

# Guiding Principles on Efficient and Effective Water Use for North Central Texas

The members of the Water Resources Council (WRC) of the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) are very concerned with efficient and effective water use in our region. A special subcommittee was created to formulate a regional set of principles on water use, and these principles have received endorsement from the NCTCOG Executive Board.

As the state-designated water quality management-planning agency for the urbanized portion of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, NCTCOG has crafted policy positions on issues such as storm water quality management, reservoir management and sustainable development. NCTCOG's Executive Board approved the Safe Clean & Green 2003-2007 strategic plan, which calls

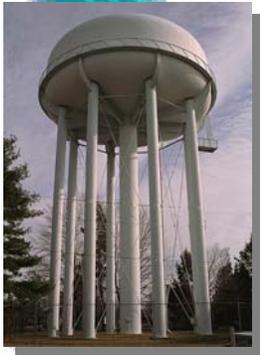
for NCTCOG to pursue opportunities to work with the major water systems and their customer cities to ensure the efficient and effective use of water. In addition, the Center of Development Excellence has identified water supply as one of the key issues that will impact the region as its population grows. Water supply is a major concern for this region due to several factors:

- By 2050, based on population growth and water use, the Dallas/Fort Worth area will require 2.2 billion gallons per day (gpd)
- Currently available resources can provide 1.6 billion gpd, representing a 32 percent shortfall
- Satisfying demand will require:
  - Local programs to use water more effectively and efficiently
  - Increased reuse of treated wastewater
  - Development of additional water supplies

In anticipation of Legislative action and in recognition of the pressing water supply needs of this region, the Water Conservation Implementation Subcommittee of the WRC developed the following set of *Guiding Principles on Efficient and Effective Water Use for North Central Texas*.



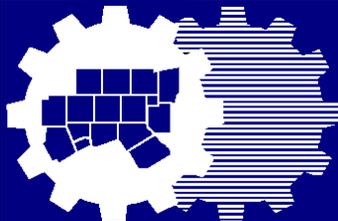
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1. The member governments of the North Central Texas region strongly endorse effective and efficient utilization of voluntary water conservation practices as being critical to meeting the long term water supply needs of the region, with public education and outreach strategies identified as the most effective management practices.
2. The implementation of voluntary best management practices must be proven to be cost-effective by the retail providers of the North Central Texas region.
3. Identifying, financing, implementing and enforcing cost effective water conservation strategies should be the responsibility of the retail providers and the local governments of North Central Texas, including setting challenging but realistic targets.
4. Variables must be considered in proscribing water conservation practices and goals. These variables include but are not limited to climate, regional conditions, demographics, water quality, and adequacy of existing or potential supply, treatment and distribution systems.
5. Water conservation and emergency demand management measures are best coordinated within media markets to avoid confusion over conditions and responses.

These Guiding Principles were unanimously approved by NCTCOG's Water Resources Council (WRC) on February 16, 2005, and approved by the NCTCOG Executive Board on February 24, 2005. The WRC includes representatives of the following major water operators and their customer cities:

- North Texas Municipal Water District
- Tarrant Regional Water District
- Trinity River Authority
- Upper Trinity Regional Water District
- City of Arlington
- City of Dallas
- City of Denton
- City of Fort Worth
- City of Weatherford



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