



North Central Texas Council of Governments

AGENDA

Wastewater and Treatment Education Roundtable

Thursday, July 24, 2025

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Metroplex Conference Room, NCTCOG Offices

616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, TX 76011

Chair: Andrea Chick, City of Plano

Vice Chair: Kimberly Morris, City of Lewisville

1. **Welcome and Introductions.**
2. **Meeting Summary.** The [April 17, 2025 meeting summary](#) is available online for your review.

The April 17, 2025 meeting summary was approved.

3. **“How To: Holiday Grease Roundup.”** Attendees will hear from a panel of past Holiday Grease Roundup participants, covering topics including best practices, lessons learned, drop off site set up, and event advertisement. NCTCOG will also present an update on the preparations for the 2025 event, scheduled for November 1, 2025 through January 31, 2026.

Thank you to **Renee Esses** from City of Coppell, **Hannah Smith** from City of Keller, **Kimberly Morris** from City of Lewisville, and **Maddison Dunn** from City of Southlake for sharing your expertise and knowledge. Panelists were asked a variety of questions about their involvement in the Annual Holiday Grease Roundup, and their responses highlighted several best practices and lessons learned.

Communities should consider a range of collection models, including grease huts, metal cabinets, barn-style drop-off sites, or custom-built cages, based on local needs and infrastructure. Clear public messaging is critical, particularly in distinguishing cooking oil from other household waste.

Outreach strategies that have proven effective include social media campaigns, e-newsletters, branded giveaways, and the use of COG'S Holiday Grease Roundup toolkit. Planning efforts typically begin in mid-summer and are often timed with fiscal calendars or internal publication schedules. Collaboration across departments such as code enforcement, household hazardous waste, and communications staff can strengthen program visibility and impact. External partnerships with restaurants, apartment complexes, and regional organizations also support success.

Reported benefits include reduced residential overflows and increased community engagement. For new participants, starting with manageable goals, prioritizing staff education, and engaging marketing teams early are recommendations.

4. **FY2026 Work Program Discussion.** NCTCOG will present the [DRAFT FY2026 WATER Work Program](#) for discussion and approval.

NCTCOG presented the Draft FY2026 WATER Work Program with no significant changes, aside from the approval to continue Lunch and Learn meetings. Cost-share amounts remain unchanged and are based on NCTCOG's 2025 population estimates.

Attendees approved the FY2026 WATER Work Program. Invoices will be distributed electronically in October 2025. Thank you to our 38 FY2025 participants!

5. **Defend Your Drains North Texas Promotional Activities Discussion.** NCTCOG will provide an update on promotional activities and provide analytics from the Defend Your Drains website and social media activities.

NCTCOG reported no significant changes in social media traffic. Google Search Ads resumed on April 1st, and boosted posts are scheduled to begin this fall to support HGR promotion.

Additionally, Spanish translations are now available for the educational explainer videos.

- [Desecha Siempre tus Artículos de Cuidado Personal](#) (Always Trash Your Personal Care Items)
- [Ciclo de Vida del Agua Potable](#) (Simple Life Cycle of Drinking Water)
- [Eliminación Correcta de los Productos de Limpieza en el Hogar](#) (Proper Disposal of Home Cleaning Products)

6. **Membership Directory and Mentorship Program Update.** NCTCOG will provide a brief update on the directory and mentorship program.

NCTCOG encouraged attendees to respond to the [Membership Directory / Mentorship Program Survey](#) so that it may continue to be built out.

7. **General Updates.** NCTCOG will provide general updates on relevant programs and events.

[Wastewater Infrastructure Pollution Prevention and Environmental Safety Act](#) (WIPPES Act) has passed the US House of Representatives and has been received by the US Senate (6/24/2025).

[2025 Water Quality Management Plan](#) showed an overall percentage reduction in Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) caused by FOG between 2023 and 2024!

8. **Roundtable.** The group will share what is happening in their communities.

City of Hurst recently hosted a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) event.

City of Coppell promoted their Biodiversity Education Center.

Trinity River Authority is developing an animated Water Rangers series covering litter/illegal dumping, FOG, the 3 "P"s, and stormwater.

City of Plano is preparing for their annual Turkey event on November 15th.



North Central Texas Council of Governments

City of Grand Prairie has an upcoming HHW event in September and is currently setting up their collection cage.

City of Keller is implementing grow zones, planning improvements to their HGR program, and launching targeted ads focused on FOG.

City of Richardson is working on stormwater MCMs and related educational outreach.

City of Carrollton completed their first Sustainability Plan—congratulations to them for achieving Gold LEED for Cities!

9. **Schedule for the Next WATER Meeting.** The next WATER meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 16, 2025, location to be determined.

10. **Adjournment.**

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or agenda items, please contact Hannah Ordonez at (817) 695-9215 or hordonez@nctcog.org.

If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability or language need that requires special arrangements, please contact Ashley Barnett at (817) 608-2363 or ABarnett@nctcog.org at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.