

# Environment & Development

## Total Maximum Daily Load Newsletter

Fourth Quarter - September 2019



### Featured TMDL Implementation Strategy: 4.6 Distribution of Pet Waste Education Materials

Pet waste that is not disposed of properly can have negative impacts on your health and the quality of our water. When pet waste is washed into storm drains by rain, melting snow, and/or runoff from sprinklers, it increases bacteria levels in our water, which makes it unsafe for aquatic wildlife as well as for recreational activities. It can also transmit diseases and parasites to other dogs and people.

*Doo the Right Thing*, a NCTCOG public education program, aims to make residents more aware of health and water issues associated with pet waste by encouraging people to always pick up after their pet and dispose of it properly. This program has editable files for bookmarks, logos for promotional items, and pledge forms available for use and distribution by members to help increase awareness and provide helpful tips on how to properly dispose of pet waste. NCTCOG also hosts a yearly calendar contest, where residents can pledge to always pick up after their pet and then submit a picture, which is then voted on by the public. *Doo the Right Thing* also encourages municipalities to include these materials in their pet adoption and/or pet registration information packets.

NCTCOG is currently creating a social media toolkit that will assist participating entities with getting the pet waste message out via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and other social media outlets. The toolkit will include a collection of images and graphics, suggested captions and text, and recommended hashtags, along with instructions on how to implement the toolkit on your entity's social media platforms. This standard toolkit will allow for more consistent pet waste messaging across the North Central Texas region.

[More Information Here](#)



## Save the Date: 2019 Holiday Grease Roundup Coming Soon!

Don't clog your pipes by pouring fats, oils, or grease (FOG) down the drain. Instead, participate in the 2019 Holiday Grease Roundup and recycle it for free!

Cities, counties, and other entities can participate in the Holiday Grease Roundup by requesting a container for FOG collection by contacting Hannah Allen at [hallen@nctcog.org](mailto:hallen@nctcog.org) or (817) 695-9215 by November 8, 2019. NCTCOG will provide promotional materials and flyers for use.

For more information, please visit [Defend Your Drains North Texas](http://www.DefendYourDrainsNorthTexas.com).

[More Information Here](#)



## **Save the Date: Upcoming Egret Rookery Workshop October 23, 2019**

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is hosting the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Egret Rookery Workshop on October 23, 2019 at 8:30 AM in the Transportation Council Room, NCTCOG Offices.

Hérons and egrets are beautiful and fascinating birds that are common around lakes, ponds, wetlands, and grasslands in North Central Texas. However, they breed and nest in large groups, called rookeries, which can be a nuisance when located within residential areas. A number of rookeries have occupied residential areas in the metroplex the past few years, creating issues for citizens and municipal governments. This workshop will provide municipalities with information on the problem with urban rookeries, tools and management practices to prevent new and returning rookeries, and guidance on managing an existing rookery. The target audience is municipal staff and management that deal with urban wildlife issues, such as city managers or community directors, local police departments, parks and recreation staff, and animal services/control supervisors within the NCTCOG area.

This workshop will include presentations from Texas Parks and Wildlife, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services.

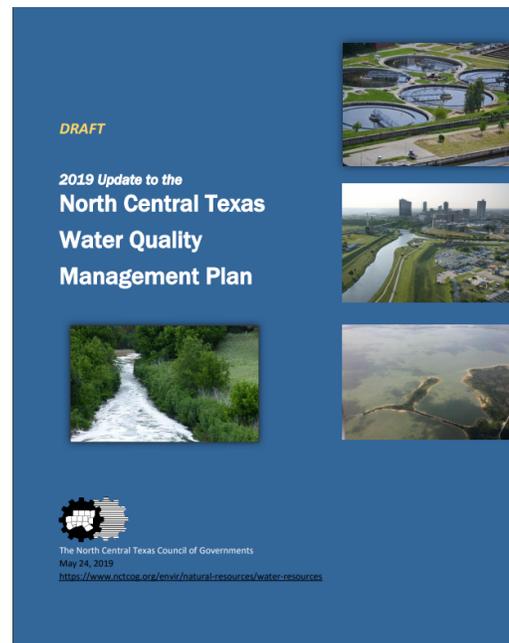
Attendees will also hear from cities that are experience current rookery issues. Attendees will have the opportunity for questions at the end of each presentation and at the conclusion of the workshop. More information, including an agenda, will be shared in the coming weeks.

For additional information, please click the link below, or contact [Rachel Richter](#), DFW Urban Wildlife Biologist with TPWD.

More Information Here

## **NCTCOG's Executive Board Approves the 2019 Update to the Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP)**

As part of an effort to implement programs and policies in the NCTCOG region that improve water quality, NCTCOG annually updates the Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) for the region. The WQMP includes information and data that support current and future planning decisions concerning water quality efforts, wastewater infrastructure development, watershed management, and related issues. The updated WQMP was developed with input from and endorsed by the Water Resources Council on July 9, 2019. On August 22, 2019, NCTCOG's Executive Board approved the 2019 Update to the Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) for the NCTCOG region. To view the updated WQMP, click on the "Water Quality" banner at [www.nctcog.org/envir/natural-resources/water-resources](http://www.nctcog.org/envir/natural-resources/water-resources).





## Save the Date: Upcoming Industrial Inspections Course - November 14, 2019!

On November 14, 2019, the Wastewater and Treatment Education Roundtable (WATER) will host a one-day workshop on industrial inspections training.

This course is aimed at municipal staff responsible for Industrial Inspections. The objective of the course is for participants to learn about what to look for when conducting an inspection, how to respond to potential problems, recommended follow-up activities, and other useful information.

David James, Wastewater Training and Consulting, will be instructing the one-day training. Up to two individuals from each FY2019 WATER cost-sharing organization are eligible for the discounted registration fee of \$80; additional registrants will be charged \$140. Organizations that are not cost-sharing participants will be charged \$140 for each registrant.

Lunch, beverages, and workshop materials are included in the cost of registration. NCTCOG will invoice individuals after registration is complete.

The course will take place at NCTCOG Offices and more information, including a link to register, will be made available once final details have been confirmed.

Please contact Hannah Allen at [hallen@nctcog.org](mailto:hallen@nctcog.org) if you have any questions.

## Upcoming Meetings & Workshops



### Advanced Dry Weather Field Screening Training

September 18, 2019  
9:00 AM - 4:00 AM



### Upper Trinity River Basin Coordinating Committee

September 23, 2019  
9:30 AM - 11:30 AM



### TMDL Stormwater Technical Subcommittee

October 29, 2019  
9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Josey Ranch Lake Public  
Library  
1700 Keller Springs Rd.  
Carrollton, TX 75006

Tejas Conference Room  
NCTCOG Offices, CPIII  
600 Six Flags Drive  
Arlington, TX 76011

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\*Please bring your own field  
test kit and be advised that a  
portion of the training will take  
place outdoors.

[View Meeting Agenda](#)

Register Here

Add to Calendar

Add to Calendar

## What's Happening with TMDL I-Plan Implementation in FY2020?

The North Central Texas Council of Governments is preparing for a busy FY2020 and are working on the following projects:

- On-Site Sewage Facilities (OSSFs) training for home inspectors
- Creation of OSSF educational materials for homeowners, home inspectors, and real estate agents,
- Analysis of new bacteria sampling techniques specific to indicator bacteria and viruses, and
- Creation of social media tool kits and other educational materials for local governments related to urban wildlife feeding, pet waste, and OSSFs.

The TMDL subcommittees are slated to meet in late 2019 and early 2020:

- **TMDL Stormwater Technical Subcommittee** - October 29, 2019 at 9:30 AM in the Tejas Conference Room
- **TMDL Wastewater Technical Subcommittee** - November 19, 2019 at 9:30 AM in the Tejas Conference Room
- **TMDL Monitoring Coordination Forum Subcommittee** - January 2020 in the Tejas Conference Room
- **Upper Trinity River Basin Coordinating Committee** - February 11, 2020 in the Metroplex Conference Room

The next **TMDL Coordination Committee meeting** is scheduled for June 18, 2020 in the Regional Forum Conference Room.



**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Autumn Environmental Conference and Expo - October 8-10, 2019 at the Palmer Events Center**

The TCEQ's Autumn Environmental Conference and Expo is scheduled for October 8-10, 2019 at the Palmer Events Center in Austin, Texas. This conference combines the former Advanced Air Permitting and Water Quality/Stormwater Seminars and will provide updates on permitting rules, requirements, issues, and regulations.

For more information, including registration, please click the button below.

Register Here!

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

**Hannah Allen**

[hallen@nctcog.org](mailto:hallen@nctcog.org)

(817) 695-9215

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

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-Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria in the Greater Trinity River Region, or to utilize available resources, please visit [www.nctcog.org/TMDL](http://www.nctcog.org/TMDL).