



Total Maximum Daily Load Newsletter

Quarter 3 - June 2021

Trash Free Waters Grant Update

TRASH FREE TEXAS

Texas accumulates 10 times more trash on its coast than any other Gulf state, and 69 – 95% of this trash is composed of plastics, such as: bottles, straws, bottle caps, and broken-down material.¹ Through the Trash Free Waters Project, NCTCOG continues to work in partnership with the Houston-Galveston Area Council and the Meadows Center for Water and the Environment, to coordinate with local governments, the Texas restaurant industry, and other organizations to implement community engagement strategies throughout six river basins in the Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston regions, including the Trinity River basin, to reduce trash in our waterways, most of which

originates on land. See below for an update on project activities.

- NCTCOG recently launched the Trash Free Waters: North Central Texas Newsletter. The May 2021 edition can be found [here](#). To subscribe to future editions of the newsletter, click [here](#).
- NCTCOG hosted the webinar, "Wrangling Trash from Waterways – Texas Style," on May 26, 2021. Just like there are multiple sources of litter in the environment, there is more than one way to wrangle all that trash from waterways. This webinar and virtual tour highlighted several trash capture devices and case studies from around North Central

Texas and the State. View the presentation slides and webinar recording on the [Trash Free Waters Project webpage](#) under the "Past Events" banner.

- As of May 2021, eleven entities have added sites to the [Trash Free Texas Adopt-a-Spot map](#) since the start of the project, bringing the total number of cleanup sites on the map to 960. If you are interested in adding your organization's Adopt-a-Spots (ex. road, waterway, stream, river, school, or other spot) to the Trash Free Texas mapping tool, please contact the Meadows Center at [Contact@TrashFreeTexas.org](mailto>Contact@TrashFreeTexas.org) or Elena Berg at eberg@nctcog.org. More information about adding your cleanup sites can be found in the Frequently Asked Questions document [here](#).
- NCTCOG and HGAC are currently working to build partnerships with appropriate organizations, such as the Texas Restaurant Association, to advance strategies that reduce the use of single-use plastics, a common culprit in our waterways. At a recent meeting of NCTCOG's Recycle Roundtable, guest speakers from the Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston regions discussed their efforts to engage businesses in this effort. The presentation slides can be found [here](#).

1. Source: Wessel, C., et. al. *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, Volume 139, February 2019, p. 14-22

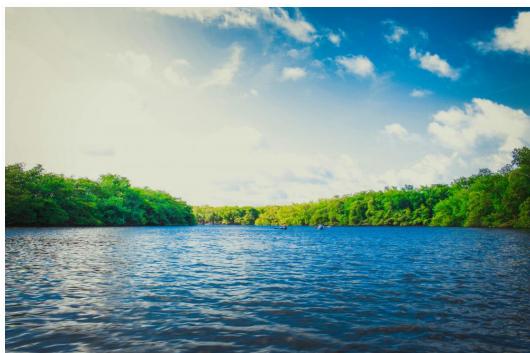
[Trash Free Waters Project Webpage](#)

[Subscribe to the Trash Free Waters: North Central Texas Newsletter](#)

Virtual Workshop Recap: TMDL Calculations Workshop

Participants joined NCTCOG virtually on April 20, 2021 for the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Calculations Workshop.

During this workshop, attendees heard from Jimmy Millican, Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research (TIAER) and Macayla Coleman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).



Jimmy Millican's presentation included information on how to calculate waste load allocations and load duration curves and how these are used in developing and implementing TMDLs. Macayla Coleman's presentation included information on TMDL benchmarks for the development and approval of Stormwater permits through TCEQ. This webinar included time for questions and answers, as well as an overview of the NCTCOG TMDL Program and available resources.

Presentation slides and a recording of this workshop are available on [the TMDL webpage](#) under the "Workshops" banner.

[TMDL Webpage](#)

[Workshop Recording](#)



Webinar Recap: Municipal BMP Show and Tell

NCTCOG hosted a webinar on May 11, 2021, to provide a forum for local governments in the North Central Texas region to discuss stormwater and other municipal Best Management Practices (BMPs) being implemented in the region.

The webinar began with brief presentations from representatives of five North Central Texas cities, who discussed their experiences with various BMPs, including litter capture devices, post-construction measures, and household hazardous waste collection, to name a few. Following the presentations, there was a 30-minute roundtable discussion for attendees to ask questions and share experiences.

The speakers included:

- Perry Harts, Stormwater Manager, City of Frisco
- Howard Redfearn, Environmental Manager, City of Mansfield,
- Cody Cash, Drainage Programs Specialist, City of Irving
- Echo Rexroad, Environmental Quality Manager, City of Plano
- Amesha Morris, Stormwater Administrator, City of McKinney

Presentation slides and a recording of this webinar are available on [the Water Resources webpage](#) under the "Webinars" banner.

[Water Resources Webpage](#)

[Webinar Recording](#)

2021 EPA Region 6 Stormwater Conference Announced

Save the date! This year's EPA Region 6 Stormwater Conference will be held on **August 8-12, 2021 in New Orleans, Louisiana**. The title of the conference is "Weathering the Storm: Resiliency & Protection Through Design." For more information and to register for the event,

visit [the conference webpage](#). On-site registration is available until July 13, with late registration extending until July 27. Virtual registration is also available, but spots are limited! More information on the conference agenda and available workshops will be posted soon.



Register for the Conference

Trinity River National Water Trail Update



The [Trinity Coalition](#), in partnership with NCTCOG, held the first meeting of the Trinity River National Water Trail Task Force on April 30, 2021. The goal of this Task Force is to collaborate on the maintenance and promotion of the Upper Trinity River's National Water Trail designation from the National Park Service (NPS). Task Force members include representatives from cities and

counties along the Water Trail as well as regional agencies and nature-based nonprofits.

The purpose of this first Task Force meeting was to introduce the group to the Trinity River Paddling Trail and its new NPS designation, as well as to highlight ongoing trail support activities such as new boat launches, water quality reporting, and social media outreach. The Trinity Coalition described their future goals for the trail and sought community support for trail expansion. The [meeting presentation](#) and [post-meeting summary](#) can be viewed online.

For more information or to be added to the Trinity River National Water Trail Task Force, please contact Breanne Johnson at bjohnson@nctcog.org.

TMDL and WATER Resources

On-Site Sewage Facilities (OSSF) Social Media Toolkit: NCTCOG has developed an educational Social Media Toolkit for local governments to inform the public about on-site sewage facilities/septic systems. The toolkit can be downloaded from [the TMDL webpage](#) under the "Septic System (OSSF) Resources" banner.

What is a TMDL? Video: A new "What is a Total Maximum Daily Load?" video has been uploaded to the NCTCOG Environment & Development [YouTube page](#). This educational video explains the ins and outs of a TMDL and its effect on waterways. View the video [here](#).

Why Your Sink Disposal Isn't a Garbage Can Video: This video describes what happens to food scraps when we put them down the sink disposal, and which items should never be washed down the drain. View the video [here](#).

Personal Care Items Video: This video explains why personal care items such as floss, hair, and cotton balls should never be flushed down the toilet, and why you should only ever flush the 3 P's - pee, poo, and (toilet) paper! View the video [here](#).

Coming Soon: A video on Proper Usage and Disposal of Home Cleaning Products is under development and will be uploaded to the NCTCOG E&D YouTube page soon. [Subscribe the our YouTube channel here](#) to be the first to view new content.

NCTCOG YouTube Channel

Upcoming TMDL Meetings



TMDL Coordination Committee

July 1, 2021

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Virtual Meeting, via Microsoft Teams. Instructions on how to join will be shared once finalized.

[Add to Calendar](#)



Upper Trinity River Basin Coordinating Committee

August 17, 2021

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Virtual Meeting, via Microsoft Teams. Instructions on how to join will be shared once finalized.

[Add to Calendar](#)

Upcoming NCTCOG Meetings



**Wastewater and Treatment
Education Roundtable**



Water Resources Council



Public Education Task Force

July 8, 2021
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Virtual Meeting, via Microsoft
Teams

[Link to Join Meeting](#)

Audio through computer, or call in
at: +1 (903) 508-4574
Conference ID: 895 184 223#

[Add to Calendar](#)

July 14, 2021
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Virtual Meeting, via Microsoft
Teams

[Link to Join Meeting](#)

Audio through computer, or call in
at: 1-903-508-4574
Conference ID: 150 209 587#

[Add to Calendar](#)

July 21, 2021
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Virtual Meeting, via Microsoft
Teams

[Link to Join Meeting](#)

Audio through computer, or call in
at: 1-903-508-4574
Conference ID: 915 408 690#

[Add to Calendar](#)

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

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