

# Wastewater Etiquette Program Campaign Development



September 11, 2014



Trinity River Authority of Texas

# The Problem

## Flushing the Non-dispersible...

- Overwhelms Municipal Sewer Systems
- Causes Septic System Troubles
- Creates Backups in Private Plumbing
- Damages and Strains WW Headworks
- Increases WW Treatment Cost



*Harms public health, water quality, and the environment*

# CRWS Lift Station 1

-Trinity River Authority of Texas



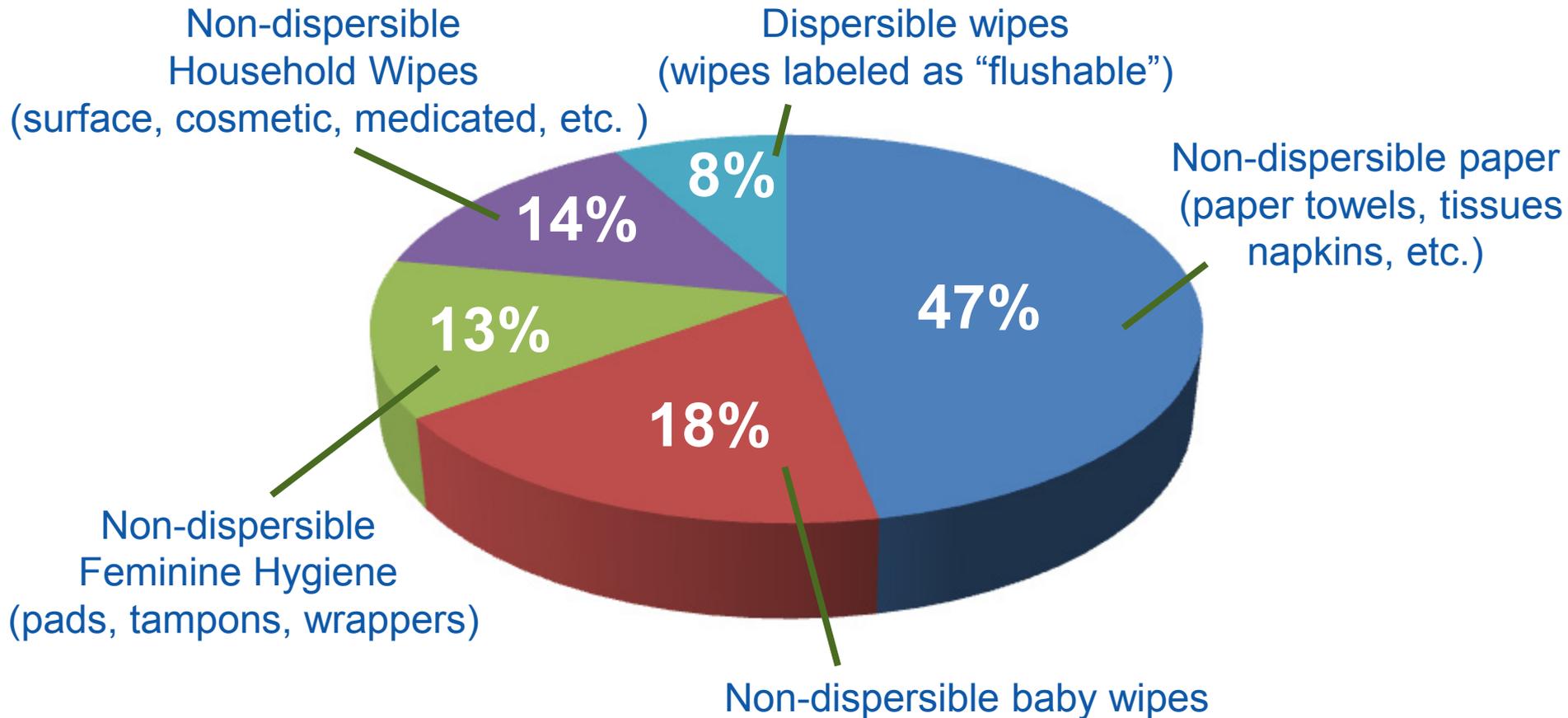
# 'Fatberg' 15-ton

-Southwest London Sewer



# Common Clog Culprits\*

(\*Average of 3 Field Studies with INDA and Wastewater Agencies)



# National Labeling Efforts

- INDA, NACWA, WEF and APWA
- Updated Code of Practice
- Do Not Flush Logo
- Costco Labeling



# Wastewater Etiquette Campaign

## Our Purpose...

- Educate the Community on Proper Disposal Methods
- Minimize Wastewater Treatment Cost
- Protect Public Health and Water Quality
- Participate in National Advocacy Efforts



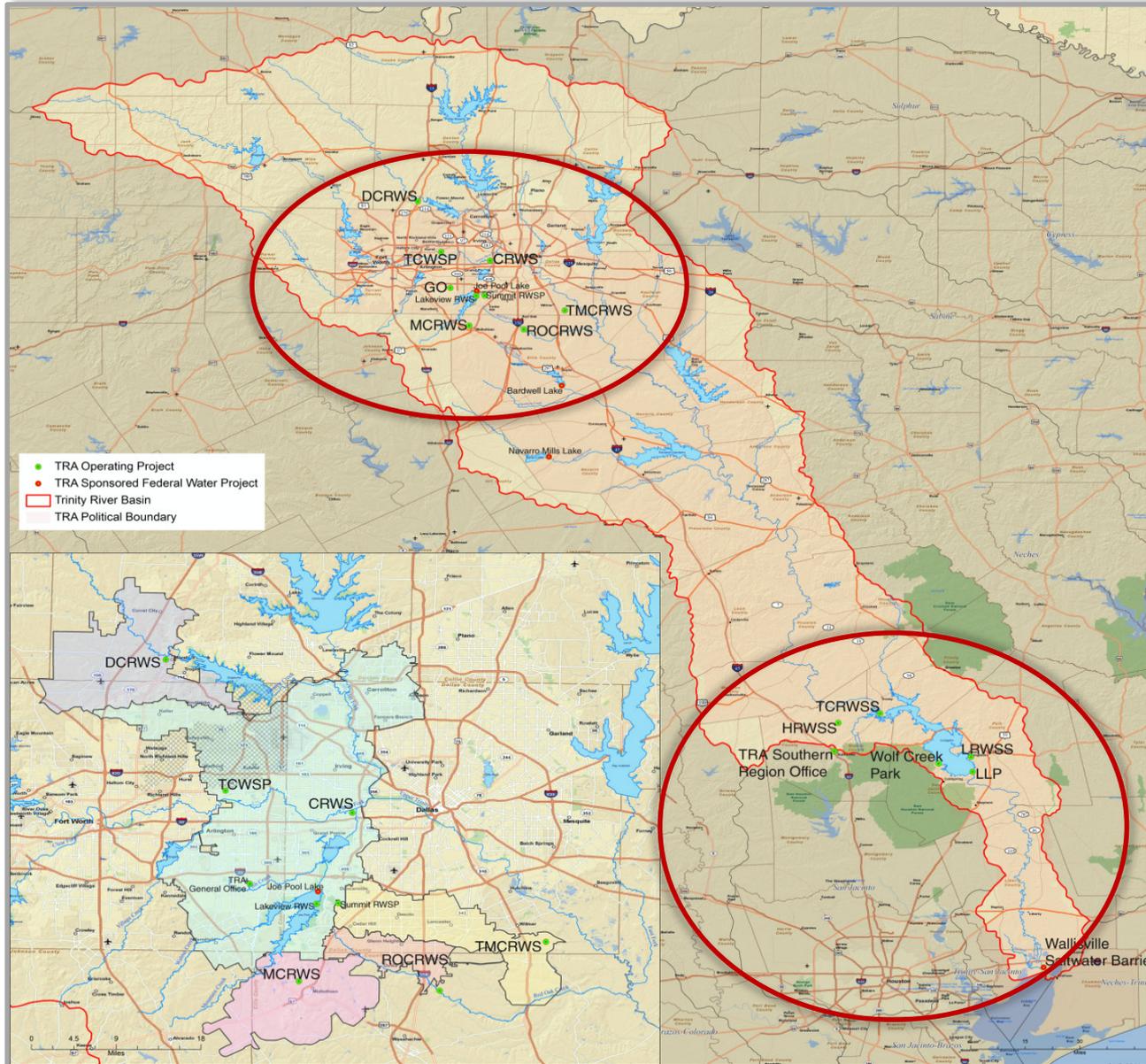
# Wastewater Etiquette Campaign

## Our Objectives...

- Create Themed Media Message
  - Multifaceted Approach
  - Clog Monster Mascot
- Foster Partnerships to Spread Outreach
  - Related Organizations
  - Customer Cities
- Evaluate Campaign Success
  - Monitor Maintenance Costs



# TRA Basin-Wide Facilities/Projects



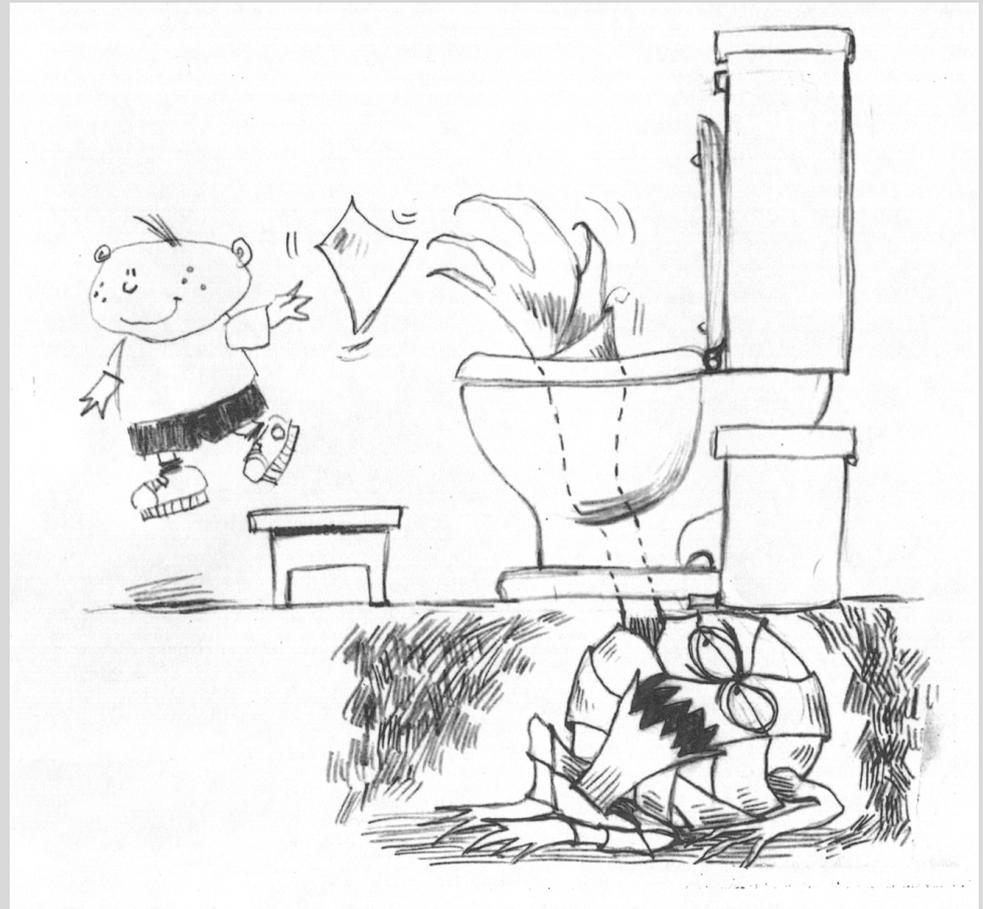
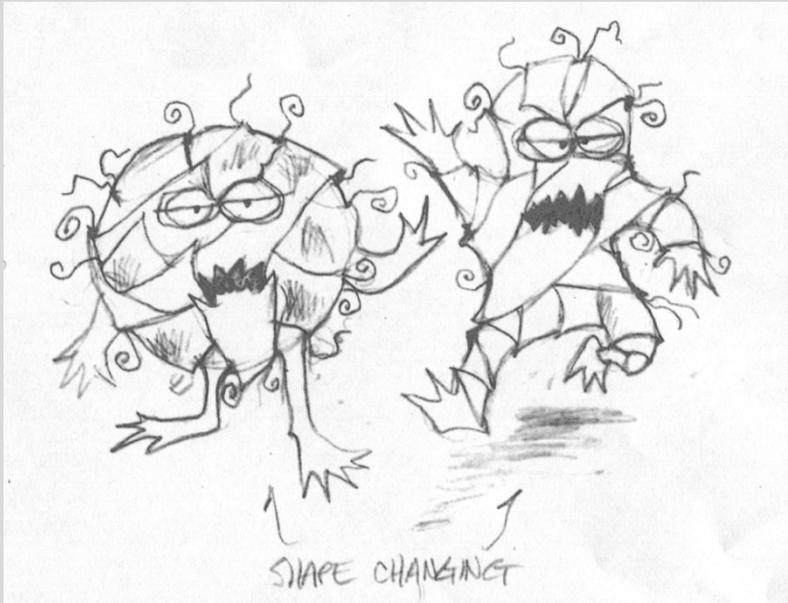
# Wastewater Etiquette Committee

## Efforts so far:

- Begun work on outreach message and mascot artwork
  - Took to NTGAC for feedback
- Partnership Interest (gathering information)
  - What is the preferred/available outreach
    - Bill Inserts, Newsletter, Social Media, Etc.
- Website Creation
  - Reviewing hosting options and content gathering



# The Evolution of the Clog Monster



Don't feed the clog monster

**CAN YOUR WIPES**  
Practical to use, easy to can!

# CRWS Collection System Survey

## Quick Facts

- 28% Growth in Rag Disposal (2008 vs. 2013)
- \$10,000 increase in Cost of Removal at headworks (2008 vs. 2013)
- Lift Station 1 :De-ragged 19 times in May 2013. Same lift station De-ragged zero time in May 2008.

## Survey Goal

- Determine **Type** and **Primary Sources** of Non-Dispersibles in CRWS Drainage Basin



# CRWS Collection System Survey

## If We Know Type and Primary Sources

- Better focus outreach materials
- Involve Pretreatment for Industrial/Commercial Sources
  - TRA Contracting Parties have ability through Ordinances to regulate non-residential Users
- Most likely BMP scenarios



# CRWS Collection System Survey

## Efforts so far:

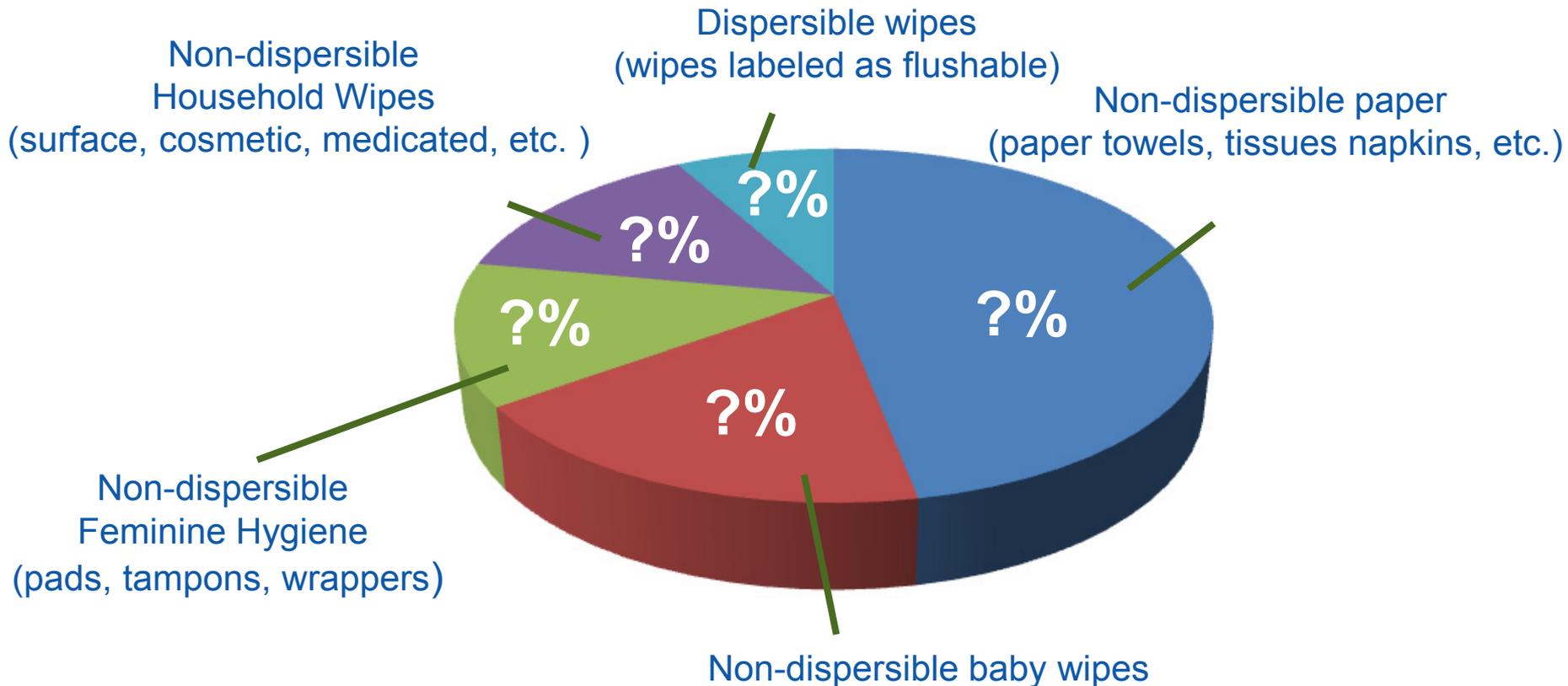
- In process of gathering responses related to issues with non-dispersibles?
- Polled CRWS Contracting Parties
- Polled Other TRA WWTP Managers
  - 4 other TRA Projects
- Polled Non-CRWS Contracting Parties



# CRWS Collection System Survey

## Efforts so far:

- In process of developing classification system for what we are capturing at CRWS Influent and Collection System



# CRWS Collection System Survey

**TRINITY RIVER AUTHORITY**  
**Data Entry Form**  
**SOP for Evaluating Materials in Pump Clogs and Sewer Obstructions**

## Efforts so far:

- Draft Form

Project: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nature of interference (pump clog, sewer obstruction, other): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Weather Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Operator(s): \_\_\_\_\_

*Rinsing materials in a bucket prior to screening may make it easier to separate and identify individual materials.*

Material	# of Piles	% of Total (# Piles/Total # Piles)	Tear (Yes or No)	Description
Paper Towels				C-fold towels or serrated edge
Cleaning or Other Large Wipes (8" - 12" on longest side)				Often have a perforated or serrated edge. Include shops towels, medical wipes, and "Swiffer"-type pads here.
Baby Wipes (Medium: 8" on longest side)				Include all embossed or imprinted wipes here.
Personal Wipes (Small: 2" - 8" on longest side)				Include makeup remover pads, hemorrhoid wipes, hand wipes.
Hygiene Products				Include tampons, tampon applicators, and sanitary pads as well as adult diapers.
Plastics				Stirrers, wrappers
Total # Piles				

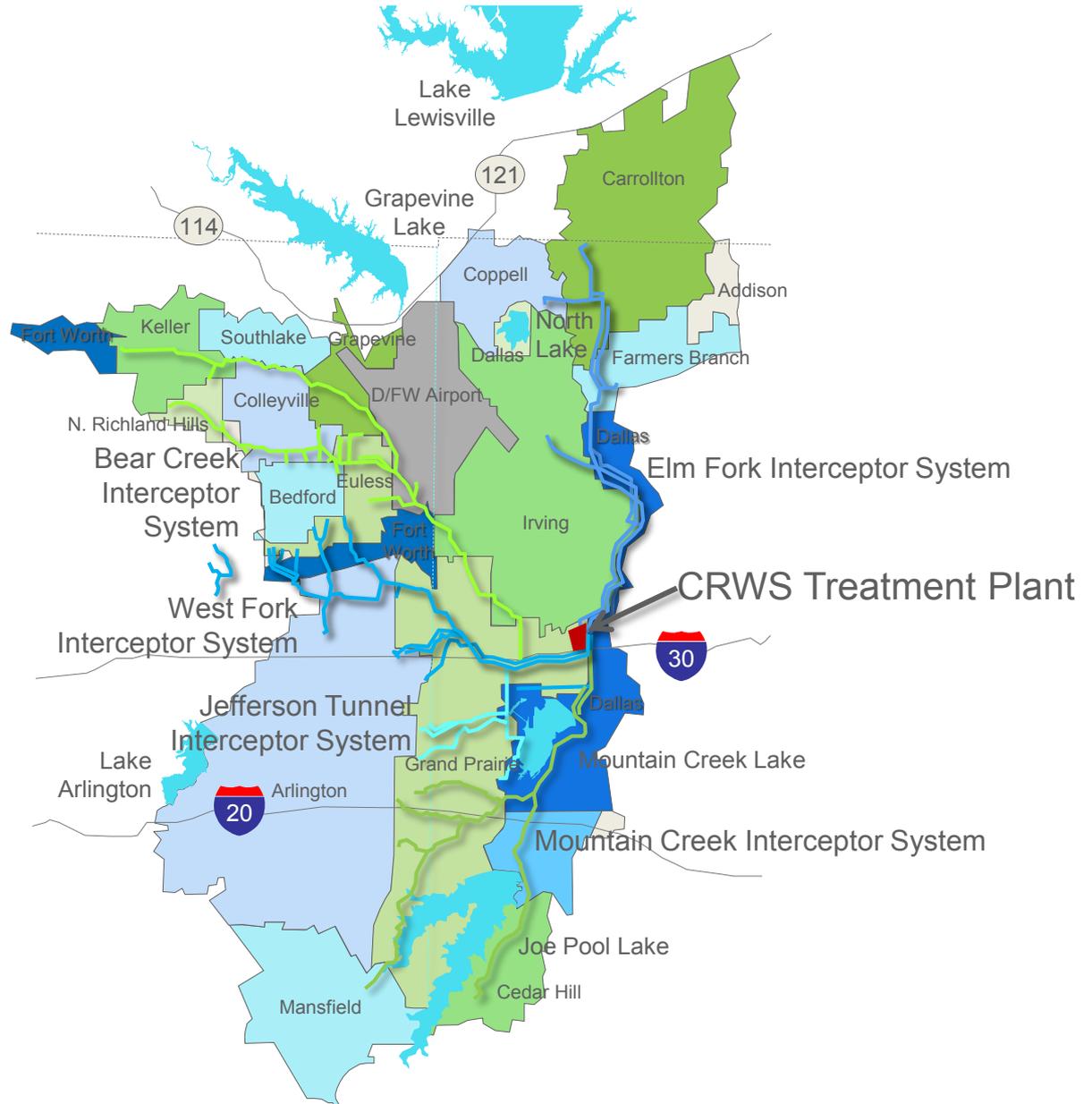
If you are unable to separate materials, generally describe what you see: \_\_\_\_\_

# CRWS Collection System Survey

## Efforts so far:

- Identified Evaluation Locations

Contracting Parties	
Irving	1957
Grand Prairie	1957
Farmers Branch	1957
Dallas	1957
Carrollton	1967
Arlington	1973
Bedford	1973
Eules	1973
D/FW Airport	1973
Mansfield	1973
Grapevine	1974
Colleyville	1975
N. Richland Hills	1975
Hurst	1975
Coppell	1976
Fort Worth	1976
Keller	1984
Duncanville	1984
Cedar Hill	1985
Southlake	1988
Addison	1996



# CRWS Collection System Survey

## Efforts so far:

- Collection Device Trials



# Wastewater Etiquette Committee

## Future Work:

- Fine tuning of message and mascot
- Evaluation of Collection System Survey
  - What can we provide for the national advocacy effort
  - Help focus outreach
- Evaluation of partnership interest



# Wastewater Etiquette Committee

## Future Work:

- Evaluation of available monetary costs for campaign
  - Evaluation of outreach platform
    - Website start up
    - Social media
    - Paper based outreach
  - Establish formal process for monitoring Plant and Collection System maintenance savings
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