Homeowners like recycling clippings

- Ninety-one percent of homeowners surveyed in Greenfield, Wis. would recommend the city's "Don't-Bag-It" lawn care program to others.

According to the survey, commissioned by BFI Town & Country Waste Service, 57 percent of the respondents also said their lawns improved since starting on the plan. In addition, 42 percent reported saving a combined total of nine hours each mowing. "This is extremely encouraging," says Mayor James Besson, who strongly supported the experimental program. "I've received numerous calls from other Wisconsin community leaders about this program, and now I have instructive, and positive information to provide them."

Thirty-three respondents to the survey said they have told more than 355 others about the program. Of those 33, 32 reported passing on positive comments. The one negative comment came from a homeowner who prefers to compost.

Other key responses to the survey:
- 42% said they saved time each mowing; 47% said mowing time is the same.
- 14% mow less often; 63% reported the frequency as being the same.
- 55% who did not mulch at all before now mulch all of their lawns.
- 82% watered their lawns less often or the same.

In exchange for recycling their grass clippings and for meeting other guidelines, the survey participants received free use of new Toro Recycler mowers through distributor R.L. Ryerson; and a season's supply of slow-release fertilizer manufactured by Howard Johnson's Enterprises of Milwaukee.

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