

Total Maximum Daily Load Newsletter

Third Quarter - June 2023



New TMDL Deliverables Available for Distribution

This quarter, two TMDL subcommittees drafted and completed multiple deliverables to increase regional education and awareness related to the project. These resources can be shared throughout various communities to inform practices and behaviors that may impact regional water quality.

The TMDL Wastewater subcommittee has created an On-Site Sewage Facility (OSSF or septic

system) [postcard mailer](#). This postcard seeks to educate septic system owners on proper care and maintenance techniques to increase the system's longevity. Readers will also find helpful reminders on basic wastewater system care, such as only flushing the three P's (Pee, Poop, and toilet Paper). Currently under development is a complementary brochure that explains these concepts in greater depth.

The TMDL Stormwater subcommittee has completed an educational explainer video on pet waste, "[Doo the Right Thing](#)". This video details the viruses and bacteria that are transmitted through exposure to pet waste and how this exposure impacts animals, humans, and regional ecosystems. The video can be accessed via NCTOG's [YouTube channel](#).

TMDL Annual Program Summary and Five-Year Status Report

The TMDL 2023 Annual Program Summary is available for review on the NCTCOG [TMDL page](#). This summary displays the clear progress being made to reducing the amount of bacteria loading in the Greater Trinity River basin. Program highlights from this year include increased participation in the Holiday Grease Roundup and the creation of the new educational explainer videos, "No Muss, No Fuss- Be Wise When You Flush", "Only Flush the Three P's", and "Septic System Maintenance for Homeowners". Links to presentations and other resources created during this work cycle can be found on the TMDL page under "Workshops and Webinars" and "Resources" respectively.

Additionally, NCTCOG has completed [the five-year status report](#) and it is available on the [TMDL home page](#). This report details progress made from 2018-2022. This is the third status report of the program and is meant to provide the Coordination Committee with the tools to efficiently review the implementation and impact of strategies outlined in the I-Plan, and to coordinate further with the technical subcommittees to identify areas to focus future resources and efforts.



Available Now: [Restaurant Program Toolkit](#)

A draft of the Trash Free Texas [Restaurant Program Toolkit](#) is now posted on the Trash Free Texas website! The toolkit includes resources and strategies for both restaurants and communities to jointly promote less usage of single-use plastic items in local restaurants, like plastic straws and plastic utensils. Efforts to reduce these items are a win for both groups because they save money and reduce litter in our communities.

The toolkit includes promotional items, such as window decals, flyers, napkin inserts, and customer leave behind cards. It also includes case studies and program implementation strategies. The toolkits are customizable to support a variety of plastic reduction goals and users

*Top: an example of a
napkin holder insert.
Bottom: an example of
a window cling decal.*

may choose the tools that are most applicable to their needs. The photos to the right feature just some of the promotional materials available in the toolkits to help spread the word!

It does not matter if users are starting a new plastic reduction program or incorporating these tools into existing sustainability practices. There is something to support every community's objective.

Upcoming Flooding, Stormwater, and Water Quality Programs Webinar

Join NCTCOG on Wednesday, June 21st, from 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM for a webinar to learn about our strategic initiatives that address flood risks and water quality challenges due to rapid growth and urbanization! NCTCOG has numerous regional programs, initiatives, and partnerships for flood risk, stormwater, and water quality. These partnerships are leveraged with our regional committees made up of cities, counties, and special districts. This webinar will provide an overview of the currently available and regional programs and resources that will help our members become more resilient!



Watershed Management: Reduce flooding, exceed state water quality standards, and link greenways.

- Trinity River Common Vision Program
- Flood Management Task Force (FMTF)
- 16-County Watershed Management Initiative
- Initiative Regional Stormwater Management Coordinating Council (RSWMCC)

Natural Resources: Preservation, conservation, restoration, and efficient use of natural resources.

- Water Resources Council (WRC)

Public Works: Standardization of practices for public streets, water, sewer, and stormwater.

- Regional Public Works
- Integrated Stormwater Management (iSWM)
- Sustainable Public Rights of Way (SPROW)
- Standard Drawings

[Add to Calendar](#)



North Texas Community Cleanup Challenge

The 2023 North Texas Community Cleanup Challenge (NTCCC) ran this spring from March 1, 2023, through May 31, 2023. Participating communities now have until June 30th to log their cleanup data. You can view the leaderboard or learn more about the NTCCC by visiting their [webpage](#). When logging data in the [Texas Litter Database](#), participants must use the External ID **CCC23**, so the data can be accessed. Many thanks to the communities who joined our cleanup challenge this year! An additional thank you goes to the cities of Burleson, Grand Prairie, and Mansfield who participated in the Mayor's Challenge. These cities have issued official proclamations in support of the North Texas Community Cleanup Challenge.

2023 NTCCC Participating Communities

Burleson
Carrollton
Dallas
Ennis
Frisco
Garland
Grand Prairie

Grapevine
Mansfield
Mesquite
Plano
Princeton
Richardson
Rosser Village

"Doo the Right Thing" Photo Contest

Do you have a dog that's absolutely "a-doo-rable?" Enter the "Doo The Right Thing" Photo Contest! This contest allows pet owners to showcase their pup(s) for the opportunity to have them featured as a Watershed Protector on our Doo The Right Thing social media profiles. Pet photos can be [submitted](#) from now until June 30. After, the general public will vote on the winners from August 7-25 and winners will be announced in October. Review the [contest terms and conditions](#) for further details.



Follow @DooNorthTexas on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) to see past winners and use the hashtag #DootheRightThing to show how you protect our watersheds from pet waste!

WATER Videos Now Available en Español

The [Wastewater and Treatment Education Roundtable \(WATER\)](#) has translated two



educational explainer videos into Spanish. [FOGs: Los Aceites y Las Grasas](#) (FOGs: Fats, Oils, and Grease) describes the dangers of allowing these materials into sinks and drainage systems and explains proper disposal techniques. [Las Toallitas Lo Obstruyen Todo](#) (Wipes Clog Everything) discusses the importance of

throwing wipes in the trash rather than flushing them down the toilet. Translations were made to increase the accessibility of wastewater education materials to multiple demographics. Both videos can be viewed and shared via NCTCOG's [YouTube Channel](#). Be on the lookout for additional translated videos through the end of the year.

Upcoming Meetings and Workshops



TMDL Coordination Committee Meeting

June 14, 2023
9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Virtual, via Microsoft Teams

[Add to Calendar](#)



Integrated Stormwater Management Meeting

July 12, 2023
1:30 - 3:30 PM
Virtual, via Microsoft Teams
[Add to Calendar](#)



Water Resources Council

July 12, 2023
10:30 AM- 12:30 PM
Pitstick Conference Room
NCTCOG Offices
616 Six Flags Drive
Arlington, TX 76011

[Add to Calendar](#)



Stormwater Public Education Task Force



Wastewater and Treatment Education Roundtable Meeting

July 20, 2023

July 19, 2023
9:30 AM- 11:30 AM
Metroplex Conference Room
NCTCOG Offices
616 Six Flags Drive
Arlington, TX 76011

[Add to Calendar](#)

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Metroplex Conference Room
NCTCOG Offices
616 Six Flags Drive
Arlington, TX 76011

[Add to Calendar](#)



**Joint Stormwater and
Wastewater Subcommittee
Meeting**

August 1, 2023
9:30 AM- 11:00 AM
Virtual, Via Microsoft Teams

[Add to Calendar](#)



**Regional Stormwater
Management
Coordinating Council
Meeting**

August 9, 2023
9:30 - 11:30 AM
Pitstick Conference Room
NCTCOG Offices
616 Six Flags Drive
Arlington, TX 76011

[Add to Calendar](#)



**Upper Trinity River Basin
Coordinating Committee**

August 22, 2023
9:30 - 11:30 AM
Metroplex Conference Room
NCTCOG Offices
616 Six Flags Drive
Arlington, TX 76011

[Add to Calendar](#)

For questions or additional information on this newsletter, please contact:

Hannah Allen

Environmental Planner III

hallen@nctcog.org

(817) 695-9215

The North Central Texas Council of Governments is working with stakeholders to implement best management practices to address and prevent bacteria TMDLs in the North Central Texas region. To view the current Implementation Plan, or to utilize available resources, please visit www.nctcog.org/TMDL.

