

# On-Site Sewage Facility Authorized Agent Roundtable

October 29, 2024



*This project was funded by the  
U.S. Environmental Protection  
Agency through the Texas  
Commission on Environmental  
Quality.*



# Agenda

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- Introduction
- Joe Pool Lake and Village Creek-Lake Arlington Watershed On-Site Sewage Facilities Remediation Program
- Updates on the OSSF Database Project
- Roundtable Discussion





# **Joe Pool Lake and Village Creek-Lake Arlington Watershed On-Site Sewage Facilities Remediation Program**

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Heather Firn, Trinity River Authority



JOE POOL LAKE  
WATERSHED PROTECTION



Village Creek  
Lake Arlington  
WATERSHED  
PROTECTION

# JPL AND VCLA WPP JOINT IMPLEMENTATION FY24 – FY26

ON-SITE SEWAGE FACILITIES DATABASE AND REMEDIATION



TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
RESEARCH

TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

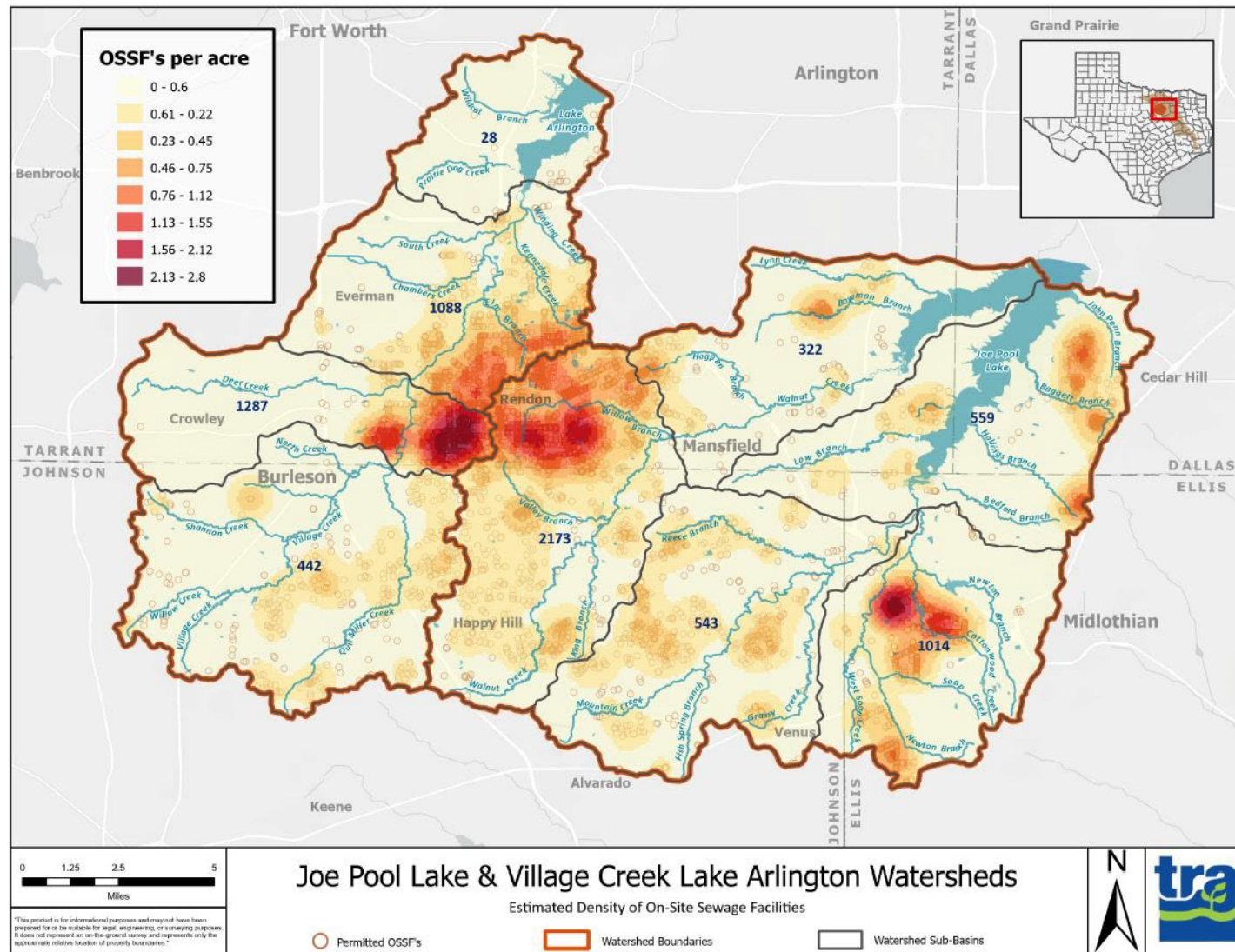
**Trinity River Authority of Texas**  
*Enriching the Trinity basin as a resource for Texans*

# Funding

- Federal: \$286,307.60
- Match: \$190,871.73
  - TRA in-kind
  - Texas A&M Extension and Texas A&M Research in-kind
- Total: \$477,179.33

# Tasks

3. OSSF Geodatabase and Inventory
4. Develop OSSF Application and Selection Criteria
5. Inspect, Repair and Replace OSSFs
6. OSSF Education and Outreach



Cities of Alvarado, Arlington, Burleson, Cedar Hill, Crowley, Dallas, Duncanville, Fort Worth, Grand Prairie, Joshua, Mansfield, and Midlothian. Dallas, Ellis, Johnson, and Tarrant counties.

## Related Pages

[Green Infrastructure](#)

[Litter and Illegal Dumping](#)

[On-Site Sewage Facilities Remediation Program](#)

[Watergoats](#)

## ON-SITE SEWAGE FACILITIES REMEDIATION PROGRAM

### Get up to \$8,000 to repair or install a septic system on your property!

Trinity River Authority of Texas has received funding through a Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 319(h) grant to fund the repair or installation of septic systems, also known as On-Site Sewage Facilities (OSSFs), in the Joe Pool Lake and Village Creek-Lake Arlington watershed in an effort to improve water quality in Mountain Creek, Walnut Creek, Village Creek and its tributaries. Some of these waterways are considered by the State as “concerned” for near nonattainment of the contract recreation use due to elevated bacteria concentrations or “impaired”. Failing OSSFs were identified as potential sources of pollution in the Joe Pool Lake and Village Creek-Lake Arlington Watershed Protection Plan. Funding will be available to repair or replace approximately 10 failing OSSFs within the watershed.



In an effort to improve water quality and protect public health, the Joe Pool Lake and Village Creek-Lake Arlington Watershed Partnership, in collaboration with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, has grant funding available to replace or repair failing septic systems that may be contributing to water quality impairments in the Joe Pool Lake and Village Creek-Lake Arlington watershed.



You may be eligible for a grant to cover up to \$8,000 of the cost for the design, permitting, and installation of a new septic system in the portions of Dallas, Ellis, Johnston, and Tarrant Counties located within the Joe Pool Lake and Village Creek-Lake Arlington watershed.

## Receiving applications December 2024 – August 2027

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until all funds are exhausted. The program closes August 2027.

***This project has been funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under assistance agreement (582-24-50223) to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.***

[Information Packet](#)

[Application Document](#)

### Legend

- Village Creek-Lake Arlington Watershed
- Joe Pool Lake Watershed
- Impaired Water Body
- Concerned Water Body

[https://trinityra.org/basin\\_planning/wp/projects/ossf.php](https://trinityra.org/basin_planning/wp/projects/ossf.php)





# Flyer

- Please share/make available in your office
- Installer/maintenance providers contact information?

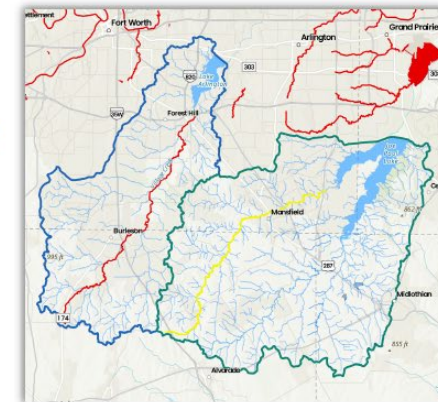


## SEPTIC SYSTEM GRANTS FOR HOMEOWNERS IN THE JOE POOL LAKE AND VILLAGE CREEK-LAKE ARLINGTON WATERSHED

▶▶ DECEMBER 2024 – AUGUST 2027

In an effort to improve water quality and protect public health, the Joe Pool Lake and Village Creek-Lake Arlington Watershed Partnership, in collaboration with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension **has grant funding available to replace or repair failing septic systems** that may be contributing to water quality impairments **in the Joe Pool Lake and Village Creek-Lake Arlington watershed.**

You may be eligible for a grant to **cover up to \$8,000 of the cost for the design, permitting, and installation of a new septic system** in the portions of Dallas, Ellis, Johnson, and Tarrant Counties located within the Joe Pool Lake and Village Creek-Lake Arlington watershed.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

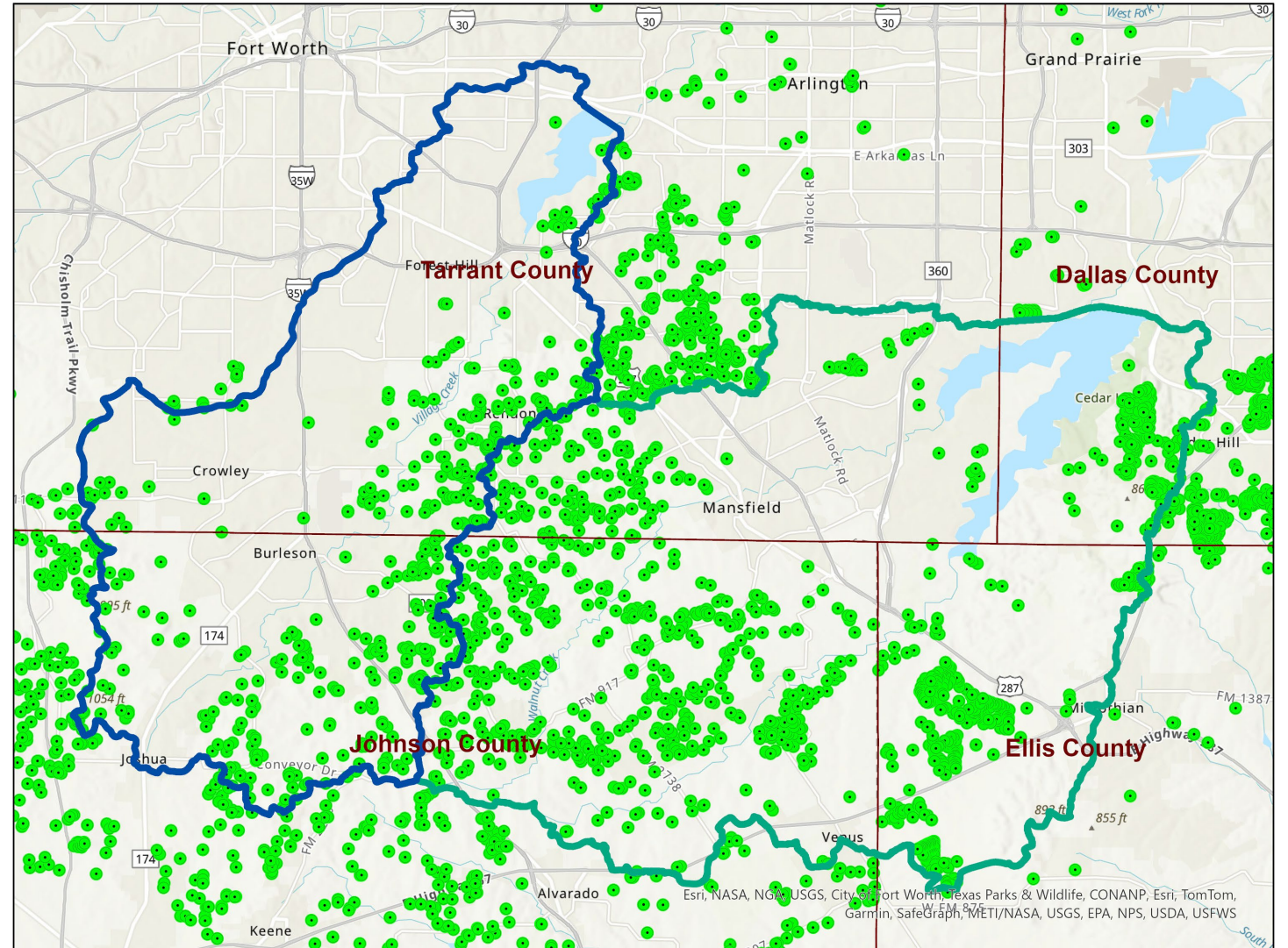
**Heather Firn**  
at [firmha@trinityra.org](mailto:firmha@trinityra.org) or **817-467-4343**

# GEODATABASE

Tarrant\_XY\_proj:

Table Get directions Zoom to

Address_all	[REDACTED] FORT WORTH TX 76140
AppDate	6/22/2022
InstallDate	
TreatMethod	Aerobic
DistMethod	Drip Emitters
SystemNotes	
FirstName	[REDACTED]
LastName	
Service Area	Inside SA



## Steps:

- Identify sewer service areas
- Geolocate permits (911 address or XY)
- Identify home (appraisal)
- Position on roof
- Review – verify with AA (location, permit number, date of install or application, type of system)

# GEODATABASE

Review: "Property location is correct however the location of the point in on the wrong building"



LEGAL DESCRIPTION MATCHES 2525 COLT LN IN TAD;  
ALSO SEE: 2525 COLT LN (#11965) FOR RESIDENTIAL  
OSSF FILE

Property - Subdivision	Property - Property - Block	Property - Lot
RANCHO VISTA ESTATES	3	1



# CEU'S

Tarrant Inventory

## CEUs: “Best Practices to manage and share spatial data. An introduction for Water Agencies in Texas”

- 4 credit hours
- Installers, designated representatives, maintenance providers, and site evaluators

Jon Niemann, *Chairman*  
Bobby Janecka, *Commissioner*  
Catarina R. Gonzales, *Commissioner*  
Kelly Keel, *Executive Director*



## TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

*Protecting Texas by Reducing and Preventing Pollution*

August 2, 2024

VIA-EMAIL

Dr. Anish Jantrania, P.E.  
Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
720 E. Blackland Rd.  
Temple, Tx 76502

Re: Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
*Best Practices to manage and share spatial data. An introduction for Water Agencies in Texas*  
Classroom Training  
Instructor: Gabriele Bonaiti, PhD (OS0033244 , Instructor Code: 806)

Dear Dr. Jantrania,

This notice of approval is in response to your application (assigned # 7577) received July 22, 2024, requesting approval of the referenced training. The application and supporting documentation comply with Title 30, Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 30 and meets requirements in the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) regulatory guidance document RG-373: *Approval of Training for Occupational Licensing*.

This training is approved for up to 4.0 credit hours awarded to On-Site Sewage Facility (OSSF) installers, designated representatives, maintenance providers, and site evaluators licensed in the State of Texas who complete the approved training in its entirety with the understanding training will not promote or endorse the products, product lines, or services of any manufacturer, distributor, or service provider.

As a reminder, training must be presented as approved, credit hours can only be issued for successfully completed training, and total credit hours should be rounded down to the nearest half-hour for reporting. Use the following approved provider and training codes along with the *Training Roster On-Line Submittal (TROLS)* procedure to electronically report completed approved training.

Provider Code & Name: 0189 Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
Course Code & Title: 1741 Best Practices to manage and share spatial data. An introduction for Water Agencies in Texas (OSSF)

If you have any questions or need assistance regarding occupational training approval, you may contact me at [paul.munguia@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:paul.munguia@tceq.texas.gov).

Sincerely,

Paul Munguia, Training Analyst  
Occupational Licensing Section, MC 178  
Occupational Licensing and Registration Division

# Assessment Criteria



TRINITY RIVER  
AUTHORITY OF TEXAS

## JOE POOL LAKE AND VILLAGE CREEK- LAKE ARLINGTON WATERSHED ON-SITE SEWAGE FACILITIES REMEDIATION PROGRAM

### GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

Homeowners within the Joe Pool Lake or Village Creek-Lake Arlington watershed that meet certain criteria are eligible to apply for one of the available grants to repair, install, or replace septic systems within the watershed. To qualify, the following criteria must be met:

- Home must be within the portion of Dallas, Ellis, Johnson, and Tarrant Counties located within the Joe Pool Lake or Village Creek-Lake Arlington watershed.
- Residence must be a single-family home served by a septic system.
- Applicant must own the property.
- The home must be occupied for the majority of the year.
- The existing home must have a septic system that has failed or have no septic system to treat sewer discharge. New construction homes are not eligible.
- Septic systems that are inappropriate for the soil type may also be considered if sufficient funding is available.
- Priority will be given to properties within 2,000 feet of an impacted water body.
- Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until all funds are exhausted. The program closes August 2027.

### NEEDS ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

To award grants for the repair, replacement, or installation of OSSFs in the watershed, TRA will evaluate the applications using the following criteria:

#### Location

Priority will be given to those applicants whose property is located within 2,000 feet of an identified TCEQ river/stream segment.\*

#### System Status

Priority will be given to systems deemed as failing and in need of repair or replacement by a licensed OSSF installer. An OSSF currently experiencing system backup, odor issues, and/or surfacing effluent may be impacting the surrounding area. The severity of the issue can indicate a greater risk of impact.

#### Order of Application Submittal

After the other two criteria are considered, priority will be given to those applicants that apply on a first come, first serve basis during the application period.

\*In the incidence of an influx of applications at the beginning of the application period, distance to a receiving water body will be given priority.

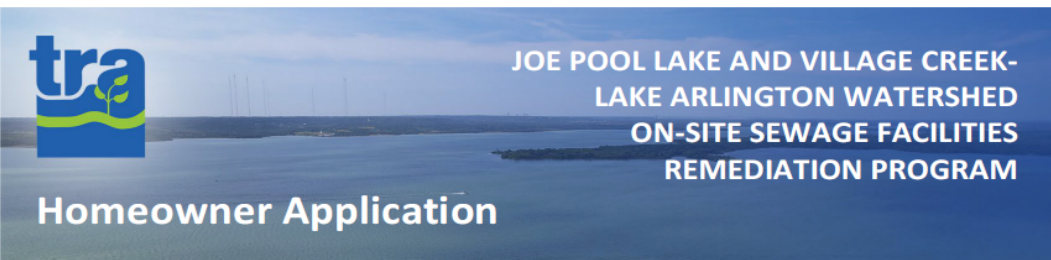
For more information, please contact:

**Heather Firn**

at [firmha@trinityra.org](mailto:firmha@trinityra.org) or **817-467-4343**



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**JOE POOL LAKE AND VILLAGE CREEK-  
 LAKE ARLINGTON WATERSHED  
 ON-SITE SEWAGE FACILITIES  
 REMEDIATION PROGRAM**

**Homeowner Application**

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*If the mailing address is not the same as the physical address or is a post office box, please complete the section below:*

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1. Is the property located within the Joe Pool Lake or Village Creek – Lake Arlington watershed?  YES  NO
- 2. Do you own the property where the septic system is located?  YES  NO
- 3. Is the property occupied for the majority of the year (>51% of the time)?  YES  NO

***If you answered NO to any of the above questions, do not proceed with this application. Only septic systems attached to a non-seasonal residence within the Joe Pool Lake and Village Creek-Lake Arlington watershed qualify for this grant program.***

- 4. How long have you owned this property? \_\_\_\_\_ Years \_\_\_\_\_ Months
- 5. Will the septic system be repaired or replaced at the above physical address?  YES  NO
- 6. Do you currently have electricity in the home?  YES  NO

**If NO, state the reason why you do not have electric service:** \_\_\_\_\_

- 7. Is there a well located on the property?  YES  NO
- If YES, is the well currently used as a water source?**  YES  NO

8. Number of bedrooms: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of occupants: \_\_\_\_\_ Home square footage: \_\_\_\_\_

**CURRENT SEPTIC SYSTEM CONDITION**

9. Is there currently a septic system on the property?  YES  NO

**If you answered YES, please complete the following information to the best of your knowledge.**

Describe the current system at your residence *(if it is unknown, simply write "unknown")*.

Year Installed: \_\_\_\_\_ Type of System: \_\_\_\_\_

Size of Tank: \_\_\_\_\_  Concrete  Metal  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of last pumpout or inspection: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you currently have a contract with a licensed Maintenance Provider?  YES  NO

Name of contracted Maintenance Provider: \_\_\_\_\_

Has the current system been deemed as failing or in need of repair by a licensed installer?  YES  NO

In need of:  Repair  Replacement (please check one)

Name of licensed installer: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Information *(continue on back if necessary)*:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

10. Describe the extent of failure, including the length of time the system has been failing, for example: poor drainage, foul odors, water backing up in the toilet, saturated yard, alarms, etc. *(continue on back if necessary)*.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**For Office Use**  
 Distance of system from identified TCEQ Stream Segment: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Stream Segment and Assessment Unit: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Subwatershed, as delineated in the Joe Pool Lake and/or Village Creek-Lake Arlington WPP: \_\_\_\_\_

## **PLEASE READ BEFORE SIGNING**

I, the undersigned applicant, do hereby certify that the information provided herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and understand that the information will be used to determine my eligibility for participation in the **Joe Pool Lake and Village Creek-Lake Arlington Watershed On-Site Septic Facility (OSSF) Grant Program**.

Further, I understand I may be required to furnish additional information and all other documents deemed necessary by the County and/or City of residence, the Trinity River Authority of Texas (Authority), and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension (AgriLife) to verify or confirm my property ownership, income, utility service, and condition of the current on-site septic facility (or lack thereof).

Furthermore, I give the permitting authority of the County and/or City of residence, as well as the Authority and AgriLife, permission to inspect and photograph the property listed above for the purpose of determining the severity of any public health nuisance related to the on-site septic facility on the property to determine eligibility for this program.

If selected for the project, and if I agree to participate, I understand that contractors for the design and installation of the system will be chosen by the Authority, AgriLife or myself. I hereby give permission for the contractors to access the property for the purpose of designing an appropriate system for the property, as well as performing the installation of the system. I also authorize the permitting authority of the County and/or City of residence, as well as the Authority and AgriLife, access to the property for the purpose of inspecting the installed system. I understand and agree that photographs of the property and system may be taken as part of the inspection process.

I, the undersigned applicant, do hereby agree that it is my responsibility as the homeowner to ensure there is proper plumbing in the home so that state regulations will be met when the home is connected to a new on-site septic facility.

I, the undersigned applicant, understand that this is an application only and in no way commits either myself, the County and/or City of residence, AgriLife, the Authority, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), or the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to any obligation to this program.

I, the undersigned applicant, understand that any approval granted on the basis of false or inaccurate information supplied herein is automatically revoked. I understand that if I have given materially false or misleading information or concealed information for the purpose of misleading the grant selection committee that I can be asked to reimburse fully the expense of the on-site septic facility that was paid for by this grant project. I agree to conform to all applicable laws of the State of Texas and the County and/or City of residence.

I, the undersigned applicant, understand that the grant program will pay a maximum of \$8,000 for the repair or replacement of an on-site septic facility and that any costs above and beyond \$8,000 will be the responsibility of the applicant. Payment method for any excess will be decided upon by myself and the installer.

Homeowner shall indemnify and hold harmless the Authority, AgriLife, its officers, directors, partners, employees, agents, successors, and assigns, each and any of them, from and against all claims, costs, losses, and damages, arising out of the design, placement, and installation on the on-site-septic system on Homeowner's property, including but not limited to, bodily injury, sickness, disease or death, injury to or destruction of tangible property, loss of use of tangible property, or mental anguish.



# Process

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Once  
homeowner  
application is  
received:



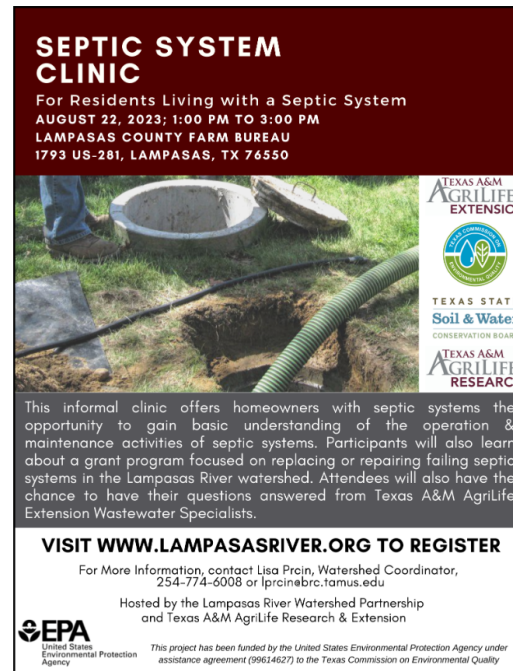


# Upcoming Septic System Clinic for Homeowners - December

- Overview of program
- Health and safety
- How to care for and feed the system
- General maintenance procedures

Lampasas / Meetings & Workshops / Septic System Clinic for Homeowners - August 22, 2023

## Septic System Clinic for Homeowners - August 22, 2023



**SEPTIC SYSTEM CLINIC**  
For Residents Living with a Septic System  
AUGUST 22, 2023; 1:00 PM TO 3:00 PM  
LAMPASAS COUNTY FARM BUREAU  
1793 US-281, LAMPASAS, TX 76550

This informal clinic offers homeowners with septic systems the opportunity to gain basic understanding of the operation & maintenance activities of septic systems. Participants will also learn about a grant program focused on replacing or repairing failing septic systems in the Lampasas River watershed. Attendees will also have the chance to have their questions answered from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Wastewater Specialists.

**VISIT [WWW.LAMPASASRIVER.ORG](http://WWW.LAMPASASRIVER.ORG) TO REGISTER**  
For More Information, contact Lisa Prcin, Watershed Coordinator, 254-774-6008 or [lprcin@brc.tam.us.edu](mailto:lprcin@brc.tam.us.edu)  
Hosted by the Lampasas River Watershed Partnership and Texas A&M AgriLife Research & Extension

**EPA** United States Environmental Protection Agency  
This project has been funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under assistance agreement (99614627) to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

### Workshop Details

August 22, 2023; 1:00 - 3:00 pm  
Lampasas County Farm Bureau  
1793 US-281, Lampasas, TX 76550 ([map](#))  
Doors open at 12:30 pm for sign in  
Preregistration is requested but not required

[Register Here](#)

### Workshop Description

Home septic systems, also known as on-site sewage systems, or OSSFs, are used to treat wastewater before it is dispersed on the property and are typically found in rural areas or areas that are not able to connect to a municipal waste collection system. Systems that are not functioning properly can contaminate our waterways with bacteria and other pollutants, in addition to causing human health hazards. The clinic will provide a basic understanding of the operational and maintenance activities of a septic system and explain how activities within the home impact septic systems.

There will be a presentation over health and safety considerations, how to care for and feed the system, and general maintenance procedures. The remainder of the clinic will offer participants the opportunity to ask questions in an informal setting.

Failing septic systems were identified by the Lampasas River Watershed Partnership as a potential source of bacterial contamination in nearby streams and waterways. The septic system maintenance clinic is offered as an educational component of the Lampasas River Watershed Protection Plan.

For questions, contact Lisa Prcin, 254-774-6008 or [lprcin@brc.tam.us.edu](mailto:lprcin@brc.tam.us.edu). For resources about septic systems in Texas, go to <http://ossf.tamu.edu/> or <https://lampasasriver.org/resources/ossf/>.

### CONTACT US

Lisa Prcin, Watershed Coordinator  
[lprcin@brc.tam.us.edu](mailto:lprcin@brc.tam.us.edu)  
(254) 774-6008

[COMPACT WITH TEXANS](#) [PRIVACY AND SECURITY](#) [ACCESSIBILITY POLICY](#) [STATE LINK POLICY](#) [STATEWIDE SEARCH](#) [VETERANS BENEFITS](#) [MILITARY FAMILIES](#) [RISK, FRAUD & MISCONDUCT HOTLINE](#) [TEXAS HOMELAND SECURITY](#) [TEXAS VETERAN'S PORTAL](#) [EQUAL OPPORTUNITY](#) [OPEN RECORDS/PUBLIC INFORMATION](#)



# Questions

Heather Firn  
Trinity River Authority

[firmha@trinityra.org](mailto:firmha@trinityra.org)

817-467-4343

[https://trinityra.org/basin\\_planning/wp/projects/ssf.php](https://trinityra.org/basin_planning/wp/projects/ssf.php)



[https://trinityra.org/basin\\_planning/joe\\_pool\\_lake\\_wpp/index.php](https://trinityra.org/basin_planning/joe_pool_lake_wpp/index.php)



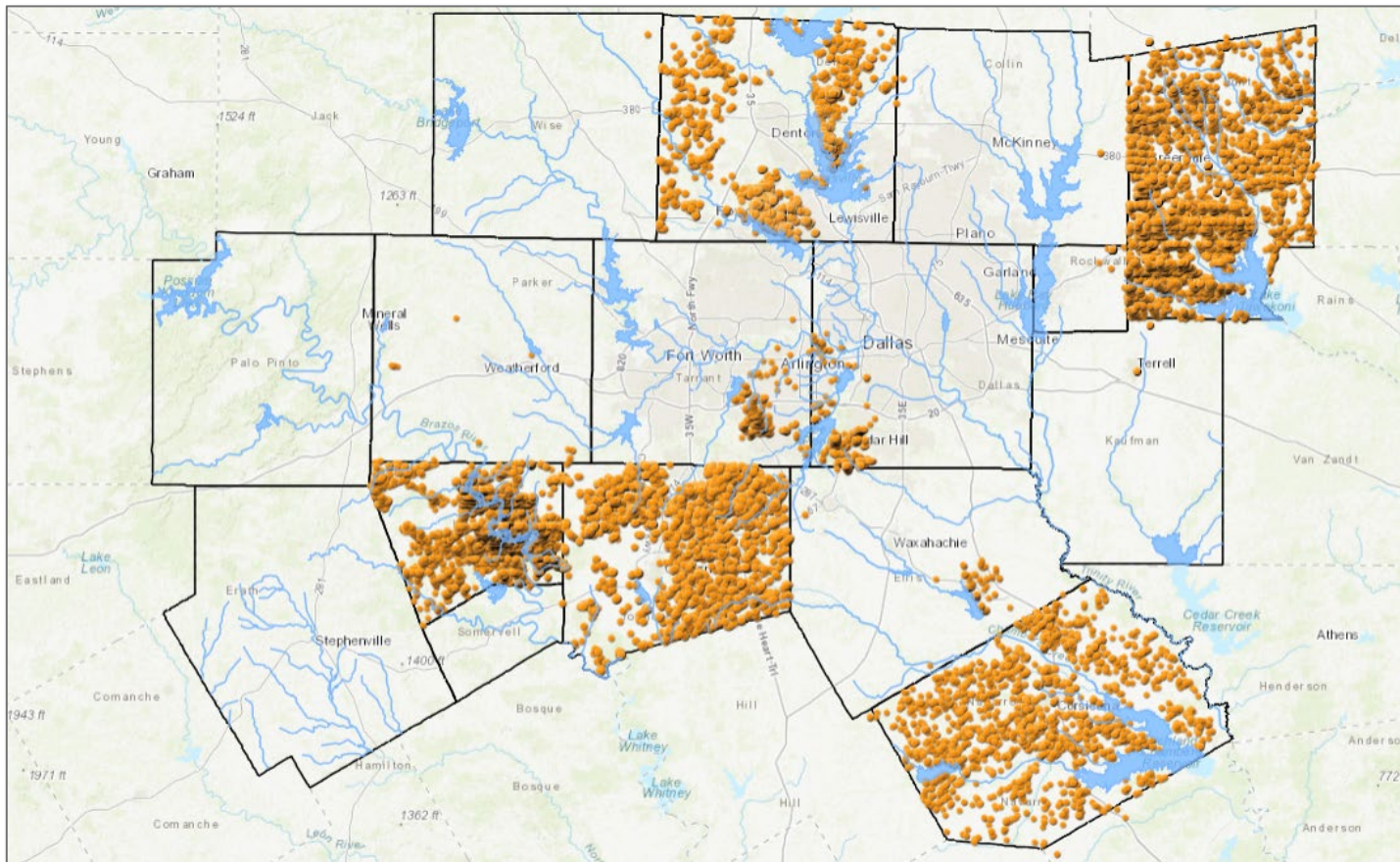
[https://trinityra.org/basin\\_planning/village\\_creek-lake\\_arlington\\_wpp/index.php](https://trinityra.org/basin_planning/village_creek-lake_arlington_wpp/index.php)

# Updates on the OSSF Database Project

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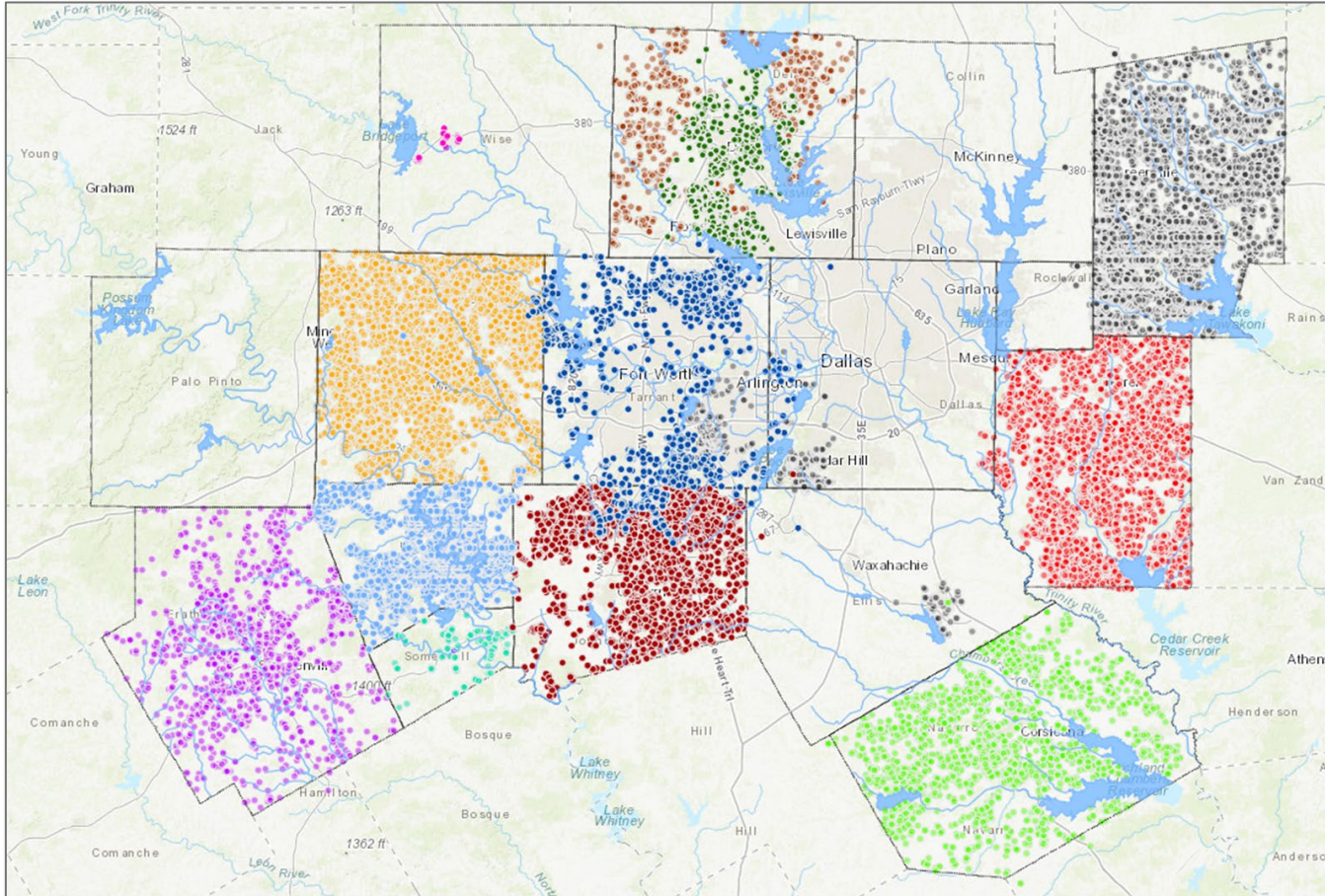
- Last time we met, the focus was on gathering consistent data for the 2024 WQMP OSSF Map
- We've added 12 new entities as of this month!
- Work has begun to determine where unpermitted systems may exist for the separate interactive database
- NCTCOG is working to streamline data to be uniform regionally.

# 2023 Water Quality Management Plan



Source: 2023 Update to the North Central Texas Water Quality Management Plan; NCTCOG 2023.

# 2024 Water Quality Management Plan



Source: [2024 Update to the North Central Texas Water Quality Management Plan](#); NCTCOG 2024.



# **OSSF Data Collection Template Walk- through**

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Streamlining data for use in the database

# Potentially Confusing Field Types

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- System Type - the specific OSSF that was installed. Examples of system types are aerobic, conventional, low-pressure dosing.
- System Classification - whether the OSSF is a residential or commercial system.
- Street Type - also known as the street category, such as an avenue, loop, road, or street. Can be abbreviated to “St.” for “Street”, “Ln.” for Lane, etc.



# Common issues

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CITY  
IDENTIFICATION



LACK OF STREET  
TYPE



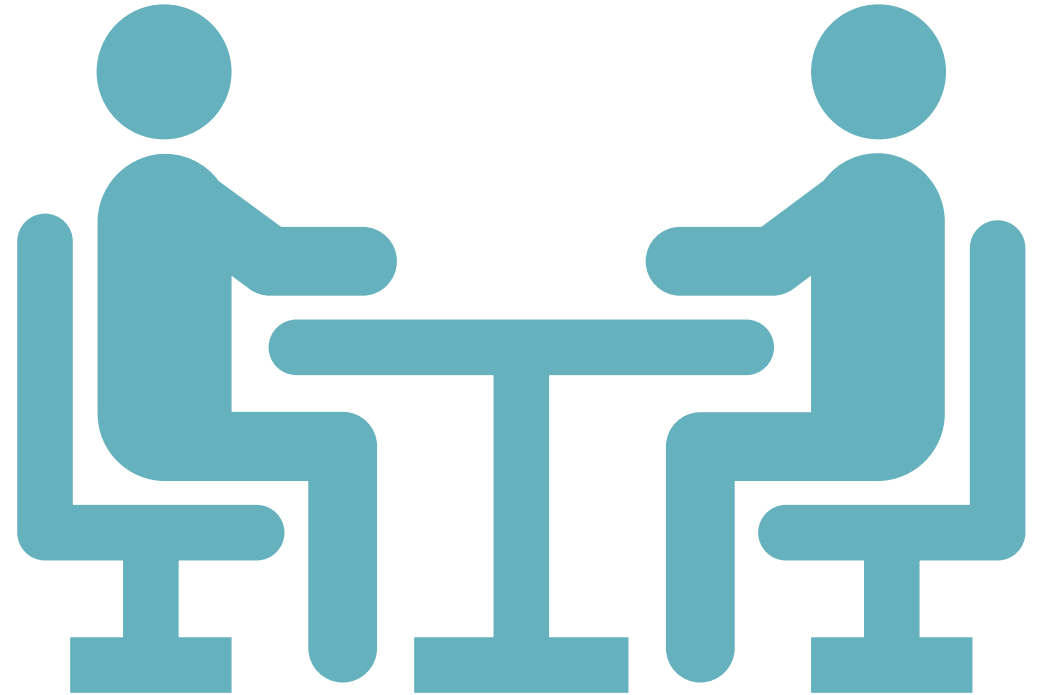
MISSING  
SUFFIXES/PREFIXES



# Roundtable Discussion

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- How many permits are being done a month/year?
- What is the leading cause of homeowners' OSSF complaints? Is lack of education a big factor? What more do you feel COG can do on this?
- Is income a barrier to fixing failing systems?
- When systems are decommissioned due to annexation or receiving city wastewater service, is that noted in OSSF permitting records?



# Staff Contacts

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- Alyssa Knox  
Environment and Development  
Planner II  
[AKnox@nctcog.org](mailto:AKnox@nctcog.org)  
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- Cassidy Campbell  
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[CCampbell@nctcog.org](mailto:CCampbell@nctcog.org)  
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- Corinne Buckley  
Environment and Development  
Planner I  
[CBuckley@nctcog.org](mailto:CBuckley@nctcog.org)  
817-704-2510
- Susan Alvarez  
Environment and Development  
Director  
[SAlvarez@nctcog.org](mailto:SAlvarez@nctcog.org)  
817-704-2549



**On-Site Sewage Facility  
Authorized Agent  
Roundtable**

**Thank you for attending**

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October 29, 2024