

Newsletter

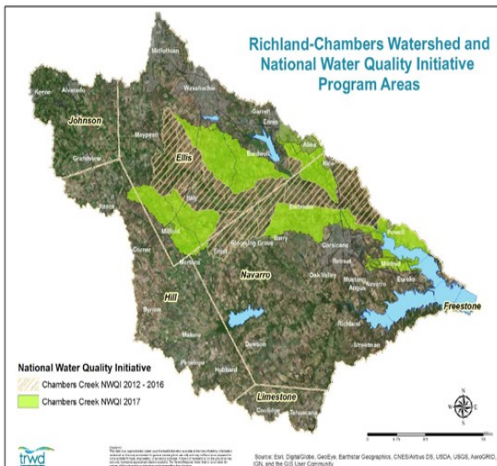
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Richland Chambers Hosts Stakeholder and USDA-NRCS Incentive Program Meeting

The Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD), in cooperation with Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Service, and the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), hosted a stakeholder and USDA-NRCS Incentive Program meeting on Wednesday, November 14, 2018, at the Cowboy Church of Ennis. The meeting had two major purposes: to communicate new progress and gather feedback on the Richland Chambers Watershed Protection Plan (WPP), and to inform and help register qualifying landowners for the local National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) program.

The TRWD provided an overview of the Richland Chambers WPP, which is currently being developed to protect water resources, reduce pollution, and accommodate for a growing population by developing useful planning tools for homeowners throughout the watershed. The NWQI presented information on their program's financial and technical assistance for farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners interested in improving the water quality and aquatic habitats in priority watersheds of Chambers Creek.

For more information on the Richland Chambers WPP or the NWQI, please contact Sarah Grella (TRWD) at 940-765-3262 or at sarah.grella@trwd.com.



Richland-Chambers Watershed



NRCS Rainfall Simulator Demonstration. Picture: Tina Hendon, TRWD.

HAPPENING NOW! 2018 Holiday Grease Roundup

November 26, 2018 - January 7, 2019

Rather than pouring your grease in the drain during the holidays, participate in the 2018 Holiday Grease Roundup and recycle it for free! For more information about this program and grease collection sites, visit

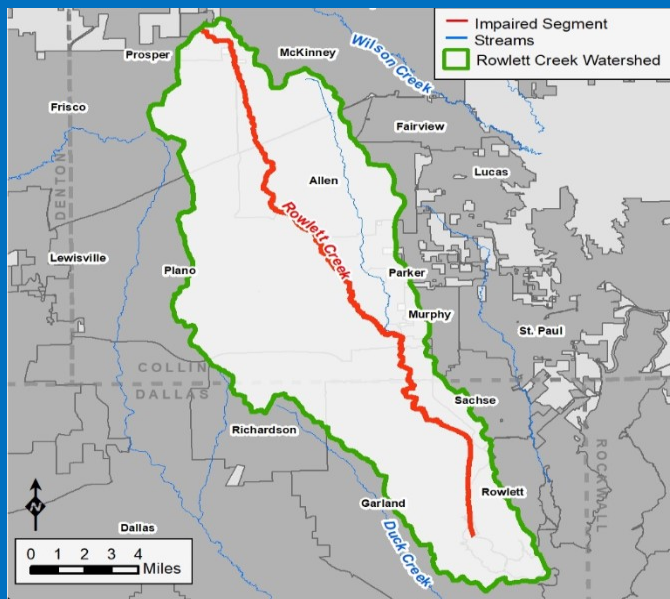
www.ceasethegreasentx.com or contact Hannah Allen, hallen@nctcog.org



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Characterizing the Rowlett Creek Watershed



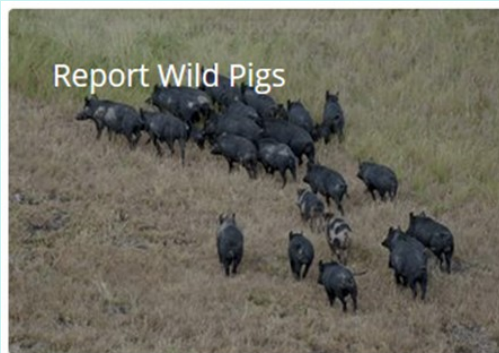
Rowlett Creek flows through the cities of Plano, Garland, McKinney, Frisco, Allen, and Murphy, and into a major water supply reservoir owned by the City of Dallas.

The characterization of this highly urbanized watershed will address a bacteria impairment, as well as other parameters selected by stakeholders. Routine water quality and stormwater monitoring will be conducted to analyze pollutant concentrations associated with these flows. Data will be used to assess current conditions and document water quality trends in Rowlett Creek.

The project, which is part of the TCEQ's 303d Vision Project in the Upper Trinity River Basin, began September 2018, and is a joint effort between Texas A&M AgriLife Extension and the City of Plano.

For more information about the Rowlett Creek Characterization Program, please visit the TCEQ website [here](#), or contact Dr. Fouad Jaber at Fouad.Jaber@ag.tamu.edu.

Texas A&M Feral Hog Reporting Site is Now Available!



The Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute (NRI) has released a feral hog reporting tool that allows

users to report feral hog sightings and damage. The easy-to-use tool is open to all members of the public and is available on the NRI's Wild Pigs website, here:

<https://wildpigs.nri.tamu.edu/>

Save the Date! Upcoming TMDL Meetings

Stormwater Technical Subcommittee Meeting

January 22, 2019, 9:30am

Wastewater Technical Subcommittee Meeting

February 7, 2019, 9:30am

Monitoring Coordination Forum

May 23, 2019, 9:30am

TMDL Coordination Committee Meeting

June 13, 2019, 9:30am

All meetings will be held at the NCTCOG Offices at 616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, Texas, 76011. Due to construction in our offices, rooms are to be determined. For more information, please visit the TMDL [website](#) or email Mayra Lopez at mlopez@nctcog.org.



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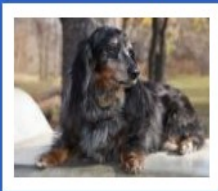
Calendar Photo Contest Winners Announced!

2019 Doo the Right Thing Calendar Photo Contest

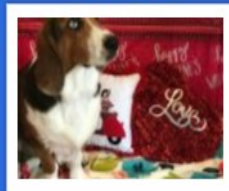
The 2019 Doo the Right Thing Calendar Photo Contest was a big success! 1,147 votes were cast to choose the winners from over 200 submissions.

Thank you to all the dog owners who took the Doo the Right Thing pledge, this helps keep people and pets healthy and our local waters clean—congratulations to all our winners!

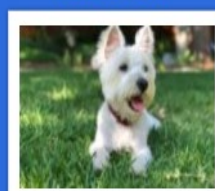
January



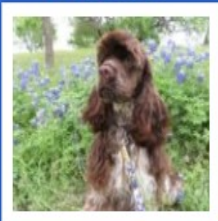
February



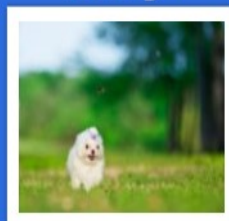
March



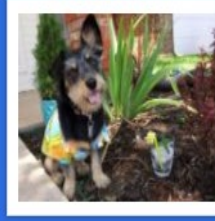
April



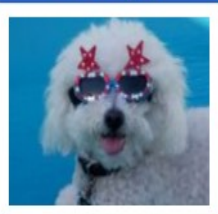
May



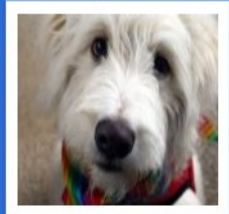
June



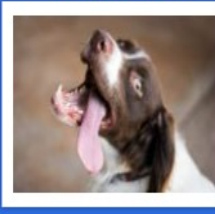
July



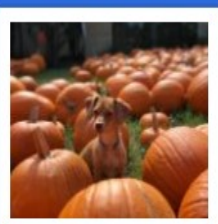
August



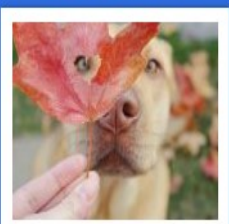
September



October



November



December



Your votes and “shares” made this calendar possible—Thank you! We continue to encourage communities to take the pledge to Doo the Right Thing.

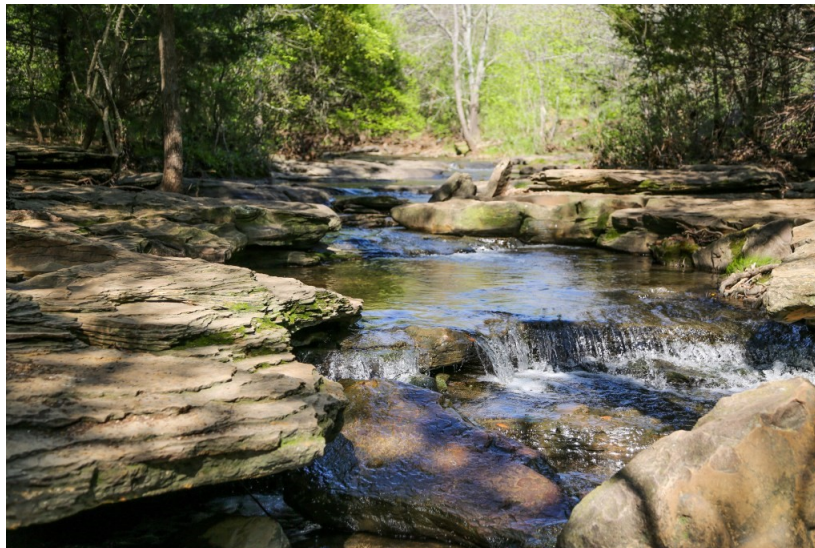
To see the full photo gallery of all entries, submit your dog’s photo for next year’s contest and /or pledge to Doo the Right Thing, visit www.dfwstormwater.com/petwaste.

For more information on this program, contact Crysta Guzman at cguzman@nctcog.org.



2019 Urban Riparian Symposium

Grapevine Convention Center Grapevine, Texas
February 27 – March 1, 2019



- ◆ Early Registration is Open! [Register Online](#)
- ◆ Conference Room Block at [Comfort Inn Hotel Grapevine](#) Ends 02/05/2019. King or Double Rooms \$99/night and free parking. [Reserve a room through this link for special conference rate.](#)

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsorship includes logo on all materials and complimentary registrations.

Creek Sponsorship \$500 – includes logo on all materials and 2 complimentary registrations.

River Sponsorship \$1,000 – includes logo on all materials and up to 4 complimentary registrations.

Payment can be made by check or credit card through Paypal. Learn more at [Sponsorship webpage](#).

CALL FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS

Abstracts are being sought for oral presentations and posters on Urban Riparian and Stream restoration with a focus on community involvement. Please submit abstracts via email to Blake Alldredge at balldredge@utrwd.com with the subject line “TRA Abstract 2019” on or before December 7, 2019.

If your abstract is accepted, it will be published in the Conference Proceedings. The sessions for the Conference Program will be organized based on the list of topics below. Provided your presentation meets the selection criteria, we will do our best to include you in the program.

Session Topics for Conference

Best Management Practices

Re-vegetation Methods
Green Infrastructure
Passible versus Active Management
Watershed Scale Restoration

Ecology and Biology

Riparian Vegetation
Urban Wildlife and/or Habitat
Source versus Symptom
Novel Ecosystems

Regulations

Mission Conflicts
Finding and/or Managing Funding
Restoration Drivers (Goals)
Contractual and Regulatory Limitations

Riparian Area Management

Invasive and/or Endangered Species
Function versus Form
Pollution Abatement Measures
Management/Maintenance
Monitoring Results Over Time

Education and Outreach

Stakeholder Interface
Monitoring Success
Managing Expectations
Non-profits/Volunteers
Building Skill Level in Your Area
Multiple Benefits from Restoration

Hydrology

Riparian Influence on Water Quality
Repairing Hydrology, Small Scale
Impacts of Flood and Stormwater
Improving Stormwater Connections

Hydrology

Watershed or Reach Scale
Case Studies (Good or Bad)
Bidding/Contractor Issues

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Featured TMDL Implementation Strategy:

Implementation Strategy 4.3 Avian Management Plan

Feeding waterfowl is a very popular public activity near urban lakes. However, the feeding of waterfowl has become an increasingly larger issue in ecological and human health terms. The US Fish and Wildlife Service actively [discourages](#) the supplemental feeding of waterfowl for several reasons:

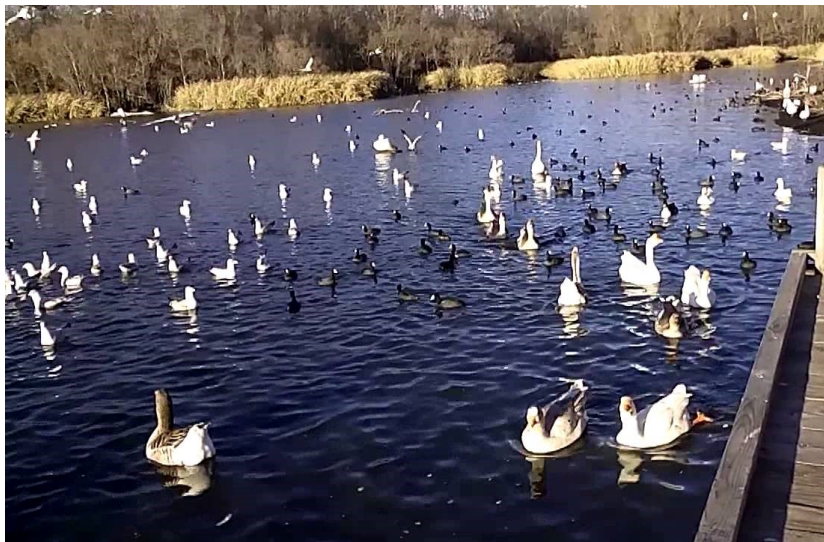
- Can lead to dependency on humans
- Transmission of disease
- Delayed (or eliminated) migration
- Overpopulation
- Poor water quality

Several cities in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, including Addison, Bedford, and Dallas, have passed ordinances against feeding wildlife.



Signage discouraging avian feeding.

The goal of Implementation Strategy 4.3 is to focus on measures that discourage avian feeding in Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) with bacteria-impaired waterways to reduce the bacteria loading of water bodies caused by avian populations. The NCTCOG will work with TMDL communities to develop education materials to educate their citizens on the hazards of avian feeding.



Migrating birds resting in White Rock Lake, Dallas, TX.

A list of wildlife feeding ordinances (local and non-local), as well as a collection of literature on the effects of waterfowl on water quality, available on the TMDL Stormwater Subcommittee [website](#).

The North Central Texas Council of Governments is working with stakeholders to implement bacteria TMDLs throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. To view the I-Plan for Twenty-one Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria in the Greater Trinity River Region, or utilize available resources, please visit www.nctcog.org/TMDL.