

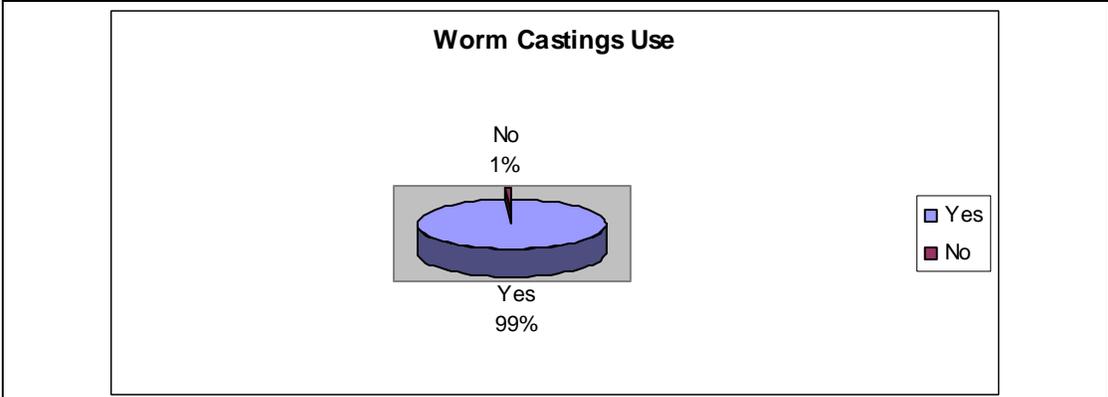
## City of Shoreline 2009 Natural Yard Care Tool Evaluation Survey

Surveys were mailed out fall 2009 to evaluate products that were distributed at the City of Shoreline’s “Natural Yard Care for Earth Day & Every Day” events in 2006-2008. Items included soaker hoses, worm castings, BioBag kitchen compost pails and compostable bags. In exchange for the free products, participants agreed to complete a survey. Residents were asked if the tool was used, if it worked well, and if it increased the resident’s willingness to support sustainable practices.

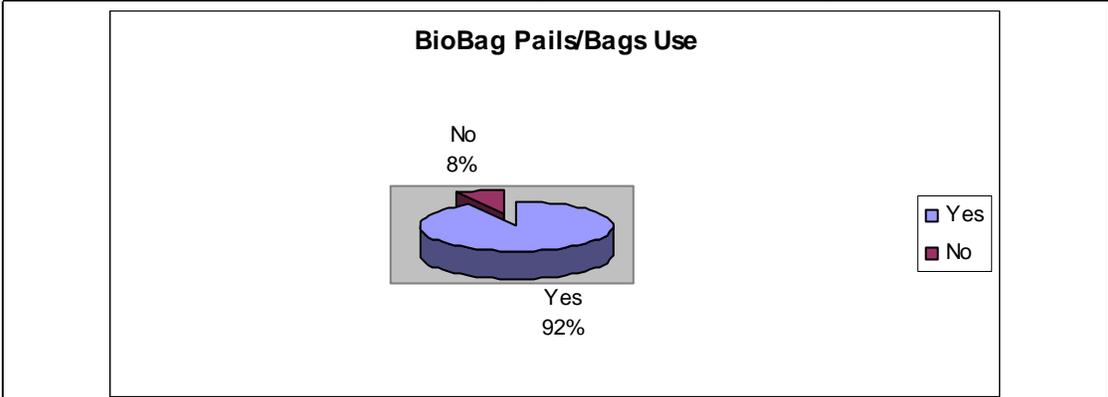
One thousand seven hundred fourteen (1,714) surveys were mailed to residents, and four hundred forty-seven (447) surveys were returned.

Overall, positive feedback was recorded with 80% being very satisfied with the worm castings, and 95% increased their willingness to support a more sustainable lifestyle by using them. Some residents noted difficulties related to product quality.

<b>Natural Yard Care Tool Evaluation 2006-2008</b>		
<b>Number of Surveys Mailed Out</b>		<b>Returned Surveys</b>
1,714		447
		(26%)
<b>Question #1</b>		
<b>• Did you use the soaker hose?</b>		<b>Total Sample (base=118)</b>
Yes	111	94%
No	7	6%
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Soaker Hose Use</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">No 6%</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Yes 94%</p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;"> <span style="color: blue;">■</span> Yes  <span style="color: red;">■</span> No         </div> </div>		
<b>• Did you use the worm castings?</b>		<b>Total Sample (base=285)</b>
Yes	282	99%
No	3	1%



<b>• Did you use the BioBag kitchen compost pail/bags?</b>	<b>Total Sample (base=362)</b>	
Yes	332	92%
No	30	8%



- General Comments:**
- Was very nice to receive these products and they were very useful. Thank you!
  - We look forward to this event every year. Keep up the good work!
  - I love this program! I didn't know about biodegradable bags prior to receiving them.
  - Great learning opportunity.
  - Started or already have an organic garden and compost bin/worm bin.
  - Event has encouraged me to take steps toward sustainability at home and to encourage neighbors too.
  
  - Lines are long.
  - Products run out very quickly.
  - Not using products due to ongoing home projects (e.g. yard renovation, kitchen remodel).

**Question #2**

<b>• How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the soaker hose?</b>	<b>Total Sample (base=112)</b>	
Very satisfied	74	66%

Somewhat satisfied	31	28%
Somewhat dissatisfied	6	5%
Very dissatisfied	1	1%
<p>Soaker Hose Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great for summers.</li> <li>• Waters slowly and deeply, especially needed during rain breaks.</li> <li>• After trying out, went out and bought more!</li> <li>• Had to tape at connection to minimize leaking.</li> <li>• Too short.</li> <li>• Didn't get there in time to receive one.</li> </ul> <p>Recommendations: Purchase longer hoses.</p>		
<b>• How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the worm castings?</b>	<b>Total Sample (base=280)</b>	
Very satisfied	225	80%
Somewhat satisfied	47	17%
Somewhat dissatisfied	2	1%
Very dissatisfied	6	2%
<p>Worm Castings Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great product! Use them on vegetables and plants; indoors and outdoors.</li> <li>• Noticing plants are stronger after use. Purchasing regularly at the nursery.</li> <li>• Bags are contaminated with weed seeds.</li> <li>• Didn't get there in time to receive one.</li> </ul> <p>Recommendations: Check with vendor on how to minimize weed seeds. Continue to pass out informational flyers and possibly create posters listing various uses.</p>		
<b>• How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the BioBag kitchen compost pail/bags?</b>	<b>Total Sample (base=347)</b>	
Very satisfied	258	74%
Somewhat satisfied	58	17%
Somewhat dissatisfied	22	6%
Very dissatisfied	9	3%
<p>BioBag Pail/Bags Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Love the pail and bags! Has helped reduce garbage output and use of garbage disposal.</li> <li>• Loved so much, bought another for a friend.</li> <li>• Now compost, because of the pail and bags.</li> <li>• Stopped using the garbage disposal, and started using the pail and bags.</li> <li>• Very surprised how much food scraps I composted using my pail.</li> </ul>		

- Size of pail doesn't match output of food scraps (i.e. too small, too big).
- Too many fruit flies; would prefer container with a tight fitting lid.
- Do not like being forced to use bag with pail (because of holes).
- Quality of pail is cheap and hinges have broken. Bags sometime leak.
- Pail not attractive like ceramic pails.

Recommendations: Purchase pails that do not have holes so bags aren't required.

### Question #3

<b>• Has using the soaker hose increased your willingness to support a more sustainable lifestyle?</b>	<b>Total Sample (base=110)</b>	
Yes	105	95%
No	5	5%
<b>• Has using the worm castings increased your willingness to support a more sustainable lifestyle?</b>	<b>Total Sample (base=270)</b>	
Yes	256	95%
No	14	5%
<b>• Has using the BioBag kitchen compost pail/bags increased your willingness to support a more sustainable lifestyle?</b>	<b>Total Sample (base=346)</b>	
Yes	322	93%
No	24	7%

Note: Some survey comments revealed confusion with question 3 and we may revise it for future surveys. Some participants stated "no" to question 3, because they already fully support a sustainable lifestyle, and/or some the products were already in use at home.