- ◆ the fact that the material is being resused for growing more plants. How can I get some of the mature compost back?
- ◆ The garbage men are nice. We have reduced garbage, and feel good about composting. Additional free yard waste pick-up.
- ◆ The idea that it could replace the Spring Cleanup program is STILL ludicrous. I made at least a dozen trips to the yard waste recycle with stuff that wouldn't fit in the compost cart and/or exceeded the number of additional bags.
- ◆ The program has drastically reduced our weekly trash volume to a quarter of what we used to throw out. I will call and change trash pick-up to every two weeks.
- ◆ The values that drive it
- ◆ the variety of compostables collected
- ◆ The volume of garbage has been greatly reduced. We produce less methane.
- ◆ There are things that I don't want in my garden compost, such as corn cobs, banana peels, twigs and branches, etc. This is a way to have them composted and recycled.
- ◆ There is a lot of yard waste and food items I am no longer putting in the trash. I feel great about that change and appreciate you making it possible for me. I did not realize just how much of our trash could be composted.
- ◆ There is nothing about the program I like.
- ◆ Unfortunately - almost nothing. I compost all our food waste for use in our organic gardens. And the nominal free, bi-monthly pick-up is woefully inadequate to serve our needs for the removal of grass, tree limbs, hedge trimmings, etc.
- ◆ used to be no way to easily dispose of tree/shrub trimmings, which is virtually all my compost
- ◆ Very convenient, especially nice for lawn waste.
- ◆ Very little. I love the concept and support the program, but it has major design flaws. See my remarks for improving below.
- ◆ We always support recycling and composting, so the program is a good one. We do most of our composting in our own compost, and we take most of our yard waste to the Western Disposal drop-off, but without a truck or trailer, this option would not work for everyone.
- ◆ we are lucky, it is wonderful. the only problem is that the pick-up is so early in the morning sometimes i miss it and i don't put out the container the night before because it's sometimes windy and knocks container over.
- ◆ we are only a 2-person household. Yard waste is by far our biggest component. Some of that used to go our own compost but otherwise we mostly made trips to the yard waste yard or put it in the trash. Happy to not do either now.
- ◆ We are satisfied with the current program.
- ◆ We basically DO NOT like it. It is fine in the colder months...no bugs, but in warm weather, iy is horrible and we stop recycling compost.

- ◆ We compost all of our yard waste (leaves, small tree limbs) and vegetable/fruit scraps, peels, etc.
- ◆ We don't do composting in our yard at this time so it's nice to participate in this program
- ◆ We don't have time for a compost pile for food, so I LOVE not having to put it in the trash.
- ◆ We don't put as much in the disposal
- ◆ we don't use it enough to respond to this question.
- ◆ we like that it does not have meat products (protects us & the wildlife)
- ◆ We like the fact that yard and kitchen waste can be composted. We don't do that very well, and we buy the composted material from Western Disposal!
- ◆ We like the frequency of pick as opposed to the once a year opportunity during the past - we use it for yard/gardening waste all summer/fall - and we make frequent use of the bundles at curbside because not all will fit in the 32 gallon container
- ◆ We like the opportunity to have garden and kitchen compostables collected at our curbside.
- ◆ We love to compost--our trash is reduced to almost nothing.
- ◆ We really have less garbage
- ◆ We throw away a lot less food.
- ◆ We use the compost bin for yard trimmings and branches mostly. We will revisit what else can go in the bin to increase usage during winter months.
- ◆ We use the prepaid bags, pay-as-you-throw, system. This was NOT A CHOICE under the trash container size question!
- ◆ We used to have a backyard compost bin, but never used the compost. This way our organic waste is going to be used.
- ◆ We used to pile up all the rose trimmings, twigs and branches, etc. and take them to the green recycling at western disposal, but now, most everything goes in the bin every other week.
- ◆ Weekly grass clippings are much easier to manage, and composting food waste.
- ◆ We've reduced our trash greatly.
- ◆ we've reduced our trash output by at least 50%
- ◆ What a great resource!
- ◆ What I send out each week is recycled.
- ◆ Without spring cleanup, it is essential
- ◆ Wonderful innovation to reduce solid waste!
- ◆ Works fine for coffee grounds, tea leaves, small scale fruit and vegetable waste.
- ◆ Works well for me
- ◆ yard waste
- ◆ Yard waste collection
- ◆ yard waste disposal
- ◆ Yard waste disposal during fall season.
- ◆ Yay! Socialised composting produces better compost.

**Question #18: What, if anything, would you change about the curbside compost collection program?**

- ◆ The program is deeply flawed in one area: We don't, nor do I think most residents, have a regular, significant stream of compostables that require frequent, regular, year-round pick-up. We have mulching mowers that leave grass on the lawn and we let leaves compost in place on the lawn. But We DO have an extraordinary need for organics collection in peak season -- around the time of the sadly discontinued Spring Cleanup, and for a few months thereafter, into summer. We have a fundamental mismatch of 1) A twice-a-year need for a BIG amount of material to be picked up and 2) a current program that offers regular pick-up through a tiny 32 gallon container. For 90% of the year, it goes practically unused. Then, for 10% of the year, it is way, way, way too small. Surely there is a more intelligent, cost-effective, less polluting way of doing this. (Referring to gas-guzzling, smoking trash truck going out 26 times a year to pick-up compost, when 24 of those times are unnecessary.) But it is irritating that residents are paying a trash/recycle tax year round for bi-weekly compost pick-up, when our bin is empty to 10% full for most of the year. The Spring Cleanup was the best City service ever provided. Often, right before the Spring Cleanup, we had big, heavy, spring snowstorms that had broken giant branches in this neighborhood of very mature trees. It was perfect timing. Also, most of us do massive tree trimmings en mass once or twice a year. That's when we need the program. The current system forces us to store branches in yards for months, carefully sawing them into tiny 32-gallon container size every two weeks until the material is gone. It's silly. I am a huge supporter of recycling, but I don't like non-sensible, inefficient systems. To succeed in significant landfill diversion, you have to after big pieces of the waste stream. The tiny amounts in our bi-weekly compost containers are not the big piece. We have a huge piece once or twice a year. That is where the program should focus. Save the money you spend during the rest of the year, and concentrate it back into a timely, useful event like the Spring Cleanup.
- ◆ 1) Carts suck: they blow over when it's windy!!!
- ◆ 2) Let me sign up for delivery of compost when trash is collected, for a small fee? Or advertise where I can go to collect some (assuming I own a car).
- ◆ 1. need some product to keep 32 gallon bin clean - offer recyclable liners free
- ◆ 2. would like weekly pick up so it doesn't sit there 2 weeks with attendant foul odors.
- ◆ 3. more items allowed - meat and dairy would help
- ◆ 4. would like to be able to put out unlimited yard waste - branches, excess grass, etc.
- ◆ 2 weeks it too long to have that stuff sitting around. Every week would be good, as long as we don;t have to pay too much more. Trash, etc is too expensive in boulder now.
- ◆ 32 gal too small in summer, too large in winter!
- ◆ A better way to clean the containers. Especially the compostable container. An ability to recycle concrete rubble for use in paths
- ◆ A bin that is animal proof. we haven't had a problem - yet - but lots of wildlife are in our area.
- ◆ a container that was locked to protect from wildlife
- ◆ A slightly larger containor would be helpful.
- ◆ Ability to pick-up meat, dairy and cooked food waste. I would worry about RATS though, I've heard they are increasing in prevalence due to the composting program.
- ◆ Accept meat and dairy, increase frequency of pick-up, improve design of cart so it's more conducive to storing compost rather than rotting and breeding gnats and slime.
- ◆ Accept more items. Clarify which paper and plastic products are compostable.
- ◆ -add a seasonal (spring and fall) collection of large branches, etc.
- ◆ -make it easy to handle large garden items
- ◆ add a spring large-pile pick up for pruned branches and yard clean up. at times I need more collected than is possible

- ◆ add an animal proof latch to carts (compost and trash) - deterring small animals would be sufficient.
- ◆ Add meat / dairy
- ◆ Add meat and dairy
- ◆ Add meat and dairy
- ◆ Add meat and dairy - even though this is a bear neighborhood, I think folks should keep garbage inside til pick-up... Then I'd never use the garbage disposer!
- ◆ Add meat and dairy.
- ◆ add meat and dairy; frequency is less important.
- ◆ Add meat and meat products to curbside pick-up but I'm not sure we could get by with only every other week regular trash pick up.
- ◆ Add meat dairy; Access to bio bags that don't start to break down over two weeks and leak
- ◆ Adding meat and dairy would increase the amount I compost. I would like a larger bin 64gal instead of 32. Send info to people about proper home composting. My neighbors don't cover theirs, very annoying
- ◆ Addition of meat/bone would be significant.
- ◆ allow 64-gallon compost containers for same price as 32-gallon.
- ◆ allow dairy
- ◆ Allow for branches to be collected without cut lengths/bundling
- ◆ Allow for larger containers without a fee. I called to ask for a larger container but was told I would have to pay more for it. The 32 gal is not big enough for spring garden cleanup.
- ◆ Allow grass clippings in bin.
- ◆ "allow meat and bones. If absolutely necessary, establish a border such as ""east of 28th st
- ◆ allow meat and dairy
- ◆ Allow meat, dairy, bones, etc. The current plan is too restrictive, given the cost.
- ◆ Allow more bundles of branches and bags of leaves in season (spring and fall, respectively). Or pick these things up on a weekly basis, especially in season. It is hard to keep these stored between pick-ups so as to not incur extra pick-up charges.
- ◆ Allow more food to be composted
- ◆ Allow more items to be composted - dairy, and some non-poopy diapers (7th Generation , Nature Babycare).
- ◆ Animal proof cans. Meat and dairy in the compost.
- ◆ Animal proof containers to be standard, not optional or cost extra.
- ◆ Anything that could reduce the number of bins I have to keep in the garage.
- ◆ ask for a smaller size garbage container
- ◆ At some seasons, it would be nice to have a bigger cart. Weekly pick-up would be great - the smell after 2 weeks is a bit strong.
- ◆ Bear attacks on our compost container are a problem. We have bought a supposedly bear-proof container from the internet, and it works more or less well so far, but it is hard to transfer the food waste from that container into the Western Disposal container the night before collection. Putting out the container by 7 AM is not very convenient for our household due to unusual sleeping schedules. Eventually, we will probably need to buy a bear-proof container from Western Disposal, so that we can store that container outside. We don't have room inside our home to store such containers, and our outside enclosure is hardly bear proof.
- ◆ Befor I got my back yard compost ben I put my kitchen waste in the curbside ben. But with a two week pick-up it stunk quite a bit and it stuck to the ben sides and make a stinky mess after pick-up in the ben.
- ◆ Being able to add meat and dairy garbage into the compost bin.

- ◆ Better availability/quality of composted material. Could compost be dropped off to us? How about making compost free to program participants? I purchased compost once and it was contaminated with plastic material.
- ◆ better containers, more collection
- ◆ Better indoor collection containers that do not allow fruit flies.  
Keep the paper/plastic pick-up to once a week. By combining, that bin gets too full.
- ◆ Better information about what we can and can not compost.  
Containers with lids that actually close tight
- ◆ Better system than using my freezer to store food scraps until the morning of the compost pick-up. Not sure what this would be.  
And get rid of the raccoons. They are a hundred times worse than prairie dogs. I think we should train the mountain lions to eat the raccoons. When we had a mountain lion in the neighborhood, there were noticeably fewer raccoons.  
Now, what was I saying...?
- ◆ bigger bin or regular weekly pick-up as often my yard waste goes in the trash now. i would like to have the spring and fall cleanup back for the larger amount of yard waste seasonally and reducing trips to the main yard drop off - i would also like a seasonal pick-up for batteries, light-bulbs and such
- ◆ Bigger can, more specifics about putting out branches, etc.
- ◆ Bigger carts--64 gallon--with no additional fee.
- ◆ Bigger compost container. New stickers more often.
- ◆ bigger container
- ◆ Bigger container or more frequent collection.
- ◆ bigger container!no extra charge for leaves, yard waste that doesn't fit
- ◆ Bigger containers at the regular price for people who need them.
- ◆ bigger containers for summer.  
Stop pick-up during the winter
- ◆ Bring back spring clean up.
- ◆ Bring back spring cleanup for those of us who do not have trucks to transport large tree limbs and trimmings to the yard waste center.
- ◆ Bring back the city Spring pick-up of yard waste and the city Fall leaf collection.
- ◆ Bring back the hauling of yard waste seasonally. We have too much to put in the container provided for us.
- ◆ Bring back the one year curb side pick-up for yard/spring clean-up!!!!  
We really really really miss that.
- ◆ Bring back weekly pick-up of boxes and cans. Do compost pick-up once a month.
- ◆ Bring spring cleanup pick-up back. My 87 year old dad and I had to take 20 separate trips to the dump from spring cleanup after they cancelled the program. Probably would have taken a year to get rid of it in composting pick-up. Compost collection totally useless
- ◆ Cancel it
- ◆ cancel it!
- ◆ cancel it  
I would rather have single stream recycling weekly
- ◆ Cancel it. If a curbside compost collection is supposed to make sense for us,it needs to be weekly and it needs to be at least a 64 gallon container. That seems over the top. 99% of our compost is yard and garden waste, leafes and other compostable non food items.People in our neighborhood have gardens, some compost a little bit in their own yard, most don't. Everybody has to DRIVE to the yard waste place and drop off their compostable garden items- especially since the spring and fall cleanups have been cancelled. The tiny

compostable bins/every other week don't work for us. As far as we are concerned, STOP curbside composting, go back to alternating paper and comingled recycling. We've closely watched our entire street. Out of over 25 households only 2 or 3 regularly use curbside composting, but EVERYONE's single stream recycling is overflowing (pick up only every other week). Cancel curbside composting, reinstall spring and fall clean up and go back to rotating paper and comingled pick ups.

- ◆ can't think of anything at the moment
- ◆ cart not big enough to handle yard waste like grass, leaves, small branches etc
- ◆ Change it to every week from every 2 weeks
- ◆ charge people extra if they overstuff their containers. i see this all the time. they do this in europe and i think the same should be done here.
- ◆ City should supply compostable bio-bags to use indoors for easy compost transport to outdoor collection cart.
- ◆ Collect compost EVERY WEEK as well as collect trash EVERY WEEK!
- ◆ Collect compostables every week and trash every other week.
- ◆ Collect compostibles every week and garbage every other week.
- ◆ collect every week
- ◆ collect every week; allow all food waste to be put in compost bins
- ◆ collect meats and all possible composting material
- ◆ Collect weekly if extra cost was not a result--costs enough now.
- ◆ Collected more often
- ◆ Collecting food waste is messy, unsanitary. Need containers in the kitchen to put it in rather than using bags.
- ◆ collection every week. Bigger collection cart.
- ◆ Come once a month. Send out a more thorough list of EVERYTHING that can be composted, especially things that are not thought of: vacuum cleaner bags, tampons, cat fur, hair, etc. We didn't know the details until ECO Cycle put out information about all that you did take.
- ◆ comment added here because the final page had no place for any other comments.  
The suggestion that weekly trash collection be changed to every two weeks is majorly dumb. Kill this idea today.
- ◆ Compost bin needs to be larger and/or collected more often in yard season. I put overflow in the trash.
- ◆ compost bins have holes in sides or lid for breathing and better composting
- ◆ -Compost collection bags in house and container in garage can get quite smelly.  
-Would like to be able to include more yard waste
- ◆ contact homeowners/renters more often to cheer them on, publically honor their good work and make sure they have the right bins.  
Stele Ely  
<http://EarthEHonors.org>  
<http://greentopia.org>
- ◆ container is too small, so I put yard waste with regular garbage.
- ◆ containers are too small for most yard stuff (e.g. branches) - larger containers or more clear guidelines about pick up yard waste would help  
in summer, food waste gets very smelly in a week with no air & fruit flies get out of control - I'm not sure how this helps but we don't use curbside compost in the summer (we do our own)
- ◆ Containers need to have better lids (animal / wind proof)
- ◆ Containers that are more smell-proof would be nice in the summertime, though they work fine in the winter.

- ◆ cost, inconvenience now that there is not the spring and fall clean up collection
- ◆ Could they come wash out the barrel once a year?
- ◆ Could you deliver the compost you make, maybe by filling the container the same day after pick-up, as an offer for a fee, a few times each spring, summer, fall?
- ◆ Decrease it to once per month.
- ◆ Decrease the number of collections during very cold months (ex. Nov, Dec, Jan, etc.) to once a month
- ◆ Difficult to put it out early in the morning on the day of collection because I work until very late at night and don't get up early enough. Also, compost sometimes smells if I wait 4 weeks, but I don't have enough to put out every 2 weeks.  
Once a week would be almost silly - I have 1 little kitchen bag a week of compost
- ◆ Discontinue it.
- ◆ Discontinue the program. Go back to collecting recycling each week.
- ◆ do a better job of clarifying what is/is not allowable; we have the SAME CRITICISM of single-stream recycling
- ◆ Do NOT offer curbside compost collection service...REMOVE it from your pick up service. Many of us want to keep our compost materials for our own composting needs.
- ◆ Don't like difficulty in disposing of large branches. Would like some once a year curbside pick up of big stuff.
- ◆ don't like leaving food waste in hot garage for two weeks (so we either put it in our compost bin or throw it away). ALSO, it doesn't begin to accommodate all our yard waste, so we take loads to city recycle yard
- ◆ Don't understand how I am supposed to bag things and what is really allowed for leaves and things
- ◆ Double size of container. We always have extra.
- ◆ Dramatically different container from trash and mixed: different color, shape, whatever. Humans get confused. Also a more stable form with latching lid. Tall thin and floppy lid encourages wildlife.
- ◆ During fall, I have so many leaves that it would be nice to be able to put out extra bags of leaves for one or two pick-ups without having to pay too much more. Make it mandatory that people put compostables into compost bin and not trash.
- ◆ During high season (fall with the leaves) and Spring with normal clean up would like to have it picked up every week.
- ◆ during spring and early summer, the 32 gallon container is not big enough and in the winter it is too big. is there a way to increase pick-up during spring/summer and lessen during winter?
- ◆ During summer, compost should be collected every week--otherwise it begins to rot & fruit flies are excessive, which probably limits the number of people dedicated enough to participate. We could easily fill a large container in summer. We often have to put excess in the trash, which is wasteful.
- ◆ During the spring and fall we could often benefit from having compost picked up every week. In the winter, we hardly fill it up once a month. This is probably difficult, but more flexible, seasonally adjusted schedules?
- ◆ During the summer get a larger container at no extra cost to me. During the winter, could use the smaller one. That was what was so great about the spring clean-up. When there was a lot of branches, yard clippings, etc., you could put it out. With this, it's seasonal, but still charged for monthly use.
- ◆ During the summer months it is impractical to have all your yard waste fit into a small container twice a month. THE LEAF PICK-UP PROGRAM IS HIGHLY MISSED. For those of us with large trees and no gas wasting truck to take them to yard waste drop off the loss of the leaf program is HUGE!!!!
- ◆ during the summer months, the curbside compost collection could be increased to make up for large volume items (branches, clean-up) that used to be collected during spring clean up. I never have enough room in compost for grass, weeds, branches, etc, especially at the beginning (May)
- ◆ eliminate all together

- ◆ Eliminate food waste as part of compost collection.
- ◆ eliminate it.
- ◆ Eliminate it.
- ◆ Eliminate it.
- ◆ "Eliminate it. The program is a ""feel good"" effort with little impact on our bigger footprint, which is affected mostly by automobile use."
- ◆ eliminate recyclables tax by selling collected recyclables. Add an excess packaging tax to products with unnecessarily voluminous packaging. Just responding th the question I wish you would ask.
- ◆ Eliminate/Reduce the cost!
- ◆ Enforce requirement for homeowners to have sufficient size containers so that they are not overfilled (and therefore cannot close) and as a result attract wildlife - racoons and bears and local dogs.
- ◆ Every week with a larger bin would work well for us. We have a lot of yard waste that we haven't been putting pout and it growing too rapidly.
- ◆ Every week would be great since otherwise it's a little stinky/wet.
- ◆ evry week
- ◆ Expand range of materials accepted and move to weekly pick up.
- ◆ Expanded capacity to pick-up yard waste during peak periods (Fall and Spring).
- ◆ Expensive bags for compostable materials. Compost can breeds bacteria and oder. Low volume. No more yard wase pick-up. As soon as I run out of bags, I will discontinue compostable except for small amounts of yard waste.
- ◆ find some way to reduce fruit fly explosion from melons/fruits in summer. More frequent pick-ups would help.
- ◆ fine as is
- ◆ For me, there is no regularity in my use of your service, however, I would not change a thing.
- ◆ For my personal situation, I'd happily end the program and go back to sorted recycling. Of course, not everyone has the same situation as me. But I think single-stream recycling has got to be expensive and multi-stream was no problem for us. The composting is a pretty useless program for our household. Thanks for having the survey!
- ◆ Generally our yard waste (all compostable) exceeds the volume available in our 32 gallon cart. Sometimes we still end up putting some of it out for trash pick-up. You might give some thought to adjusting frequency of pick-up dependent upon seasons (less need in winter, but more need during growing and fall seasons).
- ◆ Get dog-walkers NOT to drop their dog-poop bags in the Kart.
- ◆ Get rid of expensive requirement to use sole-source bags. Why not paper bags??
- ◆ Get rid of it and reduce my fees... I absolutely hate this. I've always recycled used the results in my garden and VERY much resent having to pay for a service I don't use and also have to much paper/container recycle than the bin will hold. This is just a terrible idea, focus on education so folks with do their own composting. Individual responsibility is much more efficient than forced centralized composting.
- ◆ Get rid of it!
- ◆ Get rid of it. I don't really see how it's that useful. I wish that we had been consulted on the original switch over. It seems wasteful of resources to have all recycling in one container and our recycling builds up faster than our composting.
- ◆ Give it some time. People will get on board
- ◆ Go back to "spring cleanup" - Please.
- ◆ Go back to weekly recyle items pick-up. Storage of compost items is a hassle.
- ◆ go to once a week collection during spring and summer and once a month in fall/winter

- ◆ Hard to vary collection schedule with season, but useful if possible. Much yard waste in Oct-Nov, again in Apr, hardly any in Dec-Feb.
- ◆ have it every week
- ◆ Have it every week, so it doesn't get so smelly in the summertime.
- ◆ Have it take meat and dairy items as well; have it pick up later in the day so we don't have to wake up early to put the cart out by 7:00 A.M.
- ◆ Have weekly pick-ups April to November, and bi-weekly the other months.  
It cost too much.
- ◆ How about one bin per alley or one per group of houses. Taking a week off of the recycling pick-up is difficult for us. We already got a larger bin(64) and I put overflow into old fashion recycling bins and put them out. I often have huge piles of tied brush, sometimes more than 2 cords for pick-up in the spring. The rest of the year I use my own compost pile to replenish my garden soil. I end up fishing out dogwalkers poop waste the rest of the year out of the rarely used bin.
- ◆ How to deal with the summer fruitfly issues. They were horrible this year.
- ◆ I am aware that one of my neighbors has put food compostable items in correct container.. BUT,tied up in a plastic bags.  
Review with participants correct way to use compost bin.
- ◆ I am now recycling less than I did when we had a yard waste yearly pick-up and alternating paper and bottle recycling pick-up. I have to throw out paper recycling into trash because the 64 gallon size mixed receptacle is too small to contain two weeks worth of recycling. I resent paying more for getting less opportunities to recycle. We have very little kitchen trash as it is, but if we were to go to once every other week to pick-up, I would have nowhere to throw all the paper and bottles that no longer fit into my once every other week pick-up.
- ◆ I am satisfied with it. I am only concerned that it is not well used in my neighborhood, so I would be interested in changes that would increase participation.
- ◆ I am satisfied.
- ◆ I am very happy with the program, but my partner, who is pickier than I am, requested that you clean the compost bins. I told her that's a job for the resident.
- ◆ I can't manage having old food sit in the garage for two weeks -- it seems too smelly, too hard to clean the bins, too likely to attract bugs and vermin.
- ◆ I can't think of anything.
- ◆ I could see compost going to every week - but I'd hate to see the trash go to every other - mainly because of odors.
- ◆ I could use a bigger container but I don't want to pay more for it.
- ◆ "I do not use the curbside compost program for any of my food waste (only yard waste). I use a backyard compost bin for my non-animal food waste. I do not like that the lid on the curbside container doesn't lock and because we have so many racoons in our neighborhood, I do not use the curbside compost container for any food scraps. To me, there is nothing pleasant about food waste sitting around in a curbside compost container for 2 weeks (or even 1 week), heating up in the sun and generating odors. I do not even put my meat waste in the trash until the day of pick-up for the same reason (odors and animals). If I could change anything about the current program it would be to get locking compost containers. Then I might consider putting some food scraps in it for curbside pick-up, and I might want to see those picked up every week rather than every other week...but that is a lot of ""if's"".  
I also do not see a lot of my neighbors using the curbside compost for food scraps - mainly just for yard waste. It seems that people don't know how to set their kitchen's up for composting or don't want to bother, don't have space, or don't want their own dogs/ kids getting in it in the house. But this is just an observation."
- ◆ I don't feel there is a need to collect compost every week. I think it would be great to not have trash picked up every week and I will look into that.

- ◆ I don't find the composting program particularly useful, since we already compost most of our food waste in a worm bin. We use it a little for meat/fish/dair/fat, but mostly for yard waste. I would not support a weekly composting pick-up, but I would support making the single-stream recycling pick-up weekly.
- ◆ I don't have any other suggestions than what I answered in the survey.
- ◆ I don't know if there is a way to come up with a wildlife proof container, but it is inconvenient to keep both the trash and compost bins in a small garage.
- ◆ I don't like having to buy the green plastic bags to put kitchen waste into.
- ◆ I don't like putting out food garbage in compost because it rots/turns to slime and stinks.
- ◆ I don't like the fact that if I have to keep the compost can in my garage, there will be a terrible odor and lots of fruit flies.
- ◆ i don't need it but once a month
- ◆ I don't think we should have additional fees to bag compost- the bags and kitchen storage unit should be included in the weekly fee- or accept it in newspaper bags .
- ◆ I don't understand why commercial composting includes egg shells, meat, and dairy products but home pick-up does not. Seems very contradictory and I would especially like to compost egg shells!
- ◆ I don't use it at all during November through March, so it's a waste of my money paying for compost pick-up in winter. April through October I need a 64 gallon container and sometimes I need a lot of the approved-of bags as well. But I keep a 32 gallon container because it's cheaper and I don't use it half the year. Who's using the compost bins in winter? Maybe they have an enormous household with a lot of food waste, but I have essentially no food waste and I use the compost bin only for yard waste, i.e. branches and leaves. Why can't we have a single charge for year-round compost pick up regardless of how many of the approved-of recycle bags we set out? because my need for compost pick-up varies wildly from summer to winter and your system does not take that into account. It was hard to answer some of the above questions about compost because of my situation.
- ◆ I don't use it because:
  1. I get a lot of non-compostable trash such as plastic, newspaper, etc. blown and dropped into my yard and it's too much work to separate it out.
  2. I already have a lot of regular plastic trash bags from before the program and I don't want to buy special trash bags until I've used up my regular bags.
  3. The program still doesn't deal with the huge amounts of compostable trash I get during fall and spring cleanups. During these times I can easily collect 15 or more 64-gallon trash bags of leaves, branches, etc.
  4. The amount of food compost I generate is too small to make it worth putting it aside.
- ◆ I don't use it for food waste, but wonder if that use increases the likelihood of bears and other wildlife being attracted to town.
- ◆ I feel like I was forced to participate in this program and was not (but should have been) offered a larger recyclables container upgrade for free. A 32 gallon container for the compost program is not suitable in my case.
- ◆ I feel strongly that more aggressive education is needed to change our habits from what to put in there to how to organize receptacles in the house to keep from stinking, rotting, etc. I know this sounds silly but this is the single biggest barrier for most of the people I know. We understand trash, but getting compost thoroughly and correctly requires a pretty thorough reeducation. They are life-long habits after all.
- ◆ I guess adding meat and other food that is currently not on the accepted materials list.
- ◆ I had to go back to using the disposal more because of fruit flies in the indoor recycling bag system.
- ◆ I had to stop composting food waste b/c there was mold growing in the composting trash can and thousands of fruit flies in my house. I would suggest supplying a bug free in home container for the kitchen and solve the mold issue in the trash can. Maybe every week pick up would help.

- ◆ I hardly have anything left to compost. I surely use more products with recycleable packaging. By the second week, it's overflowing onto my garage floor. I think that composting is nice, but for a family of 2 that eats out frequently, it really isn't feasible or necessary service.
- ◆ I have 2X more to compost than what is collected, in particular the bundled tree limbs. I do not want to pay more for a 64 gallon container. Bundling the tree limbs is a problem, because I usually have more than 2 bundles when i prune and do maintenance on my yard. So I have to somehow store the excess trimmings. Bring back the yearly limb pick up
- ◆ I have no idea how I got the maggots and it was GROSS. Happened twice.
- ◆ I have no problem with the curbside collection but did not want to lose the spring cleanup which was a huge benefit
- ◆ I have not figured out how to reduce the smell of the garbage and if I knew of a better way to compost without have small bags put into larger bins I would use it more. I can't imagine reducing trash to every other week until there is a good method to prevent the odors. I keep bins in the garage to reduce wildlife interaction but there has to be a way to improve on reducing odors.
- ◆ I have so much yard waste that I am never caught up with the every-other week system
- ◆ I know people who don't use their compost at all, but we need to keep encouraging people to move in this direction.
- ◆ I like the composting. Our biggest problem is with having the mixed containers picked up every other week. We routinely fill our 64 gal mixed containers within a week.
- ◆ I like the idea of every week compost pick-up, but it might not get full every time. I still keep my vegetable waste for my own compost bins, but maybe I would start putting my meat scraps (not many) into the compost bin. So far I wrap it in plastic so no animal smells it and put it into the trash. My trash only goes out once every two or three weeks because I use the orange Western Disposal bags for my trash.
- ◆ I miss the leaf pick up at the parks in the fall. It is going to take me months to get all the leaves picked up thru the compost program. I won't buy paper bags to recycle leaves, so am filling my trash can with them too. What a waste.
- ◆ I miss the spring cleanup when I have a huge amount of branches and shrubs to recycle. I end of filling up my caontainer a little each week versus all at once.
- ◆ I much prefer the old spring pick up of yard waste, which allowed for pick-up of large amounts of yard waste all at once. Really, the curbside composting isn't very useful to me. If I have yard waste, it is often (much) more than the container capacity, so I have to drop it off myself. The fact that I can put some of it out for pick-up is no real help, since I have to make the trip anyway.
- ◆ I place FAR MORE material in the compost container than I place in the trash container. I estimate that about 15% of the volume of material that goes to trash + recycling + compost is trash. I realize this is not responsive to the question, but there was no other place to put it. I think you should have included a comments section somewhere in this survey.
- ◆ I prefer weekly collection. Things really decompose because it's only collected every other week.
- ◆ I Really don't use it much
- ◆ I really miss the spring clean up. It took me \_many\_ trips to get rid of the spring yard waste. I find the food waste recycling very inconvenient. The plant-based bags are expensive and not widely available. My household typically generates less than half of a 32 gallon trash container every week and this has not changed with food waste composting. During the summer months, I had to make many extra trips for yard waste (and I don't generate grass clippings).
- ◆ I really wish we could put FOOD items in there -- as that is the bulk of our trash.
- ◆ I still prefer the annual spring cleanup to curbside composting
- ◆ I think it is fine.

- ◆ I think it is working but from what I hear it now is loosing money and we have having to subsidize the composting program and recycling program a lot.  
I have to think that problems with wildlife is an obvious part of the composting program. When we had early morning pick-up I would have to get the cans out the night before for fear of being missed early in the morning. I have to clean the cans out every week and the smell is something!
- ◆ I think it works great - very happy with it.
- ◆ i think it's great!
- ◆ I think meat would be no problem.
- ◆ i think more frequency in pick up would prompt me to use it more.
- ◆ I think that compost pick-up really only needs to increase in frequency during the months of October and November when leaf collection is at its peak.
- ◆ I think the cost benefit does not match, or it should be a seasonal program and suspended during winter months
- ◆ I think the suggestion of adding meat and dairy products is a good idea, if it truly can be successful.
- ◆ I think to the extent possible, you should expand the program to include all non-recyclable organic waste (expanded education about including low-grade papers; expanding to include dairy and meat wastes, pet wastes, and compostable diapers, if possible). I also think that more education needs to happen about what materials can and cannot be composted in the current program... there's a great deal of confusion still. To the extent possible, I think composting should be available to everyone in Boulder--renters, people living in multi-family housing, businesses, etc.
- ◆ I totally support the compost program! It would be useful to have chicken and fish bones go in the compost collection too, but this is only a minor issue.
- ◆ I very much!!!oppose to compost-foods!!!!I--keep my own compost---never any cooked foods they rot mildew and attract worms,wasps,bad smells!
- ◆ I want the spring trash haul again -- It would be MUCH easier for people with tree branches and leaves than having to compact and fill a container/bags for months just to get rid of stuff that that could easily be piled and hauled off at one time.
- ◆ I was very disappointed when they discontinued the spring curb side pick-up. I strongly feel that we still need the spring curb side pick-up as well as the bi-weekly to weekly compost pick-up.
- ◆ I wish compostable bags for food and yard waste were more available and less expensive. I would benefit from less frequent trash pick-up and more frequent compost pick-up. Overall, I am very satisfied with the program.
- ◆ I wish composting was every week and paper/plastics was also every week.  
Having each one every other week is hard. I guess I need a bigger compost bin, but it smells so bad with food in it for 2 weeks. I have had to wash it out with maggots everywhere once, and several times wash out the bad smell. My husband HATES it, and we are eco-cycle block leaders! We routinely go to the yard waste facility.recycle our Christmas trees every year, etc.  
If there would be a way to up the compost hauling, it would be great.  
Thanks for the good work!
- ◆ i wish the compost bags you have to buy were available at more stores and at a much more affordable price. i think that is a big reason people don't use them. the collection is fine.
- ◆ "I would ""dump"" the composting program. It's intrusive and ineffective. I would also return to the yearly yrad waste pick up program. That always struck me as a very useful program. I can't imagine what influence drive the city to begin the composting program to begin with. It must have been a loud, small, focused group with an inordinate amount of influence."
- ◆ I would add capacity options during the spring and fall when volumn is highest.

- ◆ I would allow meat and bones. We actually put meat and bones and cheese and everything in our cart and leave it in the alley 24-7 and we have never had a wildlife issue. It is grossly overstated and fear tactics that led to the decision to not allow meat and bones to be collected in the compost cart.
- ◆ I would benefit more from a better storage container (animal proof) than collecting every week. I don't know that I would generate enough material to justify weekly pick-up.
- ◆ I would bring back the spring clean up. I really liked the opportunity to get all of my pruning done in the spring and have it picked up all at once. I ended up putting it in a big pile in the driveway and stuffing some of it into the barrels every other week for pick up. It took a long time to get it all out of the driveway.
- ◆ I would definitely change it to a weekly collection.  
Another comment: Under the question about whether my trash was collected weekly or every two weeks, there was no option to choose Western's prepaid bags. We use those 32-ounce orange bags and put out a bag whenever it fills up, which is every 6 or 8 weeks.
- ◆ I would discontinue it
- ◆ I would either increase curbside composting to every week or offer 64 gallon containers instead, while maintaining trash pick up every week as well.
- ◆ I would eliminate it or have smaller containers and cheaper prices
- ◆ I would get rid of it and bring back the spring clean-up/pick-up
- ◆ I would go back to sorting recyclables. Maybe there is something I don't know about all these programs that makes this emphasis on compostables so important?
- ◆ I would go to a weekly pick-up with meat and dairy included.
- ◆ I would have it include all food waste but my cans are in a garage so I don't have the animal problem.
- ◆ I would have liked to retain the service I previously had and then added compost collection. However, it wasn't done that way. Since the loss of my extra cart for recycle which was previously free, I now put overflow recycles in trash container.
- ◆ I would increase pick-up during the spring to fall season to every week.
- ◆ I would increase the frequency of pick-up. Food waste that sits in a hot garage for 2 weeks is putrid. Therefore I put food waste into trash in first week during summer.
- ◆ I would keep it the way it is. Sometimes we need more frequent pick-up but we just save it for the following week or put into a decomposable bag.
- ◆ I would like a bigger bin and less debris left behind when it is emptied.  
Your earlier question about amount did not include our usage: we always fill the bin and often have extras.
- ◆ I would like a bigger cart for yard waste. I don't put food in my compost bin because it would smell.
- ◆ I would like a bigger container and weekly pick up for my yard waste
- ◆ I would like compost to be picked up weekly; especially during the summer. We both have more yard waste then and find that the fruit and vegetable waste that we recycle gets pretty disgusting and fly infested when it sits around for two weeks
- ◆ "I would like every week pick-up, I think, but not because I generate a lot of compost - just because it can get kind of like a "science experiment" when some of that stuff sits for two weeks."
- ◆ I would like it to be every week, so I don't have so many bags of food waste in my freezer waiting for pick-up day.
- ◆ I would like it to include all items included in the commercial compost pick-up.
- ◆ I would like the option of a smaller compost container and a more frequent collection schedule
- ◆ I would like to be able to put meat waste into the curb compost collection.
- ◆ I would like to opt out as we compost in our yard already and do not need this service yet we still must pay for it.

- ◆ I would like to see a bigger compost container for holding all my yard waste, without any charge. I would like to see compost collected every week to decrease the smell, and deter Raccoons.
- ◆ I would like to see the spring branch cleanup returned!
- ◆ I would like trash picked up twice a month. Compost once a month.
- ◆ I would love to be able to have recyclablebiodegradeable bag liners for the compost can. I find small ones in the supermarket, but would love big ones to line the can.
- ◆ I would love to have increased composting in the Fall. I have apples and tons of leaves.Will use leaf drop off - why not apples?
- ◆ I would LOVE to have the option to put in bones and meat scraps.  
Also, I need some more specific guidelines on coated papers--wax paper, cereal bags (inside the cardboard, food containers, soda boxes...
- ◆ I would make it optional for those who use their own compost. Also, many people would use their own more frequently if there was a reduction in the trash fee.
- ◆ I would make it weekly in the late spring and summer when there is the most yard refuse, and keep it bi-weekly the rest of the year.
- ◆ I would reinstate spring pick-up as opposed to having to "save" yard waste year-round for every-other-week compost collection in a tiny container.
- ◆ I would very much like to have a bear-proof container!!!!
- ◆ I'd be very angry if trash was only picked up every other week and compost was each week.
- ◆ I'd get rid of it and recognize the need for seasonal yard waste pick-up.
- ◆ I'd have a magic wand that would make the compost container hold all the leaves I can't fit in my garden compost in the fall rather than have to hunt down bags to save the leaves week-to-week, or haul them to the yard waste recycle center. ;-)
- ◆ I'd like a bigger container
- ◆ i'd like it to be every week
- ◆ I'd like pick up every week. Grass fills my compost and then I take the next weeks to the dump. It smells and collects flies. I'd like smaller bags for the collection. The Kitchen size is too big. The bag decomposes by the time I can fill it and I have flies in my house, (like fruit flies.) I have found a method that is working but it is a pain in the neck. The bags are expensive for using so quickly. The barrell needs cleaning after every emptying and I find it all a burden. I do it because i think it is important. I know people who believe in it but find it too much trouble and time consuming to be bothered.
- ◆ I'd like to have some flexibility in pick-up between winter and summer. For example, in summer, I have more yard waste but not as much in winter. What about collecting electronics or scrap wood quarterly?
- ◆ I'd love to be provided compost bags (or even be able to easily purchase, or have trash people drop them off). During the fall I have a lot of leaf compost, far too much for the compost bin. But usually I have 3 paper grocery bags worth of compost that doesn't fill up the compost bin. So I'd like a larger compost bin during the fall only, if at all possible
- ◆ I'd really like to be able compost meat and dairy products.
- ◆ If costs wouldn't be too great, larger containers to deal with volume of leaves in the fall
- ◆ If every week there were pick up of limbs,woody material, etc. in the spring and fall for just a month
- ◆ If the biodegradeable bags used for the compostable food scraps were free I would be more apt to recycle the food waste.
- ◆ If we don't use it we should be given a refund  
The color of the container should be green or designated better  
Use trucks that are quieter and less polluting  
Once a month would be better and a cost saving to citizens and a loss of revenue to Western Disposal
- ◆ If you could add meat and dairy that would be a bonus.

- ◆ If you don't use it, you should be able to opt out. It seems to cater mostly to people who bag their lawn clippings, an energy consuming, polluting practice that I don't understand.  
I miss the Spring Cleanup- seems like I have to drive the old truck to the dump to deal with branches. Bundling them is a hassle, and not everyone has an old truck.
- ◆ I'm desperate for some compostable small bags and large bin liners before I will consider putting smelly, sticky, wet, rotten food waste in the compost bin. I don't have the ability to wash the bin without hosing it out and sending compost running down the street, and in winter we couldn't clean out the compost bin it at all. Need good liners and bags!!!!
- ◆ I'm disgruntled that due to the program changes, my recyclables are now only picked up every other week. Moving to composting by the city has not changed the amount of recyclables in most families and hence, I now use two containers to hold them which are only picked up every OTHER week. I won't compost until that is changed and I won't pay more for it.
- ◆ I'm good with it.
- ◆ In Denver once a year you can go and pick up the used compost for your garden for free. We would like that opportunity.
- ◆ In Fall, excess leaves in Compostable Bags should be picked up at no extra charge.
- ◆ In terms of compostable food items, the bags are too expensive for me to participate and I don't generate enough garbage to justify bags. So usually don't put compostable food items in the compost box due to smell.
- ◆ In the fall. I'd increase the number of leaf bags that could be collected or maybe there'd be collection in the parks again for a short time.
- ◆ In the summer & fall, once a week pick-up or larger container would be good. In winter, every 2 weeks is fine.
- ◆ In the summer it can stink a bit... don't know how one could control that.
- ◆ In the summer, every other week is not enough. It breeds fruit flies - even using recyclable bags in the house and waiting until the day of to put it out. In the fall, there is no way all my leaves will be picked up. Last year I took 30 packed bags over a 2 week period to the leaf drop-off. This year, I'm sure I will be putting alot of them in my regular trash. A greater allowance should be made for curbside pick-up in the fall - at least for the last two weeks of October and first 2 weeks of November. Spring clean-up is greatly missed and there will be messier yards and dangerous limbs because not everyone has a truck to haul away large yard waste. I am greatly disappointed that the city stopped both of these programs. The curbside compost keeps things out of the garbage disposal, but does not greatly impact the Spring and Fall programs we once had.
- ◆ In the summer, to increase collection to weekly.
- ◆ In the winter months I only put food waste in it and it is a pretty empty can.
- ◆ Include all food products, but increase collection to weekly due to smell issues.
- ◆ Include all food waste
- ◆ Include meat and dairy
- ◆ Include meat and dairy products that go into the trash. To be honest, I include them with my compost now, since I know the system can handle them.
- ◆ include meat and dairy, make the containers more snap or click-shut.
- ◆ Include meat and dairy.
- ◆ Include meat and dairy. This is my biggest issue, mainly the dairy. I often wonder, if I wipe up a spill of milk or cheese with a paper towel, can I compost the paper towel? Right now I don't, but maybe I really could. This isn't clear in the guidelines. Plus, when I scrape dinner plates that have a casserole or lasagna that might have a little meat or cheese in it, I currently put it in the trash instead of compost. If meat and/or dairy were added to compost, this would really reduce my trash volume. Thanks for asking!
- ◆ include meat products and,if possible. pet waste.

- ◆ include meat, dairy;  
increase frequency April-October (weekly)  
reduce frequency November-March (monthly)
- ◆ Include more compostable waste categories (as described in questionnaire) and increase to weekly.
- ◆ Include pet waste, except for kitty litter.
- ◆ Increase collection to every week in summer only, and provide for leaf volume in fall for 3 weeks or so only.
- ◆ Increase compost pick-up during the summer months and reduce it during the winter months mostly because of the fruit flies. They are a major nuisance in the summer.
- ◆ Increase frequency
- ◆ increase frequency of pick-up or container size. I have had to dispose of compost as trash many weeks because the compost container is full well before pick-up (especially during spring and fall)
- ◆ "Increase frequency of pick-up. We compost almost all yard waste and kitchen waste (except melon rinds, corn shucks). I have advantage over most people in that we have an enclosed compost maker and I have extra freezer where I can store debris until collection day. It is a pain (especially during hot months) to get up early, get waste thawed enough to remove from containers. Compostable sacks deteriorate too quickly. I spend a lot of time trying to take care of waste - still have to wash out can frequently. Concerns about attracting rats, raccoons etc. and expect, at some point, that kids will turn over cans. Need cans that would be strong enough and which could be ""locked"" to reduce potential problems. The cans are way too smelly even when they are washed between pick-ups. Deteriorating kitchen waste becomes liquir and it is a mess"
- ◆ Increase frequency.
- ◆ INCREASE IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- ◆ Increase pick up of meat and dairy products
- ◆ increase size of cart or allow more generic yard waste in additional collected compostable bags (instead of leaves only)
- ◆ increase size of container from 32 to 64  
make restrictions on tree branches size and form of collection: 3 bundles is just not enough especially for spring and fall. Do collection every week, because flies and fruit flies are infesting the compost and I am more leaning towards getting rid of it and put everything into trash.
- ◆ Increase size of container without additional charge  
Increase frequency of collection in spring and fall
- ◆ Increase the amount of yard waste allowed (3 bags) during the spring months of April and May.
- ◆ Increase the frequency of compost pick-up
- ◆ Increase the types of compostable items that can be put into the container.
- ◆ Increase to every week during the spring clean up and fall leaf time.
- ◆ Increase to every week during the spring to replace spring cleanup -- didn't want to pay for extra bundles during the spring -- ended up having to store a lot of piles of branches, etc, around my property, kind of a pain
- ◆ Increase to every week in season.
- ◆ Increase to weekly collections during the periods 4/15-5/31 and 10/15-11/15.
- ◆ Increased frequency during spring and fall yard cleanup
- ◆ Information has been inconsistent and incomplete on what can be composted. Also, I wish we could do meat scraps and small bones---I don't know why we can't. Obviously, once a week pick up would improve problems like odors.
- ◆ Is there a way to keep the can cleaner, more sanitary?
- ◆ It costs too much to put yard waste out and it isn't either big enough or frequent enough

- ◆ It could take meat waste... though we have very little of that. Actually, the program is not good for us, since we have our own compost pile & garden. I preferred the one-time spring cleanup. Two or 3 times would be even better.
- ◆ It does not work at all for kitchen waste because two weeks is too long to have it around in the summer. But there is not enough volume for weekly pick-up.
- ◆ It doesn't really suit our family. It's not big enough for yard waste, way too big for kitchen compost, plus who wants kitchen compost to sit stinking up the garage for 2 weeks?
- ◆ It is confusing to know what can be composted ..when i talk to friends who live in Louisville and Lafayette.. they can compost everything. We keep meat and dairy out of ours...it was helpful when someone explained that they ARE DIFFERENT because of the different processing facilities... We are not confused.. it is different in different communities. That fact made me feel more sure of my composting.
- ◆ It is far too limited. Without the Spring Cleanup collection, I usually have a full cart from Spring to Winter and take numerous bags to Western. Very inconvenient.
- ◆ It is too limiting of what items can be put into it. Also, it is smelling and rotting before it is collected every other week but I wouldn't favor having my trash reduced to being collected every other week. I think composting is a personal choice.
- ◆ It seems pretty good as is. Depending on the season, for example in the fall, there may be a lot of garden compostable (e.g., leaves) that could exceed the smallest container (3 gallons) though.
- ◆ It should be voluntary, individuals should not be forced to pay for a service they don't use. It's too labor intensive and requires extra room/equipment to participate in. Will only do composting if trash service is taken away
- ◆ "it was a mistake to get rid of spring pick-up and local leaf drop off. in spring and fall, we have way too much material to fit in a dinky 32 gallon container and i have to borrow my friend's gas-guzzling pick-up truck to take the loads to the drop-off site. i realize i could leave this stuff next to my cans, but the bundle sizing and other requirements make it not worth the bother. for the ridiculous amount we pay for trash services in the city, i am very surprised that these useful programs could not have been continued. also, and this is not related to your program really, but the corn-based ""biobags"" you guys encourage are next to worthless -- they fall apart very quickly and this makes it impossible not to make a huge stinky mess whenever i take the compostables out to the curb."
- ◆ It works just fine as it is.
- ◆ It works well for us, as is.
- ◆ It would be awesome to not only be given larger containers (we currently have 32 gal) but to also have pick up every week, especially in the fall when the leaves are so copious!
- ◆ It would be good if there were smaller compost containers that could be in the house or right outside and then taken to the compost bin.
- ◆ It would be great if the curbside compost allowed meat and dairy. Also, I can maybe use help with just how to put out compost materials that don't fit in the bin.  
If you can change the recycling to allow yogurt containers, clamshells etc it would be great!
- ◆ It would be great to have compost pick-up once a week.
- ◆ It would be nice for the curbside compost collection program to be every week instead of every other week. You miss one pick-up day and you don't get it picked up for a month.
- ◆ It would be nice if an in-kitchen bin with compostable bags was provided. I think this would increase the number of people composting.
- ◆ It would be nice if dairy and meat could be added. However, it would be a major problem if trash would only be picked up once every two weeks.
- ◆ It would be nice if there were a way to compost more than fits in the bin, after a storm breaks a lot of branches, for example. As it is, I have to keep the branches until I can fit them in the bin. Also, a larger bin (same size as the recycling bin) would be easier with large branches.

- ◆ "It would be nice to be able to do something with our dog's poop besides trash it. I understand that there may not be an easy answer to this problem though. The only reason that I selected ""somewhat support"" every other week trash collection is because of the smell due to the dog poop that we put into our trash cans. The smell is bad enough after just one week."
- ◆ It would be useful for me if the curbside compost allocations could be increased for a couple of weeks in spring and autumn (for leaf disposal).
- ◆ It's not as easy as recycling - can just drop items in that cart without having to use a compostable bag (for food items). Either have to hang onto the bag and continue to fill it, or put it in the composting partially filled. Seems messy or wasteful.
- ◆ It's seriously messy, but I use biobags and that helps, It would be awesome if biobags were supplied by you so everyone was using them.
- ◆ It's too frequent. We fill up the single stream bin completely in 2 weeks, but hardly ever the composting bin.
- ◆ Just being able to put dairy and meat in it. Otherwise it's great!
- ◆ Just keep educating people about what can be composted so the compost produced is clean and we can use it for feeding our soils.
- ◆ Just what you are doing, trying to find out what works and changing it.
- ◆ Keep costs from rising. Recent Boulder County trash tax hike was 200%. NOTHING should increase 200%.
- ◆ Kill curbside compost. Go back to the useful spring and fall clean-up days. Establish a community drop off for compost much like christmas tree programs.
- ◆ Larger cart and/or more frequent collections.
- ◆ larger cart  
some way to hold food waste for the cart that isn't so messy; I need little bags to use for food waste  
the requirement to bag and/or bundle branches -- it's an awkward process; I wish I could just lay out the branches for collection in manageable stacks
- ◆ Larger cart. Easier to handle seasonal waste (eg leaves, dead branches).
- ◆ larger container
- ◆ larger container
- ◆ Larger container or have weekly collection.
- ◆ Larger container to include yardwaste in spring and fall.
- ◆ larger container(96 gal if possible) and/or more frequent pick up.
- ◆ larger container; more frequent collection in the summer
- ◆ Larger containers; collected weekly.
- ◆ larger garbage container
- ◆ Let me put pine needles out in bags like you do with leaves. I do not have an option for storing bins indoors.
- ◆ Let people know where/when they can collect the compost. I assume that the composted material is available but I do not know that
- ◆ Like it the way it currently is.
- ◆ Like to have more items compostable such as meat bones and spoiled food.
- ◆ limit on yard compost that will be collected
- ◆ Lower the cost
- ◆ make a low cost animal proof container available
- ◆ Make it ever week to encourage people to clean up their yards more regularly.
- ◆ make it every week as well as single stream recycling -- both of them!!
- ◆ Make it every week, at least during the spring, summer, and fall.
- ◆ make it later in the day in my neighborhood.

- ◆ Make it mandatory.
- ◆ Make it more frequent.
- ◆ make it optional and give discount to those who do not use it
- ◆ Make it possible to compost dairy and meat.
- ◆ Make it weekly during the growing season. Allow materials other than leaves to go in the auxiliary paper bags. Get the trash collection people to actually pick up bundled branches--mostly they just leave them.
- ◆ Make it weekly  
Invent a compost bag dispenser like zip-locks - come out one at a time rather than having to tear them - they always rip!
- ◆ Make it weekly. The compostable bags are expensive.
- ◆ Make the containers animal proof. Our garages are too small to accommodate the compost bin so we have to keep them outside. My neighbors have had problems with raccoons getting into theirs.
- ◆ making it easier to dispose of your yard waste curbside
- ◆ Maybe a smaller garbage can that could be more easily washed out for the kitchen compost stuff, and then a bigger one for the lawn stuff??? not sure
- ◆ Maybe allow for more extra bags during the fall season so we don't have to stock pile the leaves for weeks to get them recycled.
- ◆ Maybe in the summer months, I would request for compost to be collected every week.
- ◆ Maybe smaller containers that can be sealed and used most often, and a big container that can be used for yard waste on a more sporadic basis. Hard find something to put the compost in--paper bags, etc.
- ◆ Meat and dairy are not included already???  
Animal/wildlife safe containers should absolutely be provided. It's ridiculous not to do this.
- ◆ meat and dairy included and pick-up every week
- ◆ more collection in the spring to accommodate yard waste
- ◆ more flexibility to put out bigger loads of yard waste seasonally, and average the annual bill. I'm afraid to put meat and dairy in the mix because of raccoons and bears in my neighborhood.
- ◆ "More freedom to put the same things that I can put into the bin into some overflow paper yard waste bags. Once I was charged extra by western disp for putting pine needles into a bag. I felt they qualified as ""leaves
- ◆ More frequent and include meat products.
- ◆ More frequent collection or larger bins (my HOA choose the smallest bin size; trimming one bush in the yard fills it.)  
I would favor return of the spring limb collection- I cannot fit them in my bin!
- ◆ More frequent collection, the stuff stinks up the place and attracts flies and fruit flies.
- ◆ More frequent pick-up in the spring and fall for yard waste.
- ◆ More information on what's allowed and what's not.
- ◆ more often
- ◆ more pick-ups, bigger containers. I have a 32 gallon container and it's always full. I can't figure out what I'm going to do with fall leaves this year. I mulch them, but the volume is way more than the container can handle. Bring back curbside yard waste pick-ups!
- ◆ more than 3 bundles of branches allowed
- ◆ My biggest problem is not having enough capacity in spring and fall for yard waste
- ◆ My compost cart is smelly from decaying food waste. (Maybe publicize suggestions/compost bags?) Also, it is confusing to me what paper products should go in the compost cart vs the recycling cart. Complicated instructions on this means that sometimes I place some items in trash that could have been composted/recycled.

- ◆ my container is too small for yard composte, hence I often have to drop off yard compostables or put out extra compostable bags. I have too much compostbales from yard.
- ◆ My container is too small to fit the type of yard waste I typically generate. Too much work to chop it down to fit small 32 gallon container.
- ◆ My main concern is that with all the division of things, I really only need about one pick up a month or even less. I don't have a bunch of yard waste. I do have to freeze my non-out-in-the garden or down-the-garbage-disposable things or my garage would stink. So being able to put meat in the compostable containers would be handy. Then I might be glad to have 2 pick-ups a month. But even then, I wish there was more flexibility with pick up frequency.
- ◆ My need are mainly yard needs, which means I have a huge need at spring cleanup and fall cutback time and less need in between. The compost collection program is thus not as useful as the old city spring cleanup and leaf program.
- ◆ My yard waste comes in bursts and when I want to actually use the curbside collection, I only have this small container to use, so it takes multiple weeks to remove from the yard.  
Also, things have to be cut down to small sizes to fit which is very inconvenient.  
I really don't like the program very much. I much preferred the spring and fall pick-up program. I do backyard composting, so almost all of my fruit/vegetable waste is already diverted.
- ◆ n/a
- ◆ na
- ◆ NA
- ◆ Need a good size bin to collect food waste under the sink. We have a small one, but it needs to be changed frequently.
- ◆ Need more information and detailed education for every household to know about composting
- ◆ need recycled materials picked up weekly
- ◆ Need to be more often. Need a wider mouth collection bucket. The sape of the current container is not good for organic yard waste.
- ◆ "Need to have ""wildlife proof"" containers and/or different lids so as when it is windy the trash is not all over the neighborhood."
- ◆ no change
- ◆ No change.
- ◆ no changes
- ◆ no good solution in the summer when leaving food waste (veg & fruit) out for two weeks is not good. experience elsewhere is that the bins just get more gunk sticking inside
- ◆ No ideas.
- ◆ Not a good substitution for spring cleanup and fall leaf dropoff. Most of yard waste accumulation occurs in the fall. Because of this, we tend to only use the curbside compost collection program occasionally.
- ◆ Not convinced it is worthwhile with the few compost items we have to deposit.
- ◆ not enough space for all yard waste...I have a pile and am constantly behind and cannot ever catch up.
- ◆ Not frequent enough - two weeks can lead to some smelly items. Often need a larger container in order to handle 2-weeks worth of materials.
- ◆ Not much.
- ◆ Not so early in the morning.
- ◆ "Not sure -- but we don't know when it's better to compost food waste, vs. put it in the garbage disposal -- still confused on the ""rules."
- ◆ Not sure if there is a way to provide a seasonal adjustment to the frequency of collection. Obviously, the need is reduced in the winter.

- ◆ not sure.
- ◆ nothing
- ◆ nothing
- ◆ Nothing
- ◆ Nothing
- ◆ Nothing
- ◆ Nothing
- ◆ nothing
- ◆ Nothing
- ◆ nothing
- ◆ Nothing
- ◆ nothing
- ◆ nothing - I have little to compost or trash
- ◆ Nothing - I really appreciate it. I feel that we don't take advantage of all that we can sometimes unless we do yard work every week, which just doesn't happen.
- ◆ Nothing - it works for me!
- ◆ nothing - weekly would be fine...
- ◆ Nothing at this point. Seems to be working pretty well.
- ◆ nothing now
- ◆ nothing practical
- ◆ Nothing!
- ◆ Nothing, love it!
- ◆ Nothing. I'm very happy with it.
- ◆ Nothing. It is adequate. If it were cheaper to have no compost I would like that to be an option.
- ◆ Nothing. We are pleased with it. We especially like being able to dispose of disposable paper sacks of yard waste rather than having to trapse up to Butte Mills with it.
- ◆ Nothing--It works fine for us.
- ◆ Obtaining large (64 or 96 gallon) trash cart for peak season (April), then swaping back to small card (32) for rest of year.
- ◆ offer larger container 64 gallon rather than 32 gallon
- ◆ Once a week so we don't have smelly stuff sitting around for up to two weeks.
- ◆ Once every two weeks is to infrequent to put foot items. Also, it should be no cost for a larger container for composting since yard waste comes in bunches it is not convenient to have a smaller container the way it is for garbage which is produced at more regular rates.
- ◆ Other than in winter I'd like it to be a weekly service
- ◆ Other than yard waste, which often fills the 32 gallon container in season, we don't fill the collection container very full at all during the rest of the year.
- ◆ Our compost container is pretty small. Fallen tree limbs are a problem once in a while. My husband occasionally drives an suv-full of branches to be composted.
- ◆ People with large yards need larger bins. I would like to see the return of the once yearly spring clean up. You better not add meat and diary to the compost bins or it will be foul.
- ◆ Perhaps more frequent collection during gardening season.
- ◆ Perhaps more frequent pick up

- ◆ Pick up every week since I often have more of this than trash and end up filling my trash with the rest of my compostable material.
- ◆ pick up every week would be wonderful. IT is a great service and we are happy to be able to take part.
- ◆ Pick up every week.
- ◆ pick up once a week because of smells
- ◆ Pick-up could be reduced during the winter months. Also bring back the spring cleanup which helps with large items and debris. This once a year pick-up was a great service and is missed by many.
- ◆ Please restore the spring clean-up program and return to weekly pick-up of recyclables.
- ◆ provide bags! we should not have to buy them.
- ◆ Putting more than just leaves in the brown composting bags. Such as branches, etc.
- ◆ "Recent changes are something of a joke. Consider: 1) condos, etc. don't generate compost like a dwelling (no grass, plants, etc. 2) Compost materials vary greatly throughout the year making cart size problematical and using self-financed alternative means is not easy enough to be sustainable. 3) ""Internal"" compost also varies widely depending on lifestyle. 4) Recycle collection every other week @64 gal. is NOT the same as recycle collection every week @32 gal. 5) Reducing trash collection may be a Boulder Weirdness Desirability but it ain't practical. Now changes: return to weekly recycling collection. Either allow up to 64 gal. for composting, collecting every other week or collect 32 gal. compost every week say, May-October and every other week otherwise."
- ◆ Regardless of container size, it is very hard to get rid of just yard items, leaves, sticks, grass clippings. Now that there is not Boulder pick-up for these items, I have been spending all year trying to compost them with your pick-up. Too much volume and I do not have a truck to haul them away.
- ◆ Re-instate the annual curbside pick-up of organics (tree branches, etc.). The current compost pick-up is NOT a substitute for this service, which was very much appreciated and was provided by the CITY, a service-oriented community organization, not some outsourced business. The trash haul epitomized service to the community by the city and is missed. Reinstating it would cost the city little, just a matter of scheduling the city's existing work crews in the same manner they used to be, and would be seen as a real, tangible benefit by residents.
- ◆ reinstitute Spring Cleanup so we can dispose of tree and bush trimmings
- ◆ replace carts every few years
- ◆ Return to the previous method and reintroduce the yearly cleanup collection
- ◆ Right now, nothing.
- ◆ Scrap the program and return to spring yard waste collection. Currently, the composting program does not come close to collecting all my yard waste, so I make multiple annual trips to Western.
- ◆ Seasonally, I would like to see more frequent collection of the compost bins. There seems there would be less in the winter months, especially from this household.
- ◆ seems like recycling (not compost) fills up faster for me and my family
- ◆ Since you have changed the program to picking up the paper and bottles/cans to every other week I have put more of that in the trash. I think you should pick the paper/bottle/cans bin up every week. Also I need a much bigger bin for the compost in the warmer months. Much of the yard compost does not fit into the bin and ends up getting put in the trash and being placed on the side of my garage. It would be better if the program included picking up tree branches that were bundled and not in the cart. Anyway I am putting more recyclable material in the trash since this program started because of these problems.
- ◆ smaller container (<32) every week
- ◆ smaller container for food waste, larger container for yard waste in season only, smaller trash can.
- ◆ sometimes I am not sure if something is or is not compostable - but for the most part the directions are clear
- ◆ Specifications are not clear as to how much extra one can throw away without being charged an extra fee. At one point, it stated that one could add up to 3 bundles of wood, etc, but I recently could not find that online.

- ◆ Spring clean up was better for tree branches etc. for those of us that don't have easy access to a truck for hauling to drop-off
- ◆ still need to do spring yard clean up!
- ◆ Stop it and go back to the way it was. It's unsanitary, smell all the time and breeds flies.
- ◆ stop it. it's a waste of taxpayers money!
- ◆ stop the compost collection program
- ◆ stop the ridiculous billing procedures. I had the lid about 2 inches up from the top, due to a branch, and got a separate bill for \$4 in the mail...
- ◆ Stop this terrible program and make trash collection more efficient such as once a month additional weekend trash collection.
- ◆ Tax rebate for reducing trash waste
- ◆ The 32 gallon cart is way too small for anyone with a garden and I don't want to pay extra for a bigger cart. It would be nice to have compost collection weekly from June to September.
- ◆ the additional bag cost seems a little steep-3\$ esp. when leaf time is coming.
- ◆ The biggest problem I have with compost is you pretty much have to spend money on biodegradable bags; tossing all this into the compost bin isn't an option for me (smell, mess, etc.). In addition, it's pretty difficult to keep this stuff around for 2 weeks, esp. in the summertime. Include meat/dairy. And schedule weekly pick ups.
- ◆ The biggest problem with the program is that in hot weather the compost container smells terrible and gets maggot and/or other bugs in and around it. It would be better to pick it up more frequently.
- ◆ The collection needs to be increased because it sits in the garage and stinks to high heaven.
- ◆ The compostable bags are expensive and I would like to see the waste management washout the bins once every few months, because it does smell really bad sometimes. Also, I would like to see information on what happens to the compost. Where does it go? How is it processed? What is the impact to the environment. I know many young families don't do it because they think it is a hassle, maybe more education would help them understand how it will impact the future of the planet for their children.
- ◆ The container gets moldy and yucky after two weeks and starts to get fruit flies.
- ◆ The container is too small. Recommend increasing the size to 64 gal.
- ◆ The container. In the summer, putting food in it, creates an odor in the garage that my wife hates. So we don't. In the winter it is less of a problem. Weekly pick up would help but not solve the issue.
- ◆ the containers are difficult to clean in winter.
- ◆ The containers aren't sealed well from rain getting in them. During rainy periods, like last spring/early summer, a lot of water got into my container and made the container really smelly when the water mixed in with the compostable materials. I don't have an option to store the container out of the elements, so this is a problem for me.
- ◆ the containers smell!!!!  
I wash my container out after EVERY pick up and it smells even when empty --- it's absorbed the smell!
- ◆ "The cost of ""compostable, biodegradeable bags is high. I would like other ways to bag my compostables that would reduce the cost."
- ◆ THE COST OF THE RE-CYCLABLE BAGS THAT YOU HAVE TO PUT THE GARBAGE IN, IS PROHIBITIVE, I FIND THAT MOST PEOPLE WILL NOT PAY FOR THEM, THE PER BAG COST IS SUCH THAT YOU CANNOT USE ONE DAILY, OR EVEN EVERY FEW DAYS. WHEN I TRY TO KEEP THE CONTAINER IN THE HOUSE FOR UP TO A WEEK, TO UTILIZE THE RECYCLEABLE BAG TO ITS BEST CAPACITY, THEN THE HOUSE STINKS, ESPECIALLY IN THE SUMMER. I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO COME UP WITH A GOOD SOLUTION TO THE GARBAGE RECYCLING PROBLEM YET AND HAVE TRIED NUMEROUS THINGS.

- ◆ The curb-side composting containers do not adequately handle such a mess of wet, composting items- especially for a week of hot weather (between pick-ups). They produce a horrible mess and smell, attracting insects, dogs and wildlife, and make the garbage-collection area of our back yard disgusting area we want to avoid. It is not easy to clean the containers- especially in the winter when the hoses are off, and we have to do it all by hand. Even though I use compostable bags, they are flimsy and always leak. The curbside containers then breed all kinds of insects- including mosquitoes- who escape in huge clouds when one opens the container. We do not produce enough food compost to make this system useful- especially in the non-gardening seasons.
- ◆ the frequency at every other week is ok for us - we put out garbage in orange bags about once a month so don't use the routine garbage collection service at all (have for years)
- ◆ "The only thing I do not like about the program is that the bags that you can buy do not fit in the composting bin. If the bags were larger, so that they could fit over the rim of the bin, that would be great. Another solution is to provide some type of hanger that fit over the top of the bin and allow the bag to attach to that. As it is now, the bag falls into the bin and I have to ""fish it out"" to add more material. During the summer months, when I can wash out the bin, this is not a problem. During the winter months, the bin gets dirty without a bag to line it. My concern about reducing the trash pick up is that when you but meats, like chicken, you cannot recycle the styrofoam platter that the meat is in. It does not take long before it starts to smell. During the winter months, it is cold enough that you could leave it in your trash container for two weeks, but not during warm, weather!"
- ◆ "The problem is that compost amounts are highly seasonal: relatively small volume most of the year, but very high in the fall and for part of the spring from yard cleanup. Yet it has forced cutting ""commingled"" collection by half (to every other week instead of the every week as previously). And the commingled amount is essentially constant and non-seasonal except around Xmas when it really soars. Therefore, my problem with the compost collection program is its adverse impact on the commingled collection."
- ◆ the 'saved' garbage really smells up the frig in the garage where it is stored in the compostable bags, that also leak liquids, until the 2 week pick-up
- ◆ The size of container is way to large for us, except for when we're doing yard work.
- ◆ the use of a bigger container for compost
- ◆ The whole biobag deal. It's stupid and corn based plastics use more energy and emit more carbon than a petroleum bag. Just put the compost in the bin and wash it out regularly. It's compost not a bio hazard. Bags are stupid.
- ◆ There is a seasonal pattern and we could perhaps use different size containers at different times of the year.
- ◆ Too many restrictions: size of branches, etc. Doesn't accommodate seasonal needs - more leaves in fall, more deadfall after large storms, etc. Get flexible!!!!
- ◆ Trash collection MUST be every week and it also would be nice to have curbside compost collected every week as well.
- ◆ Twice-a-month pick-up might be too frequent. On our street, the vast majority of people rarely if ever put out their carts. Our cart is often not full on collection days. Therefore gasoline and time is being wasted by the truck coming down the street.
- ◆ Two weeks is a long time for compost in the warmer months.
- ◆ Uncooked vegetable food waste goes in our backyard compost bin. I refuse to put food waste of any kind in our curbside compost bin because it's always outside and racoons get to it. Adding meat/dairy to the allowable list won't change anything for us - it goes in the trash bin, which is kept in the garage.
- ◆ wash the containers out better because they stink!
- ◆ We already compost household scraps in our backyard. So we mostly use the curbside composting for yard waste. For that, I really miss the spring clean up. Much of my yard waste is branches that are really hard to fit

into my compost container. Plus I need to remember to go and fetch a couple of branches and try to stuff them in there each pick-up day. We still have a big pile of branches in the yard that we haven't been able to dispose of. Overall, I would gladly trade curbside composting if we could just have the spring cleanup back.

- ◆ We are happy with the curbside compost collection program, but we are dismayed that the spring clean-up collection was discontinued.
- ◆ We are now raking leaves and have many of them. We will now need to take to Western disposal or spread them out in the compost bin over the whole year because it would take that long to get rid of them all. I liked being able to drop them off at North Boulder Park
- ◆ We are satisfied with the current program.
- ◆ We could use a bigger container. we often store compost for the next pick up time.
- ◆ We don't like the way that food decomposes under our sink in the container and smells and if we put it in the compost container in the garage, it smells. So, if it's only collected bi-monthly we hesitate to do it.
- ◆ We hate the reduction in frequency of collection of recyclables. We prefer the old system of glass or paper pick-up every week over the current system of alternating this pick-up with compost collection, even if we had to take our lawn debris to a collection center ourselves.
- ◆ we have an issue with bugs and smell in the summer months. Every week pick up might help with that. Took us awhile to find the right fit of trash/recycle containers for indoors. Now we have it solved, but if you could offer indoor collection ideas as well as affordable counter compost ideas, that would help.
- ◆ We like it the way it is, thank you!
- ◆ We need a larger can or more frequent pick-up. I wish there was a way to reduce fruit flies inside the summer. The traps are expensive! I wish there was a way to reduce maggots in the curbside can. Ewwww.
- ◆ We need to reinstate the spring yard waste program. Taming plant growth in the spring requires more than the can service. Rentals never clean up their yards now and overgrowth is a huge problem.
- ◆ We still miss the Spring Clean-up.
- ◆ We still need a spring clean up. After storing spring cleanup items in my backyard, I spend most of the summer moving the pile of spring cleanup material to the compost can. I also have a very hard time with leaves in the fall. I collect approx. 50 55 gallon bags of leaves and without a truck it is very hard to dispose of them.
- ◆ We stopped using the compost bin in the summer for food waste and haven't started up again. Maybe provide info so that we know how to prevent such a problem. They are really hard to get rid of once you have them. I am not sure I want to start using it again for food.
- ◆ We use the biobags, which leak, which makes the collection bin get gross/smelly - not sure if there are any suggestions for this, i.e., better bags that don't leak... ??
- ◆ we use the orange plastic bags from Western, so put out for trash pick-up on an as-needed basis; we could use more curbside compost pick-up at certain times of year
- ◆ We would also put meat scraps and bones in compost bin if program expanded, but it's not a bit one for us.
- ◆ We would increase the frequency in the summer to adapt to the increase in yard waste. Also, would add a program in the pick-up to compensate for the lack of the fall leaf pick-up, e.g. allow more than 3 recycle bags of yard waste.
- ◆ We would like recycling and compost every week. Compost starts to smell after two weeks.
- ◆ We'd like to see the containers have a better way to secure the lid.
- ◆ weekly collection as the compost really attracts flies and fruit flies.
- ◆ Weekly pick-up would only be a real advantage during certain peak times of the year: summer spoilage and fall yard waste.
- ◆ Weekly pick-up.
- ◆ Weekly pick-up. This summer it smelled up my garage and once the smell penetrated the inside of the car. I think it was old beans. Yuk.

- ◆ We're glad it's available to those who use it, but except for small branches, we use all our yard clippings and food waste (vegetarian) for compost in our yard.
- ◆ Whatever you do, however you decide to do it, is fine with me.
- ◆ What's allowable is complicated and your lists while better than nothing are still hard to follow You need stickers for top of containers that are weather resistant..just list what is O.K. for the Compost
- ◆ when i don't have yard waste in the compost and only have food the size is much too big-hard to clean! I don't like food sitting out for 2 weeks in the summer time.
- ◆ Winter doesn't have much compost. Is it worth doing in the winter.
- ◆ Works fine for me.
- ◆ Would consider change to trash every other week if I could go from 32 to 64 container at no extra charge to me. Add meat to program. Not sure about dairy. I thought earthworms didn't like dairy.
- ◆ Would like it to be like the commercial programs that accept more materials.
- ◆ would like to see some kind of smaller household compost can to hold these items so I don't have to take it out everyday. During the summer months the everyother wk pick-up adds to a very stinky trash can area. This order can get to be very very stinky and I hate even going next to the compost can.
- ◆ Would like to use 64 gal size compost container without costing more than a 32 size container
- ◆ Would love every week pick-up, especially during the growing months. I had to switch to a 64 gallon container during summer and still could have used a larger one. With every week pick-up, the 32 would work.
- ◆ Would love to add bones, egg shells, etc.
- ◆ Would love to have Spring Cleanup return to Boulder.
- ◆ Would love to learn more about where it goes.
- ◆ would make it every week.
- ◆ Would support weekly pick up in summer months when my yard waste fills the container.
- ◆ Yard waste in the summer takes up a lot of space. I would like to recycle that easier without paying an additional fee.
- ◆ You should not be forced to pay for something that you don't use. Compost collection should be optional. I have a large lot and have truck loads of tree limbs, leaves, and other items that I must haul away myself. So, I get nothing out of the program but have to pay for a cart I don't want. What a rip off!
- ◆ you should provide liners for the carts-----collecting vegetable waste inside is awkward when there is little space. Having to buy bags is inconvenient and for some must be expensive. Also some arrangement should be made for the collection of leaves this time of year.

## **APPENDIX C: QUESTIONNAIRE**

The following pages contain a copy of the questionnaire that survey participants were asked to complete.