

City of Lawrence

Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB)

May 13, 2009 (5:30 PM) Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Chris Cobb, Sarah Hill-Nelson, Matt Lehrman, Daniel Poull, Laura Routh, Simran Sethi, Brian Sifton, Cindy Strecker
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Dickie Heckler, Beth Johnson
STAFF PRESENT:	Kathy Richardson, Chuck Soules, Bob Yoos
GUESTS PRESENT:	Mayor Rob Chestnut, Commissioner Mike Dever
PUBLIC PRESENT:	Dave Kendall

Call Meeting to Order (Daniel Poull, Chairperson)

Take Roll Call to Determine Quorum of Members

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion and second to approve the April 8, 2009 minutes (Lehrman/Hill-Nelson).

Vote: Motion was passed unanimously.

Welcome Mayor Rob Chestnut

Update on Peak Oil Task Force (POTF). Mayor Rob Chestnut is the chair for the POTF. He reported that in their first few meetings they have been brainstorming on what their scope will be. The group has talked to City officials in both Boulder, CO and Austin, TX where a Peak Oil Plan is in place. The POTF discussions on initiatives include identifying a major disaster recovery plan, figuring out what our consumption is now and how to lower our consumption, and supporting the hire of a Sustainability Coordinator (which was a recommendation from the Climate Protection Task Force).

Environmental Chapter of Horizon 2020. Laura Routh discussed meeting with Amy Brown and talking to her about the Environmental Chapter of Horizon 2020. She asked the Mayor if the City Commission had any ideas on incentives for the plan. Mayor Rob Chestnut informed SAB that one of the best resources is the new Chamber of Commerce president, Tom Kern, and suggested inviting Mr. Kern to a future SAB meeting.

SAB Memo in Support of Hiring a Sustainability Coordinator. Daniel Poull stated that SAB would like to create a memo in support of hiring a Sustainability Coordinator. Both Mayor Rob Chestnut and Commissioner Mike Dever agreed that getting SAB's support on this issue will help in the decision. SAB was informed that there have been some initial conversations between the City and County in regards to sharing this position. SAB discussed the possible job titles for this position (i.e. Sustainability Coordinator, Resource Conservation Manager, etc.).

City Sponsored Curbside Recycling Service. Sarah Hill-Nelson mentioned the benefits of curbside recycling and wondered what the Mayor and Commissioner thought in regards to a city-sponsored curbside recycling service? Commissioner Mike Dever stated that as a community he

believes that we should have curbside recycling and reiterated that most progressive communities have curbside recycling. He also mentioned that we, as a community, have been highly successful at recycling with the services we currently have: private drop-off recycling centers, privately operated curbside recycling services, municipal drop-off recycling bins, etc. In conclusion, Commissioner Mike Dever stated that we need to constantly reevaluate the technology that is available, the vehicles we could use and the staff we could put in place and then develop a plan. Mayor Rob Chestnut stated that the difficulty about implementing city sponsored curbside recycling is that the cost is pretty significant. He also added that our community is a victim of its own success in the fact that we have a high degree of participation in recycling and that makes the benefit of going to curbside less than other communities. Mayor Rob Chestnut believed that if our community implements city sponsored curbside recycling, then we will also need to look into a Pay as You Throw (PAYT) or other waste restrictive systems.

SAB's Role in Education and Outreach. Simran Sethi stated that SAB has been very interested in taking on a greater role in providing education and outreach. This is something that would be beyond the purview of simply advising the City Commission. SAB would like to have the opportunity to be able to discuss sustainability issues in a public forum, write press releases and more. Mayor Chestnut stated that he would discuss this with Dave Corliss, the City Manager, and then follow up on this topic with SAB.

Discussion on writing a memo to the City Commission in support of hiring a Sustainability Coordinator

Cindy Strecker volunteered to write the memo to the City Commission in support of hiring a Sustainability Coordinator.

Action: Cindy Strecker will create the draft memo and email it to all SAB members a week prior to the next board meeting. SAB can discuss the draft memo at the next meeting.

Discuss draft memo to the City Commission in response to the Lawrence Journal World article

Simran Sethi crafted and emailed a draft memo for SAB's review. The memo is addressed to the City Commission and it is in response to the Lawrence Journal World article, "City Won't Mess with Recycling Success", on May 11th, 2009.

Bob Yoos, City's Solid Waste Manager, clarified that the Lawrence Journal World reporter did not interview him or Charlie Sedlock for this article. The article quotes were taken directly from responses during the presentation of the 5-year Douglas County/Jefferson County Solid Waste Management Plan to the County Commissioners the previous week. Bob Yoos also clarified that the article did not result from a release of the draft recycling report evaluating recycling opportunities. This report will be presented to SAB in the June board meeting.

SAB indicated that a memo to the City Commission in response to the Lawrence Journal World article at this time was not necessary. Daniel Poull encouraged board members (as individuals, not as SAB members) to write a letter to the Lawrence Journal World in response to the article.

Kansas Open Meetings Act

There was discussion regarding the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) and the specific requirements. SAB members wondered if an online forum accessible to the public or a telephone conference call would be allowed under KOMA. Chuck Soules, City's Public Works Director, stated

that an online forum would not fit the requirements of KOMA. SAB discussed inviting a legislator to a future SAB meeting to encourage the updating of the KOMA to include online forums.

Action: Matt Lehrman will email Toni Wheeler, City's Legal Services Director, and ask for clarification on some of SAB's questions regarding KOMA.

Daniel Poull would like SAB members to consider having one lunch meeting in between the board meetings to discuss any timely issues. This lunch meeting would be an open meeting and information regarding the location, date and time would be posted on the City's website in order to comply with KOMA requirements.

Discuss ways SAB recommends the use of Stimulus Funds for energy efficiency measures

SAB asked for an update from staff regarding the stimulus funds. Chuck Soules stated that staff is working on a cost benefit report of the recommended project list for the City Commission. SAB suggested that the City spend some funds on energy audits of its buildings.

In regards to the Transit Fuels Task Force, all their recommendations were approved by the City Commission and the City is proceeding with their recommendations.

SAB Brochures Update

Edits from the previous SAB meeting were submitted to the brochure designer.

Action: Laura Routh will email the latest brochure version to SAB. The board plans to discuss any further edits at the next meeting.

Earth Day Celebration Wrap Up

The City's Earth Day Celebration was a success. Kathy Richardson thanked all SAB members who volunteered at this event.

Laura Routh noted that the SAB table at the Earth Day Celebration received many sustainability suggestions and comments.

Action: Laura will type up the suggestions and then email them to SAB.

A couple suggestions highlighted were:

1. Link to sustainability organizations on the City's website.
2. Post suggestions received from the general public on the City's website.

Waste Reduction & Recycling Report

The April WRR program report was emailed to SAB (see attached). Kathy Richardson also sent event reports for the Earth Day Celebration and the Electronics Recycling Event (see attached).

Guest comments and miscellaneous

Chris Cobb volunteered to attend the Peak Oil Task Force meetings and report back to SAB.

Daniel Poull announced that tomorrow is Westar's LEED certified building open house from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. The address is 746 E 27th Street, Lawrence.

Laura Routh reported that on May 29th City staff will be sending out the draft of the Environmental Chapter of Horizon 2020. She will bring a draft memo in response to the Environmental Chapter for SAB to review at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned 7:10 p.m.

Next meeting: June 10th, 2009 at 5:30 pm

Attachments:

- Waste Reduction and Recycling Division Report
- 2009 Earth Day Event Report
- 2009 Spring Electronic Recycling Event Report
- 2009 Spring Electronic Recycling Event Participant Survey Results



Waste Reduction and Recycling Division Report for the Sustainability Advisory Board (05/13/09)

FIBERS REPORT

OLD CORRUGATED CONTAINERS (OCC)

Cardboard	Tons	Revenue
Current YTD	407.60	\$13,933.10
Prior YTD	399.14	\$52,149.96
Avg. Price/ton thru April 2009:	\$34.18	Avg. price/ton thru April 2008: \$130.66

OLD NEWSPAPERS (ONP)

Newspaper	Tons	Revenue
Current YTD	203.41	\$4,701.57
Prior YTD	241.29	\$30,037.02
Avg. Price/ton thru April 2009:	\$23.11	Avg. Price/ton thru April 2008: \$124.49

OFFICE WASTE PAPER (SOP)

Sorted Office Paper	Tons	Revenue
Current YTD	21.91	\$1,971.90
Prior YTD	16.80	\$3,631.30
Avg. Price/ton thru April 2009:	\$90.00	Avg. Price/ton thru April 2008: \$216.15

MIXED WASTE PAPER (MIX)

Mixed Paper	Tons	Revenue
Current YTD	96.31	\$175.88
Prior YTD	51.75	\$4,819.26
Avg. Price/ton thru April 2009:	\$1.83	Avg. Price/ton thru April 2008: \$93.12

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>TONS</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
		729.26	\$20,896.85
Prior YTD		708.98	\$90,637.54

In May, we will be receiving \$40/ton for cardboard, \$25/ton for newspaper and will be allowed to ship one load of mixed paper for no payment. This represents no change from last month's markets.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) PROGRAM REPORT

Month	HHW Drop-Offs	Battery Bags in Mail	Appt No Show	Home-bound	Saturday Collection	Abandoned Waste	Orphan Waste	SQG Inventory	SQG Drop-off	Product Reuse Appt
January	153	6	18	0	0	4	0	17	15	13
February	106	1	6	0	0	3	0	13	14	15
March	183	2	14	0	0	5	0	5	4	25
April	180	3	10	0	11	3	0	10	10	49
May										
June										
July										
August										
September										
October										
November										
December										
TOTAL	622	12	48	0	11	15	0	45	43	102

COMPOST PROGRAM

The new electronic gate at the Compost Facility is operational and working great. Fifty eight (58) landscapers have signed up and were issued access fobs.

YARD TRIMMINGS COLLECTION: YEAR TO DATE

	January 2009	February 2009	March 2009	April 2009
Total Tons collected curbside	NA	NA	1,210.53	1,013.77
Commercial YW received	1.9	17.1	176.2	164.8
Other YW received (Christmas Trees)	28.06 (2,245 trees)	NA	NA	NA
Total tons this month	29.96	17.1	1,386.73	1,178.57
Average Preferred Container Compliance	NA	NA	98.9%	99.3%



9th Annual Earth Day Celebration

On Saturday, April 18, 2009, the City's Waste Reduction & Recycling Division hosted the 9th Annual Earth Day Celebration. Events included a parade hosted by KU Environs down Massachusetts Street from 7th to 11th Streets ending at a celebration in South Park. The Lawrence Transit System offered free rides all day, providing the experience and benefits of public transportation on all fixed routes.

A parade began the events at 11 a.m., and traveled from Watson Park east to Massachusetts Street, then south on Massachusetts Street from 7th to 11th Streets. The parade was once again hosted by the KU Environs. Approximately 100 people from 30 different groups participated in the parade.

The Celebration began at 11:30 a.m. with the arrival of the parade participants and many parade watchers. Even though the sky was overcast and it had been rainy much of the morning, the attendance was great. South Park activities were for all ages and included live music, informational booths, food vendors and, for the fifth consecutive year, the celebration featured April Showers to Water Towers: a Water Festival for Douglas County with activities focused on water quality and pollution prevention organized by the City's Stormwater Division. Water Festival participants included the Kaw Valley Heritage Alliance, the City of Lawrence Stormwater Division, the Kansas Geological Survey, the Douglas County Farm Bureau Association, and the Kansas Biological Survey.

There were 51 informational tables at the celebration, with topics ranging from native plant education to electronics recycling to wetland preservation. The City's Parks and Recreation Department lead two butterfly garden demonstrations and South Park tree identification tours throughout the afternoon. All activities were free and open to the public. An estimated 600 to 800 people passed through the celebration throughout the afternoon. KLZR provided music and a live remote from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The live music, *Big Stack Daddy*, began at 2:00 p.m. and kept the crowd entertained until the celebration ended at 4:00 p.m. Food vendors were a great addition to the Celebration this year and included PJ's Concessions and Sno Balls.

Two other environmental events joined in the Celebration at South Park: Animal Outreach of Kansas hosted their "Great American Meat-Out" vegan cook-out at the park and "Read Out, Speak Out, Sing Out, Dance Out, Act Out for Earth Care" took place from 8 am to 8 pm in the west portion of South Park. Both were well attended and enjoyed.



Left: Two citizens represent Mother Earth and Daughter Earth in the Parade. Right: Citizens watch Richard Renner and his Recycle Cycle go down Massachusetts Street.



Left: Jack Ellena Honda shows off one of their Civic hybrid cars. Right: A young citizen with the Lawrence Community Environmental School dressed up as an orange traffic cone to encourage people to park the car and ride a bike.



Left: Members of Jayhawk Audubon Society help children make and decorate bird houses. Right: Citizens listen to a performance at the Read Out, Speak Out, Sing Out, Dance Out, Act Out for Earth Care event.



Left: Vinland Valley Nursery sells native plants and distributes information about environmentally-sound landscaping. Right: Celebration attendees enjoy free vegan food provided by Animal Outreach of Kansas as part of their Great American Meat-Out event.



Left: A child learns how water percolates into the ground and rejoins the watershed. Right: Exhibitors at the Water Festival demonstrate how watersheds work.



Left: Erin and Beth from the LAZER play music and remote announcements from South Park. Right: Big Stack Daddy performs to a crowd at South Park.



City of Lawrence Electronic Recycling Event **Saturday, April 25, 2009**

The City of Lawrence Waste Reduction and Recycling Division hosted an Electronic Recycling Event on Saturday, April 25th. The event was held from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Free State High School parking lot located at 4700 Overland Drive.

During the four hour event, a total of four hundred fifty five vehicles dropped off 45,740 pounds (22.87 tons) of electronic equipment including computers, printers, copiers, scanners, televisions, small appliances and hand held devices.

Electronic recycling was provided by Extreme Recycling, a permitted e-waste recycling and reclamation facility in the State of Kansas. Extreme Recycling has a zero landfill tolerance policy and they do not export overseas.

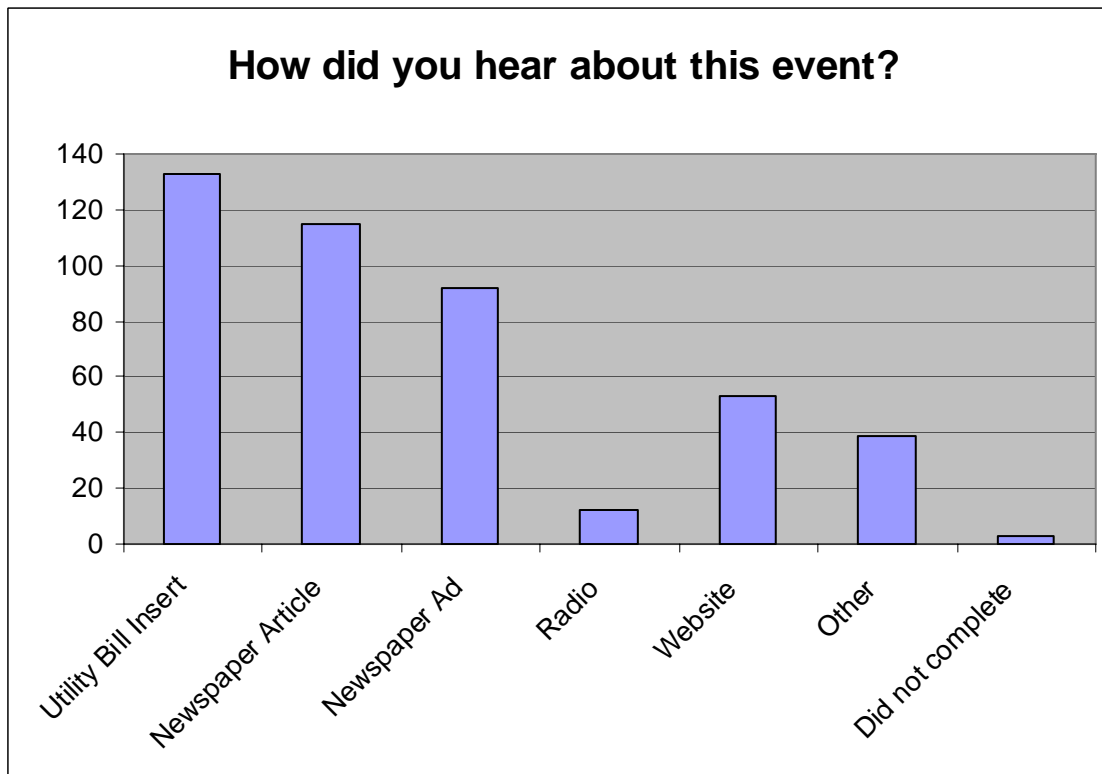
www.extremerecyclinginc.com



Event Summary and Survey Results:

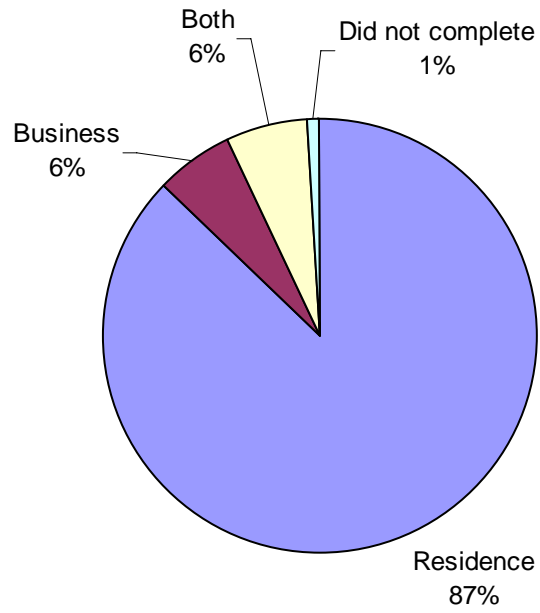
- A total of 45,740 pounds or 22.87 tons of electronic equipment including computers, printers, copiers, scanners, televisions, small appliances and hand held devices were collected for recycling.
- Three hundred forty (340) computer monitors and one hundred seventy (170) televisions were collected for recycling in addition to other electronics.
- Four hundred fifty five (455) vehicles participated representing four hundred twenty five (425) households and fifty four (54) businesses.
- Ninety two percent (92%) of participants were Lawrence households and businesses. Other participants were from Baldwin, DeSoto, Eudora, Kansas City, Lecompton, Linwood, McLouth, Oskaloosa, Overbrook, Perry and Tecumseh.
- Seventy three percent (73%) of participants brought five or fewer electronic items. Eighteen percent (18%) of participants brought six to ten items. Eight percent (8%) brought more than ten items. One percent (1%) did not respond this survey question.
- Eighty four percent (84%) surveyed did not participate in a Lawrence Electronic Recycling event last year. Thirteen percent (13%) did participate last year. Three percent (3%) did not respond this survey question.





How did you hear about this event?		
Utility Bill Insert	133	26%
Newspaper Article	115	23%
Newspaper Ad	92	18%
Radio	12	2%
Website	53	10%
Word of Mouth	58	11%
Other: Email	19	4%
Other: Called City	5	1%
Other: Event Signs	5	1%
Other (did not specify)	6	1%
Other: Twitter	1	0%
Other: Earth Day Event	1	0%
Other: Previous Event	2	0%
Did not complete	3	1%
Total	505	100%

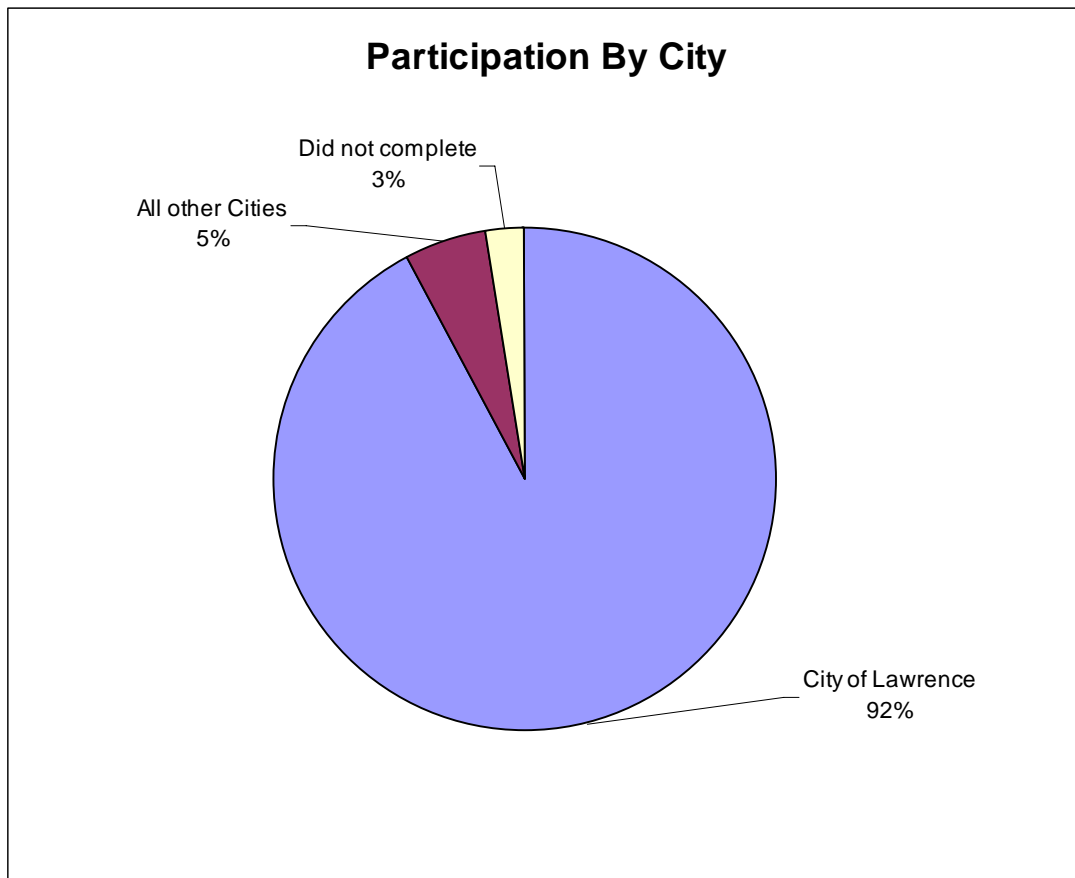
Where are your electronics from?



Where are your electronics from?

Residence	397	87%
Business	26	6%
Both	28	6%
Did not complete	4	1%

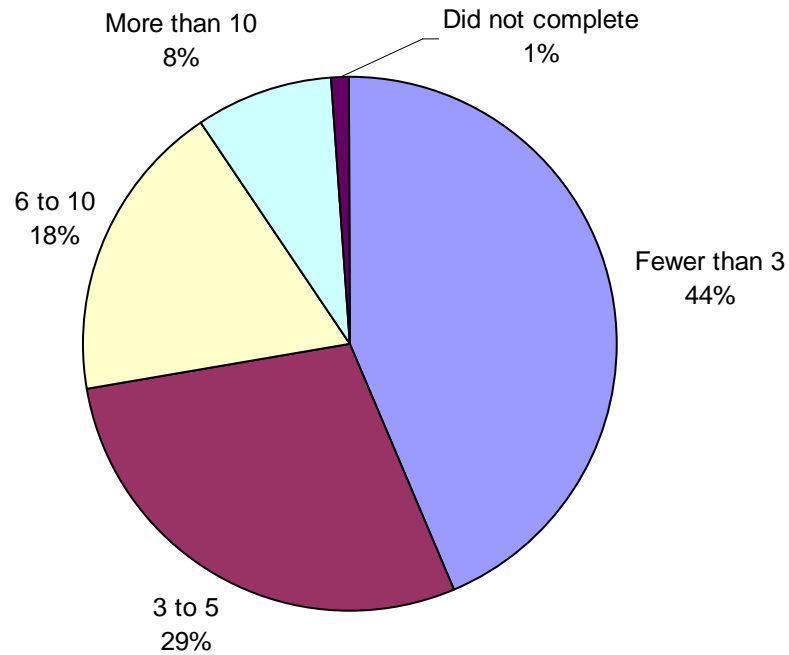
Total	455	100%
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What is your zip code?			
64118	Kansas City, MO	1	0%
66006	Baldwin City, KS	9	2%
66018	DeSoto, KS	1	0%
66025	Eudora, KS	5	1%
66044	Lawrence, KS	101	22%
66045	Lawrence, KS-KU	1	0%
66046	Lawrence, KS	62	14%
66047	Lawrence, KS	102	22%
66049	Lawrence, KS	154	34%
66050	Lecompton, KS	1	0%
66052	Linwood, KS	1	0%
66054	McLouth, KS	1	0%
66066	Oskaloosa, KS	1	0%
66524	Overbrook, KS	1	0%
66073	Perry, KS	2	0%
66542	Tecumseh, KS	1	0%
00000	Did not complete	12	3%

Total		455	100%
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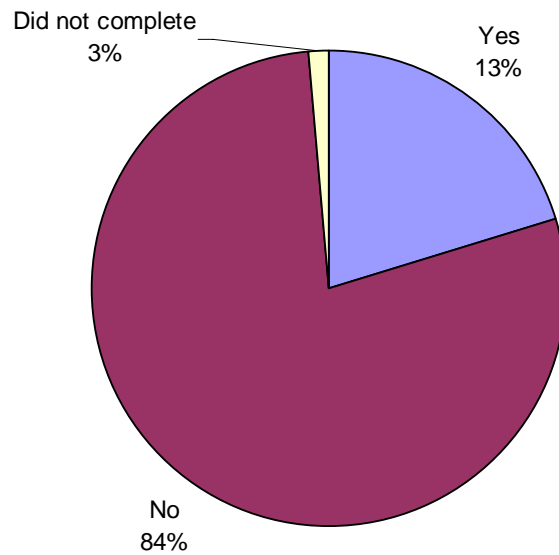
How many electronics are you bringing?



How many electronics are you bringing?

Fewer than 3	199	44%
3 to 5	130	29%
6 to 10	83	18%
More than 10	38	8%
Did not complete	5	1%
Total	455	100%

Did you participate in a Lawrence Electronic Recycling Event last year?



Did you participate in a Lawrence Electronic Recycling Event last year?

Yes	92	20%
No	357	78%
Did not complete	6	1%

Total	455	100%
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