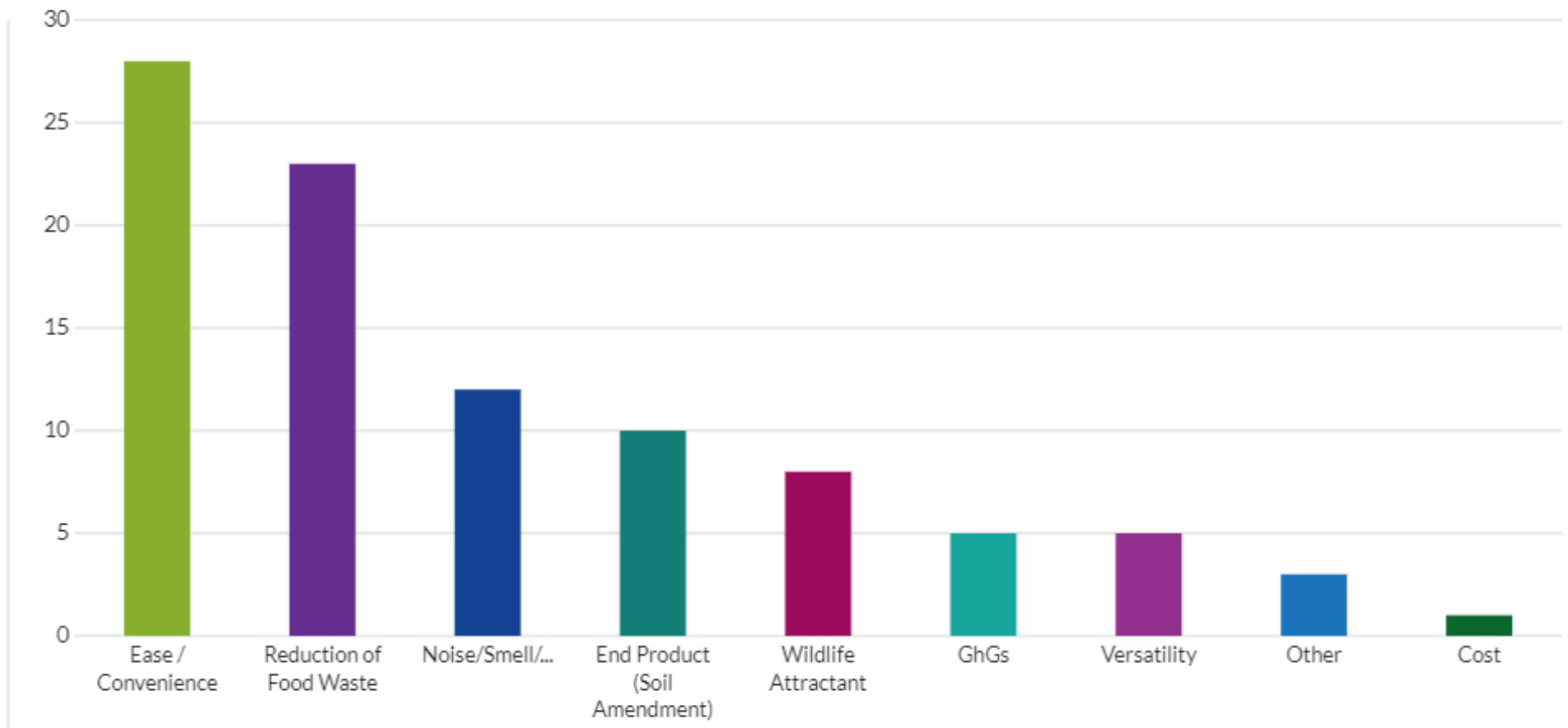


# FoodCycler ThoughtExchange

## *Total Number of Thoughts by Theme*



## EASE / CONVENIENCE

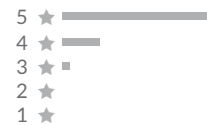
### City of Nelson

What are your initial thoughts of the FoodCycler? How effective is it in reducing food waste going to the landfill?

#### Ease / Convenience

**Nice not to have to head outside** I liked heading to the basement to deal with the food waste rather than putting on shoes and trudging in snow and rain...

4.4 ★★★★★ (20 👤)



**Easy to use** Simply put it in and press a button. Bucket is relatively clean after the cycle

4.3 ★★★★★ (20 👤)



**I love it! We have our tenant also using it with her own bucket and we have been able to reduce our waste by half.** I love the simplicity of it!

4.3 ★★★★★ (20 👤)



**I am really impressed with how quickly the food waste is turned in to so little product.** It's easy to compost afterward.

4.3 ★★★★★ (18 👤)



**I love this machine!** It's so easy to use, it makes it so easy to compost and I use the product in my garden.

4.3 ★★★★★ (18 👤)



**Loading the FoodCycler is quick and easy** A daily batch, inside, is a lot easier and less messy than taking food waste out to our compost bin. We also leave the product inside afterwards.

4.3 ★★★★★ (18 👤)



**It's a very easy simple process** Easy for any age to use

4.2 ★★★★★ (20)



**We keep ours in the carport beside our other recyclables and it works great** In order to use a great product it needs to fit into your lifestyle and you need a space that works for your family.

4.1 ★★★★★ (19)



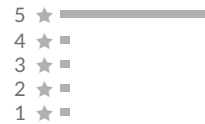
**Real time saver; takes me a minute to do it.** Obvious

4.1 ★★★★★ (18)



**I have always composted** this is definitely a faster compost

4.1 ★★★★★ (17)



**Better option than a garburator.** Takes more types of waste and makes it into something usable.

4.1 ★★★★★ (11)



**It works well** Allows us to compost so much more, will be especially helpful in winter. drastically reduceS our garbage output.

4.1 ★★★★★ (6)



**Ideal for households who do not currently compost** Before getting the foodcycler we had a large compost and sent very little food waste to the landfill so this aspect has not changed.

4.0 ★★★★★ (19)



**It is reducing my organic waste by approx 2 lbs with each use** It is leaving me with a produce I can put to use in my own garden

4.0 ★★★★★ (18)



**Seems one can push the scraps down quite a bit to get it to the line and it still works well.**  
Can deal with fairly large amount.

4.0  (18 )



**Convenient** We have a bucket on our deck so we don't have to walk out to the composter every day

4.0  (17 )



**Very effective**

4.0  (12 )



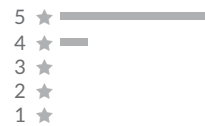
**My garbage is a lot less smelly**

4.0  (6 )



**Simple to use** Reduction in garbage

4.0  (6 )



**Easily mixed the reduced/dried food into the garden** I am looking forward to this Fall and Spring when I am not turning over our slimy compost. Curious what to do with the "Product" through the winter

3.9  (20 )



**It is WAY nicer to use than bokashi: much cleaner, produces a lot less volume.** For those who find the bokashi system less than ideal, FoodCycler system is a great alternative.

3.9  (16 )



**Our cyclor was kept convenient but not in our living space** I keep our right at the bottom of the basement stairs- quick and easy to get to but not creating noise, smell and taking up valuable kitchen space

3.8  (20 )



**Very effective, only a few things I won't foodcycle, corn cobs, avocado pits.** Helps to visualize what is going in the "garbage", which helps reduce food waste in general

3.8 ★★★★★ (10 👤)



**Quiet and low odour** I keep it in my kitchen

3.7 ★★★★★ (19 👤)



**I love it!** it is very effective and I'm down a garbage bag. The gardens love it and the dog. I haven't decided if it's increasing my hydro, it is well worth it.

3.7 ★★★★★ (6 👤)



**Very good**

3.6 ★★★★★ (18 👤)



**The extra bucket and lid make it sooo much easier.** Less mess and no transferring of messy scraps.

3.5 ★★★★★ (14 👤)



**I love having the second bucket and lid. Makes life so much easier!**

3.2 ★★★★★ (18 👤)



# REDUCTION OF FOOD WASTE

## City of Nelson

What are your initial thoughts of the FoodCycler? How effective is it in reducing food waste going to the landfill?

### Reduction of Food Waste

**Very effective in reducing waste** So simple to

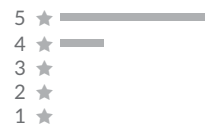
use

4.4 ★★★★★ (20)



**Our compost volume and time to usable product have both dropped markedly** We no longer have to worry about our compost bin filling up

4.4 ★★★★★ (17)



**It's great and very effective. We are generating half of the waste we used to.** We live in a bear heavy area so have been unable to compost until now.

4.3 ★★★★★ (19)



**Love it.** Simple to use and has a great positive impact on our landfill as less waste is going in there.

4.3 ★★★★★ (19)



**I like that I have less garbage.** I feel better that it's not going into the landfill, and into my garden.

4.2 ★★★★★ (18)



**Reduces waste** Much less resulting food waste to compost so our composter won't fill up as quickly

4.2 ★★★★★ (18)



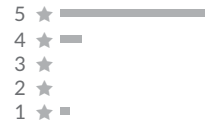
**Works well, we have quite a bit less actual garbage now.** Less food going to the dump

4.2  (18 )



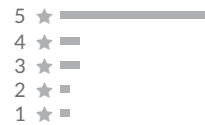
**Works great at reducing food waste.** I've reduced my garbage output by approximately half.

4.2  (16 )



**I really love my foodcycler and would highly recommend it to anyone!** It substantially reduces the amount of garbage we put out for pick up, not only in volume but in weight.

4.1  (20 )



**I'm pretty happy with how the FoodCycler has reduced the waste going to the landfill.** I fill it up and use it every two or three days, it's very silent, and now I am adding the material to my garden. My garbage is no longer mouldy and dripping and almost half the regular amount.

4.1  (20 )



**Super effective in reducing volume of food waste.** Pretty cool how the full bucket is reduced to a few centimetres! -and it smells so good and stores easily!

4.1  (19 )



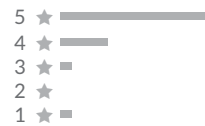
**I think the FoodCycler is great it has definitely reduce our garbage going to the landfill** I think it's self explanatory.

4.1  (18 )



**It's definitely reduced my waste going to the landfill** It's great to be able to deal with some of my own garbage

4.1  (18 )



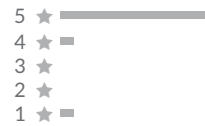
**Oh how cool! Yay the City is sponsoring this** gives people the push to get on the food recycle

4.1  (16 )



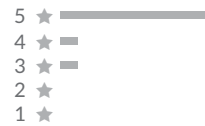
**The FoodCycler has reduced our waste to the landfill by half.** Reducing landfill is important for everyone and it is important to us that we do our part.

4.1  (12 )



**Great way to reduce waste! Our garbage bag at the curb is smaller and lighter by a fair amount.** When anything can be re-used (in this case food waste where we can't compost) instead of thrown out and headed for the landfill, its a good thing.

4.1  (10 )



**My food waste going to landfill is now limited to only packaging.**

4.0  (7 )



**My first thoughts were a tidy compact machine that does what it says.** It is extremely effective in reducing waste in the landfill. From a wet compost to dried useable fertilizer.

3.9  (14 )



**We love it! Has been a fun isolation hobby lol**  
We have really cut down on the amount of garbage we send to landfill.

3.9  (10 )



**Reduces my garbage by 1/2 since we stopped composting to reduce food source for rats.**  
diverts food waste from landfill

3.9  (9 )



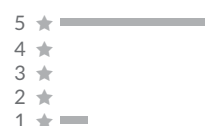
**You reduce lots.**

3.8  (7 )



**The volume of garbage I'm sending to landfill is a lot less**

3.7  (6 )





**Great! No smell, quiet enough, processes just enough for us.** Works very well to reduce waste. Down to less than one trip to the dump a week, as before we were twice a week or more.

3.5  (6 )



## NOISE / SMELL / FUNCTION

### City of Nelson

What are your initial thoughts of the FoodCycler? How effective is it in reducing food waste going to the landfill?

Noise/Smell/Function

**A marriage of foodcycler use and curbside pick up would be ideal if you are unable to personally compost the dried product**  
Households could use the cycler to reduce the size, smell and unstable nature of fresh food and then have monthly pickup to a compost facility.

3.7 ★★★★★ (20 👤)



**The unit does work well but a larger bucket would be more efficient. It is too noisy and smelly (it gives off a lot of moisture so placing it in a cabinet is not a good idea) so we have it on our covered porch and we will put it in the garage during the winter months.**

3.2 ★★★★★ (17 👤)



**Also to keep this in your kitchen is not feasible. There is a distinct smell ( not offensive) but still not what you want your house to smell like** Odor will be a decisive factor for purchasing

3.1 ★★★★★ (20 👤)



**It is to small** We are a family of three and we use it everyday if not multiple times a day

3.1 ★★★★★ (15 👤)



**The lid needs a better handle. It is too small and hard to brag ahold of** In order for the user to use the product it needs to be user friendly. Men especially will have a hard time with the lid.

3.0 ★★★★★ (20 👤)



**The lid could use a redesign. It's very heavy and hard to grip, especially with wet hands.** Anyone with arthritis or lack of hand strength would struggle with it.

3.0  (16 )



**It also takes up counter space in the kitchen** Most homes do not have the luxury of having enough counter space to give up to another kitchen appliance

2.9  (19 )



**Our bucket has been damaged** We haven't put anything other than vegetable and fruit waste into the machine, but some of the grey paint in the bucket has come off.

2.8  (19 )



**The development of noises and odors made it less appealing to use to the point where we have moved it outside.** It took less than 2 months of daily use before our FoodCycler started to produce odors and also started making annoying noises.

2.7  (19 )



**Our filters didn't last 3 months** Our cycle started to smell after about 2.5 months

2.7  (18 )



 **Comment**

Thank you for this comment. According to FoodCycle Science, the filters life will vary depending on what you put in your bucket and amount you use the unit. They did recommend adding a bit of citrus such as lime, lemon or orange to the buckets once in a while. This can help with potential smells.

**It's quite loud but we just run it during the day instead of at night now**

2.6  (14 )



**The FoodCycler can be quite noisy** It can be quite disruptive, and have had to pause a cycle or two so we aren't disturbed

2.5  (16 )



## END PRODUCT (SOIL AMENDMENT)

### City of Nelson

What are your initial thoughts of the FoodCycler? How effective is it in reducing food waste going to the landfill?

#### End Product (Soil Amendment)

I put the soil amendment in my beds and left it sit for a few days. No critters! No smell. And I put meat and dairy in my foodcycler. I love it!

4.2 ★★★★★ (18)



It is a benefit to us that we have natural compost for our garden. There is less need for us to purchase commercial products to keep our garden healthy.

4.2 ★★★★★ (13)



Love it, really making our compost useable for the garden much sooner than before! Help reduce waste for some people who didn't compost before

4.1 ★★★★★ (14)



Curious to see results in garden soil and growth It's too early to tell what the effects of directly mixing the dried/reduced waste right in the soil will be. So far so good!

3.9 ★★★★★ (20)



We thought that this was a good idea as we have recycled in a compost for years and this has worked well for us . we have added the product to our top soil that we make for our vegie garden but used a much smaller ratio than suggested and so far our garden is doing very well, our plan is to continue

3.9 ★★★★★ (18)



**Great product to convert compost into a small handful of dirt!** Not only minimizes waste but reduces and changes compost into dirt that can be directly used without filling up the outdoor bin.

3.9 ★★★★★ (16)



**People have reported problems using the FoodCycler "product": mould, animals, clumpy compost.** In order for the FoodCycler to be attractive, we need clear guidelines on how the residue can be used without hassle.

3.1 ★★★★★ (17)



**I worry that benefits of product to plants will be less than my previous system.** Worry is not big enough to not do it.

3.1 ★★★★★ (14)



**Waste amount reduced - but I don't have a use for the byproduct** Byproduct sitting in a huge container on my deck - don't garden so don't have any use for it/place to put it

2.9 ★★★★★ (12)



**I don't currently have a garden to use the end product in so I'm not sure how I feel about the soil amendment.** Seems like it may be a lot of effort and trial and error to get it working well.

2.6 ★★★★★ (12)



# WILDLIFE ATTRACTANT

## City of Nelson

What are your initial thoughts of the FoodCycler? How effective is it in reducing food waste going to the landfill?

### Wildlife Attractant

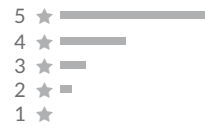
We live in a rural area where bears will visit an outside compost pile if we had one. The FoodCycler eliminates this worry.

4.2 ★★★★★ (13)



It doesn't smell- or at least what we process does not have much if any odour It is not attracting any animals into my yard/garden

4.1 ★★★★★ (19)



No smell and is not an attractant for wildlife. Eliminates varmints!

4.1 ★★★★★ (14)



Did not seem to attract dogs and critters to the garden That being said, I did not add meat or dairy to the bucket for fear of attracting the rats and dogs!

3.7 ★★★★★ (18)



I worry the end product could attract rats....but then, I think any manure or compost might do that.

3.5 ★★★★★ (19)



Using the FoodCycler for meat waste is probably not a good idea with the current rat situation. We noticed batches of processed food that included meat waste had more of a smell that would likely attract critters.

3.0 ★★★★★ (19)



**The compost still smells** We have used it in our garden and found plants have been dug up to get at the compost.

2.6  (15 )



**If this creates a good garden soil enhancer that does not attract animals to my yard then I'll likely always use a process like this.** Ease of use compared to traditional composting methods and the resulting product is easy to store.

3.3  (1 )



## City of Nelson

What are your initial thoughts of the FoodCycler? How effective is it in reducing food waste going to the landfill?  
GhGs

**I am so happy that I am reducing GhGs - I know there is a cost for the filters, but the unit is cheap to use for electricity.** The money we are saving on garbage tags (\$1.75 a bag) will cover my filters.

3.7 ★★★★★ (19)



**How long will the foodcycler last? I am worried that if the product lifespan is only a few years we are left with tonnes of electronic waste instead of food waste**

3.3 ★★★★★ (18)



**Waste amount reduced - but at what cost? Environmentally & utilities-wise? We are a family of 3 that cooks a lot and has to run the machine 2 to 3 times a day!?!?**

3.3 ★★★★★ (11)



**Comment**

Thank you for your thought! These are good questions. As far as utilities go, these units use very little electricity and cost approximately 8 cents to run one bucket. And as Nelson Hydro customers, we have clean green energy.

**I'm still on the fence/unsure!** I appreciate finally having a composting solution that doesn't endanger wildlife or attract pests, but I'm concerned about the carbon footprint!

3.0 ★★★★★ (12)



**Initially receiving the boxed machine I was super excited and as unpacked the machine I couldn't help but feel a pang of regret.** What is the true cost of extracting, producing, shipping and then disposing of this plastic/electronic machine? Better than landfilling organics?

2.9 ★★★★★ (19)





# VERSATILITY

## City of Nelson

What are your initial thoughts of the FoodCycler? How effective is it in reducing food waste going to the landfill?

### Versatility

Great to be able to do chicken bones. Obvious.

4.1 ★★★★★ (19)



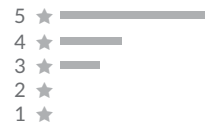
I luv that you can put bones and meat in. Less food waste and smelly garbage.

4.1 ★★★★★ (11)



Love the fact you can even put chicken bones! May help keep wildlife away from landfills

4.0 ★★★★★ (12)



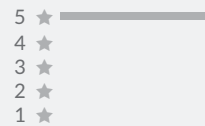
For us, it only diverts poultry bones etc., as we would normally use the bokashi system in winter and the outdoor composter in summer. It's nice to be able to divert poultry bones, etc.

3.8 ★★★★★ (16)



For us, it is not diverting any more food waste from the landfill site. We were already diverting all our food waste from the landfill site, with the exception of chicken and fish bones.

3.3 ★★★★★ (1)



## OTHER THOUGHTS

### City of Nelson

What are your initial thoughts of the FoodCycler? How effective is it in reducing food waste going to the landfill?

Other

**I hope the City rolls this out to others in our community.**

4.3 ★★★★★ (19)



**Excited to try it** Works pretty well, not sure how much of a difference it makes to me

3.4 ★★★★★ (15)



**The effectiveness will differ depending on the households' ability to compost - this will depend on season and number of individuals.**

3.3 ★★★★★ (18)



We most of our vegetable and fruit waste except in the cooler months so the FoodCycler reduced our landfill waste in April. We use it less now.

# COST

## City of Nelson

What are your initial thoughts of the FoodCycler? How effective is it in reducing food waste going to the landfill?

Cost

**The cost of maintaining the FoodCycler with filters will probably result in our shelving or re-selling the unit within the next year.** For our household the benefits of reducing our food waste during the winter months won't justify the ongoing purchase of expensive filters.

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2.7 ★★☆☆☆ (19 👤)

