

## North Central Texas Council of Governments

# AGENDA

### Public Education Task Force

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

9:30 a.m., Microsoft Teams

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions.

### PRESENTATION ITEMS

2. **2021 March is Texas SmartScape Month Reveal.** NCTCOG will share graphics and resources created for the 2021 March is Texas SmartScape Month campaign and invite members to share events happening this Spring.

NCTCOG staff presented the 2021 March is Texas SmartScape Month campaign materials and graphics. These materials are available for download by members from the Texas SmartScape [program page](#) on the NCTCOG website.

3. **PETF Activity Reports.** NCTCOG will share the status of Activity Reports for the 2019-2020 timeframe.

All PETF Activity Reports for the following reporting periods have been completed and distributed to members:

- August 13, 2019 to August 12, 2020
- October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020
- December 13, 2019 to December 12, 2020
- January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

If you feel that you should have received a copy of a report and did not, please email [Crysta Guzman](#).

4. **FY21 Work Project Update.** NCTCOG staff will update the group on the status of training webinars for the current fiscal year Work Program.

A webinar on the topic of [Healthy Creeks and Waterways –Vegetation and the Flow of Healthy Waterways](#) has been confirmed for the date of March 31st. For additional details, please visit the registration page. Planning efforts are ongoing for webinars on the topics of Low-Impact Design and Small Scale BMPs.

5. **Trash Free Waters Update.** NCTCOG will give an update on the status of the EPA Trash Free Waters project and activities.

A recap of the *Trash Free Texas Webinar: Connecting Volunteers with Litter Cleanup Locations* held on February 19, 2021, was given to the group. The presentation included a summarization of results from a statewide survey conducted on litter cleanup events distributed in December 2020. A [recording](#) of the webinar along with the [presentation](#) are available on NCTCOG's [Trash Free Waters](#) project webpage. NCTCOG staff also presented the results of several survey questions on the impact COVID-19 had on litter cleanup events and suggestions from the participants on how to adapt events to address concerns around safety. For any questions on NCTCOG's Trash Free Waters project, please contact a member of the project staff: Elena Berg ([eberg@nctcog.org](mailto:eberg@nctcog.org)), Cassidy Campbell ([ccampbell@nctcog.org](mailto:ccampbell@nctcog.org)), Tamara Cook ([tcook@nctcog.org](mailto:tcook@nctcog.org)), or Crysta Guzman ([cguzman@nctcog.org](mailto:cguzman@nctcog.org)). To stay informed on the Trash Free Texas project, please follow @TrashFreeTexas on their social media accounts on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#).

## DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

6. **FY20 Work Project Update and Discussion.** NCTCOG staff will update the group on the status of the NCTCCC website and lead a discussion on potential dates for the Community Cleanup Challenge.

Updates to the website for the North Texas Community Cleanup Challenge were discussed, which includes educational content for residents and Toolbox resources such as Partner Resources and Downloads. Work on the website is ongoing and expected to be completed later this year. The group was polled for the selection of dates to hold the 2021 North Texas Community Cleanup Challenge. The group selected the option of September and October for the challenge period with no objections raised to holding the challenge this year. With the selection of dates made, NCTCOG staff will begin work on campaign resources for the group to support the cleanup challenge.

7. **FY22 Program Discussion.** NCTCOG staff will initiate a discussion on work project ideas for the Fiscal Year 2022 Work Program. Staff will also kick off initial discussions on slogan and/or visual ideas for the 2022 March is Texas SmartScape Month campaign.

NCTCOG staff gave a brief overview of the timeline for the FY22 Special Project selection process. Members are encouraged to share ideas for the FY22 special project for consideration and discussion at the next PETF meeting in April.

A brief discussion was also held on the FY22 March is Texas SmartScape Month campaign and supporting graphics the group would like to see developed for future campaigns. The group preferred to keep using pollinators, such as the Monarch and native bees, in graphics designed for the campaigns. Shots showing simple but easy to achieve ideas for beginner, intermediate and advanced gardeners were suggested for future graphics. The group also requested tight shots of flowerbeds showcasing perennials and pollinators.

## OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

8. **Other NCTCOG Program Updates.** NCTCOG staff will share recent and upcoming activities of the IDDE, Stormwater Monitoring, TMDL, and Wastewater and Treatment Education Roundtable, programs.

The Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) Roundtable will meet on March 18, 2021 and will discuss upcoming training opportunities for FY21.

The Regional Wet Weather Characterization Program (RWWCP) is in the fourth year of the program term. They are in the Beginning phase of implementation of Best Management Practices Analysis and Evaluation Plan (BANEP). Program participants will meet with the program consultant and NCTCOG staff to discuss requested information needed for the BANEP worksheets.

The TMDL Wastewater Technical Subcommittee meeting will take place on January 28, 2021 at 9:30 AM via Microsoft Teams. The Upper Trinity River Basin Coordinating Committee will take place on February 9, 2021, at 9:30 AM via Microsoft Teams. The TMDL Coordination Committee Meeting will take place on July 1, 2021, at 9:30 AM, location to be determined.

A Virtual TMDL Calculations Workshop will be held in April with presentations from Jimmy Millican, TIAER, on calculating waste load allocations, load duration curves, and flow data. A presentation from TCEQ over TMDL benchmarks for Stormwater permits will also be given. Additional information, including registration, will be made available in the coming weeks.

The Wastewater and Treatment Education Roundtable (WATER) is currently accepting commitments [online](#) for the FY2021 Work Program. The [FY2020 Work Program Summary](#) for WATER is available online for review for those interested. The Holiday Grease Roundup hosted by WATER ended on January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The results will be presented at their virtual [meeting](#) on March 10, 2021.



## North Central Texas Council of Governments

9. **Conferences & Events.** NCTCOG staff will share regional and statewide conferences and events.

Upcoming conferences and events of potential interest include:

- EPA Webinar - [Building Greener Futures: Green Jobs Training and Bioswales in New Haven, CT](#), January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- Texan By Nature – [Conservation Wrangle Summit Virtual Series](#):
  - February - Developing Future Returns, February 10, 2021
  - March - Reimagining Resources, March 10, 2021
- Texas Riparian Association - [Urban Riparian Symposium](#) (Virtual), February 10-12, 2021
- NCTCOG Webinar - [Healthy Creeks and Waterways: Vegetation and the Flow of Healthy Waterways](#) (Virtual), March 31, 2021

10. **News & Resources.** NCTCOG staff will share news and resources of relevance to the group.

The following news and resource items of potential interest were shared:

- EPA Announcement - [TCEQ to Administer Clean Water Program](#)
- EPA Trash Free Waters Webinar Recording: [Experiences and Lessons Learned from Trash Capture Projects](#)
- Oceana Report – [Choked, Strangled, Drowned: The Plastics Crisis Unfolding in Our Oceans](#)
- Funding Opportunity: [Protecting Marinas and Inland Waterways Via Stormwater Tech](#)
- Funding Opportunity: [Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program 2021 \(proposals due Jan. 28\)](#)
- Texas Association of Builders: [Stormwater Training Webinar and Self-Certification Program](#)

11. **Roundtable.** Members will share what is happening in their communities.

**TRWD:** will be presenting at the Urban Riparian Symposium, which is being hosted by the Texas Riparian Association from February 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>.

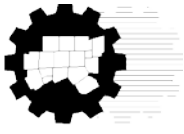
**McKinney:** has a tentative date of April 24<sup>th</sup> for their cleanup event which is part of the annual Texas Trash Off.

**Mesquite:** the Mayor has started a Clean City Initiative that will highlight litter reduction and public education on litter as well as native landscapes for beautification purposes.

12. **Next Meeting Dates.** The next virtual meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, 2021, at 9:30 a.m. Online platform details are pending.

13. **Adjournment.**

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or agenda items, please contact Crysta Guzman at (817) 695-9107 or [cguzman@nctcog.org](mailto:cguzman@nctcog.org). Thank you!



**Stormwater Public Education Task Force**  
Wednesday, January 20, 2021  
9:30 a.m., Microsoft Teams



**MEMBER SIGN IN SHEET**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>SIGNATURE</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>
Paula Breysacher	x	City of Garland
Randy Bright	x	City of Colleyville
Cody Cash	x	City of Irving
Martha Cavazos Fipps	x	City of McKinney
Shawn Cheairs	x	Town of Addison
Gail Copening	x	City of Richardson
Radwan Dalu	x	City of Dallas
Moss Fennell	x	VRX - NTTA
Jasmine Ferrell	x	City of Mesquite
Becca Grassl-Petersen	x	Tarrant County
Duane Hengst	x	City of Hurst
Aaron Hoff	x	Tarrant Regional Water District
James House	x	Town of Prosper
Devan Jones	x	City of Carrollton
Jason Longbine	x	City of Lewisville
Gregg Moss	x	City of Grapevine
Katie Myers	x	TRWD
William Nahas	x	City of Allen
Tuan Ngo	x	City of North Richland Hills
Chandani Rana	x	City of Grand Prairie
Carolyn Russell	x	City of Plano
Melissa Walker	x	City of Arlington