

North Central Texas Council of Governments

AGENDA

Wastewater and Treatment Education Roundtable

Thursday, April 16, 2026

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Chris W. Burkett Service Center

620 S Wisteria Street

Mansfield, TX 76063

Chair: Andrea Chick, North Texas Municipal Water District

Vice Chair: Kimberly Morris, City of Lewisville

1. **Welcome and Introductions.**
2. **Meeting Summary.** The [January 15, 2026 meeting summary](#) is available online for your review.

The January 15, 2026 meeting summary was approved.

3. **2025 Holiday Grease Roundup Results and Next Steps.** NCTCOG will present the final results of the 2025 Holiday Grease Roundup and share information on the 2026 Event. NCTCOG will also seek feedback from attendees on improvements to the event and the marketing materials provided.

NCTCOG shared the results of the [2025 Holiday Grease Roundup](#), noting participation from 49 partners and 48 drop-off locations to date. NCTCOG also shared that additional results are still pending from American BioSource and other partnering entities. Based on information received so far, 7,749 gallons of grease have been collected, and partners indicated through the post-event survey that the event continues to be a valuable outreach and education tool.

NCTCOG also noted that 2025 marked the first year that partnership certificates were provided to partners who participated in the event and completed the post-event survey. Respondents of the post-event survey repeated the need for improved communication from the grease collection vendor and earlier access to outreach materials to better support partnering communities. Survey responses also highlighted interest in additional marketing materials, including moving outreach materials into Canva-based editable templates. Staff also noted that additional efforts will be made to ensure materials and digital content are more accessible and [ADA compliant](#), including considerations for color contrast, font selection, and alternative text.

NCTCOG also shared next steps for the program, including plans to explore new grease collection vendors and dates for the 2026 Holiday Grease Roundup, scheduled from November 1, 2026 to January 31, 2027.

4. **Defend Your Drains North Texas Promotional Activities Discussion.** NCTCOG will provide an update on activities and analytics from the Defend Your Drains website and social media activities. NCTCOG will also provide an update on the Vietnamese educational explainer video translations.

NCTCOG provided an update on promotional activities and shared overall website users have increased, though average engagement time remains an area for improvement, with additional content and updates planned.

NCTCOG also shared that the Vietnamese translations of [Proper Medication Disposal](#) and [Wipes Block Everything](#) educational videos have been completed and were uploaded to YouTube.

NCTCOG reported that social media engagement has decreased compared to the same period in 2025 and shared plans to enhance outreach efforts in the coming months through expanded use of reels, carousel posts, and pop culture references, as well as improved accessibility and [ADA compliance](#) beginning with May 2026 posts.

Staff also shared updates on forthcoming new NCTCOG agency branding.

5. **FY2026 Work Program Update and FY2027 Work Program Discussion.** NCTCOG will present a brief update on the FY2026 Work Program. NCTCOG will request feedback from attendees and members on tasks, priorities, and potential changes for the FY2027 Work Program.

NCTCOG staff shared that invoices were distributed via email in late December 2025 and shared that technical issues affected invoice distribution in some other programs. Based on internal review, NCTCOG believes that all WATER invoices were distributed appropriately; however, participants were encouraged to reach out if they did not receive an invoice or had questions, noting that the invoice email may have appeared spam-like.

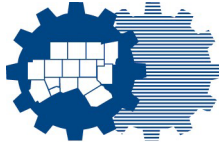
NCTCOG shared that cost-sharing amounts for FY2027 will remain the same, pending release of the 2026 Population Estimates. NCTCOG thanked all cost-sharing members for their continued support of the WATER Work Program and noted the participation of 11 first-time participants and 26 returning members in FY2026, with at least four more participants expected to join the program.

Attendees expressed interest in seeing additional educational social media content focused on water and wastewater treatment processes, as well as guidance and best practices related to ADA compliance. NCTCOG requested feedback on priorities, tasks, and potential changes for the FY2027 Work Program and shared that a draft program will be presented for discussion and potential approval at the July WATER meeting.

Staff also noted interest in scheduling a future Lunch-and-Learn meeting at a water or wastewater treatment plant, with more details to follow at the July meeting. Attendees also shared interest in touring American BioSource facilities to gain a better understanding of grease to fuel conversion especially pertaining to the Holiday Grease Roundup.

6. **“Wipes, Pipes, and Public Education” Workshop Update.** NCTCOG will provide a brief update on the status of the Summer 2026 training covering wipes.

NCTCOG provided a more detailed update on the planned Summer 2026 “Wipes, Pipes, and Public Education” training and Lunch-and-Learn–style workshop. The workshop is currently slated to be held at the NCTCOG offices and is anticipated to be a half-day training featuring three presenters, including the North Texas Municipal Water District, which will present information on wastewater treatment plant systems, the impacts of wipes on collection and treatment infrastructure, and related operational challenges.



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NCTCOG requested volunteers interested in serving as additional speakers or panelists, particularly municipal staff with experience in utility operations, wastewater treatment, or public education and outreach. Attendees requested that this workshop also include a “show and tell” session, similar to the October 2025 WATER meeting, in which workshop attendees can set up their educational booth games and outreach materials for others to view and share information on.

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

WIPPEES Act passed the U.S. Senate by unanimous consent at the end of March 2026 and is currently held at the desk in the House of Representatives, meaning it may be called for a vote at any time.

Staff noted that a large fatberg was recently cleared by Thames Water in London, highlighting the continued importance of public education campaigns related to wastewater and blockage prevention, including “Bin It, Don’t Block It” a London-based campaign focused on proper disposal practices.

NCTCOG also shared that the Environment & Development Department has launched a new outreach request page for communities interested in staff presentations, event support, tabling opportunities, or demonstrations.

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

City of Richardson shared that they hosted a very successful Trash Bash event on April 11.

City of Plano shared a recent incident involving a grease trap that contributed to system concerns and asked for input from other cities on tools, practices, or software used to map and identify sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) and FOG blockages, prompting a broader discussion on what different cities use for their programs.

City of Garland expressed interest in reviewing other organizations’ organizational charts and responsibilities to better understand how different cities assign responsibility for fats, oils, and grease (FOG) programs and wastewater operations, and multiple participants agreed this information would be useful. *NCTCOG will develop and distribute a survey to collect organizational structure information from participating entities and plans to share the compiled results at the next meeting.*

9. **Schedule for the Next WATER Meeting.**

The next WATER meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 16, 2026 at NCTCOG offices.

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.

