



North Texas Regional Integration of Sustainability Efforts (RISE) Coalition

October 15, 2021



RISE Coalition Website: <https://www.nctcog.org/envir/development-excellence/rise-coalition>

RISE Coalition Committee Page: <https://www.nctcog.org/envir/committees/regional-integration-of-sustainability-efforts-ris>



October 15, 2021

RISE Coalition Agenda

1) Welcome and Introductions – Member Roll Call

Action Items

2) Meeting Summary

Discussion

3) FY 2022 Work Plan Program and Project Update and Discussion

4) Member Recruitment Strategy

5) Mendie White, City of Lewisville

6) Stephanie Glenn, Houston Advanced Research Center

Informational Items

7) NCTCOG Regional Opportunities

Other Business

8) Participant Roundtable

9) Future Agenda Items

10) Next Meeting Date

11) Adjournment

Action Items

- 2. Meeting Summary:** [Approve July 9 Meeting Summary](#)

FY 2022 Project Update and Discussion

Guided by FY2022 Work Program

FY2022 focus on four key topic areas

Under Development:

- First regional greenhouse gas inventory
- Emission reduction strategy toolkit for local government
- FY2022: Urban heat island emphasis; developing an equity working group; continuing to grow membership; and continuing existing projects (GHG Inventory and Toolkit)

Current Focus Topics



**Regional Emissions
Assessment**



**Emissions Impact Analysis
and Mitigation/Adaptation
Strategy Toolkit**



**Urban Heat Island
Reduction Strategy
Analysis**



**Food Diversion and Waste
Reduction Programs**

Task 2. Regional Greenhouse Gas Emissions Project

Regional GHG Inventory

- Contracting with Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), formally known as the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives thanks to generous contribution from Burlington-Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad
- NCTCOG continuing data collection related to Energy, Transportation, Waste, Water, and Wastewater for region and cohort participants

NCTCOG GHG Inventory Cohort

• Participants:

- Carrollton
- Cedar Hill
- Dallas
- Denton
- Farmers Branch
- Fort Worth
- Frisco
- Grand Prairie
- Grapevine
- Lewisville
- Mesquite
- Plano

• Training schedule:

- August 18, 2021 - February 9, 2022

Task 2. Regional Greenhouse Gas Emissions Project

Other Updates

- **Emissions Reductions Toolkit**

- Presentation from August 24, 2021 located here: [North Central Texas Council of Governments - Local and Regional Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory \(nctcog.org\)](https://www.nctcog.org/Local-and-Regional-Greenhouse-Gas-Emission-Inventory)
- NCTCOG staff conducting internal review of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Toolkit (energy strategies) report

- **Federal Climate Adaptation Plans**

- October 7, 2021: White House announced the release of more than 20 Federal Agency Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plans
- NCTCOG staff is reviewing these plans as they apply to North Texas
- [Federal Climate Adaptation Plans | Office of the Federal Chief Sustainability Officer](#)

Task 2. Regional Greenhouse Gas Emissions Project

Other Updates

- **Federal Transit Administration's Sustainable Transit for a Healthy Planet Challenge**
 - June 15, 2021: FTA launched Sustainable Transit Challenge to encourage transit agencies to reduce GHG emissions to support Biden's emissions reductions
 - Transit agencies nation-wide are encouraged to develop climate action strategies with measurable goals to achieve GHG emission targets
 - 72 agencies registered
 - 7 Texas agencies:
 - VIA Metropolitan Transit
 - Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County
 - El Metro
 - Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority (CapMetro)
 - Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART)
 - Amarillo City Transit
 - North Central Texas Council of Governments
 - October 8, 2021: NCTCOG held information session with regional transit agencies
 - Will continue to provide assistance to agencies as needed for registration
 - October 29, 2021: Deadline for transit agencies to sign up for the challenge

Future FY2022 Efforts – Brainstorm and Planning Discussion

Task 3. Capacity Building and Educational Resources

- Webinars (2) on key topics identified by RISE members
- Website Toolkit: "how to" resources for developing a sustainability plan and a focus on resources and information related to urban heat island impacts and mitigation/adaptation strategies
- Social Equity Workshop: Conduct one regional workshop on the topic of equity

Other Topics for Consideration:

Regional Sustainability Survey – Suggestion by Sangita Rana, TRWD

- Conduct Fall 2021 to have results for January meeting

Regional Urban Heat Resilience – Seeking input on moving the region forward on this topic.

Input on Regional Tree Cooperative – Concept proposed by City of Plano

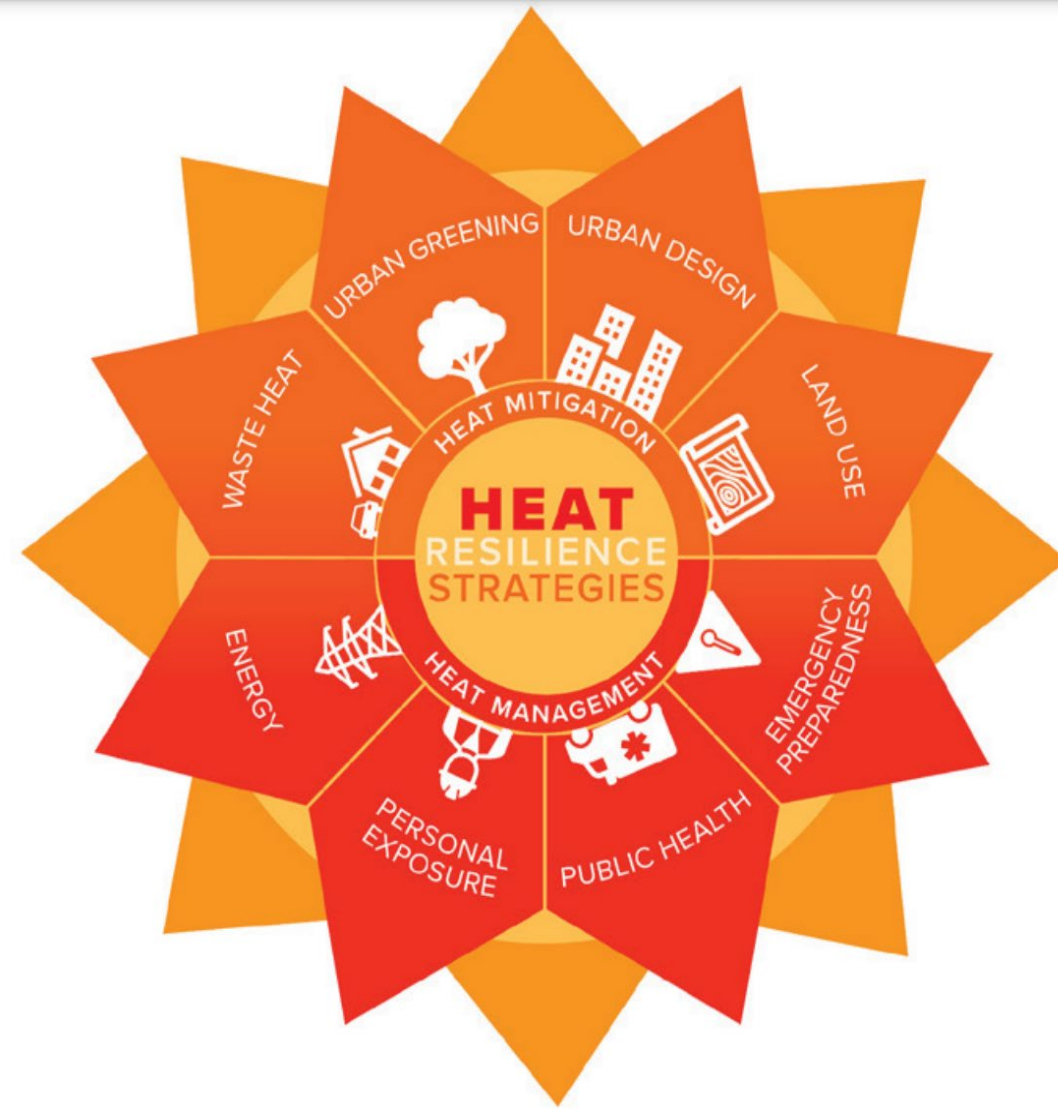
Future FY2022 Efforts – Brainstorm and Planning Discussion

- Heat kills more people in the United States than all other weather hazards combined (UCUSA, 2019)
- Heat risks are unevenly and inequitably distributed (NPR, 2020)

Urban Heat Resilience

Some of the resources include topics on:

- **Heat Mitigation:** design and planning strategies that aim to reduce the built environment's contribution to urban heat
- **Heat Management:** prepare for and respond to heat
- Local Government Action Plans
- Assessment and Protection Toolkits



Heat resilience strategies address heat mitigation and management. Credit: Ladd Keith, Sara Meerow, and Erika Lynn Schmidt

Future FY2022 Efforts – Brainstorm and Planning Discussion

Example Resources/Tools:

Environmental Protection Agency:

- <https://www.epa.gov/heatislands/learn-about-heat-islands>

American Planning Association:

- [Urban Heat Resilience](#)
- [Climate-Resilient Pollinator Gardens](#)

Data/Mapping Tools:

- [US Climate Resilience Toolkit](#), The Climate Explorer - <https://crt-climate-explorer.nemac.org/>
- National Integrated Heat Health Information System, <https://nihhis.cpo.noaa.gov/>
- HARC RESIN Tool: https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/e9430d121b4b4c07a6589f2bb522e582/page/page_0/?views=view_32

Existing Plans:

- [Dallas Urban Forest Master Plan](#)
- [Dallas Urban Heat Island Mitigation Study](#)



What are your thoughts?

What is needed?

What would be helpful/useful to peers?

Coalition Member Recruitment Strategy

Recent Recruitment Activities:

- August 12 Regional Transportation Council
- November 3 – Americal Planning Association Presentation with Cedar Hill, Denton, and Plano

FY2022 Current Commitments

- Carrollton
- Cedar Hill
- Dallas
- Denton
- Farmers Branch
- Lewisville
- Tarrant Regional Water District

Budget as of today: \$11,025

City of Lewisville Sustainability Action Plan

Mendie White
Neighborhood Services & Sustainability Manager
City of Lewisville

**Resilience Science Information Network (RESIN)
Portal of the Upper Texas Gulf Coast:
Climate Planning with Curated Information**

**Stephanie Glenn
Program Director
Houston Advanced Research Center**

NCTCOG Regional Updates and Opportunities

REGIONAL INITIATIVES AND UPDATES

Property Assessed Clean Energy Regional Program

- Regional program
- Issuing a Request for Proposals in the future
- Developing documents, etc. to initiate efforts
- Future Executive Board Agenda Item

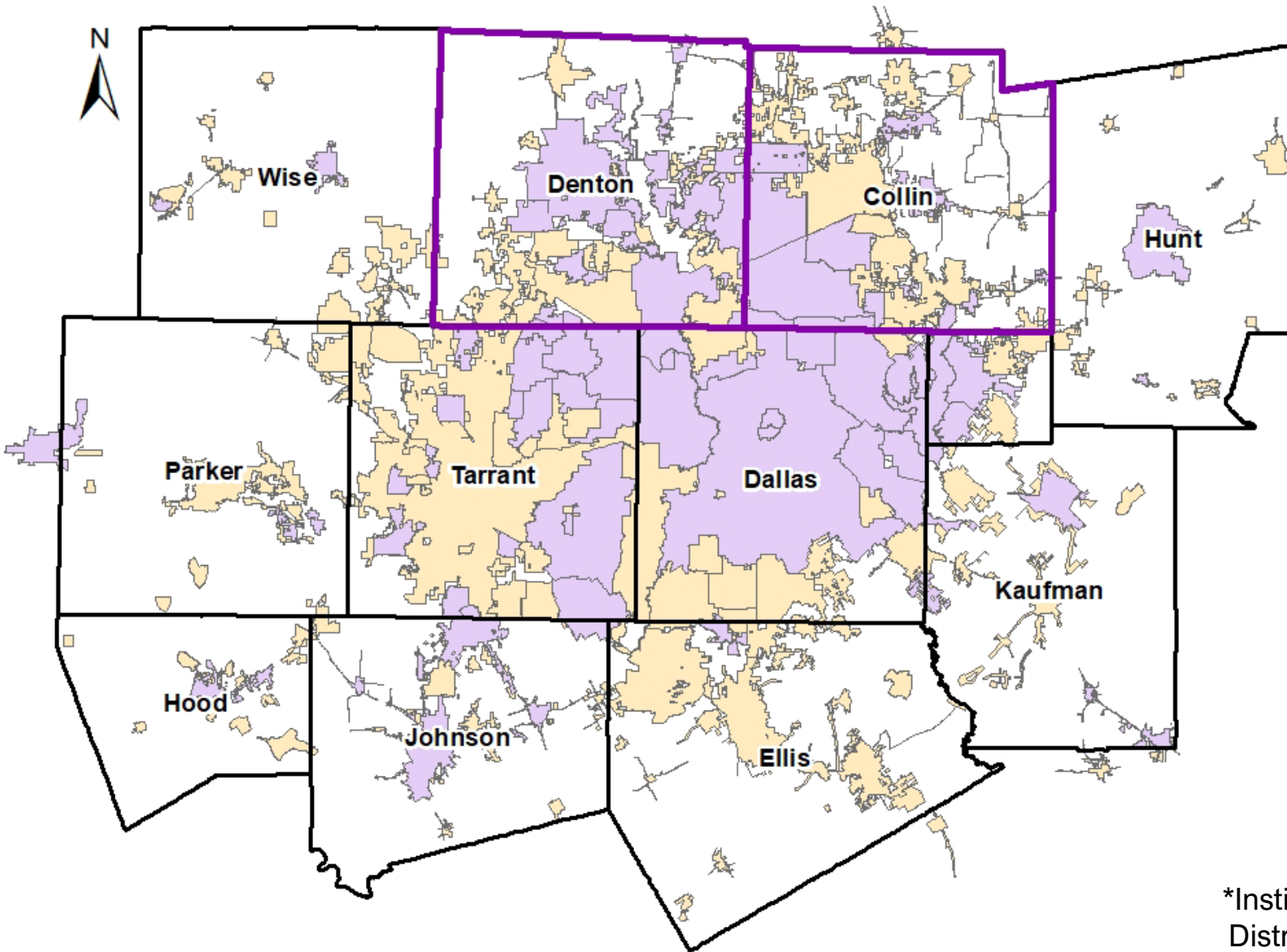
Local Government Energy Reporting

- 2021 Local Government Energy Reports (LGER), including January through December 2021 energy consumption, are due to the Texas State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) on February 1, 2022.
- SECO LGER webpage: <https://comptroller.texas.gov/programs/seco/reporting/local-gov.php>

Regional Codes Coordinating Committee: [2021 International Building Code Regional Amendments Now Posted](#) - IECC Coming Early November 2021

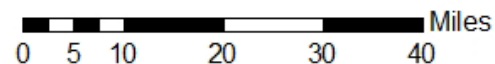
Local Government Energy Reporting

Cities and Counties Who Reported in 2020*



Number of Cities
Who Reported: **76**

Number of Counties
Who Reported: **2**



*Institutes of Higher Education, Special Districts, Appraisal Districts, and State Agencies who reported are not shown on this map

NCTCOG Regional Updates and Opportunities

2021 Fall DEA Take Back: October 23, 2021 10:00am - 2:00 p.m. Bring your unused medications to one of the dozens of drop off locations around DFW to safely and anonymously dispose of them. <https://takebackday.dea.gov/>



8th Annual Regional Holiday Grease Roundup: Holiday Grease Roundup begins Monday, November 22, 2021, and ends Monday, January 10, 2022. Entities can choose to participate for the entire roundup or selected dates within the range of the roundup. Contact Hannah Allen (hallen@nctcog.org) to sign your entity up to participate. More information and grease drop-off locations: <http://defendyourdrainsnorthtexas.com/holiday-grease-roundup/index.html>



First Annual North Texas Community Cleanup Challenge: <http://www.communitycleanupchallenge.com/>

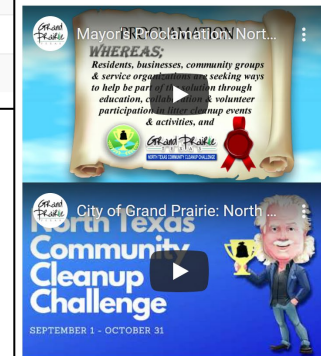
Leaderboard

Live dashboard of the current state of all participating communities. Cleanup efforts must be logged between September 1, 2021 and October 31, 2021 and have taken place within a participating community.



Rank	Community	Events/Efforts	Volunteers	Bags of Litter	Score
1	Grand Prairie	67	509	534	83.4523
2	Mesquite	1	546	216	62.6433
3	Fort Worth	22	366	491	60.6760
4	Mansfield	22	330	426	56.5454
5	Plano	21	278	307	43.8717
6	Irving	1	350	74	36.8876
7	Frisco	11	277	175	36.5415
8	Arlington	10	197	229	30.8485
9	Ennis	36	110	128	24.4137
10	Carrollton	41	83	99	18.5993
11	Lucas	1	67	73	14.8420
12	Lake Dallas	8			
13	Garland	3			
14	Grapevine	1			
15	Anna	5			

Grand Prairie Proclamation



The city of Grand Prairie has declared its support of the Community Cleanup Challenge!

Mansfield Challenge



Join the City of Mansfield, Keep Mansfield Beautiful - TX and Keep Texas Beautiful by participating in the Mansfield 2021 Fall Sweep Cleanup and Mayor's Litter Challenge. All residents, families and groups are invited to participate in picking up litter beginning Sept. 1 through Oct. 31. Click to get all the details and to register: bit.ly/3jJWc50

The city of Mansfield has challenged other neighboring communities to participate in the Cleanup Challenge!

NCTCOG Regional Updates and Opportunities

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Department of Energy's Community LEAP (Local Energy Action Program) Pilot

- Department of Energy (DOE) Pilot Program providing technical assistance services valued at up to a total of \$16 million to support up to 36 communities to develop their own community-driven clean energy transition approach. [More information can be found here.](#)
- Registration Opens October 25, 2021 and closes December 15, 2021 at 5PM EST.

Environmental Protection Agency's Ambient Monitoring Technology Information Center (AMTIC)

- The EPA will make \$50 million from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding available to improve ambient air quality monitoring for communities across the United States. [More information can be found here.](#)

Environmental Protection Agency 2021 DERA School Bus Rebate Program

- Awards funds for replacement/scrappage of old diesel buses with newer, cleaner buses (any fuel type). Rebates range from \$20,000-\$65,000 depending on fuel type of new bus. [See more information here.](#)
- Note: Underserved communities can also qualify for electric school bus rebates under the 2021 ARP School Bus Rebates. [Program Information can be found here.](#)

Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program (TxVEMP)

- DC Fast Charging (DCFC) and Hydrogen Dispensing Equipment Funding Round will open November 2, 2021
- Approximately \$20 million will be made available on a first come, first served basis
- Up to \$150,000 can be requested for each DCFC unit, not to exceed \$600,000 per site. [Program information can be found here.](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

USDA Racial Equity and Justice Conservation Cooperative Agreements

Natural Resources Conservation Service grant opportunity to expand conservation assistance to historically underserved farmers and ranchers including socially disadvantaged, limited resources, beginning, tribal, and veteran. Proposals should include concepts of **climate-smart agriculture and planning or implementation of conservation practices and principles**. [More information can be found here.](#)

- Applications are due October 25, 2021 at 11:59PM EST

USDA's Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Program

The USDA intends to assist rural small businesses and agricultural producers by conducting and promoting energy audits and providing Renewable Energy Development Assistance. [Program Information can be found here](#)

- Applications are due February 1, 2021

Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) Environmental Justice Grant

\$2 million grant program to support environmental justice and climate resilience for underserved, vulnerable communities. This program will provide funding directly to community-based organizations to deliver environmental justice and advance local solutions to adapt to climate change. [More information can be found here](#)

- Proposals are Due November 14, 2021 at 5PM EST

USDA's Energy Audit and Renewable Energy development Assistance Program

The USDA intends to assist rural small businesses and agricultural producers by conducting and promoting energy audits and providing Renewable Energy Development Assistance. [Program Information can be found here](#)

- Applications are due February 1, 2021

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Roundtable on Integrating Energy Resilience into Hazard Mitigation Planning

Date: Tuesday, October 26, 2021

Time: 2:00-3:30 pm CST

Registration Link: <https://www.addevent.com/event/zW9162189>

November Air Quality Health Task Force

Date: Friday, November 12, 2021

Time: 9:30 – 11:30 am CST

For more information about the Task Force visit

www.nctcog.org/trans/about/committees/aq-health-monitoring-task-force. To join the upcoming Task Force meeting, please email dgilliam@nctcog.org.

Organic Waste to Renewable Natural Gas Stakeholder Webinar

Date: November 30, 2021

Time: 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. CST

Registration will be posted at <https://www.nctcog.org/envir/events>

Other Business

Participant Roundtable

What is happening in your community?

Members will be called on and then opportunity for others to share what is happening within their organization

Future Agenda Items

Next Meeting Dates

Next RISE Coalition Meeting:

January 28, 2022

9:30 a.m.

NCTCOG's Free E-Mail Lists and Committee Updates

<https://www.nctcog.org/stay-informed?ext=>

<https://www.nctcog.org/envir/mail>

RISE Website:

<https://www.nctcog.org/envir/development-excellence/rise-coalition>

<https://www.nctcog.org/envir/committees/regional-integration-of-sustainability-efforts-ris>

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Thank you!