



# NORTH TEXAS SECTION OF THE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

Preserving & Enhancing the Water Environment of Texas

Volume 27, Number 4

July 2015 Newsletter

## July 16, 2015 Dinner Meeting

### Topic: "Trinity Compact" by Glenn Clingenpeel, Trinity River Authority

The Upper Trinity Basin Water Quality Compact (Compact) was formally created in 1975 via a contractual agreement between the Trinity River Authority of Texas (Authority) and the cities of Dallas, Fort Worth, and Garland. Later, the North Texas Municipal Water District replaced Garland as the regional provider for wastewater services for portions of the East Fork of the Trinity and took their place on the Compact. These agencies recognized the benefits of working together rather than individually and organized to achieve several objectives. These objectives were to: 1.) improve water quality in the Trinity River; 2.) negotiate and obtain reasonable discharge permits; and 3.) facilitate expansion and improvements to existing but inadequate wastewater treatment facilities.

The Compact achieved these objectives – most notably improving water quality in the river. It remains an effective organization, continuing a tradition of coordinated studies and working with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) on discharge limits that are both protective of the environment and operationally-reasonable from a cost and practicality perspective. Major efforts currently underway involve the creation of a dynamic QUAL 2K water quality model. This model will allow an analysis of the impact of nutrient concentrations on response variables such as dissolved oxygen and pH in the Trinity River. This information will be used by managers and regulators when weighing the cost and complexities of nutrient removal verses potential environmental benefits.

### Where:

Texas Star Conference Center  
1400 Texas Star Parkway  
Eules, Texas 76060

5:30 PM - Social Hour

6:30 PM - Dinner

7:00 PM - Program

### RSVP

You may pay via <https://squareup.com/market/weat-nts> or RSVP for at-the-door payment with Mark Perkins at [treasurer@weat-nts.org](mailto:treasurer@weat-nts.org). Cost for Members and Guests to attend is **\$20 when you RSVP BY JULY 13** or **\$25 at the door**. Cost for Full Time Students to attend is free when you RSVP **BY JULY 13** or \$10 at the door.

*Thank you to our Sponsors!!!*

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# Leadership Message

By Eva Gorgi

Another year has begun...

As I am writing my first leadership message as the WEAT-NTS new president, I am realizing how fortunate it is to be a part of such a prosperous and dynamic organization.

For those who do not know me, I spent a majority of my life in Europe: native Polish, lived in Italy, obtained two Master's degrees in Environmental Engineering from both countries, and, per my husband's decision, 16 years ago we moved to Texas to create a brighter future for our daughters. I speak "funny" English and do not get some of your jokes (except Polak jokes). Professionally, I have worked for the City of Dallas Water Utilities for 15 years, where I obtained a true hands-on experience in the wastewater field (I am a operator with Class A Wastewater Operator License). I am passionate about my profession and the positive impact our industry provides for the environment.

Jeff Sober's last will and testament (I am sure you read his last leadership message) recognized the North Texas Section's wonderful executive committee, which consists of amazing and dedicated individuals willing to give their time and talents for a great cause. I am so happy to be a part of this bunch! And yes, we have new faces joining our group: [Welcome!](#)

Many of you offered help. I find comfort in knowing that there is no shortage of individuals to whom I can turn for support and guidance throughout the next year. To everyone: new ideas, more opportunities, and activities are coming. I will be reaching out to you: [thank you for your offer!](#)

During the last three years as a member of the WEAT Executive Committee, I was surrounded by a dynamic, driven, visionary group of professionals. I will not feel comfortable taking the reins of the Section, without recognizing my predecessors: [Dawn Anderson](#), [Buster Fishera](#), and [Jeff Sober](#). I learned from you more than I imagined and I can only promise to carry on your legacy.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting at the Texas Star on July 16.



## What new goals do we expect to accomplish this year?

Our first goal is to increase interest and participation in our bi-monthly meetings. We want to especially target operators, utility personnel, contractors, manufacturer's reps, and young professionals. Therefore, we are planning to offer two bi-monthly meetings during lunch time hoping that this will more easily fit in your busy schedules.

Secondly, we will participate in a WEAT-sponsored Trinity River cleanup event. We will be competing with the other WEAT sections to see who will pick up the most trash from a river in our respective regions. I am sure our section will win the challenge! I will be seeking volunteers for this event. Please let us know if you can help.

# WEAT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcing our new 2015-2016

WEAT-NTS Officers:

President - Eva Gorgi

President Elect - Brigit Buff

Vice President - Matt Jalbert

Secretary - Phil Spitzer

Treasurer - Mark Perkins

Past President - Jeff Sober

Section Rep - Erin Flanagan

Past Section Rep - Darryl Corbin

## Upcoming Events

7/16 - July Dinner Meeting

*"Trinity Compact"*

*Glenn Clingenpeel, TRA*

*Texas Star, Euless*

8/28 - Darryl Hall Golf

Tournament

*Waterchase Golf Course*

10/30 - OPStoberfest Cook-off

*Knights of Columbus Hall,  
Arlington*

### It's Easy to Join Our Mailing List...

We will e-mail you our newsletter, organization announcements, and other relevant information. Just send your email address by text message: Text WEATNTS to 22828 to get started

OR scan the QR code with your mobile device.



### WEAT-NTS Shirts for SALE!



Show your support for the WEAT North Texas section with this embroidered logo polo t-shirt! For only \$30, this amazing polo could be yours! Shirts can be purchased at [https://](https://squareup.com/market/weat-nts)

[squareup.com/market/weat-nts](https://squareup.com/market/weat-nts) or at the next WEAT-NTS event. Please contact Mark Perkins for more information at [treasurer@weat-nts.org](mailto:treasurer@weat-nts.org) or 817.719.0372.

## GET INVOLVED WITH WEAT!

Are you interested in helping our organization and industry? Please contact any of the WEAT-NTS Officers for opportunities to help your community!

# Thank you to our Sponsors!



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*WEAT-NTS offers three levels of sponsorships for the July 2015 – June 2016 year, plus multiple individual sponsorship opportunities.*

*The sponsorship will support:*

- *WEAT-NTS and Darryl Hall Scholarship Funds*
- *Meeting Dinners*
- *Sections activities (Fall BBQ and Sporting Clays Tournament)*
- *February Seminar*
- *Young Professionals*
- *Outreach Program (Science Fair, Future Cities, etc.)*

**Dinner Meeting Sponsor:**

**Classic \$250**

- For One Dinner Meeting
- Recognition of Classic Sponsors:
  - ✓ Announcement on front page of newsletter (name of firm)
  - ✓ Announcement in meeting reminder emails (name of firm)
  - ✓ Sign at meeting listing the sponsors (name of firm)
  - ✓ Verbal recognition of sponsors by President at the beginning of the meeting

**Gold \$1,250**

- Recognition at **ALL** six meetings *(for the price of five)*
- Recognition of Gold Sponsor is the same as Classic Sponsor at **ALL** six meetings

**Platinum \$1,850**

- Recognition at **ALL** six meetings
- Recognition of Platinum Sponsor is same as Gold Sponsor, plus:
  - ✓ Company name included in newsletter announcement, reminder e-mails and sign at meeting
  - ✓ Display of digital banner at meeting (if supplied) via PowerPoint
  - ✓ Recognition of Platinum Sponsor by President at the beginning of the meeting

**Individual Sponsorship Opportunities:**

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| ○ Fall BBQ Picnic Cook-off                           | \$250   |
| ○ Sporting Clay Station                              | \$150   |
| ○ WEAT- NTS Scholarship Fund (annual contribution)   | \$100   |
| ○ Darryl Hall Scholarship Fund (annual contribution) | \$100   |
| ○ Newsletter Advertising (6 issues) and website link | \$150   |
| ○ NTS February Seminar                               | \$300   |
| ○ NTS February Seminar Table                         | \$500   |
| ○ NTS February Seminar Break Area                    | \$1,000 |
| ○ NTS Young Professionals                            | \$100   |

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# MAY DINNER MEETING

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## Erin Flanagan

The May WEAT-NTS meeting was held at the Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) Central WWTP in Dallas, Texas on Thursday, May 21, 2015.

Attendees enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by Central WWTP staff while learning more about the facility's new Influent Pump Station (IPS). Regina Stencel, P.E., DWU's WWF Project Manager, along with Erin Flanagan, P.E. and Bryan Jann, P.E. (both with Freese and Nichols, Inc.), presented on the new IPS design, construction, and innovative aspects. A tour to the new IPS followed the presentation. Approximately 80 attendees were present for the meeting.



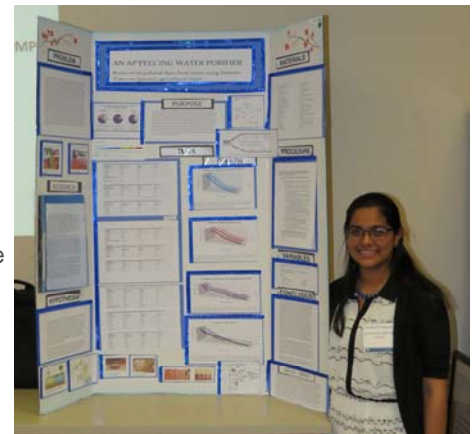
*The three presenters received recognition for their contribution to the dinner meeting. From left: Jeff Sober, Mark Perkins, Bryan Jann, Regina Stencel, and Erin Flanagan.*



*IPS Tour in Progress. Screening mezzanine level pictured.*

The May meeting also served as the venue for voting in new officers for the 2015-2016 operating year. Congrats to the new officers: Brigit Buff (President-Elect), Matt Jalbert (Vice President), and Phil Spitzer (Secretary).

As is NTS tradition, local science fair winner Harshini Rallapalli, was invited to the dinner meeting to share her project. Harshini is a Senior Division, 1st Place Winner from Uplift North Hills High School, Charter District, Irving, Texas. Her project was titled: An Appealing Water Purifier Removal of Polluted Dyes from Water using Solanum Tuberosum Potato Agricultural Waste.



*Local science fair winner, Harshini Rallapalli, shared details of her project.*

## WANT TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL?

Are you interested in educating college students about our industry? Contact Jason Crawley at [jkc@freese.com](mailto:jkc@freese.com) to speak at Universities and Colleges around the state!

## Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

9/19 - TRWD Trinity River Trash Bash

*Various Locations Across Fort Worth*

*After Party in Downtown Fort Worth*

# PUBLIC OUTREACH

Come on... do it for the kids

## Trinity River Trash Bash

Join us for the 24th Annual Fall TRWD Trash Bash on Saturday, September 19th. Pick a location and bring a group (contact Amy Robinson if you are interested in organizing a WEAT-NTS group), a friend or just yourself to help clean up trash along the Trinity. Our river is one of the many things that makes our community unique and beautiful and we can all do our part to protect it. Everyone's hard work will be celebrated with an after-party at Panther Island Pavilion kicking off at 11 a.m. Enjoy free food, prizes, giveaways and entertainment by 106.1 KISS FM! You can grab your cleanup packet at your location on the morning of or stay tuned for early packet pick-up details (coming soon). We're looking to break last year's BASH record of more than 4,700 volunteers, help us out by spreading the word.

For more information, visit <http://www.trwd.com/trinitytrashbash> or TRWD's facebook page.



# YP COMMITTEE

## Seminars, Training, and Workshops

7/17 - Water Reuse Conference

*Overton Hotel and Conference Center, Lubbock, Texas*

In April, the Young Professionals held a YP WEAT/AWWA Joint Happy Hour at The Collective, where they enjoyed local brews and pizza. About 25 people were in attendance and the committees were able to raise \$400 towards the Dodson Drive Fundraiser. Additional AWWA/WEAT happy hours are being planned for the upcoming months, so stay tuned for more fun!!

**The YP Committee needs YOUR opinion!! Please take a few moments to take a brief survey at the following link to help plan future events: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/H3YGYZM>**

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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The only news that's good when it stinks

## WEAT E&I 3rd Technical Seminar a Success!

The WEAT E&I Committee held its third technical seminar of 2015 on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> May. This session was on Advances in Control Systems and more generally dealt with industrial automation advances. Speakers represented several different points of reference. The presenters were:

Juliana Oyeniyi (Signature Automation) and Steve Murphy (Signature Automation) - *Benefits of Virtualization in the ICS Environment*

Gary Zaleski (Tempered Networks) - *Secure Connectivity for Critical Infrastructure and Information*

Carl Hoffman (Siemens) - *Augmenting Operations' Decision Support System with Real-Time and Archived Video*

We were pleased that this seminar had been approved to count for two hours towards TCEQ Operator License renewal training requirements.

We had about 35 attendees from across the Metroplex representing owners, consultants, and contractors. The seminar was held at the Freese and Nichols facility in Fort Worth and Rockwell Automation provided lunch immediately following the seminar. As you know, we have not charged, nor do we plan to begin charging any fee for participation in these seminars. It is through the generosity and support of organizations (such as Freese & Nichols and Rockwell Automation in this case) that we are able to host the meeting and provide a meal for free. Our next seminar is scheduled for 15<sup>th</sup> July and the general topic is "THP Process for Non-Civil Engineers". More information will be forthcoming later in a few weeks.



## Texas Water Reuse Conference on July 17th

WaterReuse Texas, the Water Environment Association of Texas, and the Texas Section of the American Water Works Association invite you to participate in the 5th Annual Texas Water Reuse Conference!

The program will provide attendees current updates on reclaimed water topics including UTILITY OPERATIONS, FOLLOW THE MONEY, WATER REUSE PLANNING, and WATER QUALITY ISSUES. Participants will enjoy networking with industry professionals interested in extending our water resources into the future. Lunch will be included and the schedule has been developed to offer maximum instruction time in a one-day conference

The conference will occur on July 17th, 2015 in Lubbock, TX at the Overton Hotel and Conference Center. The registration form can be found at the following link:

<https://www.watereuse.org/sites/default/files/u30148/2015TexasWaterReuseRegistrationFormFinal5%2007.pdf>

We hope to see you all there!

### Want to submit an announcement?

Submit on relevant news items such as new hires, acquisitions, project awards, recognition, and other new announcements. Submit your 100 word announcement to [weatnts@weat-nts.org](mailto:weatnts@weat-nts.org)

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONT.

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## 2015 VCWRF Awardees

**RONALD B. SIEGER BIOSOLIDS MANAGEMENT AWARD...** *to recognize a WEAT member(s), and engineering firm, a specific project, a municipality, or a specific municipal or industrial facility that has made significant accomplishments in the field of biosolids technology and management practices within the boundaries of the State of Texas...*



Mr. Fichera, “Buster” to most of the population has over 30 years of experience in the water industry. For the last 21 years, Buster has been employed by the city of Fort Worth Water Department and serves as the assistant director over the Water Reclamation Division.

The past couple of years have seen dramatic changes in biosolids management practices in Texas and for the Fort Worth Water Department’s program in particular. Beginning in 2012, odors at biosolids land application sites began to be reported from areas that had been part of the City’s program for the better part of 20 years with minimal or no complaints. Initially, the complaints were thought to be a product of population density and encroachment around established farms and ranches. However, the frequency and intensity of complaints escalated during the ensuing months prompting a full-scale investigation into the cause or causes of the odors.

Buster led the charge during the investigation – insisting that the source was to be identified and sound practices developed to eliminate odors that could negatively impact adjacent landowners. He empathized with the property owners - expressing that everyone has a right to enjoy their property. Accordingly, projects were implemented to study the nature and characteristics (as well as sources) of biosolids odors throughout treatment, transportation, and application processes. Concurrently, a variety mechanical and chemical treatment systems were introduced to mitigate odors while studies continued. Installation of a Landia Airjet mixer on a liquid sludge holding tank and utilization of ferric chloride in digested sludge are examples of the early efforts. Not one to leave a stone left unturned, Buster has kept up efforts to determine root cause and development of definitive solutions. His leadership has yielded an abundance of success. A thorough understanding of processes has been realized, biosolids dewaterability has improved, and odor complaints have diminished. To be certain, there is still work to do. Future plans include significant investment in the dewatering facility as well as full implementation of odor control and contingency plans, but Buster has made it clear that failure is not an option. His vision ensures it.

**SUSAN B HEIR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AND LICENSING AWARD...** *recognizing an individual who has dedicated her life to educating operators and people who work around her to elevate their lives to attain higher goals in life...*



Ginger C. Laird works at the Village Creek Water Reclamation Facility (VCWRF). She has over 35 years of experience in the water industry. She possesses a Class “A” Wastewater Treatment Operator license certification and a Class “B” Surface Water Treatment Operator certification. She teaches courses required for TCEQ operator certification at VCWRF and at the TWUA regional schools and currently works as Assistant Superintendent over Operations. Ginger espouses a philosophy that only by higher education can operators better understand the processes and elevate themselves to higher positions and better opportunities.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONT.

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**WINFIELD S. MAHLIE AWARD...** recognizing a member of WEAT who has made significant contributions to the art and science of wastewater treatment and water pollution control...



Dr. Ana J. Peña-Tijerina is the proud recipient of the Winfield Mahlie Award this year. She shares the passion that Winfield S. Mahlie had for working in the wastewater field. Her passion resides on studying, designing and troubleshooting water and wastewater treatment processes. She possesses a great desire for collaborating with others and a profound curiosity for learning, innovating, and finding engineering solutions with practical applications. She serves as the manager over the Technical Services group at VCWRF. She is approachable and bridges the gap between engineers and operators. Her co-workers at VCWRF affectionately say that she is not “a typical engineer”. Ana is an active member of the several committees at WEF, WERF and WEAT.

## 5th Annual Eckenfelder Lecture Series Recap

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Eckenfelder Lecture Series “Design into Practice: Leveraging Best Design Applications” was a success achieving an outstanding evaluation from attendees!

<b>Overall, this program met my expectations.</b>	<b>Yes!</b>
<b>The topics selected were pertinent to my work areas.</b>	<b>Yes!</b>
<b>The speakers were effective and grabbed my attention.</b>	<b>Yes!</b>
<b>How would you rate the facility overall?</b>	<b>Good!</b>

The Eckenfelder Lecture Series was developed to honor Dr. W. Wesley Eckenfelder’s distinguished career as an environmental trailblazer spanning more than 60 years, during which time he taught and trained thousands of graduate students and professionals in the art and science of wastewater treatment. This year program was designed to take attendees from Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR) theory/basics through evaluation of alternatives, piloting, implementation, and finally operations.



Thanks to all speakers, sponsors and the WEAT’s Municipal Resource Recovery Design Committee (MRRDC) members that planned and organized this seminar.

*“I had a great time at the conference, not only getting information (some that was new), but also visiting with many old friends. Thank you for the opportunity!” - Dolan McKnight*

*“They are WEAT’s Municipal Resource Recovery Design Committee Co-Chairs that deserve all the credit for producing an exceptional conference.” - Julie Nahrgang*



## DRINKING WATER SEMINAR

# 10.23.2015

FORT WORTH PETROLEUM CLUB  
FROM 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

## SAVE THE DATE!

register at: [www.tawwa.org/event/nct\\_drinkingwaterseminar15](http://www.tawwa.org/event/nct_drinkingwaterseminar15)

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# THE 12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL DARYL HALL MEMORIAL GOLF CLASSIC



Friday, August 28, 2015  
"The Links at Water Chase"  
7:30 A. M. Shotgun Start

## \*\*\*\*\*REGISTRATION FORM\*\*\*\*\*

I wish to participate as follows:

- \_\_\_ \$850 Titanium Sponsor: Registration for (4) players AND an **EXCLUSIVE** sign at a tee box with Activities Packages (4) and Drink Tickets (20)
- \_\_\_ \$650 Diamond Sponsor: Registration for (4) players and sign at a tee box with Activities Packages (4) and Drink Tickets (20)
- \_\_\_ \$550 Platinum Sponsor: Registration for (4) players AND a sign at a tee box
- \_\_\_ \$400 Gold Sponsor: Registration for (4) Players
- \_\_\_ \$150 Silver Sponsor: A sign at one of the tee boxes
- \_\_\_ \$100 Individual Sponsor: Individuals will be paired up to form a team
- \_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation I cannot participate, but please accept this donation
- \_\_\_ \$ 20 Activities Package Includes one ticket each for Cadillac Wheel (\$10), Lady's Tee Box (\$5), Putting Contest (\$10) – \$5 Savings over individual tickets
- \_\_\_ \$ 2 Drink Tickets Individual Drink Tickets
- \_\_\_ Total Donation

Team

Captain: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph#: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 2: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 3: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 4: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please email completed form to: [darylhallmgt@reagan.com](mailto:darylhallmgt@reagan.com). Pay online by clicking shortcut below:

<https://squareup.com/market/weat-nts>

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS: MONDAY, AUGUST 24<sup>th</sup>**  
(On-site registration accepted only if space available)

**LOCATION:** The Links at Waterchase, 8954 Creek Run Road, Fort Worth, TX 76420, Phone: 817-861-4653

Located on the East side of Ft. Worth at I-30 and Eastchase Parkway. <http://www.linksatwaterchase.com>

**DIRECTIONS:** Exit Eastchase Parkway and go North to John T. White Rd. and turn right. Go a short distance and make the first right on Randoll Mill Rd. Turn left on Creek Run Road.

Registration includes lunch. Prizes will be awarded to first, second and third place teams as well as longest drive, closest to pin, putting contest, and Cadillac wheel.

JOIN THE

# TEXAS RIVER CLEANUP CHALLENGE!



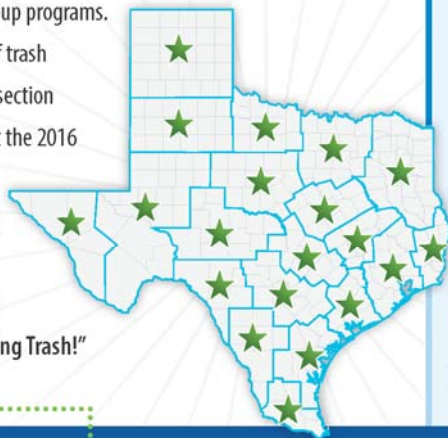
MAY 2015 – APRIL 2016

The WEAT Public Communication and Outreach Committee and the Municipal Resource Recovery Design Committee have teamed up to jointly plan a Texas River Cleanup Challenge! Our 20 WEAT sections will compete to clean up our local rivers, promoting environmental stewardship, awareness, and cooperation among the WEAT sections.

Beginning this May, following Texas Water 2015, WEAT sections will compete to collect the most river trash, and win the coveted title of "Most Trashy Section."

The Challenge will run from May – April 2016, with local WEAT sections sponsoring and participating in local river clean-up programs.

Each section will track the amount of trash collected by bags, with the winning section awarded the "Most Trashy Section" at the 2016 WEAT awards luncheon at Texas Water 2016, and recognized in *Texas WET Magazine*. Other awards will include: "Best Trashy Photo," "Best Section Spirit," and "Most Interesting Trash!"



## READY TO HELP?



WATER ENVIRONMENT  
ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

Please contact your Cleanup Challenge representatives for more information:

Amy Robinson  
RobinsonAR@cdmsmith.com | (817) 914-2511

Nick Landes  
Nick.Landes@freese.com | (817) 735-7571

## WEAT NEEDS YOU TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN!

How can you help? **WEAT needs representatives from each WEAT section to organize cleanup events, gather the collection information from each event, and share it with our Cleanup Challenge team.** Representatives will be provided with an organizer's handbook with general event guidelines, as well as lots of fun, family-friendly, simple ideas from past events to help get you started.

Past events have included:

- The TRWD Trinity Trash Bash
- Keep Longview Beautiful
- The Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off
- River, Lakes, Bays 'N Bayous Trash Bash
- The Bashura Bash
- Winter Texan Cleanup
- Coastwide Spring Cleanup

*Cleanup Challenge events are a great way to promote local environmental awareness, jump-start activities in your local WEAT chapters, and have fun while enhancing our local communities.*

# WEAT-NTS 2015 - 2016 Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Location (*Tentative)	Topic/Speaker (*Tentative)
8/28/15 (Fr)	Darryl Hall Golf Tournament	Waterchase Golf Course	
10/30/15 (Fr)	OPStoberfest Cook-off	Knights of Columbus, Arlington	
11/19/15 (Th)	November Lunch Meeting	TBD	"THP Process", DC Water*
1/21/15 (Th)	January Lunch Meeting	Village Creek WWTP*	"FTW Filters", TBD*
2/9/15 (Tu)	February Seminar	CityPlace, Dallas	"Taking Control" *
3/17/15 (Th)	March Dinner Meeting	Texas Star, Euless*	"Public Relations", Various Utilities*
3/18/15 (Fr)	Sporting Clays	TBD	
5/26/15 (Th)	May Plant Tour Dinner	Doe Branch WWTP	Jody Zabolio, UTRWD

## WEAT-NTS 2015 - 2016 Contacts

Officer	Name	Phone	E-Mail
President	Eva Gorgi	214.671.2804	eva.gorgi@dallascityhall.com
President-Elect	Brigit Buff	972.533.2499	bbuff@ch2m.com
Vice President	Matt Jalbert	817.493.5133	jalbertm@trinityra.org
Treasurer	Mark Perkins	817.719.0372	mperkins@perkinsconsultants.com
Secretary	Phil Spitzer	972.442.5405	pspitzer@ntmwd.com
Past President	Jeff Sober	972.377.7480	JLSober@GarverUSA.com
Section Rep	Erin Flanagan	214.217.2261	erin.flanagan@freese.com
Past Section Rep	Darryl Corbin	972.239.9949	dcorbin@carollo.com
Committee	Chair	Phone	Email
Audit	Jeff Sober	972.377.7480	JLSober@GarverUSA.com
Awards	Nash Reddy	214.920.8166	Nash.reddy@jacobs.com
Constitution/Bylaws	Amy Robinson	817.332.8727	robinsonar@cdmsmith.com
Finance	Mark Perkins	817.719.0372	mperkins@perkinsconsultants.com
Fundraising	Jeff Sober	972.377.7480	JLSober@GarverUSA.com
Communications	Brigit Buff	972.533.2499	bbuff@ch2m.com
Historian	Betty Jordan	817.806.1703	bjordan@apaienv.com
Nominations	Jeff Sober	972.377.7480	JLSober@GarverUSA.com
PWO	Jerry Pressley	817.392.4926	Jerry.pressley@fortworthtexas.gov
Photography	Malcolm Cowdin	972.262.5186	cowdinm@trinityra.org
Programs	Matt Jalbert	817.493.5133	jalbertm@trinityra.org
Public Education/Science Fair	Amy Robinson	817.332.8727	robinsonar@cdmsmith.com
Scholarship Fund	Chris Young	214.346.4300	chris.young@mwhglobal.com
Seminar	Fred Holmes	817.870.2630	fholmes@hazenandsawyer.com
Website	Andy Paulson	469.619.1241x108	ajpaulson@sig-auto.com
	Nicole Connoe	214.360.9929	Nicole.Conner@mwhglobal.com
YP - Dallas	Grace Wike	214.583.8501	gdwike@lan-inc.com
	John Zwerneman	972.239.9949	jzwerneman@carollo.com
YP - Fort Worth	Charles Norman	817.684.0900	charles@pumpsolutions.net
	Wesley Tait	817.806.1718	wtair@apaienv.com