For Immediate Release

Date

**2023 Holiday Grease Roundup Launches**

North Texas program collects holiday cooking oil and grease, preventing clogged pipes and recycling oil and grease into fuel

The Wastewater and Treatment Education Roundtable (WATER), an educational partnership between the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), municipalities, and water utilities in the North Texas region, is pleased to announce the 10th Annual Holiday Grease Roundup. The 2023 Holiday Grease Roundup will officially begin on November 13, 2023 and end on January 12, 2024. The objective of this roundup is to generate awareness about the proper disposal of used fats, oils, and greases (FOG) by providing locations for residents to drop off their FOG free of charge to be recycled.

The Defend Your Drains North Texas website (<http://www.defendyourdrainsnorthtexas.com/>) is the center point of the Holiday Grease Roundup and hosts a map of all available cooking oil and grease drop off locations in the North Central Texas region.

By dropping off their used cooking oil and grease, participants are ensuring the FOG is disposed of properly. When FOG is poured down the drain, it hardens and builds up over time, leading to clogged pipes that are inconvenient and costly to repair and can result in sewage backups into homes or sewage overflowing into streets and local waterways. If the sewer overflows, city crews shut down streets, tying up traffic and increasing expenses for both residents and the city.

By recycling this FOG instead, Holiday Grease Roundup participants are diverting a valuable resource from landfills and turning this resource into a clean and green alternative fuel. NCTCOG and WATER will be sharing messages on the Defend Your Drains North Texas website and associated social media channels related to the proper disposal of cooking oil and grease to protect household pipes, wastewater infrastructure and the environment.

**For more information, press only:**

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**For more information on Defend Your Drains North Texas and the Holiday Grease Roundup, visit:**

<https://www.defendyourdrainsnorthtexas.com>

**About the North Central Texas Council of Governments:**

NCTCOG is a voluntary association of local governments established in 1966 to assist local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit and coordinating for sound regional development. NCTCOG's purpose is to strengthen both the individual and collective power of local governments and to help them recognize regional opportunities, eliminate unnecessary duplication, and make joint decisions.

NCTCOG serves a 16-county region of North Central Texas, which is centered on the two urban centers of Dallas and Fort Worth. Currently, NCTCOG has over 230 member governments including 16 counties, numerous cities, school districts and special districts. For more information on the NCTCOG Environment and Development Department, visit [www.nctcog.org/envir](http://www.nctcog.org/envir).

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