

Newsletter

Total Maximum Daily Load

Only a few days left to submit your entity's response to the TMDL Information Request!



The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is seeking information to support the development of the first annual Implementation Status Report for the Greater Trinity River Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Implementation Plan (I-Plan). The information collected will be utilized to 'give credit' to the TMDL area stakeholders for carrying out important water quality and bacteria related initiatives across many departments, agencies and communities.

[Click here to submit your entity's TMDL Information Request!](#)

Please complete the request by March 17th. Thank you for your participation and continued interest in implementing best management practices and engaging in outreach and education to support the reduction of bacteria in the Greater Trinity River.



The 2018 Doo The Right Thing Calendar Photo Contest is now open!

Pet Waste is a health risk and water quality issue. Help us get the word out about the Doo the Right Thing Calendar Photo Contest and encourage your communities to take the pledge to help keep people and pets healthy and our local waters clean!

Contact Allison Henry, AHenry@nctcog.org, for a flyer to put on social media.

[The 2017 Doo The Right Thing Calendars are also available online for download.](#)

Eyes on Irving: Employee Tip Line

The City of Irving has made it easy for their employees to help different departments proactively identify and address problems occurring throughout the city. City staff can utilize the "Eyes on Irving" Employee Tip Line if a problem is spotted while driving around during work hours or on personal time. The tip line offers city departments the opportunity to provide a higher level of customer service to Irving residents by identifying and fixing issues before they become a burden to the community.

City staff can report a problem through an automated phone number or via email. Received messages are reviewed by Communication Department staff and routed to the appropriate departments. Examples of problems to report include: potholes, trash/brush/bulky items, backed up sewer lines, and minor flooding.

The city's Stormwater Department has begun providing internal training to different departments to educate staff on the basics of construction site best management practices (BMPs) for stormwater. Now, staff of different departments out in the field can easily report a construction site BMP failure which helps expedite inspection for sites that are not properly maintaining their BMPs.

Does your city provide a similar service? [Let NCTCOG know!](#)

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Photo Source: Fotolia

How to Become a TCEQ Third Party Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) Administrator

Does your municipality have an unfunded project that prevents pollution, reduces the amount of pollution reaching the environment, enhances the quality of the environment or contributes to public awareness of environmental matters? Become a Third-Party Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) Administrator to submit a SEP that could be contributed to by respondents in enforcement action! Third-Party Administrators are required to complete a Third-Party application, providing basic information about your organization, previous history administering SEPs or grant funds, the project budget and other detailed information about the proposed project.

Once the project is approved, respondents in enforcement will have the option to select your project to offset assessed penalties in enforcement actions.

Check out the [SEP General Information](#) for more information!

Check out the Best Management Practices (BMP) Library!

New resources recently added!

With over **160** resources, the [TMDL BMP Library](#) offers a clearinghouse of best management practices for the strategies in the I-Plan. NCTCOG is always accepting more BMPs to add to the library. BMPs include:

Model ordinances, education and outreach templates, standard operating procedures, toolboxes, workshop presentations, case studies, funding opportunities, etc.

Please email suggestions to Rachel Evans, REvans@nctcog.org.



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The Meadows Foundation: Funding Environmental Initiatives

The [Meadows Foundation](#) provides grant opportunities to assist the people and institutions of Texas in improving the quality and circumstances of life for themselves and future generations.

Part of the Foundation's vision includes protecting the environment by providing public entities and non-profit organizations the funds to implement valuable initiatives that support the Foundation's [Strategic Environmental Plan](#). The program goals outlined in the strategic plan include: water, land and habitat conservation, stewardship, public education and advocacy, air quality and energy efficiency.



The Meadows Foundation gives special emphasis to their current initiatives, including improving public education and protecting our water resources and the natural environment. Additionally, the Foundation aims to allocate between one-third and one-half of its grant resources to organizations and entities helping those in the Dallas area.

Grant applications are accepted at any time and requests of any amounts are considered. For more information, please see the [Meadows Foundation Grant Application Guidelines](#).

Please contact Rachel Evans, Rvans@nctcog.org, if you are interested in contact information for the regional Meadows Foundation Program Officer.

Additional funding information for TMDL initiatives can be found at www.nctcog.org/TMDL under the Resources and Funding Opportunities tab.

What's Happening This Quarter with TMDL Implementation?

NCTCOG is preparing for the first annual Implementation Status Report with the distribution of the TMDL Information Request to gather data on what entities are doing related to the implementation strategies outlined in the I-Plan. NCTCOG has also requested MS4 permit annual reports from the TMDL stakeholders. NCTCOG is working to update the current I-Plan with information about the recently approved and adopted Mountain Creek segment TMDLs. The updated I-Plan will include new maps and tables reflecting the most up-to-date data and information.

The TMDL technical subcommittees will be meeting in May to review the draft annual Implementation Status Report, draft 2017 Update to the I-Plan, and to discuss future project opportunities.

In June, the Coordination Committee will be recommending to the Commission (TCEQ) that the Sycamore Creek TMDL be included in the Greater Trinity River I-Plan. The committee will also be approving the first annual Implementation Status Report and the 2017 Update to the I-Plan.

Meeting Dates



May 4, 9:30 a.m. Wastewater Technical Subcommittee, *Tejas Conference Room*



May 11, 9:30 a.m. Stormwater Technical Subcommittee, *Tejas Conference Room*



May 18, 9:30 a.m. Monitoring Coordination Forum, *Tejas Conference Room*



June 15, 9:30 a.m. TMDL Coordination Committee, *William J. Pitstick Executive Board Room*

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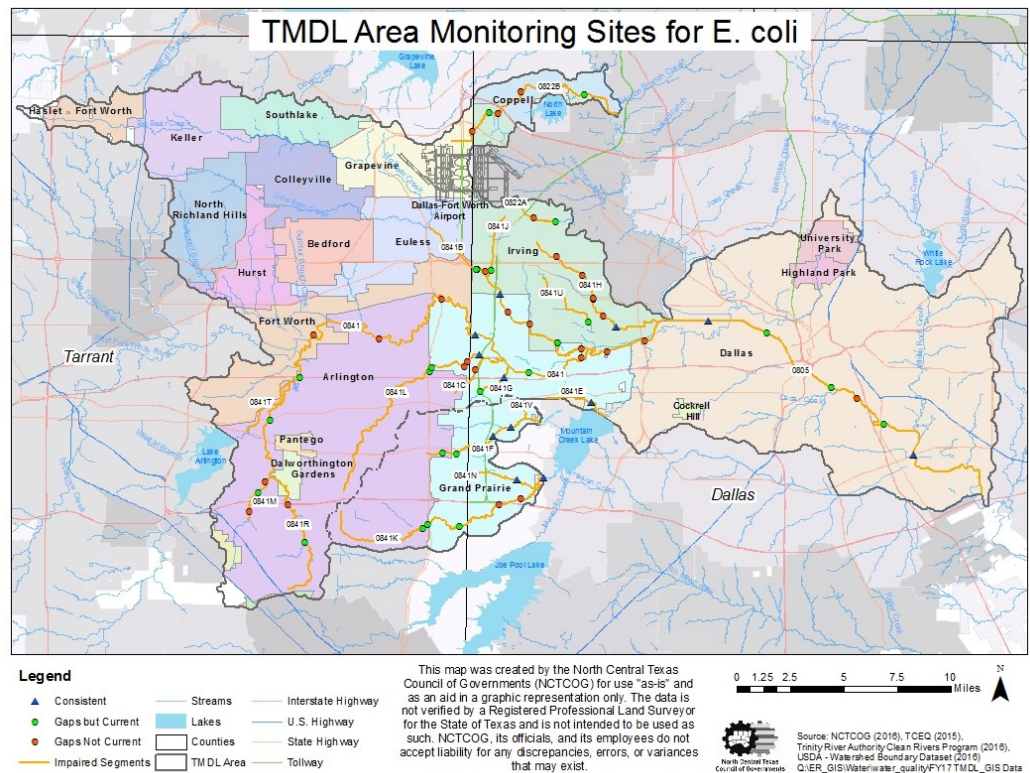
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This Quarter's Featured TMDL Implementation Strategy

Implementation Strategy 6.1: Monitoring Coordination Forum

Goals of the Strategy:

- Evaluation of existing *E. coli* monitoring network in the impaired subwatersheds and analysis on monitoring gaps.
- Identification of new sources of data and existing monitoring which may not be appropriate for screening, but could be helpful in identifying bacteria sources.
- Analysis of Clean Rivers Program (CRP) monitoring data to assess overall trends in water quality within the impaired water segments.
- Identify funding opportunities to address potential gaps in sampling data.
- Reevaluation of monitoring technologies for pilot projects and/or research partnerships.
- Periodic evaluation of the need for online data consolidation and access for field monitoring.



NCTCOG, in coordination with the TMDL Monitoring Coordination Forum and TCEQ, has identified monitoring site locations that monitor for bacteria parameters and isolated the sites monitoring for *E. coli* specifically. The above map is aiding the Monitoring Coordination Forum in their evaluation of the existing *E. coli* network within the TMDL area.

Some entities in the TMDL area monitor more frequently than required by the CRP and utilize the additional data in-house to more efficiently allocate resources. NCTCOG will be collecting the additional monitoring data from participating entities to develop a more robust picture of *E. coli* presence in the TMDL area. This data is not analyzed under a NELAP-accredited program, and; therefore, could not be used to delist stream segments, but it could be helpful in identifying bacteria sources and priority watersheds/segments for source identification studies in the future.

The North Central Texas Council of Governments is working with stakeholders to implement bacteria TMDLs throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. To view the full I-Plan for Seventeen Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria in the Greater Trinity River Region or utilize available resources, visit www.nctcog.org/TMDL.