

MEDIA RELEASE

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NORTH TEXAS RECYCLES 15.8% OF SOLID WASTE

City Recycling Rates Range Widely

Nov. 12, 2007 (Arlington) - To coincide with Texas Recycles Day on November 15, 2007, the North Central Texas Council of Governments announces the release of a landmark **Regional Recycling Rate Benchmarking Study**.

This study, the first of its kind in Texas, has calculated both an overall recycling rate for the region and the individual recycling rates of 61 North Texas cities. Knowing these rates will allow cities and the region to track progress in improving recycling efforts over the coming years.

Key findings of the study include:

- An average residential recycling rate of 12.2 percent. Rates for individual cities range from zero percent to more than 35 percent.
- An average institutional/commercial/industrial (ICI) recycling rate of 17.1 percent
- An overall regional average recycling rate (residential and ICI) of 15.8 percent
- 2004-2005 reported recycling rates for 61 municipalities. R.W. Beck surveyed 70 municipalities in the region (all those with a population of 7,000 or greater at the time of the survey) and received responses from 64 municipalities. Of these 61 responses provided usable data.

John Promise, NCTCOG Director of Environment and Development, says this study is an important starting point for taking recycling in North Texas to the next level. "Knowing where each of our region's cities stand in terms of recycling will allow us to prioritize funding to encourage programs where they are most needed," Promise said.

To access the full study report and view 2004-2005 reported recycling rates for each of the 61 included cities, visit <http://www.nctcog.org/envir/SEELT/reduction/studies.asp>.

About the North Central Texas Council of Governments

NCTCOG is a voluntary association of local governments established in 1966 to assist local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit, and coordinating for sound regional development. NCTCOG's purpose is to strengthen both the individual and collective power of local governments and to help them recognize regional opportunities, eliminate unnecessary duplication, and make joint decisions.

NCTCOG serves a 16-county region of North Central Texas, which is centered around the two urban centers of Dallas and Fort Worth. Currently, NCTCOG has 233 member governments including 16 counties, 165 cities, 23 school districts, and 29 special districts.

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