CTCOG
Central Texas Council of Governments

SWAC

Solid Waste Advisory Committee

November 5, 2026
10:00 AM

www.ctcog.org 254-770-2200 prsmeetings@ctcog.org

Agenda

CTCOG
CENTRAL TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Central Texas Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)
Thursday, November 5, 2026

Central Texas Council of Governments Building
2180 North Main Street, Belton, Texas 76513

Regular Meeting: 10:00am

Virtual Meeting Link: SWAC Meeting

Call in Number: +1 (571) 317-3122
Access Code: 376-919-429

Agenda

1. Call to Order.
2. Opportunity for Public Comment.
3. **Action Item:** Regarding approval of September 1, 2026, meeting minutes (*pgs.*). [Presenter: Justin Brantley, Chair]
4. **Discussion and Action Item**: Regarding the nomination and election of a Chair and Vice Chairs to serve for the remainder of the FY 2026-2027 biennium (pgs.). [Presenter: Justin Brantley, Chair]
5. **Discussion and Action Item**: Regarding approval of the SWAC Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2027 (CY2027) *(pgs.)*. [Presenter: Zoe Rascoe, Second Vice Chair]
6. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding allocation of an additional $8,067.07 in FY2027 Implementation funds identified after approval of the FY2027 project awards in August 2026 (*pgs.*). [Presenter: Kendra Coufal, CTCOG]
7. **Discussion Item:** Regarding the appointment of Pete Feenstra as the Bell County representative to the SWAC (pgs.). [Presenter: Justin Brantley, Chair]
8. **Discussion Item:** Regarding innovative waste education through digital gamification to improve waste segregation knowledge (*pgs.*). [Presenter: Kate Williams, Bold Donut]
9. **Discussion Item:** Regarding the Safer Farm program and resources to help agricultural communities identify, prevent, and mitigate hazardous material storage risks on

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agricultural properties (*pgs*.). [Presenter: Casper G. Bendixsen, PhD, Marshfield Clinic Research Institute]

10. **Discussion Item:** Regarding proposed revisions to the SWAC bylaws, including officer election timing, and any additional revisions identified by the Committee for consideration and action at the February 2027 meeting (*pgs*.). [Presenter: Justin Brantley, Chair]
11. **Discussion Item:** Regarding a report on the City of Temple's October 24, 2026, household hazardous waste (HHW) and Scrap Tire collection event, including collection results and program outcomes (*pgs*.). [Presenter: Justin Brantley, Chair]
12. **Discussion Item:** Regarding upcoming efforts to review and advance implementation of the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP) beginning in February 2027 (*pgs*.). [Presenter: Jenna Milam, CTCOG]
13. Staff Update (*pgs*.): [Presenter: Kendra Coufal, CTCOG]
    a) Next meeting date;
    b) Grant opportunities;
    c) Conferences and trainings;
    d) Legislative updates;
    e) Air Quality;
14. Member Comments/Discussion.
15. Adjournment.

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ITEM #3

Meeting Minutes

CTCOG
CENTRAL TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, September 1st, 2026
1:12 PM

Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG)
2180 North Main Street
Belton, TX 76513

Representing	Member	Attended	Alternate Member Attended
City of Temple	Justin Brantley, Chair	Y	
Bell County	Duane Herrera	Y	
Citizen Representative	Zoe Rascoe, Vice Chair	Y	
City of Belton	Marcie Seele	Y/A	Marcus Guzman
City of Copperas Cove	Victor Williams	N	
City of Gatesville	Brad Hunt	Y	
City of Harker Heights	Mark Hyde	Y/A	John Mcelroy
City of Killeen	Tyler O'Dell	Y	
Coryell County	Commissioner Kyle Matthews	N	
Hamilton County	Commissioner Johnny Wagner	Y	
Lampasas County	Commissioner Lewis Bridges	N	
Milam County	James Denman	N	
Mills County	Vacant	N	
San Saba County	Scott Edmonson	N	
Solid Waste Industry Representative	Paul Daugereau	Y	
Fort Hood	Jackelyn Ferrer-Perez	Y	
Private Sector Representative	Vacant	N	
TCEQ	Jessica Uramkin*	N	
Fort Hood	Timi Dutchuk*	Y	
City of Nolanville	Teresa Chandler*	Y	
City of Hamilton	Ryan Polster*	N	
City of Cameron	Ricky McCall*	N	

*Denotes non-voting member
Y= Member Attended
Y/A = Alternate Attended

1. **Call to Order:** Justin Brantley called the meeting to order at 1:21 pm.

2. **Opportunity for Public Comment:** No comments were made by the public

3. **Action Item:** Approval of May 21, 2026, meeting minutes.

Duane Herrera made a motion to approve the May 21, 2026, meeting minutes, seconded by Brad Hunt; the motion passed unanimously.

4. **Discussion Item:** Regarding FY27 Project Presentations.

Representatives from the FY27 applicants gave short presentations regarding their proposed projects, outlining their priorities and how they would use the grant funding for their waste disposal projects. Entities that applied were the following: Bell County, City of Gatesville, City of Hamilton, City of Kileen, City of Temple, City of Thorndale.

5. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding FY27 Project Selection and Funding.

Kendra Coufal provided a brief overview of the FY27 Project Selection and Funding. Mrs. Coufal discussed how funds were allocated to each project. Members discussed the various projects, including alternative funding amounts.

Applicant	Project	Date of Project	Grant Funds Requested	Grant Funds Awarded
City of Temple	HHW + Scrap Tires	10/24/2026	$ 25,000.00	$ 15,000.00
City of Hamilton	HHW + Scrap Tires	2/20/2027	$ 30,000.00	$ 20,000.00
Bell County	Scrap Tires	3/12-3/13/2027	$ 30,000.00	$ 15,000.00
City of Killeen	HHW	4/24/2027	$ 25,000.00	$ 15,000.00
City of Gatesville	HHW	5/8/2027	$ 25,000.00	$ 18,665.89
City of Thorndale	Recycle Program	Ongoing	$ 43,000.00	$ 20,000.00
			$ 178,000.00	**$ 103,665.89**

Zoe Rascoe made a motion to approve the above staff recommendations regarding the FY27 Project Funding Award allocations, seconded by Commissioner Johnny Wagner; the motion passed unanimously.

6. **Discussion Item:** Regarding FY27 HHW/Scrap Tire event dates.

Members discussed the dates for the funded events to be held on

City of Temple HHW and Scrap Tires Event – October 24th, 2026
City of Hamilton HHW and Scrap Tires Event – February 2nd, 2027
Bell County Scrap Tires Event – March 12-13th, 2027
City of Killeen HHW Event – April 24th, 2027
City of Gatesville HHW Event – May 8th, 2027

Brad Hunt made a motion to approve the FY27 event dates, seconded by Duane Herrera; the motion passed unanimously.

DRAFT

7. Staff Update: [Presenter: Kendra Coufal, CTCOG]

Kendra Coufal discussed two grant programs that affect solid waste, the Texas Scrap Tire Remediation Grant Program and the EPA Brownfield Grants. In addition, Mrs. Coufal discussed several events involving solid waste programs for city or county staff to attend.

8. Next Meeting Date: Thursday, November 5th, 2026

9. Air Quality:

Air quality readings were 62ppb in the City of Temple and 67ppb in the City of Killeen for the month of July.

10. Member Comments/Discussion.

Duane Herrera introduced his replacement for the next fiscal year, Pete Feenstra.

11. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 3:13 am.

These meeting minutes were approved by the SWAC members at their meeting on _____.

_____ _____

Justin Brantley, SWAC Chair Uryan Nelson, CTCOG PRS Director

DRAFT

ITEM #4

Nomination and Election of Chair and Vice Chair for FY 2026-2027 biennium

Nomination and Election of Chair and Vice Chairs for the remainder of the FY2026-2027 Biennium

The SWAC bylaws provide that officer elections shall be held during the first meeting after the beginning of each biennium. Officers serve two-year terms beginning on the date of the vote, subsequent elections may be held to fill unexpired terms, and no officer may hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms.

Officers serving during the FY 2022-2023 biennium were Justin Brantley (Chair), Duane Herrera (Vice Chair), and Zoe Rascoe (Second Vice Chair). The same officers were elected to serve for the FY 2024-2025 biennium. The officer election for the FY 2026-2027 biennium was expected at the November 2025 meeting, but did not occur. The Committee has continued operating under the previously existing officer structure.

Nomination and election of a Chair and Vice Chairs to serve for the remainder of the FY 2026-2027 biennium is needed. Service for this period of time will be considered a partial term and will not count toward the two-consecutive-term limit. Elections will be held again in 2027 for officers to serve the FY 2028-2029 biennium.

A listing of eligible SWAC members is included on the next page.

Action Needed: Nominate and elect a Chair and Vice Chairs to serve for the remainder of the FY 2026-2027 biennium. Elections will be held again in 2027 for officers to serve the FY 2028-2029 biennium.

Justin Brantley (Chair)
City of Temple
Solid Waste Director
Phone: (254) 298-5723
jbrantley@templetx.gov

Pete Feenstra
Bell County
County Engineer
Phone: (254) 933-5275
pete.feenstra@bellcounty.texas.gov
Alternate: Bryan Neaves

Zoe Rascoe (Second Vice Chair)
Citizen Representative
Phone: (254) 913-1013
zoe.rascoe@gmail.com

Marcie Seele
City of Belton
Public Works Programs Manager
Phone: (254) 933-5823
mseele@beltontexas.gov

Victor Williams
City of Copperas Cove
Residential Operations Supervisor
Phone: (254) 547-5245
vwilliams@copperascovetx.gov

Brad Hunt
City of Gatesville
City Manager
bhunt@gatesvilletx.com

Mark Hyde
City of Harker Heights
Assistant City Manager
Phone: (254) 953-5641
mhyde@harkerheights.gov

Tyler O'Dell
City of Killeen
Recycling Manager
Phone: (254) 501-7757
todell@killeentexas.gov

Kyle Matthews
Coryell County
County Commissioner
Phone: (254) 206-0063
kyle.matthews@coryellcountytx.gov

Johnny Wagner
Hamilton County
County Commissioner
Phone: (254) 867-2873
jwagner@hamiltoncountytx.org

Lewis Bridges
Lampasas County
County Commissioner
Phone: (512) 734-1431
lewisgail68@gmail.com

James Denman
Milam County
County Commissioner
Phone: (254) 697-7054
jdenman@milamcounty.net

Vacant
Mills County

Scott Edmonson
San Saba County
San Saba City Manager
Phone: (325) 372-3131
citymanager@centex.net

Paul Daugereau
Solid Waste Industry Rep.
Waste Management
Phone: (512) 272-6226
pdaugere@wm.com

Jackelyn Ferrer-Perez
Fort Cavazos
Sustainability Program Manager
Phone: (254) 287-8712
jackelyn.ferrer-perez.civ@army.mil

Vacant
Private Sector/Business Rep.

ITEM #5

CY27 SWAC Meeting Schedule

CY2027 SWAC Meeting Schedule

Included in the meeting packet is the proposed SWAC meeting schedule for Calendar Year 2027.

The Committee meets quarterly on the first Thursday of February, May, August, and November at 10:00 a.m.

Proposed dates: February 4, May 6, August 5, and November 4, 2027, at 10:00 a.m.

Action Needed: Review and approve the proposed CY2027 SWAC meeting schedule.

CY 2027

SWAC Meeting Calendar

January

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SWAC Holidays

http://www.vertex42.com/ExcelTemplates/yearly-calendar.html

Yearly Calendar Template © 2013 Vertex42.com. Free to Print.

ITEM #6

Allocation of Additional FY2027 Implementation Funds

CTCOG

November 5, 2026

Solid Waste Advisory Committee **Agenda Item # 6**

Allocation of Additional FY2027 Implementation Funds

CTCOG has recently identified $8,067.07 in FY2025 earned interest that TCEQ has authorized CTCOG to spend on FY2027 projects no later than November 30, 2026. CTCOG also has $2,216.71 in FY2026 earned interest available for FY2027 projects. This FY2026 interest was included in the $103,665.89 in total grant funds presented at the August 2026 SWAC meeting.

At the August meeting, SWAC approved a $15,000 award to the City of Temple for its household hazardous waste (HHW) and scrap tire event. Staff proposes applying the $8,067.07 in FY2025 earned interest and the $2,216.71 in FY2026 earned interest toward the Temple event because the FY2025 funds are subject to an expenditure deadline. The remaining $4,716.22 needed to cover the $15,000 award would be paid from FY2027 Implementation funds.

Applying the prior-year earned interest to the Temple event would leave $8,067.07 in unused FY2027 Implementation funds available for allocation to eligible FY2027 applicants. Staff has included a table listing currently approved projects, with each applicant's original funding request and the amount awarded by SWAC. This information will help the Committee evaluate applicant requests and determine how to allocate the remaining $8,067.07 in FY2027 Implementation funds.

Applicant	Project	Date of Project	Grant Funds Requested	Grant Funds Awarded
City of Temple	HHW + Scrap Tires	10/24/2026	$ 25,000.00	$ 15,000.00
City of Hamilton	HHW + Scrap Tires	2/20/2027	$ 30,000.00	$ 20,000.00
Bell County	Scrap Tires	3/12-3/13/2027	$ 30,000.00	$ 15,000.00
City of Killeen	HHW	4/24/2027	$ 25,000.00	$ 15,000.00
City of Gatesville	HHW	5/8/2027	$ 25,000.00	$ 18,665.89
City of Thorndale	Recycle Program	Ongoing	$ 43,000.00	$ 20,000.00
			$ 178,000.00	**$ 103,665.89**

Following SWAC's determination on how to allocate the remaining funds, staff will submit the proposed allocation to the CTCOG Executive Committee for approval.

Action Needed: Determine and recommend the allocation of the remaining $8,067.07 in FY2027 Implementation funds to eligible FY2027 applicants for submission to the CTCOG Executive Committee for approval.

ITEM #7

Bell County SWAC Representative

Appointment of Pete Feenstra as Bell County Representative

The SWAC bylaws provide that county representatives are appointed in writing by the County Judge. Written notice of the appointment is sent to the CTCOG Solid Waste Coordinator, and the appointment is officially recognized by CTCOG upon receipt of that notice.

In a letter dated October 19, 2026, Bell County Judge Blackburn confirmed Pete Feenstra, Bell County Engineer, as Bell County's SWAC representative for FY2026-2027, replacing Duane Herrera. The letter states that the appointment was approved by Commissioners Court on October 19, 2026. The signed appointment letter has been included in the meeting packet.

Action Needed: No action required; for informational purposes.

Office
of the
County Judge

October 19, 2026

Central Texas Council of Governments
ATTN: Kendra Coufal, MBA, Assistant Director of Planning
P.0. Box 729
Belton, Texas 76513

RE: Appointment of Bell County Representative to Solid Water Advisory Committee (SWAC)

Dear Kendra:

This letter confirms the appointment of Pete Feenstra, Bell County Engineer, as Bell County Representative on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, replacing Duane Herrera as representative. This appointment was approved in Commissioners Court on Monday, October 19, 2026.

Please let me know if you need additional information or a copy of the signed Minutes.

Sincerely,

D. Blackburn, County Judge

P.O. Box 768, Belton, Texas 76513 ★ 254-933-5105 ★ Fax 254-933-5179
david.blackburn@bellcounty.texas.gov ★ www.bellcountytx.com

ITEM #8

Kate Williams, Bold Donut:

Waste Education & Engagement Presentation

Innovative Waste Education Through Digital Gamification

Kate Williams, CEO and Co-founder of Bold Donut, will present on using digital games to improve waste education and engagement. Bold Donut develops customizable games intended to make complex topics, including waste, energy, and water, more accessible and engaging.

The presentation highlights the "Take a Minute, Before You Bin It" campaign in Ireland and its customized waste game, which uses short, Candy Crush-style levels to teach proper waste sorting. The presentation materials report that the game has attracted thousands of players, with an average session of approximately three minutes and thirty seconds. They also report an increase in average assessment scores from 72% on the baseline test to 99.1% after playing.

Bold Donut's educational tools are used by government agencies, businesses, universities, and colleges.

Potential for schools, community education and regional application:

- The game could potentially be adapted for classroom environmental education, recycling lessons, or school waste-reduction campaigns.
- CTCOG could explore whether a customized version could teach students and residents how to sort waste according to local disposal and recycling rules.

This approach could support the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan's Goal 3, which emphasizes reducing waste generation and encouraging greater recycling through public education. Digital gamification may offer an additional way to engage residents and reinforce waste-reduction, recycling, and proper disposal practices.

Action Needed: No action required; for informational purposes.

bold donut

Using the power of digital games for

Waste Education & Engagement



Kate Williams, CEO & Co-founder kate@bolddonut.com

ABOUT US

Who are Bold Donut?

We're on a mission to help education and raise awareness on challenging topics like waste, energy and water, in a way that is fun, accessible and easy to understand.

Instead of jargon, or complex figures we meet people where they are...playing games on their phones.

Think Candy Crush...but for waste, energy & water

Games Based Engagement

Using the engagement power of casual games to make boring or complex topics fun and easier to grasp

Broad Appeal
Over 17,000 players aged 18-65+

High Level of Engagement
4 - 12 minutes per session

Measurable increases
Up to +195% increase in knowledge

ABOUT US

Our clients include

We have waste and energy games on the market. Our clients include the Irish government, power networks, universities, and corporates all looking to use games to engage and educate their audiences on the topics of waste and energy.

























BACKGROUND

Why Games?

Video games are one of America's favourite forms of entertainment.*



37

Average player age

Player Gender**



Male



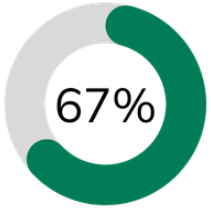
Female

Top 2 reasons American play video games

Pass the Time/Relax
66%

Have fun
66%

Favourite Genres	**Puzzle** 59%	**Arcade** 67%	**Action** 43%



Percentage of the USA population who report playing video games **1+ hours each week**

*ESA, 2026, Essential Facts about USA Video Game Industry
**1% prefer not to say/non-binary

THE PROBLEM

What's the problem?

Many organisations need to get their people on board with reducing energy use, waste contamination and water use but... it's hard to capture attention, prove meaningful engagement and scale with topics like recycling or waste.



But why?

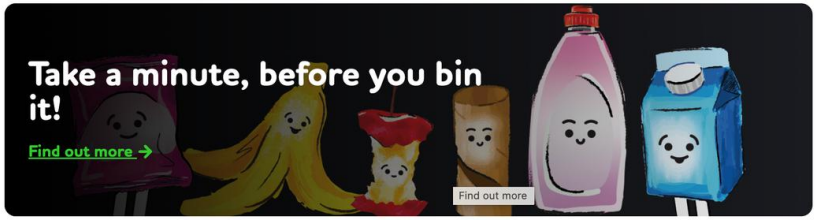
- Boring
- Find it complex/overly complicated
- Lack of knowledge/understanding
- Find it stressful
- Don't know where to start
- Takes too much effort
- Overwhelming

Case Study

MyWaste.ie

Ireland's official guide to managing waste for residential and commercial. An information portal and guide by the Regional Waste Management Offices on behalf of the Ireland's Department of Climate Action, Communications and the Environment.









Case Study

Take a Minute, Before You Bin It

In 2024, MyWaste.ie launched their award-winning campaign “Take a Minute, Before You Bin It,” a national awareness campaign to improve waste segregation, reduce landfill contamination and boost recycling rates.



Key Campaign Details:

- **Core Message:** Encouraging households and business to pause and check the proper disposal methods before throwing items into bins
- **EPA Statistic:** ⅔ of what goes in general waste bins could have been recycled or composted*
- **Most Misplaced Item:** Food waste & soft plastics
- **Community Involvement:** It was backed by local authorities and councils nationwide

*EPA, 2023

Case Study

Partners

Take a Minute, Before You Bin It is a national campaign with a strong team of local partners to support MyWaste.ie in their vision.

Ireland's guide to waste
mywaste

WILSON HART NELL

Strategic & creative communications

SPARK FOUNDRY

Media Agency

behaviour wise

Helping to understand what drives human behaviour and how to change it

DESIGN WORKS

Graphic Design for look and feel of campign

bold donut

Game design & Development

Case Study

How the Campaign Reached People

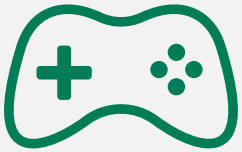
The campaign was launched in September 2024 and has continued in bursts since then.



Advertising

The campaign appeared on TV, radio, digtal and outdoor ads as well as social media under the hashtags

#TakeAMinute #CircularLiving



Game

The Bold Donut Waste Game was entirely customised to fit the look and feel of the campaign as well as suit the messaging. The game was offered for free on the campaign website where it still sits as an everygreen, free tool to use.



Resources

The campaign offers downloadable promotional materials in English and Irish for digital, print and social.

Case Study

The Waste Game

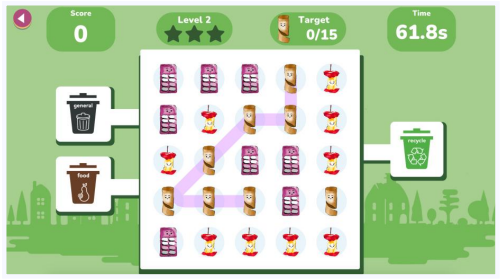
Bold Donut was brought on to customise our waste game to form a key part of the TAMBYBI campaign - offering active engagement to people across Ireland.



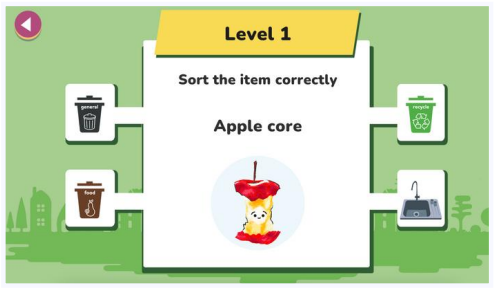
Campaign Branded Game



Campaign Messaging



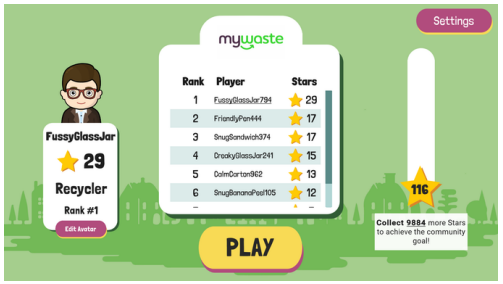
5 “Candy Crush Style” game levels with different waste items



Baseline test level to establish players baseline knowledge when they enter the game



Assessment level to test players improvement after playing



Individual & Group Leaderboards + Avatar customisation

Case Study

The Impact

Since the launch in 2024, thousands of people have played the MyWaste Waste Game, playing for an average of 3m30sec per session

Regular & Consistent Flow
Hundreds of people access and play the game every month on the website

72% average
Players score an average of 72% on the baseline test on how to handle common waste items

Learning through playing

After playing the whole game players scored an average of 99.1% on the assessment test

38% improvement



Irish players know what to do with applecores

98% of players put it in the right bin (organic)



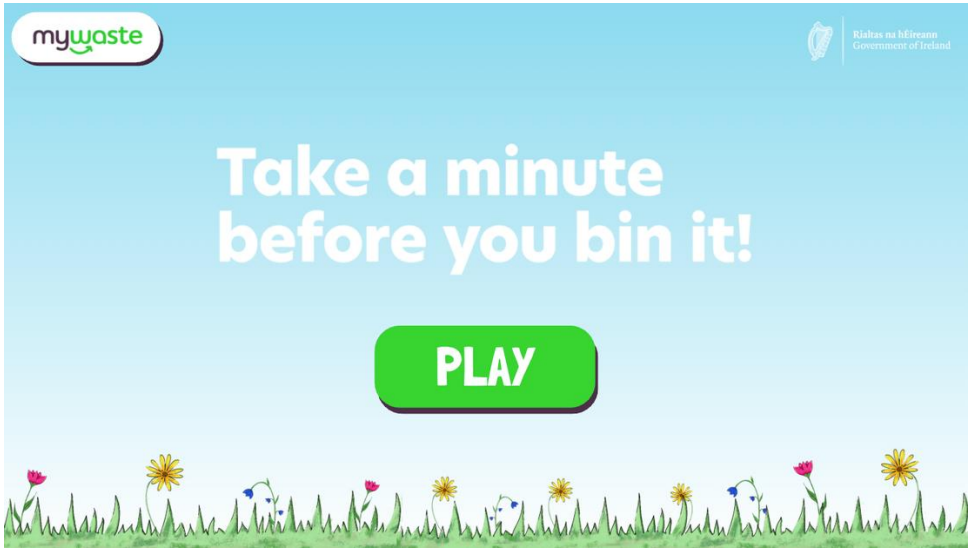
Blisterpacks cause confusion

56% of players correctly placed it in the general waste

What Next

Events Edition

Since the campaign in 2024, the game is still live and getting regular engagement on the Mywaste.ie website. And to support the web game, there is now an “events edition” that the team can use to grab attention and promote their message in person!





Summary

Why it Works

The Waste Game is designed to make the boring → fun and to meet people where they are... on their phones playing mobile games! In addition to this, it works because...



Representing the Brand

The game is designed to be entirely customisable to your campaign or organisational branding so that it fits into it seamlessly as a useful tool for your audience and gives them a positive experience



Waste Regulations

We customise the game to our client's waste specifications, i.e. what waste items you want to highlight, how to dispose of them correctly and what message you want to get across.



Bite-sized fun that is easy to scale

When it comes to waste, it can often feel like we're nagging people to do the right thing, but with the waste game, we're giving audiences something fun to do where they *happen* to learn more about waste in their area while enjoying themselves

Thank you

bold donut

Kate Williams, CEO & Co-founder kate@bolddout.com www.bolddonut.com

ITEM #9

Casper G. Bendixsen, PhD, Marshfield Clinic Research Institute:

Safer Farm Program Presentation

CTCOG

November 5, 2026

Solid Waste Advisory Committee **Agenda Item # 9**

Safer Farm Program and Agricultural Hazardous Material Storage

At the August SWAC meeting, a participant raised concerns about the Hamilton-area fire that reportedly began at a barn when improperly stored agricultural chemicals combusted, leading to a wildfire and potential impacts to surrounding land and water resources. Such incidents can have consequences beyond the immediate property, affecting nearby land and water resources. In response, staff have invited Casper G. Bendixsen, PhD, of Marshfield Clinic Research Institute, to present on the Safer Farm program and resources designed to help agricultural communities identify, prevent, and mitigate hazardous material storage risks on agricultural properties.

The presentation will highlight resources for safer chemical handling and storage and potential applications for regional education and outreach. It also relates to the RSWMP's Goal 2, Objective 2E, which addresses household hazardous waste management and regional public education. Although the RSWMP does not specifically address agricultural chemical storage, the Safer Farm program may provide an opportunity to explore complementary educational efforts to reduce hazardous material risks in the region.

Action Needed: No action required; for informational purposes.

ITEM #10

Revisions to the SWAC Bylaws

Proposed SWAC Bylaw Revisions

The current SWAC bylaws provide for officer elections at the first Committee meeting after the beginning of each biennium. Staff recommends revising the election schedule so officers may be elected at the final meeting of the biennium, allowing incoming officers to be selected before the next biennium begins.

Staff also recommends adding clarifying language regarding partial officer terms to reflect the intent that serving a partial term does not count toward the two-term limit.

Members may identify any other bylaw provisions for consideration. Staff will use the Committee's feedback to prepare proposed bylaw revisions for consideration and action at the February 2027 meeting.

Action Needed: No action required; for discussion only.

CTCOG
resource conservation

SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
BYLAWS

Principles and Policies

1. The Representatives of local governments (or stakeholder groups) in the Central Texas Area join together in a voluntary organization to be known as the Central Texas Council of Governments (or its Advisory Groups), for the purpose of meeting at regular intervals to discuss problems and needs which require action on an area-wide or regional basis, to develop plans, policies (if authorized), and recommendations for action and implementation by local member governments and other appropriate levels of government within the region.
2. Counties, Cities and School Districts are the principal units of local government in the region. As such, they have the responsibility of planning for and meeting the local governmental needs which future development will produce, including the need for joint and coordinated area-wide service.
3. Sound and workable policies and programs for meeting and solving the area-wide problems of local governments will be most effective and ultimately carried out through regular meetings of the local governmental units (or stakeholder groups) in an area-wide voluntary council dedicated to the solution of these problems.
4. The Council (or its Advisory Groups) is a voluntary organization whereby individual governmental units (or stakeholder groups) can work together in coordination of their efforts in planning and guiding the needs of a progressive society.

Definitions:

The following terms are defined for use within this document.

Biennium – The two-year time period for which SWAC is funded by TCEQ, begins on the first day of September in odd-numbered years and ends on the last day of August two years later.

Bylaws – The governing rules and articles adopted and amended by the membership.

Citizen Representative – Any interested or concerned individual who expresses a desire to serve on SWAC.

Council – This term refers to the Council of Governments, specifically the Central Texas Council of Governments in this case.

CTCOG – This is the official abbreviation for The Central Texas Council of Governments.

Executive Committee – The Governing Body of the Council.

Private Sector / Business Representative – A full-time employee of any business in the Central Texas area, providing services or producing products, but not necessarily directly connected to solid waste.

Solid Waste Industry Representative – A full-time employee of a business providing solid waste disposal or recycling services in the Central Texas area.

SWAC – This is the official abbreviation for the Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

TCEQ – Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Article I: Organization

The name of this Advisory Committee shall be the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC), which shall be a voluntary Advisory Group of the Council for the Counties of Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills, and San Saba, and the political subdivisions located geographically in whole prescribed in these Bylaws.

The Advisory group membership is made up of solid waste stakeholders who comprise the SWAC as defined in Article IV. The Executive Committee is the Governing Body of the Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG) and is responsible for the general policies and programs of the Council and the control of its funds.

The creation of the Advisory Committee is authorized by the Central Texas Council of Governments, under Subchapter 330.639, Texas Administrative Code and Article II of the Articles of Association.

Article II: Purpose and Objectives

The Advisory Committee shall be to advise the Central Texas Council of Governments' Executive Committee during the planning and implementation of the Central Texas Regional Solid Waste Management Plan as outlined in Subchapter O, Section 7, of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, Article 4477-7, and Texas Administrative Code, as amended. The purpose of the plan is to guide the orderly development and implementation of solid waste facilities and disposal methods according to local, state, and federal regulations.

Article III: Powers and Duties of the Advisory Committee

1. In order to accomplish its objectives and purposes, the Advisory Committee shall perform the following functions:
    a. Exercise the powers and perform the duties authorized in Subchapter O, Section 7, of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, Texas Administrative Code.
    b. Adopt the Bylaws of the Advisory Committee and amendments to the Bylaws.
    c. Elect Committee Officers.
    d. Review and select projects submitted to implement the goals and objectives of the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan.

Article IV: Membership

1. Advisory Committee membership shall consist of one member from each county of the Central Texas Council of Governments, and one member from each municipality with a population in excess of 10,000 residents as of the latest census data. These counties - Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills, and San Saba; and these municipalities - Belton, Copperas Cove, Gatesville, Harker Heights, Killeen, and Temple are eligible to appoint a voting member to the Advisory Committee. Ex-officio membership is encouraged to be requested by private operators, citizen groups, and interested individuals.
2. Eligible Voting Members:
    a. Appointees of Counties and Qualifying Municipalities (see **ARTICLE IV, SECTION 1**)
    b. Solid Waste Industry Representative (2)
    c. Private Sector/Business Representative (2)
    d. Citizen Representative (2)

e. Fort Cavazos Representative (1)

f. A representative from another group determined at the SWAC's discretion (1)

3. Eligible Non-Voting Members:

    a. Central Texas Council of Governments' Staff

    b. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

    c. Ex-Officio Members

4. Members may designate in writing to the CTCOG Solid Waste Coordinator, a proxy to attend meetings in their place. Members unable to attend meetings are encouraged to designate a proxy or send someone in their stead to assist in information exchange and coordination activities.

5. County representatives will be appointed by their elected County Judge, and Municipal representatives will be appointed by the City Mayor. Both appointments shall be in writing. There are no term limits for county and municipal representatives; however, confirmation of their continuing status as representatives shall be provided in writing at the beginning of each biennium.

6. The Solid Waste Industry, Private Sector/Business, and Citizen Representatives will be selected by the Advisory Committee.

    a. Solid Waste Industry, Private Sector, and Citizen Representatives will be approved by a majority vote of the Advisory Committee. Terms will be two years for that biennium.

7. Ex-officio membership shall be requested in writing to the Advisory Committee via the CTCOG staff coordinator.

    a. Ex-officio members will be approved by a majority vote of the Advisory Committee. Terms will be two years beginning on the date of the vote.

    b. Ex-officio membership may be requested in writing and approved by the Advisory Committee at any time during the biennium.

Article V: Representation Issues

1. The population figures to be used in determining representatives for the foregoing classifications shall be in accordance with the most recent U.S. Census or estimates from the State Data Center.

2. The approving authority for any appointment from a municipality or county shall be a written notice (i.e. letter, email, meeting minutes) from the County Judge or City Mayor sent to the CTCOG Solid Waste Coordinator. Once the written notice has been received, the appointment becomes officially recognized by CTCOG.

3. There shall be no discrimination in any respect in selection of members or any activity of the Advisory Committee due to gender, age, race, religion, disability, or political creed.

Article VI: Meetings of the Advisory Committee

1. This Advisory Committee shall comply with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

2. The Advisory Committee shall meet semi-annually or at other times as requested by the chairperson, or upon request of not less than one-third of the members of the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee members will be notified of all meetings at least three days prior to the meeting, other than emergency meetings which will be called in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

    a. Failure to physically or via video conference attend **three** (3) consecutive meetings of the Committee without notice or the attendance of a proxy shall constitute a resignation from the Committee.

3. All meetings of the Advisory Committee shall be open to the public. A public comment period will be on the agenda for each meeting.

4. A quorum at any Advisory Committee meeting shall be fifty percent plus one (51%) of the voting membership. An act of the majority of the members, in a meeting at which a quorum is present, shall be the act of the Advisory Committee.

5. Members may video conference into meetings and are considered "present" and are counted toward the making of a quorum if their camera is on. They may also vote on any item so brought before the committee.

6. In order to expedite response for action items, members may electronically vote on crucial and pending action items identified by the SWAC Chairperson or Solid Waste Coordinator. The Solid Waste Coordinator or Chairperson will send an electronic survey to all members with a deadline

for responses. This survey shall only contain two answer options, such as in formal face-to-face meetings. After the deadline has passed, the Coordinator or Chairperson will inform the SWAC of the voting decision.

7. Conflict of Interest

    a. A Committee member, who is a member of the governing body, an officer, or an employee of an applicant for funding must disclose his or her status before the application is considered by the Committee and may not vote on the application. The member is counted in determining the existence of a quorum.

    b. This section also applies to any proxies who is attending meetings in place of the Committee member.

Article VII: Officers & Staff

1. The officers of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee shall be a chair and two vice chairs who shall be elected by the full Advisory Committee.

    a. Officer Elections shall be held during the first meeting after the beginning of each biennium.

    b. Officers will serve a two-year term beginning on the day of the vote.

    c. Subsequent officer elections will be held as required to fill any unexpired terms.

    d. An officer shall not hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms.

2. The chair shall preside at all meetings of the Advisory Committee. The chair and/or staff representative may represent the Advisory Committee in presentations to the Executive Committee and to outside entities.

3. The first vice chair shall perform the duties of the chair in the absence of the chair.

4. If the chair and the vice chair are each absent or unable to perform their duties, the second vice chair shall perform all duties of the chair.

5. A member of the Central Texas Council of Governments staff, as assigned by the Executive Director, will serve as staff and administrative support for the Advisory Committee. The Council staff shall archive minutes of all Advisory Committee meetings and shall perform such duties as may be required by the Executive Director or requested by the Advisory Committee.

Article VIII: Parliamentary Authority

1. Robert's Rules of Order shall prevail as a guide for all meetings of parliamentary procedures with the exception that ex-officio members do not have voting rights.

Article IX: Finance

1. The fiscal year of the organization shall be on the federal fiscal year basis (July 1, through June 30).

2. The annual budget is prepared by staff and approved by the CTCOG Executive Director in the planning grant application.

3. The books of the Council shall be audited annually by independent certified public accountants in accordance with the single audit required by current regulations. The audit report shall be made to the Budget Committee as appointed by the CTCOG President, and then the full Executive Committee for adoption.

4. The annual audit report shall be made available to all requesting entities in accordance with the Open Meetings and Records Act.

Article X: Adoption and Amendment

1. The bylaws of the Advisory Committee may be altered, amended, or repealed at any meeting of the Committee by an affirmative vote of a quorum as specified in **ARTICLE VI, SECTION 4**, provided that official notice of the proposed amendment shall have been provided by the Advisory Group members at least 24 hours in advance of the SWAC meeting.

2. Required Review: These bylaws shall be reviewed every 5 years, within 6 months of the release of relevant census data specified in **ARTICLE V, SECTION 1**, and membership be revaluated to ensure it is representative of the CTCOG region.

Article XI: Sub Committees

1. It is the intent of this Advisory Group that the SWAC, shall when advisable, seek the advice and cooperation of interested citizen groups in the formulation of recommendations and to establish the priority of projects for consideration.

2. The SWAC may establish sub committees as necessary to effectively carry out the business of the SWAC planning grant.

Article XII: Adoption and Revision Date

These bylaws were approved by a majority vote of a quorum present at the SWAC meeting on 08/29/2024 and by a majority vote of a quorum present at the CTCO Executive Committee meeting on 09/26/2024.

Justin Brantley,

SWAC Chairperson

Uryan Nelson,

CTCOG Director of Planning and Regional Services

END

ITEM #11

Report on the City of Temple's HHW and Scrap Tire Event

CTCOG

November 5, 2026

Solid Waste Advisory Committee **Agenda Item # 11**

City of Temple HHW and Scrap Tire Event

The City of Temple held its annual household hazardous waste (HHW) and scrap tire collection event on October 24, 2026. The event served 462 vehicles, with residents from at least four counties represented. Attendance was concentrated in Temple (71%), Belton (13%), and Salado (6%), with the remaining participants coming from other surrounding communities.

Collection Results and Participation:
Based on attendee survey responses, the most frequently reported materials brought to the event included:

- Paint - 268 vehicles (26%)
- Chemicals - 205 vehicles (20%)
- Electronics/TVs - 162 vehicles (16%)
- Oil/antifreeze - 146 vehicles (14%)
- Batteries - 116 vehicles (11%)

Additional reported materials included tires (59 vehicles; 6%), pesticides (38), prescription drugs (28), and fluorescent bulbs (23). Attendees could report multiple material types; therefore, these figures represent the number of vehicles reporting each material, not unique participants or pounds collected.

Program Outcomes:
Of the 462 vehicles, 248 attendees indicated they had participated in a previous HHW collection event, 98 indicated this was their first event, and 116 did not respond. Among those who answered, approximately 72% were returning participants.

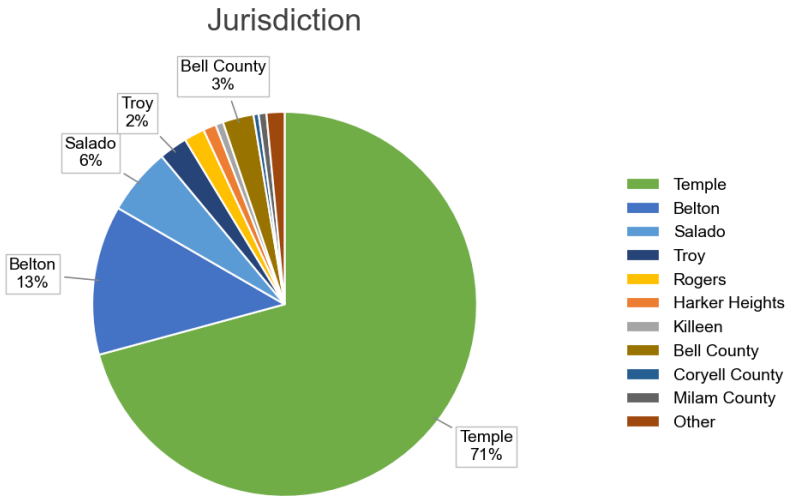
Facebook was the most commonly reported way attendees learned about the event, followed by other sources such as websites, word of mouth, and community outreach.

The event provided residents from across the region with access to proper disposal options for household hazardous materials and other accepted items. Final collection weights and material management/disposition totals are still being totaled.

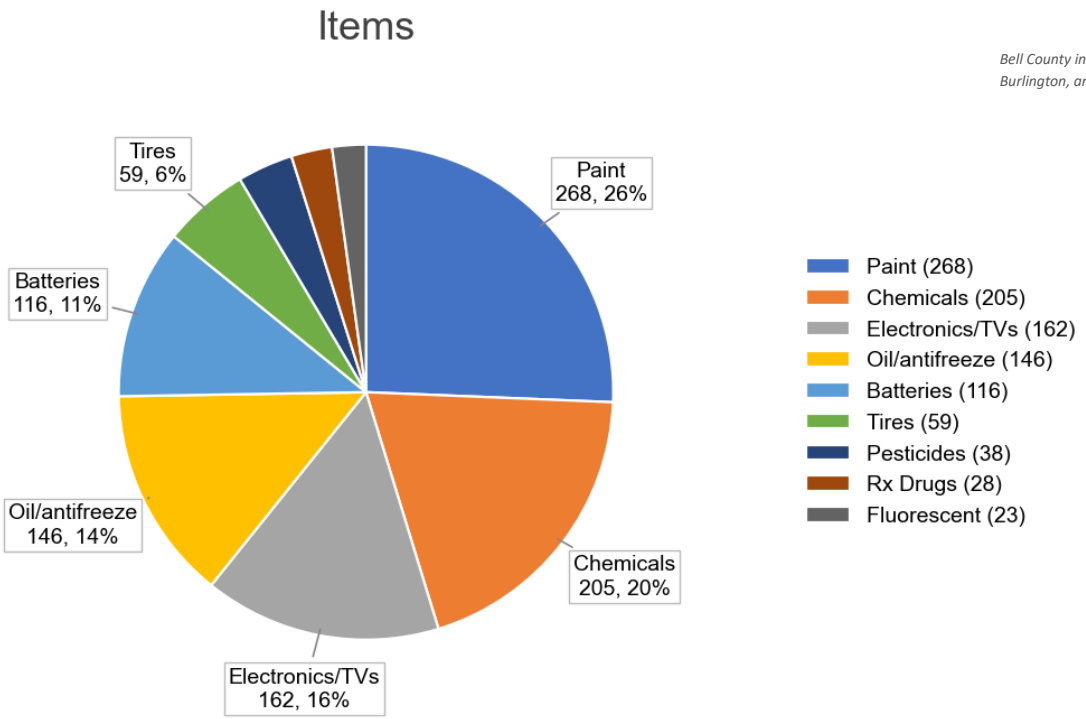
Action Needed: No action required; for discussion only.

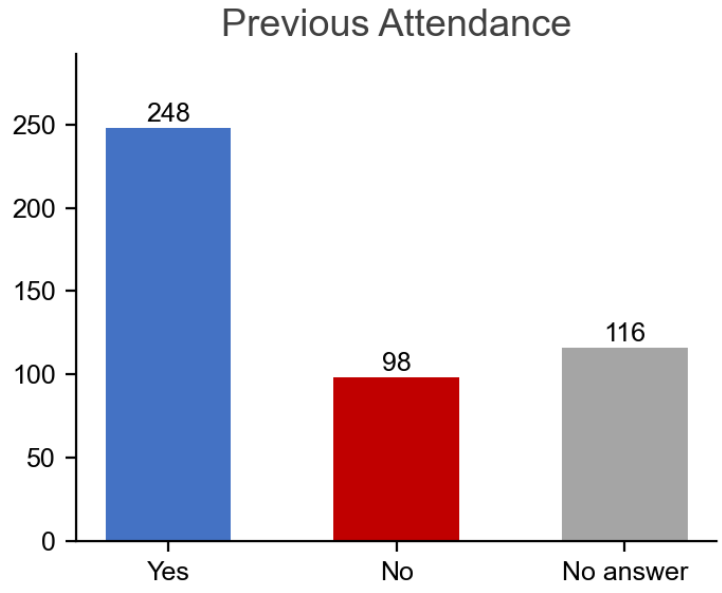
City of Temple 2026 HHW Event

- 462 cars total
- Residents from at least 4 counties attended the event
- Most attendees from Temple, Belton, and Salado
- Paint, Chemicals, Electronics/TVs, and Oil/antifreeze were the most common items dropped off
- 13% of attendees brought tires
- 72% of those who answered had been to a previous event
- Facebook was the most common way people heard about the event



Bell County includes Holland, Little River-Academy, and Bartlett · Coryell County includes Copperas Cove · Milam County includes Buckholts, Burlington, and Cameron · Other includes Moody, Jarrell, and Hamilton





ITEM #12

Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP)

Implementation of the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan

The Central Texas Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP), covering the 2022-2042 planning period, establishes regional goals, objectives, and recommended actions to guide solid waste management across the CTCOG region.

Upcoming Implementation Efforts:
Beginning in February 2027, staff proposes initiating a more focused review of the RSWMP with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC). The review will revisit the plan's regional goals, objectives, and recommended actions to evaluate progress, identify priorities, and explore opportunities to advance implementation.

The plan addresses several regional priorities, including:

- Scrap Tire Management: Improving regional collection, recycling, and proper disposal of scrap tires.
- Litter and Illegal Dumping: Reducing illegal dumping and litter through education, enforcement, cleanup efforts, and improved disposal options.
- Waste Reduction and Recycling: Reducing waste generation and increasing residential, commercial, and institutional recycling through education and expanded recycling opportunities.
- Household Hazardous Waste: Improving access to proper collection, processing, and disposal options and expanding regional public education and outreach.
- Organics and Biosolids: Reducing the amount of organic materials and biosolids disposed of in the region through composting, capacity assessments, and potential partnerships.

Action Needed: No action required; for discussion only.

Table III.N.I Plan of Action and Timetable for Achieving Specific Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: **Provide effective solutions for the management of scrap or used tires in the CTCOG through efficient collection, recycling, and proper disposal.**		
Objective 1A: **Establish region-wide collection of scrap or used tires through collection centers and periodic collection throughout the region.**	As funds are available, assist in the establishment of regional tire collection centers through grants and other funding mechanisms. With participation from cities seek private sector participation in collection centers.	Short / Mid-term Short / Mid-term
Objective 1B: **Adopt ordinances requiring proper collection and disposal by tire retailers and auto stores.**	Train public officials and code enforcement regarding existing TCEQ regulations for scrap tire collection, storage, processing and disposal. Prepare model local ordinances for cities and counties to adopt related to scrap tire collection, storage, processing and disposal.	Short / Mid-term Mid-term
Objective 1C: **Negotiate inter-local agreements for collection and processing scrap or used tires.**	Facilitate a program to establish cooperative programs among local governments for the collection, storage and processing of scrap tires. Draft model agreements for inter-local agreements between cities and counties that allow for cooperative action.	Short-term Short to Mid-term
Objective 1D: **Establish a central processing facility for scrap or used tires in the region.**	Evaluate the currently planned scrap tire processing facility to be located in Moody, Texas as one potential solution to scrap tire markets in the region. Facilitate a meeting between local governments and Roadrunner Express at a SWAC meeting. Evaluate the potential of developing regional collection centers for scrap tires.	Short-term Mid-term
Objective 1E: **Align State of Texas and TCEQ mitigation efforts with regional activities.**	Coordinate with TCEQ on prioritizing the clean-up of the major scrap tire dumps in the region. Provide periodic reports to local governments on the progress of clean-up efforts.	Short-term

Goal 2: **Reduce the amount of litter and illegal dumping taking place in the region and provide for the efficient clean-up of roadsides, waterways and existing illegal dumping sites. Continue to develop strategies through education and enforcement of efforts to reduce litter and illegal dumping through the region. Evaluate opportunities to work cooperatively to achieve the following objectives.**		
Objective 2A: **Make enforcement of illegal dumping ordinances within cities and counties a high priority for code enforcement and take actionable steps to consistently prosecute violators.**	Provide illegal dumping enforcement training to local code enforcement, law enforcement and elected officials. Develop public education materials that encourage individuals to report illegal dumps to their local officials.	Short-term / Mid-term Short-term / Mid-term
Objective 2B: **Evaluate the feasibility of developing a network of manned citizen convenience stations throughout the region to provide more accessible options for properly disposing municipal solid waste and certain types of problematic household hazardous wastes.**	Fund feasibility studies and the actual construction of citizen convenience stations through TCEQ grants and other available funding. Local governments will be responsible for maintaining these sites, including hauling and disposing collected waste.	Mid-term
Objective 2C: **Fund periodic clean-up days for the collection and proper disposal of bulky items.**	Continue to fund periodic clean-up days throughout the region. Encourage bulk waste collection service be part of local government collection contracts.	Short-term / Mid-term
Objective 2D: **Evaluate and develop specific strategies for local governments to resolve issues related to the collection and proper disposal of mattresses.**	Establish a working group of the SWAC to evaluate specific options for properly collecting, recycling and disposing waste mattresses. Coordinate efforts with other Council of Governments to identify specific actions to resolve this issue. Assist in the establishment of central collection points for the collection of waste mattresses through feasibility studies and grants.	Short-term Short-term / Mid-term

Objective 2E: **Address the special needs of household hazardous wastes and provide funding to assist communities properly collect, process and dispose of this waste stream.**	Develop regional public information programs to encourage the use of alternatives to HHW materials. Develop a media program for outreach. Fund periodic HHW collection events throughout the region. Facilitate cooperation efforts among local governments to increase accessibility. Expand public outreach efforts in order to expand participation.	Short-term Short-term / Long-term
Goal 3: **Reduce the amounts of waste generated and encourage greater recycling by residential and commercial sectors.** **This will require greater efforts to educate the public, provide more opportunities to reduce waste generation and materials recycling opportunities. A focus of the program is the private sector which accounts for over 2/3 of the waste generated in the region. The program will also encourage the development of markets through cooperative efforts with local and regional economic development agencies.**		
Objective 3A**: Establish a coordinating committee to address public policy designed to increase commercial / institutional waste reduction / reuse / recycling.**	Establish a SWAC committee to assist in gaining cooperation for potential programs and policies that are specifically targeted at the commercial / institutional sector. Fort Hood will be a key stakeholder in this committee. Facilitate a meeting of private sector representatives in the region to discuss opportunities and barriers to recycling in the CTCOG region.	Short-term Short-term / Mid-term
Objective 3B: **Work with economic development agencies and organizations in the region to develop specific strategies for encouraging the location of businesses that can process and market recyclable materials.**	Facilitate meetings with local economic development agencies to focus on the development of local recycling markets in the region. Develop a resource document for economic development agencies that describes recyclable resources in the CTCOG region. This document would identify specific materials that could be processed in the region.	Mid-term Short-term / Mid-term
Objective 3C: **Increase reduction and reuse activities through targeted economic development incentives and business management assistance.**	Identify specific policies in other communities that provide economic development incentives for recycling markets. Distribute this information to local economic develop agencies and elected officials.	Short-term / Mid-term

Objective 3D: **Conduct research periodically on waste stream analysis and fund waste management innovation projects (maybe go so far as a "Call for Projects").**	Fund research that identifies specific waste streams that are unique to the CTCOG region. This would be an item that would be part of the economic development strategy. The information can also be helpful in developing regional approaches to collecting specific streams that would be recycled more cost-effectively through cooperative programs.	Mid-term
Objective 3E: **Reduce the amounts of waste generated by educating the public through a schools program targeting school children and various media to focus on residents and business opportunities.**	Research existing schools recycling programs already available from group such as Keep Texas Beautiful, TCEQ, EPA and others. Distribute information to schools. Develop a CTCOG specific public education program. Prepare a marketing plan for the materials distribution.	Short-term / Mid-term Mid-term
Objective 3F: **Assist local governments establish recycling collection options to residents through technical assistance and funding.**	Fund, through TCEQ grants and other sources technical assistance related to recycling in the region. Seek partnerships with environmental groups and the private sector to assist in funding programs.	Mid-term Short-term
Objective 3G: **Increase the marketability of materials by educating the public on what materials are acceptable for recycling versus non-recyclable materials that result in contamination of recyclables.**	Research existing public information resources and adapt these materials to the CTCOG. Establish a region-wide public information page on the CTCOG web site. This can be linked to local government solid waste program web sites.	Short-term / Mid-term Short-term / Mid-term
Objective 3H: **Work with Keep Texas Recycling to develop rural recycling programs.**	Coordinate efforts with Keep Texas Recycling, a division of Keep Texas Beautiful. Facilitate meetings with KTR and representatives of rural areas of the CTCOG region to discuss options for enhancing local recycling.	Short-term – Long-term
Goal 4: **Assure long-term disposal capacity.**		
Objective 4A: **Monitor capacity at area landfills and landfills located outside the region that are used**	CTCOG will monitor annual landfill capacity reports published by TCEQ to evaluate the current status of capacity.	Short-term – Long-term

by public and private sectors. Evaluate TCEQ reports and present annually to SWAC to determine if there a need for additional landfill capacity to meet needs.	CTCOG will evaluate any permit for a solid waste facility in the region to assure conformance with the regional solid waste management plan.	Short-term – Long-term
Objective 4B**: Evaluate the feasibility or need for additional transfer station capacity in the region. Local governments need to work collaboratively to provide efficient transportation of waste and disposal options.**	Fund studies to determine if additional transfer stations will be required in the future.	Mid-term / Long-term
Goal 5: **Reduce the amounts of organics and biosolids being disposed in the region.**		
Objective 5A: **Conduct a periodic assessment of brush and compost capacity by feedstocks in the region.**	Annually survey local governments in the CTCOG region to identify quantities of wood waste and brush. Distribute this information to regional compost facilities.	Short-term / Mid-term
Objective 5B: **Evaluate the potential of public / private partnerships for delivering biosolids to compost facilities.**	Facilitate meetings with Brazos Valley River Authority and local to determine feasibility of composting biosolids instead of landfilling the material. Identify compost operations outside the CTCOG region that are authorized to compost biosolids. Facilitate meetings with these operators.	Short-term Short-term / Mid-term
Objective 5C: **Utilize compost in public transportation and parks projects to help build a market for locally produced renewable resource.**	Encourage the use of compost in public transportation and parks projects as a way of enhancing the markets for compost.	Short-term
Objective 5D: **Evaluate the potential for utilizing existing facilities such as the Brazos River Authority facility.**	Facilitate meeting with BRA with local governments to determine feasibility of utilizing their facility for biosolids management.	Short-term

Objective 5E: **Evaluate and construct a regional facility focusing on biosolids and commercial organic waste streams.**	Fund a study that evaluates the potential for composting commercial organic streams in addition to biosolids. Evaluate the potential of collection programs that target food waste generated by agribusinesses and restaurants.	Mid-term

III.O. Identification of the Process that Will be Used to Evaluate Whether a Proposed Municipal Solid Waste Facility Application Will be in Conformance with the Regional Plan

☒ The process that will be used to evaluate whether a proposed municipal solid waste facility application will be in conformance with the regional plan is identified in ***Attachment III.O***.

ITEM #13

Staff Update

Staff Update

a) Next Meeting: Thursday, February 4, 2027 at 10:00am

b) Grant opportunities

The following funding opportunities may support local and regional projects that advance the goals of the Central Texas Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP), including waste reduction and recycling, litter and illegal dumping prevention, household hazardous waste (HHW) management, and improved solid waste practices.

CTCOG Regional Solid Waste Grants Program

Next application cycle: June-July 2027

CTCOG administers the TCEQ-funded Regional Solid Waste Grants Program, which provides funding for eligible projects within the CTCOG region.

- Eligible applicants: Cities, counties, public schools and school districts, and qualifying special districts.
- Potential project areas: Illegal dumping prevention and enforcement, litter cleanup, recycling and waste reduction, HHW management, community collection events, solid waste planning, education and outreach, and technical studies.
- Regional focus: Projects must support implementation of the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan.
- Next step: Local governments and eligible entities should begin identifying project needs, developing partnerships, and preparing potential applications ahead of the June-July 2027 application period.

More information: CTCOG Solid Waste Management

USDA Solid Waste Management Grant Program

Application deadline: December 31, 2026

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides funding to organizations that deliver technical assistance and training to improve solid waste management in rural communities and reduce or prevent pollution of water resources.

- Eligible applicants: Public bodies, nonprofit organizations, federally recognized or state-recognized tribes, and academic institutions.
- Eligible service areas: Rural areas and towns with populations of 10,000 or fewer.
- Potential activities: Landfill condition assessments, training for landfill operators, assistance with landfill closure and future-use planning, and technical assistance to help communities reduce waste going to landfills.

- Funding: No matching funds required. The FY2027 opportunity lists an award ceiling of $1 million.
- Limitations: Funds are not available for capital assets, vehicles, construction, or routine operation and maintenance.

More information: USDA Solid Waste Management Grants
Funding opportunity number: SWMFY27

Keep Texas Beautiful - Our Texas, Our Future Grants
Next application cycle: Spring 2027
Keep Texas Beautiful, in partnership with H-E-B, offers grants for new and existing community projects that improve environmental quality and encourage public participation.

- Eligible project areas: Beautification, litter prevention, recycling, waste reduction, water conservation, and wildlife protection and habitat restoration.
- Eligibility: Applicants must be a Keep Texas Beautiful affiliate located within an H-E-B service area and maintain Gold Star, Silver Star, or Good Standing affiliate status.
- Partnerships encouraged: Schools, youth groups, local governments, community organizations, and H-E-B stores.

More information: Keep Texas Beautiful Grants

EPA - Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling (SWIFR) Grants
Next application cycle: TBD
The EPA's SWIFR program supports improvements to recycling and post-consumer materials management infrastructure. The most recent local-government funding round has already made selections; no currently open local-government application period has been identified.
More information: EPA SWIFR Grant Program

c) Conferences and trainings

Texas Illegal Dumping Resource Center: Illegal Dumping Enforcement
Date: November 12, 2026 Location: Abilene, Texas
Specialized training for local officials and enforcement personnel. Topics include illegal dumping investigations, enforcement tools, and local response strategies. Previously listed registration information was $125 and 6 CEUs. Confirm availability and details with the organizer.
Web link: https://tidrc.org/on-site/

Keep Texas Beautiful Conference
Date: May 4 to 6, 2027 Location: Austin, Texas
Relevant to litter prevention, recycling, waste reduction, beautification, and community education. Previously listed early registration was $215 beginning January 12, 2027. Confirm current pricing and registration details.
Web link: https://ktb.org/

TCEQ Environmental Trade Fair and Conference
Date: May 11 to 12, 2027 Location: San Antonio, Texas
Broad environmental training opportunity with courses relevant to solid waste management, regulatory compliance, enforcement, and environmental programs. Previously listed full-conference early registration was $145, with registration opening November 18, 2026. Confirm current event details.
Web link: https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assistance/events/etfc

ISWA-SWIS Sustainable Waste Management Winter School
Date: May 18 to 28, 2027 Location: University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas
Specialized technical training covering landfill operations, leachate and landfill gas management, recycling, composting, waste economics, and landfill mining. Confirm program dates, eligibility, and registration with the organizers.
Web link: https://www.uta.edu/

TxSWANA 2027 Annual Conference
Date: 2027; date to be announced Location: Location to be announced
Texas-focused professional development and networking for the solid waste industry, including operational practices, safety, resource management, and industry developments. Monitor the association website for the official program.
Web link: https://swana.org/chapters/texas

TCEQ Pollution Prevention and Waste Management Workshop
Date: 2027; date and location to be announced Location: To be announced
Potentially relevant to pollution prevention, hazardous waste, toxic chemical management, regulatory guidance, and resources for businesses and local governments. Confirm whether a 2027 workshop is scheduled.
Web link: https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assistance/events

Ongoing Training and Professional Development Resources

Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA): Training and Certification

Offers webinars, in-person courses, and professional certification opportunities in landfill operations, collection systems, recycling, and solid waste management.

Web link: https://swana.org/training-certification/find-a-course/upcoming-training

Texas Illegal Dumping Resource Center

Provides resources and specialized training for local officials and enforcement personnel. Relevant topics include illegal dumping, outdoor burning, scrap tires, and code enforcement.

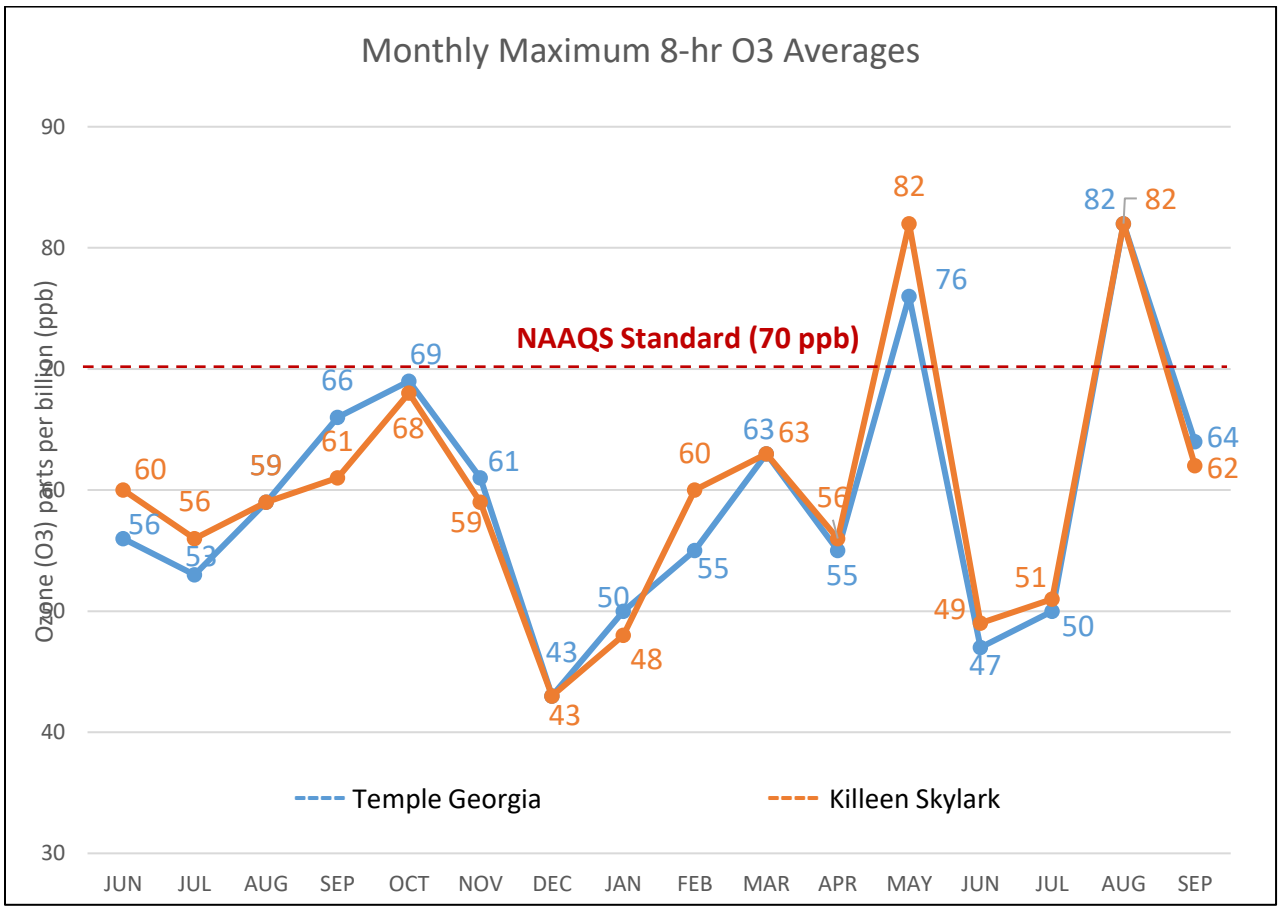
Web link: https://tidrc.org/on-site/

d) Legislative updates

The 90th Texas Legislature tracking will focus around five primary areas:

- Funding: Any change to TCEQ's Regional Solid Waste Grants Program or funding available to COGs and local governments.
- Regulation: TCEQ authority, solid waste facility permitting, landfill requirements, and recycling facility regulation.
- Local enforcement: Illegal dumping, litter, scrap tires, and local government enforcement authority.
- Hazardous materials: HHW, pesticides, agricultural chemicals, and proper disposal and storage.
- Recycling: Recycling infrastructure, markets, financial assurance, and new facility requirements.

e) Air Quality



2026

Compliance with EPA Ozone Standard:
4th Highest Annual Value

3-year average
(Calculated on October 1, 2026)

	2024	2025	2026*	
Temple	61	68	71	67
Killeen	71	71	64	69

Action Needed: No action needed; for discussion only.

End of Packet