Recycling Coordinator’s Survey

Hi, my name is _______. I am a research assistant in the department of economics at Utah State University. USU has given the department a grant to study the current status of recycling in Utah. As part of this study, we are contacting the individuals most familiar with the current status of recycling in a random sample of communities across the state. The survey will take no more than 10 minutes to complete.

Introduction

Does your community currently have a curbside recycling program available (either privately or publicly run)?

___ Yes (skip to Section I)
___ No (skip to Section II)
___ Don’t know (we need to speak with someone else)

Section I. Communities That Currently Have a Curbside Recycling Program

1. What is the name of your community? __________________________________________

2. What is your current job title? (Indicate whether or not the person is a government employee)

3. How many years have the residents in the community for which you currently work been serviced by a curbside recycling program? ________________________________

Note: By “a curbside recycling program” we also mean the years during which the community had a previous curbside recycling program in place before the current one.

4. What type of collection system is used for the curbside recycling program (e.g. split-cart, separate bins, coded bags, etc.)?

5. The program is (check only one)

a. ___ mandatory (meaning that you pay for the service even if you have not signed up for it).
b. ___ voluntary (meaning that you pay for the service only if you have signed up for it).
c. ___ Don’t know
6. Does the curbside program collect the following items? (Y = yes, N = no, DK = don’t know)
   a.___ Paper (of any kind)
   b.___ Plastic (of any kind - #1, #2, etc.)
   c.___ Cardboard (corregated or non-corregated)
   d.___ Aluminum cans
   e.___ Tin cans
   f.___ Glass (of any color)
   g.___ Hazardous waste (i.e., motor oil, paint, etc.)
   h.___ Green waste (i.e., yard debris, kitchen scraps, etc.)
   ___ Other. Please specify.________________________________________________________

7. The curbside program requires of the household:
   a.___ No sorting of recyclables (i.e. garbage and recyclables are completely co-mingled – the 
       city or a contractor does the sorting at centralized station.)
   b.___ Some sorting of recyclables.
   c.___ Don’t Know.

8. How frequently are the recyclable materials collected from the household?
   a.___ weekly
   b.___ bi-weekly
   c.___ monthly
   d.___ other. Please explain._____________________________________________________________________
   e.___ Don’t Know

9. Is the program privately or publicly operated (e.g. private contractor collects and processes 
    materials, or the city’s public works department does, or a combination of both, etc.)?

10. Is the curbside program administered on a community or county level or at both levels?

11. How is the curbside program (in particular, household participation in the program) 
    monitored and enforced?
12. Does the curbside program have a “Pay-As-You-Throw” (PAYT) rate structure built into it (i.e. variable rate structure). If so, then what are the charges for the different size garbage containers?

13. What is the current household fee ($$) for the curbside recycling program?

*Note: Make sure to distinguish between a monthly, quarterly, or annual fee.*

14. Which method is currently used to collect the household fee for curbside recycling (e.g. monthly charge on utilities bill, annual tax levy, etc.)?

15. In most years, do the revenues from the curbside recycling program cover its costs?

16. Does your community currently have centralized drop-off facilities for recycling?

___ Yes
___ No (the survey is completed)
___ Don’t know (the survey is completed)

*Note: Drop-off facilities are all public, private or non-profit operations that accept recyclable materials.*

17. Do the drop-off facilities (in sum) collect the following items? (Y = yes, N = no, DK = don’t know)

a. ___ Paper (of any kind)
b. ___ Plastic (of any kind - #1, #2, etc.)
c. ___ Cardboard (corregated or non-corregated)
d. ___ Aluminum cans
e. ___ Tin cans
f. ___ Glass (of any color)
g. ___ Hazardous waste (i.e., motor oil, paint, etc.)
h. ___ Green waste (i.e., yard debris, kitchen scraps, etc.)
___ Other. Please specify. ____________________________________________________
18. Do households currently receive money for any of the items checked “Y” in question 17?

___ Yes
___ No  (skip to question 20)
___ Don’t know  (skip to question 20)

19. Which items do the households currently receive money for?  *(Check all that apply)*

___ Paper (of any kind)
___ Plastic (of any kind - #1, #2, etc.)
___ Cardboard (corregated or non-corregated)
___ Aluminum cans
___ Tin cans
___ Glass (of any color)
___ Hazardous waste (i.e., motor oil, paint, etc.)
___ Green waste (i.e., yard debris, kitchen scraps, etc.)
___ Other. Please specify._________________________________________________________

20. How many different drop-off facilities (which take at least one recyclable item) are located within the community?


End of Section I
Section II. Communities That Currently Do Not Have a Curbside Recycling Program

1. What is the name of your community________________________________________

2. What is your current job title? *(Indicate whether or not the person is a government employee)*

3. Does your community currently have centralized drop-off facilities for recycling?
   ___ Yes
   ___ No *(skip to question 8)*
   ___ Don’t know *(skip to question 8)*

   *Note: Drop-off facilities are all public, private or non-profit operations that accept recyclable materials.*

4. Do the drop-off facilities (in sum) collect the following items? *(Y = yes, N = no, DK = don’t know)*
   a. ___ Paper (of any kind)
   b. ___ Plastic (of any kind - #1, #2, etc.)
   c. ___ Cardboard (corregated or non-corregated)
   d. ___ Aluminum cans
   e. ___ Tin cans
   f. ___ Glass (of any color)
   g. ___ Hazardous waste (i.e., motor oil, paint, etc.)
   h. ___ Green waste (i.e., yard debris, kitchen scraps, etc.)
   ___ Other. Please specify.________________________________________________________

5. Do households currently receive money for any of the items checked “Y” in question 4?
   ___ Yes
   ___ No *(skip to question 7)*
   ___ Don’t know *(skip to question 7)*
6. Which items do the households currently receive money for? (Check all that apply)

___ Paper (of any kind)
___ Plastic (of any kind - #1, #2, etc.)
___ Cardboard (correregated or non-correregated)
___ Aluminum cans
___ Tin cans
___ Glass (of any color)
___ Hazardous waste (i.e., motor oil, paint, etc.)
___ Green waste (i.e., yard debris, kitchen scraps, etc.)
___ Other. Please specify.__________________________________________________________

7. How many different drop-off facilities (which take at least one recyclable item) are located within the community?

8. Have any independent studies (e.g. by an outside consulting firm) been made of your community’s waste management system?

___ Yes
___ No
___ Don’t know

9. Have any surveys been conducted (of residential households and/or commercial enterprises in your community) regarding curbside recycling?

___ Yes
___ No
___ Don’t know

10. Have any public works employees participated in regional or national recycling conferences (such as those sponsored by the EPA)?

___ Yes
___ No
___ Don’t know
11. Have any ballot initiatives in favor of adopting curbside recycling been conducted in your community?
   ___ Yes
   ___ No
   ___ Don’t know

12. Are there any state-mandated or community-mandated recycling goals that your community is required to reach at some point in time?
   ___ Yes
   ___ No
   ___ Don’t know

13. Please describe the general attitude of the city council or county commission toward curbside recycling in your community at this time?

14. What are the main reasons that have prevented the community from adopting a curbside recycling program (e.g. expected cost, apathy on the part of households and/or the city council, etc.)?

15. Additional Comments.

End of Section II