

BACKYARD COMPOSTING

- **What is backyard composting?**
- **Benefits**
- **Financial Impact**
- **City of Kingsport's Pilot Program**







Benefits of Backyard Composting

- **Solid Waste Reduction**
- **Potential of 500 lbs of Organic Removal per Year**
- **Collection Savings**
- **Landfill Space**
- **Beneficial End Use - Compost**
- **Public Involvement to Solve Public Issue – Solid Waste**
- **Positive Public Relations Initiative**

Financial Impact of Backyard Composting

- **500 lbs Annual Diversion = Real dollars saved**
- **Estimate based upon a 500 lb diversion factor and a \$37.28 tipping fee:**

Participating Household	Diversion Factor per Household	lbs.	Tipping Fee	Avoided Costs		
				1 yr	2 yr	3 yr
1	500 lbs	500 lbs	\$37.28	\$9.32	\$18.64	\$27.96
500	500 lbs	250,000 lbs	\$37.28	\$4,660	\$9,320	\$13,980
1000	500 lbs	500,000 lbs	\$37.28	\$9,320	\$18,640	\$27,960



City of Kingsport

Backyard Composting Pilot Program

- **Jun 2007** **Research process initiated with Metro Nashville and Knoxville**
- **Aug 2007** **Received demo Earth Machine compost bin from Norseman Plastics**
- **Mar 2008** **Ordered twenty-five (25) compost bins**
- **Apr 2008** **Delivered compost bins to various participants**
- **Dec 2008** **Participants received survey**
- **Jan 2009** **Compilation of survey data**
- **Jul 2009** **Presentation to Board of Mayor and Aldermen for recommendation to proceed with backyard composting**
- **Aug 2009** **Possible sale of compost bins to interested city residents**

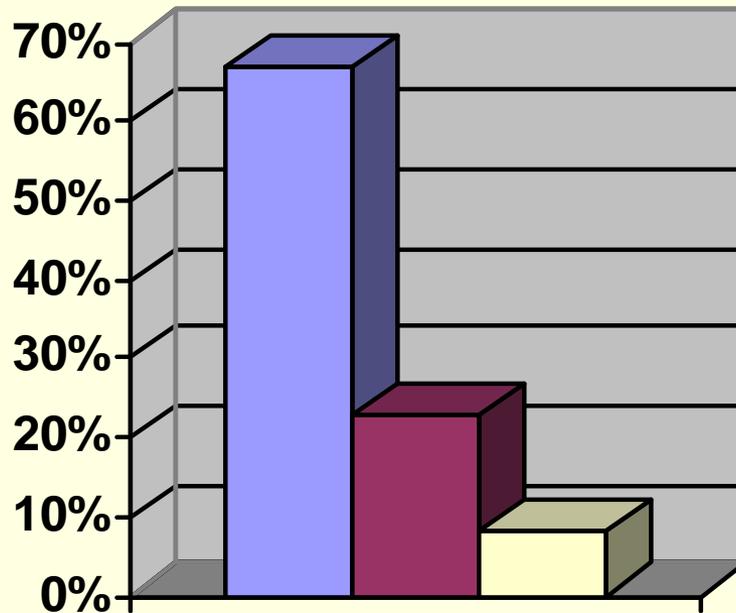
Backyard Composting Survey Report

Narrative Summary of Results:

- Overall, the survey respondents were very satisfied with the City-provided compost bin. Result highlights were as follows:
- 100% of respondents were using the composting bins,
- 29% previously used a compost bin,
- 36% used compost from the bin,
- 58% had composted before receiving the bin using other systems or methods

Survey Results

- How satisfied are you with your City-provided compost bin?



- Very satisfied, no problems (67%)
- Satisfied, could be better (23%)
- Not satisfied (8%)

Problems with composting bin and number of responses:

- Compost didn't break down (5)
- Pests/Rodents (3)
- Bin difficult to use (1)
- Bin not large enough (4)
- Material turned white in color (1)
- No bottom in bin (1)
- Attraction of flies (1)
- Hard to turn (1)
- Needed to add lots of water (1)

Conclusions

- **Economical Waste Diversion Program**
- **Program reinforces waste diversion strategy**
- **Promotes education and awareness among residents toward waste generation and diversion**
- **Pleased with the interest expressed from residents wishing to proceed with the backyard composting program.**

Recommendation

- **Move from Pilot to Implementation**
- **Order 400 units at \$30 per unit**
- **City offer for sale at \$20 per unit**