# Wastewater And Treatment Education Roundtable [WATER]

Thursday, October 16, 2025



### Agenda

- 1. Welcome and Introductions
- 2. Meeting Summary
- 3. Educational Item Show and Tell
- 4. FY2026 Work Program Update
- 5. Holiday Grease Roundup Update
- 6. Defend Your Drains North Texas Promotional Activities Discussion
- 7. General Updates
- 8. Roundtable
- 9. Schedule for Next WATER Meeting
- 10. Adjournment





### Welcome & Introductions



# Meeting Summary

The July 24, 2025 meeting summary is available online for review.



### Educational Item Show and Tell

Share your booth games, best giveaways, and more!

#### FY2026 Work Program Discussion

- FY2026 Work Program posted online for review, no change to cost-sharing amounts
- Invoices to be distributed electronically in October 2025
- Budget Goal: \$75,000

#### 2025 Work Program Participant Breakdown

Returning Participants	24
New Participants	16
Total Participants	40
Amount Received	\$100,660

2025 Cost-Shares Breakdown		
1 Million+	\$9,000	
750,000-999,999	\$8,400	
500,000-749,999	\$7,200	
350,000-499,999	\$6,000	
200,000-349,999	\$4,980	
100,000-199,999	\$3,900	
50,000-99,999	\$2,580	
25,000-49,999	\$1,680	
10,000-24,999	\$1,200	
Less than 10,000	\$250	
Special District (1 Million+)	\$9,000	
Special District (500,000-999,999)	\$7,800	
Special District (100,000-499,999)	\$4,800	
Special District (Less than 100,000)	\$2,580	

#### FY2025 Work Program Accomplishments

- Work Program Summary under final development
- Major highlights:
  - Highest number of program participants and funding
  - Record participation and amount of grease collected in the Annual Holiday Grease Roundup
  - Completion of Spanish translated educational explainer videos
  - Over 33,000 total views of the 16 educational explainer videos



#### FY2026 Work Program Discussion - Deferred Funds

- Currently approximately \$45,000 in "deferred funding" (funding not spent in previous fiscal years)
  - Majority of funds deferred in FY2017
- Requesting committee feedback on how these deferred funds should be spent
  - Advertising Billboards, Radio, Social Media/Google Advertising
  - Paid Training Opportunities
  - Partnership Opportunities
  - More educational explainer videos or other PSAs
  - Other suggestions?

#### Holiday Grease Roundup Updates

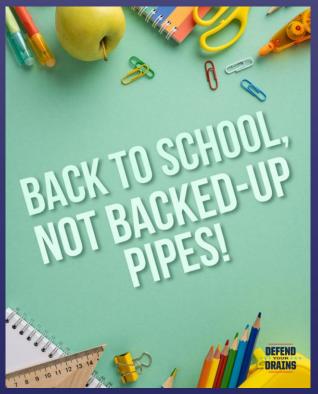
- New 2025 HGR dates: November 1, 2025
  - January 31, 2026
- Marketing Materials posted online for use
  - New Canva based flyers available
- Update on Grease Collection Vendor Partnerships / RFP Process



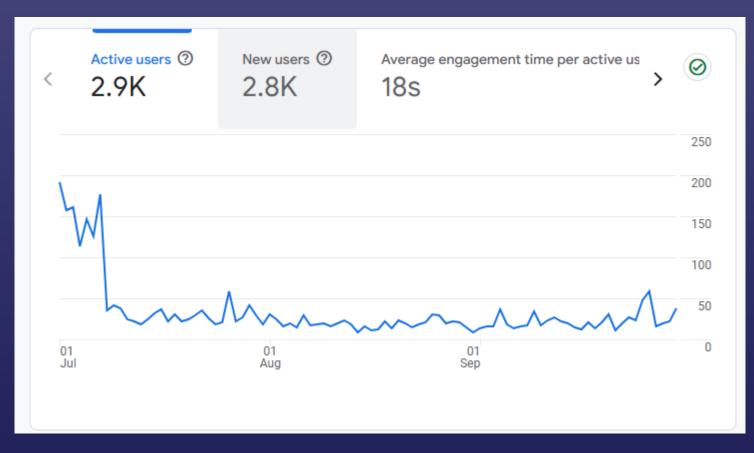
#### Defend Your Drains North Texas Promotional Activities

- No change to social media traffic:
  - 125 post engagements and 3,527 post impressions across all platforms (Jul-Sept 2025)
- Will be running Google Display ads during the Holiday Grease Roundup, utilizing images created as part of HGR Social Media Toolkit





#### Defend Your Drains North Texas Website Traffic



### July 1- September 30, 2025 Website Traffic:

- Steep drop off in July
- Overall, more users than the same period in 2024
- Average engagement time decreased since last discussion

### General Updates

- Houston-Galveston Area Council + Other Partners release <u>Texas Water Careers</u> website with the mission to:
  - Inspire, train, and mentor the next generation of water and wastewater professionals,
  - Change the narrative around utility careers,
  - Highlight the value of water and wastewater roles, and
  - Create real pathways for success in the industry.



### Roundtable

What's happening in your community?



# Next Meeting

January 15, 2026 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Location TBD

## Adjournment

Next Meeting: January 15, 2026

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# Networking Lunch