

2017 North Central Texas Water Resources Questionnaire

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) requests your entity's input related to water resources in North Central Texas via the following questionnaire. The questionnaire will focus on three priority themes defined from the previous year's questionnaire:

- Increasing public awareness of water resources;
- Water conservation and ensuring appropriate water supply; and
- Aging water and wastewater infrastructure.

NCTCOG is seeking information and data on what efforts and strategies have been pursued related to the priority themes. Additionally, NCTCOG is seeking feedback on potential opportunities that NCTCOG could offer to your entity and the region with regards to water resources.

Once again, NCTCOG will be highlighting "Good Partners in Water Resources" based on input received from the questionnaire. These case studies should feature efforts underway aimed at valuing North Central Texas water resources. Good Partners could be pursuing initiatives including, but not limited to: water conservation efforts, water reuse programs, native and drought tolerant lawn and gardening guidelines, watershed protection plans, sanitary sewer overflow reduction/elimination efforts, infrastructure improvement projects, education and outreach campaigns, etc.

The results of the questionnaire will be used to develop a user friendly, public document to promote regional collaboration of water resources. Information gathered this year will be compared to the baseline information compiled during the previous year and will aid in the development of a potential regional water campaign.

Who can take the survey? More than 1 survey may be submitted from each entity. Please have the staff most familiar with each topic complete a questionnaire (If necessary, please coordinate between departments).

Questions? Please call or email Rachel Evans at 817-695-9223 or Revans@nctcog.org. Thank you for your assistance.

PREPARED IN COOPERATION WITH THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

The preparation of this questionnaire was financed through funding from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

1. Contact Information

Name:

Title:

Agency:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

**May NCTCOG contact
you with follow up
questions? (Y/N)**

Increasing Public Awareness of Water Resources

2. How many water resources related outreach events did your entity participate in during fiscal year (FY) 2016? *(If not applicable, please write N/A).*

3. How many water related rebates or incentives did your entity give out during FY 2016? *(e.g. Toilets, shower heads, rain barrels, convert irrigation systems, water-wise lawn/garden, etc.)*
(If not applicable, please write N/A).

4. In what ways *(programs, actions, strategies, projects, etc.)* does your entity promote the value of water to your consumers/communities?

5. Does your entity have a website or social media platform aimed at educating the public about water resources?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable
- Other

If yes, record below the number of visits or hits your entity received during FY2016:

If other, please specify:

6. NCTCOG aims to highlight projects happening in North Central Texas that demonstrate entities acting as "**Good Partners in Water Resources**". If your entity has carried out a successful strategy, program or project that promotes the value of water resources (*see examples in questionnaire description*), please provide more information and accompanying resources below:

Water Conservation and Ensuring Appropriate Water Supply

7. Based on the questionnaire results from the previous year, residential water conservation was overwhelmingly recognized as a priority for protecting water resources in North Central Texas. What has your entity done in the last year to pursue that action?

8. How many stormwater or green infrastructure/low impact development (GI/LID) projects did your entity implement during FY 2016? *(If not applicable, please write N/A).*

9. Does your entity utilize smart meter technology?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable
- Other

If yes, record below how many meters have this technology:

If other, please specify:

10. Does your entity have water conservation guidelines or ordinances implemented?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable
- Other

If other, please specify:

11. Does your entity impose a mandatory irrigation schedule, even when not in drought conditions?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable
- Other

If other, please specify:

Aging Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

12. Has your entity replaced or repaired any aging water or wastewater infrastructure during FY 2016?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable
- Other

If yes, record below how many projects have been pursued:

If other, please specify:

13. Has your entity replaced or repaired any septic tank systems during FY 2016? *(through replacement at local government facilities, through residential rebate programs, etc.)*

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable
- Other

If yes, record below the number of systems replaced:

If other, please specify:

14. How is your entity planning for increase water and wastewater capacity needs as the population grows in North Central Texas?

15. Did your entity received grant or additional funding to implement water or wastewater infrastructure improvement projects during FY 2016?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable
- Other

If yes or other, please provide more information below:

16. What changes have been made to improve challenges associated with sanitary sewer overflows?

NCTCOG Initiatives

17. NCTCOG is interested in exploring the opportunity to launch a regional water campaign - an all inclusive branding effort that would serve to bridge the existing and developing water resources programs into one comprehensive and mutually complementary initiative which would be aimed at individuals, local governments, and businesses.

What would be the most important component to include in this regional campaign?

Would your entity be interested in being a partner in this campaign?

18. Check yes if you are interested in NCTCOG providing your entity more information about how to participate in the following NCTCOG programs:

- Integrated Stormwater Management (ISWM)
- Wastewater And Treatment Education Roundtable
- Texas SmartScape
- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Implementation Plan (I-Plan) Program
- COMMON VISION Program
- Vision 303(d) Program for the Upper Trinity River Basin
- Trash Free Waters

If other, please specify:

19. What resources can NCTCOG provide to help promote the importance of protecting water resources in North Central Texas?

- Education toolkit on the value of water (*Municipal staff, elected officials, residential, commercial businesses, etc .*)
- Creating a library of resources, best management practices (BMPs) and tools available to support water resources planning efforts
- Develop regional recommendations for water resources (*Conservation guidelines, guidelines for joining regional system for water and wastewater, checklist for municipal water use efficiency, resources for coming off septic tank systems, watershed protection strategies, etc.*)
- Provide presentations on NCTCOG programs and/or the value of water at workshops, meetings, public events, etc.
- Other

If other, please specify:

North Central Texas Water Resources Report: 2016 Questionnaire Responses and Trends

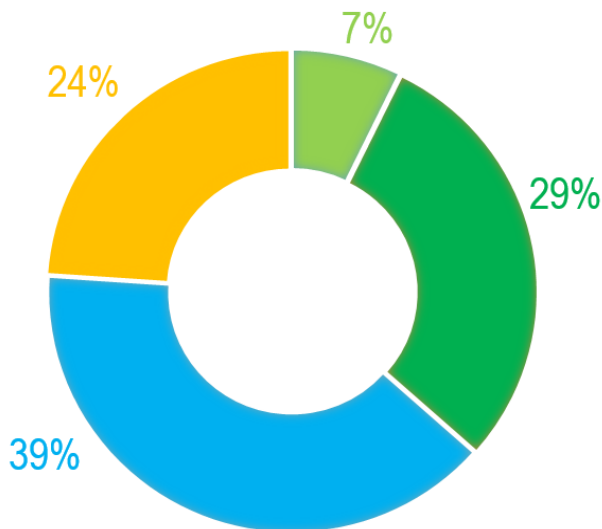


North Central Texas
Council of Governments
Environment & Development

In March of 2016, The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) distributed a questionnaire to gather a baseline understanding of what communities are, or will be doing, related to water resources. Additionally, NCTCOG wanted to compile information regarding water resources programs implemented in the region and identify and address any regional concerns about future water management.

The 2016 North Central Texas Water Resources Report was developed to share the results of the questionnaire. A total of 56 regional entities, including local governments, water districts, groundwater districts, independent school districts, and the general public, responded to the questionnaire. The results indicated three priority themes for water resources in North Central Texas: Increasing Public Awareness of Water Resources, Water Conservation & Ensuring Appropriate Water Supply, and Aging Water & Wastewater Infrastructure.

Questionnaire respondents were given the option to 'check all that apply' or to skip on each question. Therefore, percentages in the graphics below are calculated by the number a choice received divided by the total number of answers received and may not reflect the opinions of all 56 participating entities.



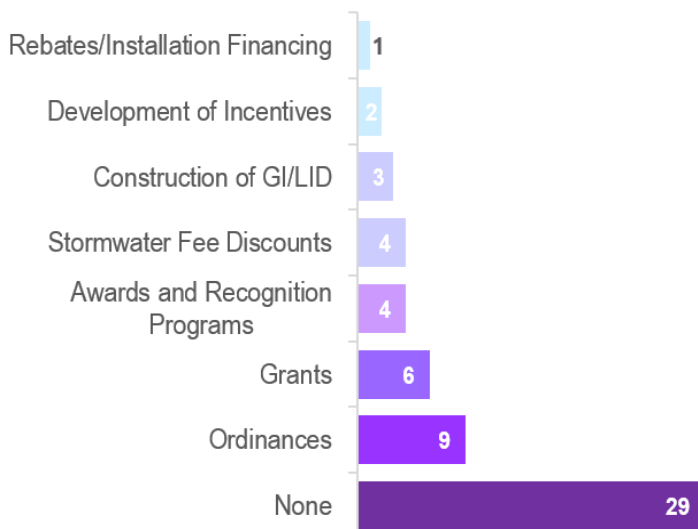
Water Resources Program Participation

Entities had the opportunity to review and select water resources programs and efforts in their entity currently participates in. Watershed planning and/or guideline development encompasses activities including, but not limited to: Sanitary Sewer Overflow Initiative; Stormwater or watershed ordinances; Riparian buffer initiatives; Watershed protection plans.

55 out of 56 entities responded to this question.

Top Five Responses:

- Sanitary Sewer Overflow Initiative (32)
- Water Education and Outreach Programs (32)
- Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Program (25)
- Stormwater Ordinances or Fee Credits (23)
- Irrigation Guidelines/Ordinances (23)



Engagement in Green Infrastructure and Low Impact Development Programs

Entities were asked how they engage with green infrastructure and low impact development. The responses indicate that there are not many initiatives underway aimed at incentivizing an increased implementation of green infrastructure and low impact development among the participating entities. One respondent commented that while they do have an ordinance related to green infrastructure, it is not a requirement.

46 out of 56 entities responded to this question.

Monitoring groundwater quality • **Preserving agricultural land and open space** • *Treating stormwater runoff* • Better management of recreational activities • **Improving water quality monitoring to detect pollution** • *Improving home and garden practices* • **Residential water conservation** • *Building new water storage structures* • **Educating municipal officials** • Improving wastewater treatment • *Making water quality and quantity data available to the public* • Preserving and restoring buffer zones and wetlands

Important Actions to Protect North Central Texas Water Resources

Entities were asked to identify what actions would provide the most protection for water resources in North Central Texas. An overwhelming majority identified residential water conservation as the main action to pursue.

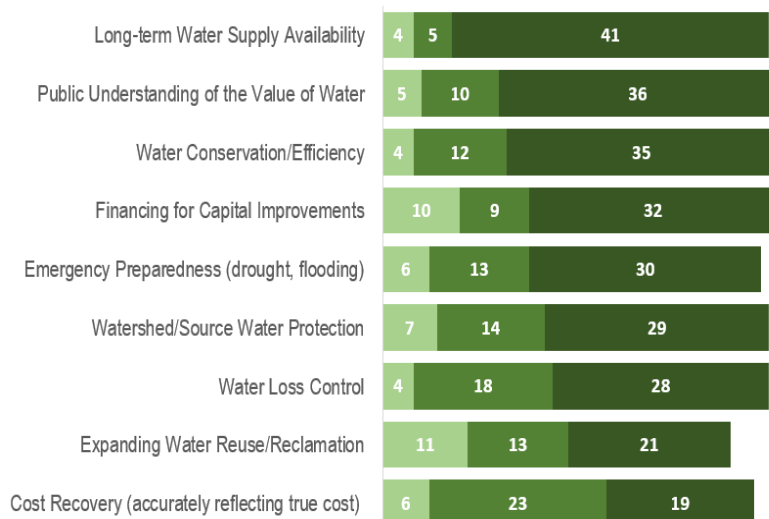
53 out of 56 entities responded to this question.

Top Five Responses:

- Residential Water Conservation (45)
- Building New Storage Structures (29)
- Educating Municipal Officials (28)
- Improving Home and Garden Practices (27)
- Improving Water Quality Monitoring to Detect Pollution (25)

Responses Related to Wastewater Management

- 18% of respondents plan to expand wastewater services while 2% say they plan to join a regional system
- 27 entities said they have septic tank systems in their service areas
- 65% of entities said funding is the biggest challenge when it comes to repairing and replacing aging wastewater infrastructure



Water Challenges in North Central Texas

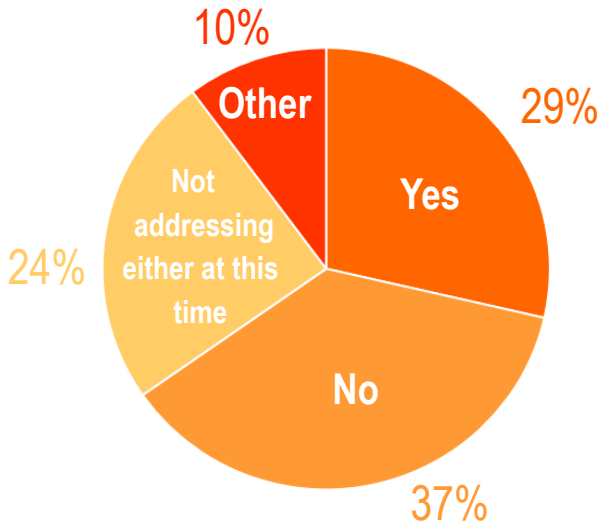
Entities were asked to rate the importance of water related challenges in North Central Texas based off when it should be addressed when planning for future water resources.

54 out of 56 entities responded to this question.

A challenge we should already be addressing

A challenge that should be addressed in the near future

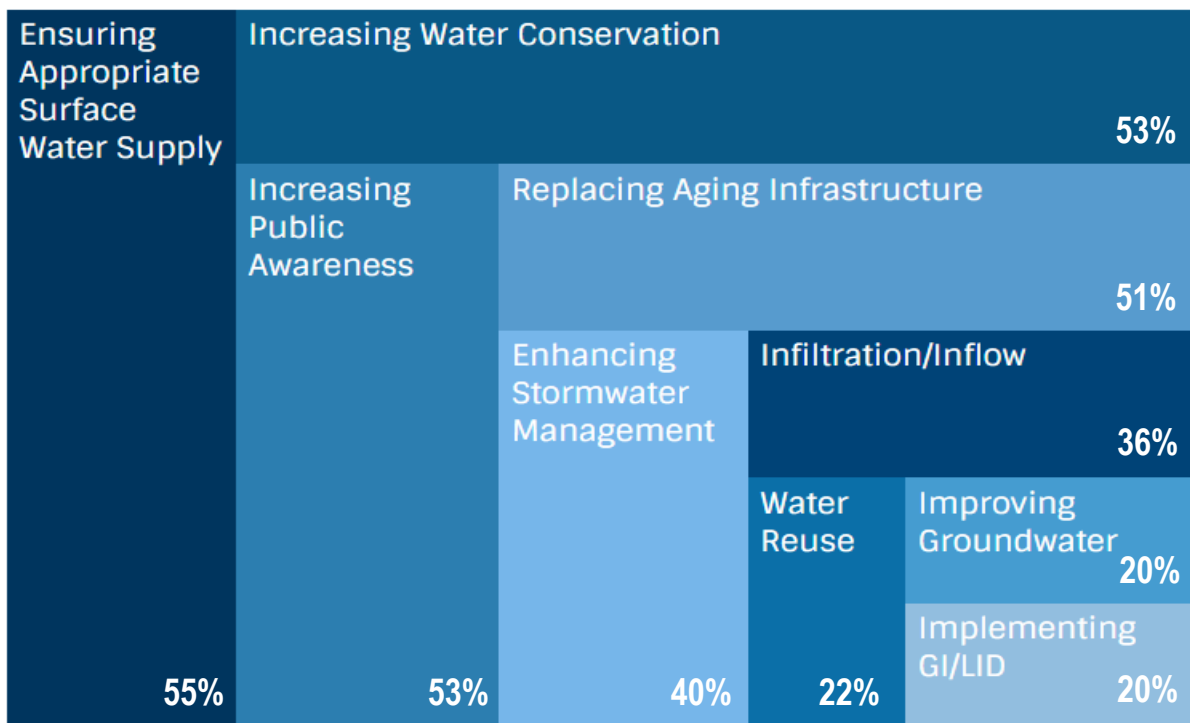
An important challenge to be aware of



Utilization of Direct Reuse or Indirect Reuse for Water Supply or Irrigation

Entities were asked if they are using, exploring or planning to use direct reuse or indirect reuse to increase existing irrigation or drinking water supplies. Questionnaire respondents' comments indicate that both direct reuse and indirect reuse are already in practice in the North Central Texas region.

49 out of 56 entities responded to this question.



Water Quality Priorities in North Central Texas

Entities were asked to choose at least three priorities related to water quality in North Central Texas.

55 out of 56 entities responded to this question.



Implementation of Best Management Practices or Voluntary Practices in 2014 and 2015

Entities were asked to identify best management practices (BMPs) that were initiated or implemented in FY14 and 15. Several questionnaire respondents commented that while they did not initiate any new BMPs, the entity continued implementing existing BMPs and related programs.

54 out of 56 entities responded to this question.