



WEAT

North Texas Section



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Leadership Message

Message from the **President**

“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.” - Elizabeth Andrew

Dear WEAT-NTS Community,

Congratulations to our President, Blayne Johnson, and his wife, Morgan, on the arrival of their son on June 21! While Blayne is away on paternity leave enjoying time with his growing family, I’m honored to share this month’s message.

One of the greatest strengths of WEAT-NTS is the passion and generosity of our volunteers. Whether through committee work, event planning, communications and outreach, scholarships, technical programming, or YP activities, there are countless ways to get involved. We also rely on volunteers for our major annual events like the Daryl Hall Golf Tournament, Opstoberfest, and the Spring Clay Shoot. No matter what your schedule, there is always a meaningful way to contribute.

Volunteering gives you the chance to make an impact outside of your day-to-day responsibilities. It builds your network, strengthens leadership skills, expands your knowledge of the water sector, and deepens your connection to the industry. Many of us find that giving back through WEAT makes our professional journeys richer and reminds us why we chose this field in the first place. Our water sector is full of outstanding people working toward shared goals.

My own experience shows the power of volunteering. When I moved to Texas years ago, I had to rebuild my professional network (really my entire family life) from scratch. Through connections I had in Nebraska WEA, who then had connections within WEAT, I was able to get quickly connected. I found support, guidance, and a sense of belonging during a challenging transition. Volunteering didn’t just help my career—it gave me confidence and community.

Leadership Message

Message from the **President**

If you're ready to get involved, here are a few current needs:

Immediate Need

- Audit Committee – Three WEAT-NTS members (non-officers) to audit our books between August and October, with a report presented at the November meeting. Contact me at smiller@weat-nts.org

Ongoing Needs - For these opportunities, contact Blayne Johnson at bjohnson@weat-nts.org:

- Website Committee
- Communications
- Photography
- PWO Committee
- Awards Committee

One and Done Needs:

Check out our events calendar on our website (weat-nts.org) and within this newsletter. Here are your points of contact if you can help for a day:

Daryl Hall Golf Tournament on 9/11/2026 – Kevin Flinn at KRFlinn@GarverUSA.com

Opstoberfest on 10/16/2026 - Ola Wenno at owenno@plummer.com

Now is the perfect time to raise your hand. Volunteering doesn't just strengthen WEAT-NTS—it strengthens you. Step forward, get involved, and let your contribution be the spark that inspires others. We'd love to have you join us.

Together in service,

Sharon



WEAT-NTS & WEF Events

Date	Event	Location
8/04/26	WEAT-NTS YP Texas Ranger Social Event	Globe Life Field 734 Stadium Dr E Arlington, Tx 76011
09/08/26	YP Happy Hour	TBD Dallas, Tx
09/11/26	23rd Annual Daryl Hall Memorial Golf Tournament	Bear Creek Golf Club 3500 Bear Creek Ct. Dallas, Tx 75261
10/16/26	WEAT-NTS Opstoberfest	St. Jude Event Center 2625 S Cooper St Arlington, Tx 76015

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



Officers & Committee Chairs

PRESIDENT

Blayne Johnson
682-208-0767
[Email](#)



PRESIDENT-ELECT

Sharon Miller
469-626-4743
[Email](#)



VICE PRESIDENT

Chris Vela
817-339-2299
[Email](#)



TREASURER

Brandt Miller
972-207-3679
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DEPUTY TREASURER

Andy Paulson
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Sporting Clays

Nyla Hubbard
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Awards

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214-631-6100 | [Email](#)

Nominations

Paula Monaco
817-806-1700 | [Email](#)

Public Outreach

Santos Sotelo
682-348-7279 | [Email](#)

Photography

Troy Pangburn
682-348-5406 | [Email](#)

Plant Tour (Membranes and Mudbugs)

Allison Bennet | [Email](#)
Jordan Duncan
972-391-7634 | [Email](#)

Constitution/Education

Amy Robinson
817-332-8727 | [Email](#)

PWO

Steve Golhar
214-671-9112 | [Email](#)
Ben Hodges
| [Email](#)

Scholarships

Reyna Johnson
817-338-7512 | [Email](#)

OPStoberfest

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214-346-3337 | [Email](#)
Lillie Bolton

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Brad Deaton
504-810-6841 | [Email](#)

Seminar

Archana Sharma
469-532-0458 | [Email](#)
Megan Martin
972-532-2440 | [Email](#)



09.11.26

23rd Annual DARYL HALL MEMORIAL GOLF Tournament

Benefiting the WEAT-NTS Daryl Hall Scholarship Fund

Bear Creek Golf Club
3500 Bear Creek Ct,
Dallas, TX 75261

Shotgun Start at 7:30 AM



Extras

Up your chances of winning with these tickets!

Note that some are per-player, and some are good for the whole team.

Putting contest entry (\$10/player)

Participate in the putting contest qualifier round.

Split the Pot (\$10/player)

A circle will be marked around the hole on a Par 3. Use this ticket to be entered into a drawing for 50% of the money raised on that hole if your tee shot lands in the circle.

Greens for golf balls (\$5/player)

A circle will be marked around the hole on a Par 3, use this ticket to be entered into a drawing for a box of golf balls if your tee shot lands in the circle, or just a sleeve of golf balls for making it on the green.

Lady's tee box (\$20/player)

Allows a player to tee off from the lady's tee box.

Texas Tee Shot #1 (\$20/team)

Turn a Par 5 into Par 3 distance for your team.

Texas Tee Shot #2 (\$20/team)

Turn a Par 5 into Par 3 distance for your team.

CrapShoot (\$20/team)

Your team tees off while seated on a toilet and then take your first official shot from your best ball off the tee.

Golf ball cannon (\$20/team)

One person on your team can shoot a golf ball out of an air-powered cannon that puts the ball much closer to the hole.

Raffle tickets (\$20/ticket)

Entry to win one of the raffle items!

Last One Off the Pot (\$10/ticket)

Entry into the "reverse" raffle where the last number drawn wins.

The Works (\$250 on Jotform, \$360 on the day of)

Includes one (1) of the above tickets for your whole team.

Food & Drinks

Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Each participant will get one drink ticket and a cash bar is also available.

Registration

Sign-ups will take place on Jotform through the link below, and will open on July 30th at 8:00 AM. The deadline to register is August 31st.

Hole Hecklers

Their mock sportscasting team, featuring two professional comedians, will heckle and roast players in good fun and taste, all to raise money for the Daryl Hall Memorial Scholarship Fund. Buy raffle tickets for a \$500 gift card, mulligans or an ace for that hole, or donate to request silence or add extra heckling on another golfer.

Awards

Awards will be given for each course for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and last place overall teams in the 4-man scramble. Longest drive, closest to the pin, closest to the line winners for each course will also receive awards.

For sponsor and golf-related questions, contact Kevin Flinn at (817) 739-4896 or KRFlinn@GarverUSA.com. For volunteer opportunities, contact Agata Ristow at (469) 640-6593 or Aristow@Ardurra.com.

See Following Page for Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsorship Level	Cost	Comes with 1 team of 4 players?	Sponsor logo tee box sign included?	The Works activities package included?	What else is included?
Silver (Sponsor sign only)	\$350	-	Yes	-	-
Utility Employee Team	\$600	Yes	-	-	This level is only offered to teams composed entirely of utility employees.
Gold (Team only)	\$800	Yes	-	-	-
Diamond	\$1,300	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Crapshoot	\$1,600	Yes	Yes*	Yes	Named recognition during the awards ceremony for sponsoring these events and sponsors' logo on the DHMGT course map handout for sponsoring these contests.
Golfball Cannon	\$1,600	Yes	Yes*	Yes	
Longest Drive Contest	\$1,600	Yes	Yes*	Yes	
Closest to the Pin Contest	\$1,600	Yes	Yes*	Yes	
Closest to the Line Contest	\$1,600	Yes	Yes*	Yes	
Putting Contest	\$2,500	Yes	Yes*	Yes	
Drink Tickets	\$2,500	Yes	Yes*	Yes	Buy a drink ticket for every player and volunteer! Named recognition during sendoff and sponsors' logo on the DHMGT course map.
Breakfast	\$2,750	Yes	Yes*	Yes	Buy breakfast for every player and volunteer! Named recognition during sendoff and sponsor's logo on the DHMGT course map.
Hole Hecklers	\$3,250	Yes	Yes*	Yes	Sponsor the funniest hazard on the course! Named recognition during sendoff and the awards ceremony, and sponsor's logo on the DHMGT course map.
Custom Golf Balls	\$3,250	Yes	Yes*	Yes	Buy a drink ticket for every player and volunteer! Named recognition during sendoff and sponsors' logo on the DHMGT course map.

* Sign will be exclusive (no other sponsor signs at that tee box)



WEAT
North Texas Section

Opstoberfest



18th Annual Cook-Off

Friday, October 16, 2026

The Knights of Columbus Hall

2625 S Cooper Street

Arlington, Texas 76015

BENEFITS THE WEAT NORTH TEXAS SECTION
OPERATIONS CHALLENGE TEAMS AT NATIONAL COMPETITIONS



Costumes Encouraged

Get in the Halloween spirit! Costumes are encouraged for kids AND adults.



Family-friendly festivities including a photo booth!

Interested in sponsoring another family activity?
Or have questions? Email Ola Wenno at owenno@plummer.com or Lillie Bolton at Lillie.Bolton@Kimley-Horn.com

Schedule of Events

Teams May Arrive	8:00 AM
Social Hour	5:00 PM
Food Judging	3:30—5:30 PM
Costume Contest	6:00 PM
Dinner Buffet	6:15 PM
Program	7:00 PM
Awards	7:30 PM

BYO beer until 5:30 pm! BYO liquor all day!

Join us!

Members and Guest: \$20

City/Utility and Guest: \$10

Kids 15 and Under: Free



[Register your team online](#)

Team registration is due by October 3. Additional details on team registration are included in the team information packet.

One vehicle limit per team in field.

Awards

- BBQ: Chicken, Beef, Brisket, Pork, Wild Game
- Dessert
- Beer
- Pit Master
- Most Hospitable Team
- Best Kids' Costume



Visit WEAT-NTS.org for more information.

WEAT-NTS May Meeting Recap

Trickling Down Costs: Optimizing BOD Removal to Save on a Major Capacity Expansion

On May 21, WEAT-NTS members heard an update on a pilot study by **Dallas Water Utilities**, supported by Black & Veatch, evaluating Biologically Aerated Filters (BAF) as a compact, efficient option for optimizing BOD removal. **Chad Kopecki** of the Dallas Central Wastewater Treatment Plant and **Andrew Schrank** of Black & Veatch explained how their primary treatment evaluation led to selecting BAF for its combined biological treatment and filtration benefits and small footprint. We appreciate our speakers for sharing what's ahead and look forward to future results as the pilot progresses.

The May meeting also included elections for incoming officers. After the Nominating Committee's recommendations and a call for nominations from the floor, members voted in the following officers:

President: Blayne Johnson, TRA
President-Elect: Sharon Miller, NTMWD
Vice President: Chris Vela, Kimley-Horn
Treasurer: Brandt Miller, Hazen and Sawyer
Deputy Treasurer: Andy Paulson, Gupta and Associates
Section Representative: Allison Hage, Freese and Nichols

The following positions were not up for election this year:

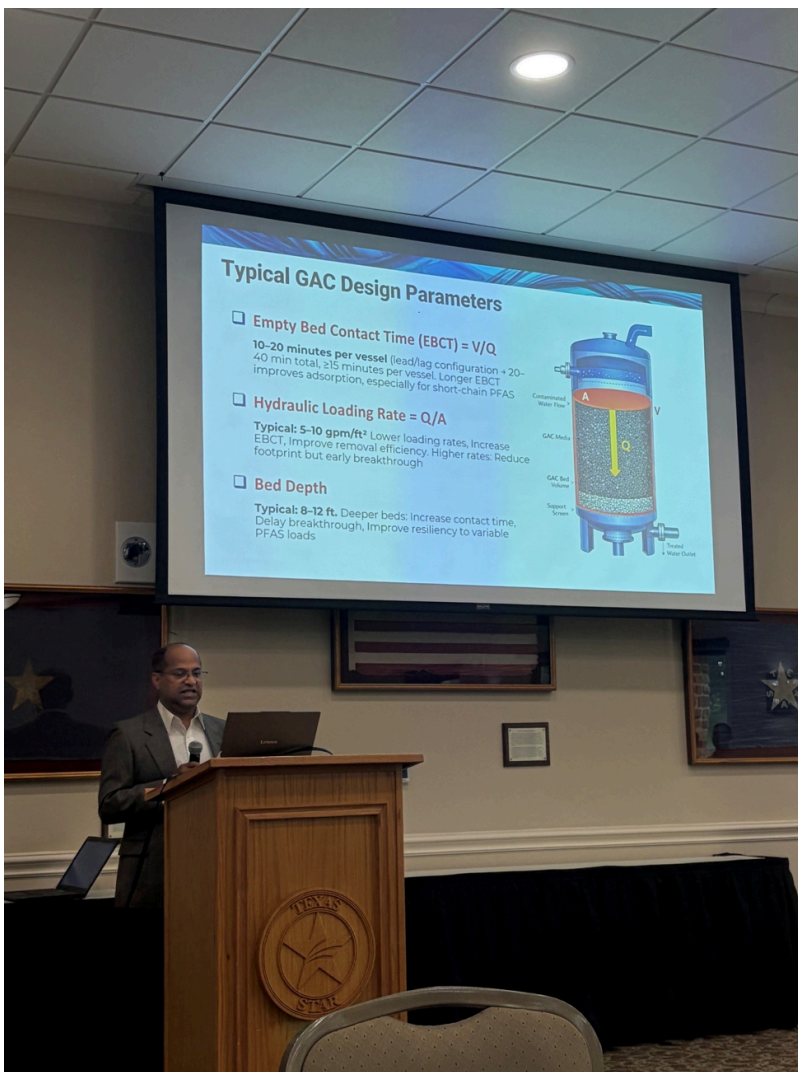
Past President: Paula Monaco, Plummer
Secretary: Kevin Flinn, Garver
Section Representative: Kaylee Waldo, UTRWD

WEAT-NTS June Meeting Recap

Designing Reliable GAC Systems for PFAS: Insights from Operating US Facilities

On June 4, **Dr. Viraj deSilva**, PE, BCEE shared key lessons from full-scale granular activated carbon (GAC) installations for PFAS removal; an important treatment option for utilities preparing for EPA PFAS regulations. He emphasized the need for thorough source-water characterization and pilot testing that captures seasonal and influent variability. Dr. deSilva also highlighted operational challenges, including

competing organics, high TDS, iron and manganese impacts, biofouling prevention, arsenic leaching, and managing PFAS-laden residuals. As chair of both the WEF Emerging Contaminants Community and the AWWA Emerging Water Quality Issues Committee, his service on the Technical Advisory Groups for emerging contaminants research initiatives at five universities, and a frequent author on PFAS and microplastics, Dr. deSilva is widely recognized as a leading expert in this field. WEAT-NTS appreciates his sharing of these insights with our members.



WEAT-NTS July Meeting Recap

Powering Water Infrastructure: Electrical Cost, Lead-Time, and Labor Challenges in Today's Market

Electrical construction costs, equipment lead times, and labor availability continue to challenge the delivery of municipal water and wastewater infrastructure projects. This moderated panel discussion brought together perspectives from across the project delivery chain to discuss current market conditions, including rising equipment costs, long-lead electrical gear, contractor labor constraints, bid risk, procurement timing, and public-sector delivery challenges. Thank you to our panelists **Biju Cherian**, PE from NTMWD, **Josh Clark** PE from Clark Electric Inc and **Chris Ristow**, Director of Construction – North Texas for the Reynolds Company for sharing practical insights on how owners, engineers, contractors, and suppliers can better plan, coordinate, and manage cost and schedule uncertainty in today's electrical construction market. While he didn't lead WEAT-NTS members in the World Cup Viking Row on this hot July 23 evening at Texas Live, **Andy Paulson** from Gupta and Associates did facilitate this very insightful and interactive panel discussion.



WEAT-NTS Pickleball Tournament Recap

Thanks to everyone that attended the **2026 Walter Chaing WEAT-NTS Pickleball Tournament!** It was an exciting day full of pickleball, pizza, and most importantly community.

A big thank you as well to the event sponsor, **STV**. STV provided breakfast, lunch, and the opportunity to play pickleball! The event would not have been possible without their contribution and legacy. The tournament is hosted in honor of Walter Chiang who started a civil engineering firm called CP&Y (Now a part of STV). During his career Walter touched many projects and lives, and mentored many people who now make major contributions to the Water/Wastewater industry.

Thank you to **Kimley-Horn** for sponsoring the trophies! Look at all of these winners!



1st Place Winners



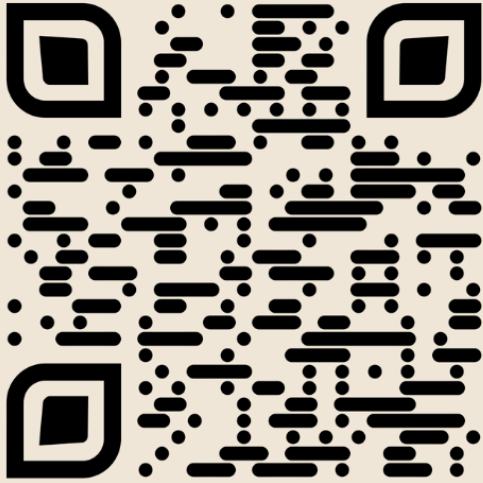
3rd Place





TRINITY RIVER TRASH BASH

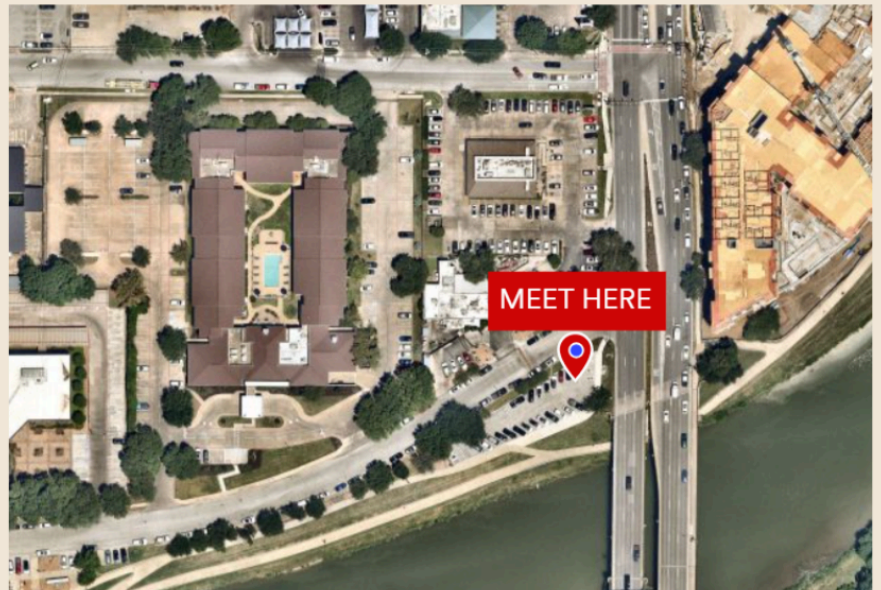
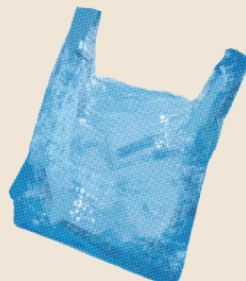
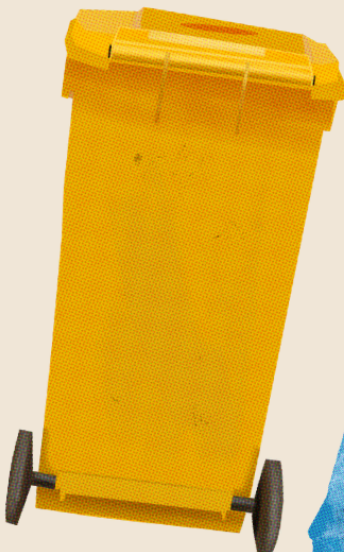
SIGN UP HERE:



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026
8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Crystelle Waggoner Trailhead
3171 Riverfront Dr, Fort Worth, TX 76107

*Event will be followed by the After-Party at
Coyote Drive-in Theater
223 NE 4th St
Fort Worth, TX 76164*



Contact Charlotte Waithira for more info
Charlotte.maina@Kimley-Horn.com

RSVP LINK: <https://form.jotform.com/261594056928064>

VOLUNTEER CHECKLIST:

- HAND SANITIZER
- WATER BOTTLE
- SUN HAT
- BUG SPRAY
- SUNSCREEN
- LONG PANTS
- LONG SLEEVES
- CLOSED TOED SHOES/BOOTS,
- DRY CHANGE OF CLOTHES IF YOU PLAN TO GET WET.

****GUARANTEED T-SHIRTS ARE FOR THOSE WHO REGISTER ANYTIME
BEFORE FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2026. IF YOU REGISTER AFTER THAT DATE,
YOU ARE NOT GUARANTEED A T-SHIRT.**

WEAT-NTS YP Update

We've had some great events this past month, including a WEAT Intern Plant Tour on July 10th at Southside Wastewater Treatment Plant and a World Cup Watch Party on July 14th at Birdie's Social Club, Fort Worth. Thank you to all who came out!



We hope to see you at our upcoming events!

August 4th - Summer Outing Baseball Game - Rangers vs Giants

September 8th - In-Person Happy Hour in Dallas - Location TBD

October - YP Summit in Austin

WEAT-NTS YP Positions

The WEAT YP Committee is restructuring and we are looking to fill some positions! The open positions are:

- **YP Large Event Coordinator**

- Plans Larger YP Events (X per year).
- Creates media for Social/Email Blasts.
- Attends all larger events (baseball games, volleyball social, etc).
- Works with Small Event Coordinator to keep media and engagement consistent.

- **YP Reporter**

- Maintains accurate records of meetings with agendas and minutes.
- Works with Event Coordinators to advertise events on WEAT NTS website.
 - Keep website calendar up to date with upcoming YP events.
 - Works with chairs on media production.
- Uses NTS YP Group Me to communicate activities to members.
- Documents events to help promote the organization.

Thank you to Sam Bennington from Plummer for volunteering to be the YP Small Event Coordinator!

If you're interested in volunteering, please contact:

Jackson Coleman - jcoleman@wadetrime.com

Colby Myers - cmyers@wadetrim.com

Tyler Johnston - tajohnston@lan-inc.com

Thank you to our Sponsors!

..... Platinum Sponsors

AECOM

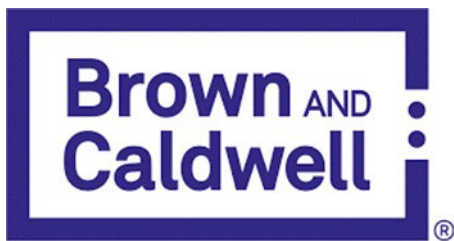


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 **ARCADIS**

ADD YOUR NAME HERE

See Sponsorship Opportunities on page 15 or [CLICK HERE.](#)



Sponsorship Opportunities

WEAT-NTS offers three levels of sponsorships for the January 2026–December 2026 year, plus multiple individual sponsorship opportunities.

Sponsorships will support:

- WEAT-NTS and Darryl Hall Scholarship Funds
- Dinner Meetings
- Young Professionals
- Outreach Programs (Science Fair, Future Cities, Trinity River Cleanup, etc.)

Classic Dinner Sponsor \$250

- ✓ One Dinner Meeting
- ✓ Recognition of Classic Sponsors includes:
 - Announcement on front page of newsletter (name of firm) for the sponsored meeting
 - Announcement in meeting reminder emails (name of firm)
 - Display of (name of firm) digital banner at meeting (if supplied) via PowerPoint
 - Verbal recognition of sponsors by President at beginning of the meeting

Gold Sponsor \$1,250

- ✓ Recognition at ALL six meetings (includes Fall BBQ Cook-off) for the price of five
- ✓ Recognition of the Gold Sponsors is the same as Classic Sponsors at all six meetings

Platinum Sponsor \$1,950

- ✓ Recognition as a Platinum Sponsor at ALL six meetings (including the Fall BBQ Cook-off)
- ✓ Recognition of the Platinum Sponsors is the same as Gold Sponsors, plus:
 - Company name included in all newsletters, meeting announcements, meeting reminder emails, and Company Link on WEAT-NTS website
 - Display of (name of firm) digital banner at meeting (if supplied) via PowerPoint
 - Recognition of Platinum Sponsors by President at the beginning of each meeting
 - Recognition as YP Sponsor, with \$100 from sponsorship being earmarked toward local YP events
 - Recognition as WEAT-NTS Scholarship fund contributor

Individual Sponsorship Opportunities

- Fall Opstoberfest BBQ Cook-Off: \$250
- Sporting Clays: Options starting at \$150
- WEAT-NTS Scholarship Fund Contribution: \$100
- Darryl Hall Scholarship Fund Contribution: \$100
- NTS Newsletter Business Card Ad (6 issues) and website link: \$150
- NTS February Seminar: \$300
- NTS February Seminar Table Sponsor: \$500
- NTS February Seminar Break Area Sponsor: \$1,000
- NTS February Seminar Reception Sponsor: \$1,000
- NTS Young Professionals Sponsor: \$100

- Recognition of Individual Sponsors includes:
 - List of sponsors in newsletter announcement
 - List of sponsors in event reminder emails
 - Display of (name of firm) digital banner at meeting (if supplied) via PowerPoint