

Implementing Effective Strategies to Preserve Denton County Riparian Areas

Blake Alldredge

Upper Trinity Conservation Trust / UTRWD



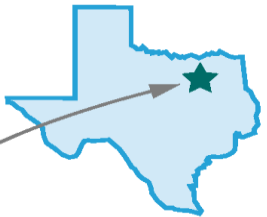
UPPER TRINITY
CONSERVATION TRUST



Upper Trinity Regional Water District

- Created in 1989
- Provides regional water & wastewater services for 29 communities
- Serves Denton & Collin Counties



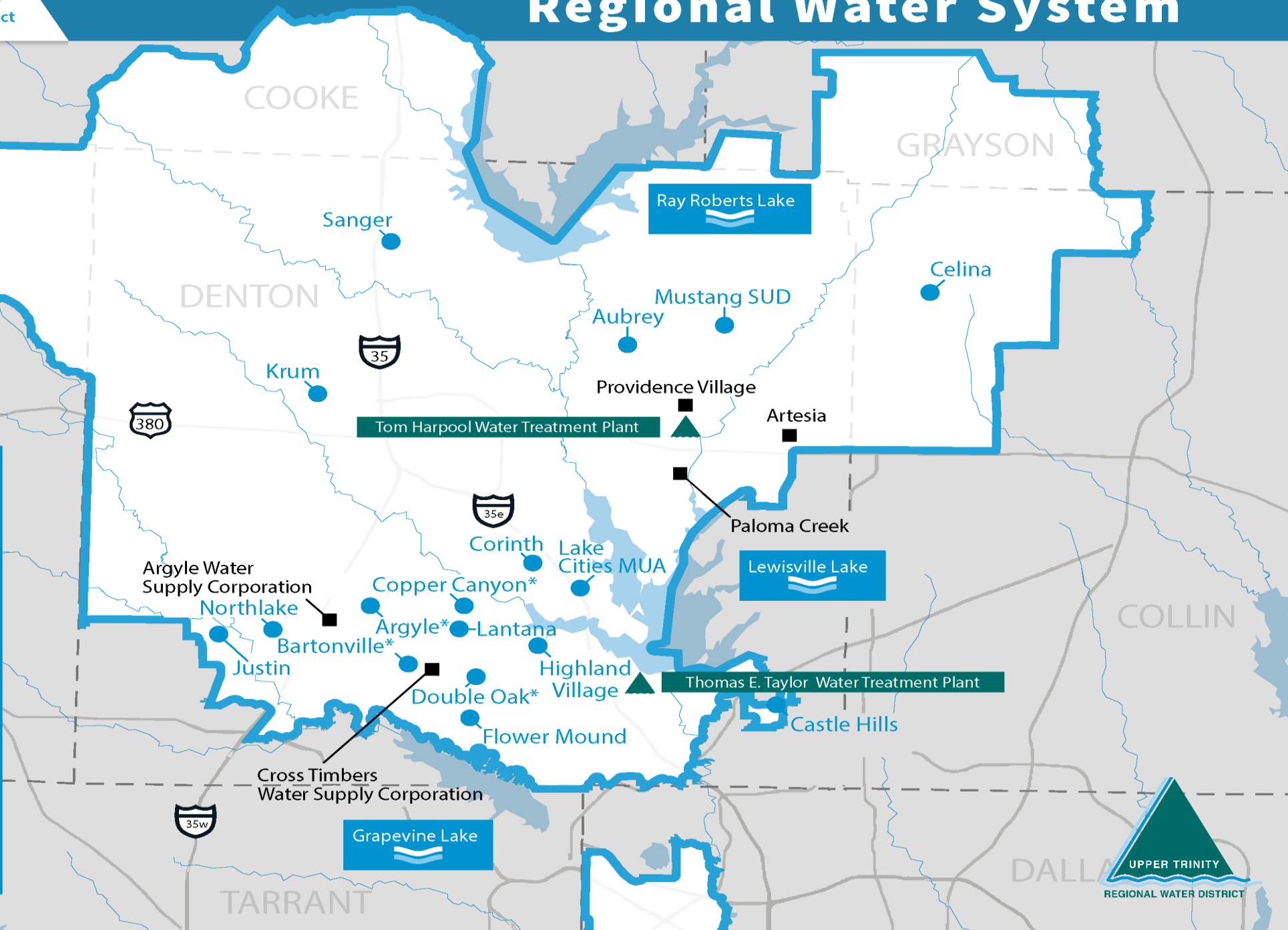


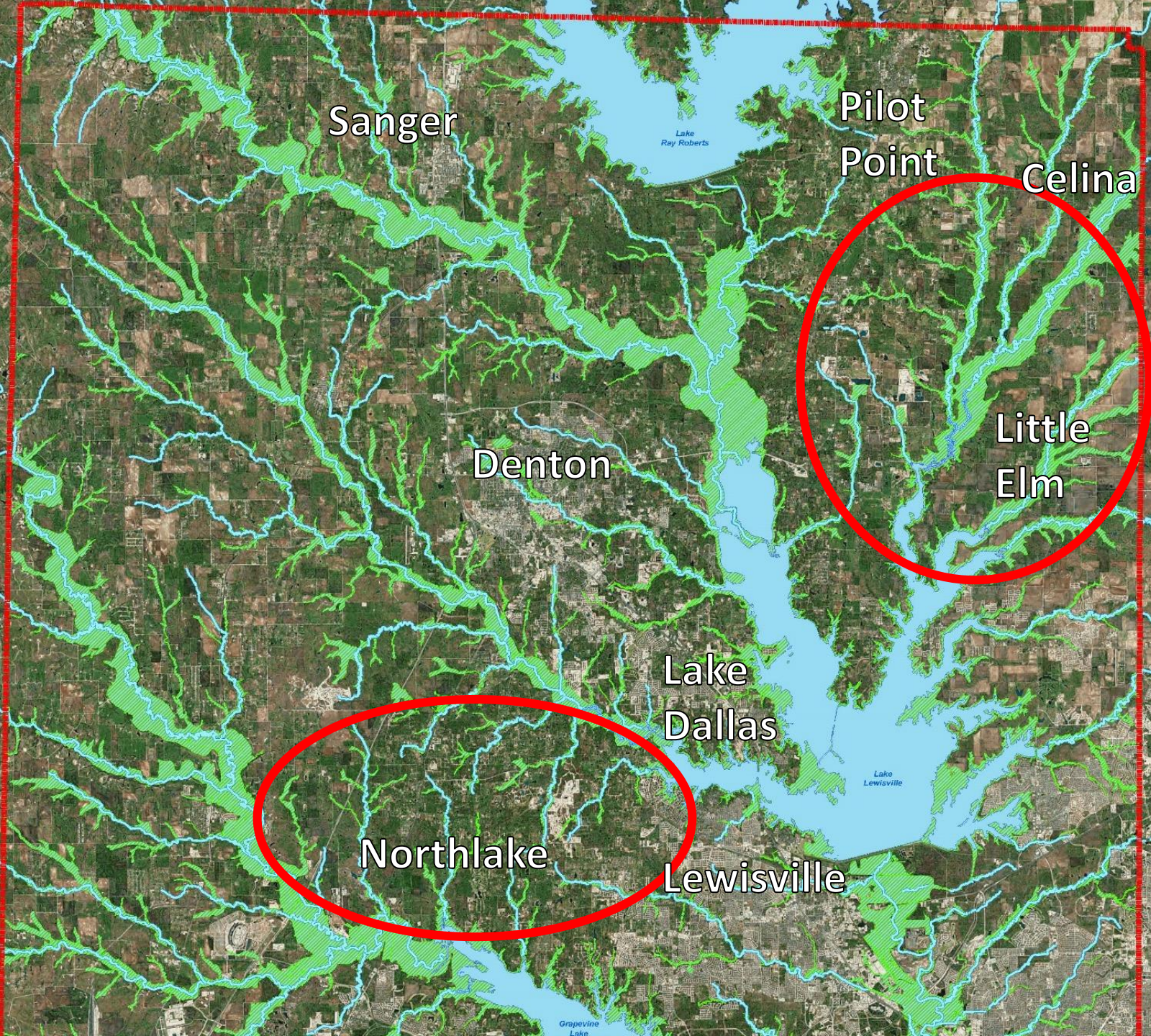
Upper Trinity Regional Water District

- ▲ Water Treatment Plant
- Members | *Served indirectly
- Customer Cities/Utilities:

Lake water is drawn from:

- Lewisville Lake
(by contract with cities of Dallas and Denton)
- Ray Roberts Lake
(by contract with cities of Dallas and Denton)
- Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake
(by contract with City of Commerce)





Our Waterways

- Thousands of miles of streams and creeks
- Three major water supply reservoirs
- Hundreds of miles of hike/bike trails



Why is Watershed Management Important?

- Protects Drinking Water Sources
- Protects Human Health / Aquatic Life
- Recreational / Economic Benefits



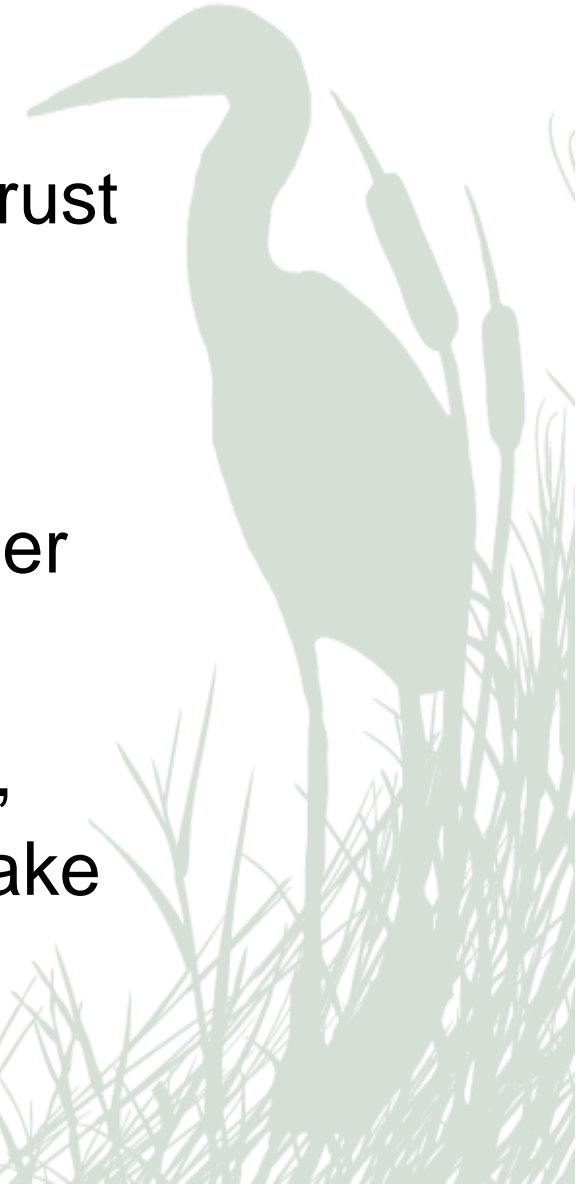
Upper Trinity Conservation Trust



**PROUD
MEMBER**



- Established in 2010
- 501 (C)(3) Non-Profit Land Trust
- Landowner Outreach and Education
- Preserve Greenbelts and other Key Watershed Features
- Focuses on Lakes Lewisville, Ray Roberts, Grapevine & Lake Ralph Hall



Benefits of Greenbelts



Little Elm Creek, NE Denton County

- Serves as a buffer to protect water quality.
- Lessen flooding impacts.
- Preserve wildlife and aquatic habitat.



Benefits of Greenbelts



Greenbelt within Lantana community

- Enhance the health and quality of life for residents.
- Provide nature-based recreation and education opportunities and experiences.

Social Benefits of Greenbelts



Family enjoying trails along Grapevine Lake

- ✓ Recreation/Exercise → Lower Chronic Disease
- ✓ Connection to Nature → Greater Well-Being
→ Lower Stress & Anxiety → Improved Mental Health

Better Physical, Mental and Emotional Health

“Healthy Trees, Healthy Lives” (*Texas A&M Forest Service*)



Economic Benefits of Greenbelts



Lewisville Lake in 2016:

- ✓ 2.7 million visits
- ✓ \$65 million in visitor spending within 30 miles
- ✓ Supports 601 jobs

*USACE Lewisville Lake 2020 Master Plan

Water Treatment Costs?
Flood Damage?

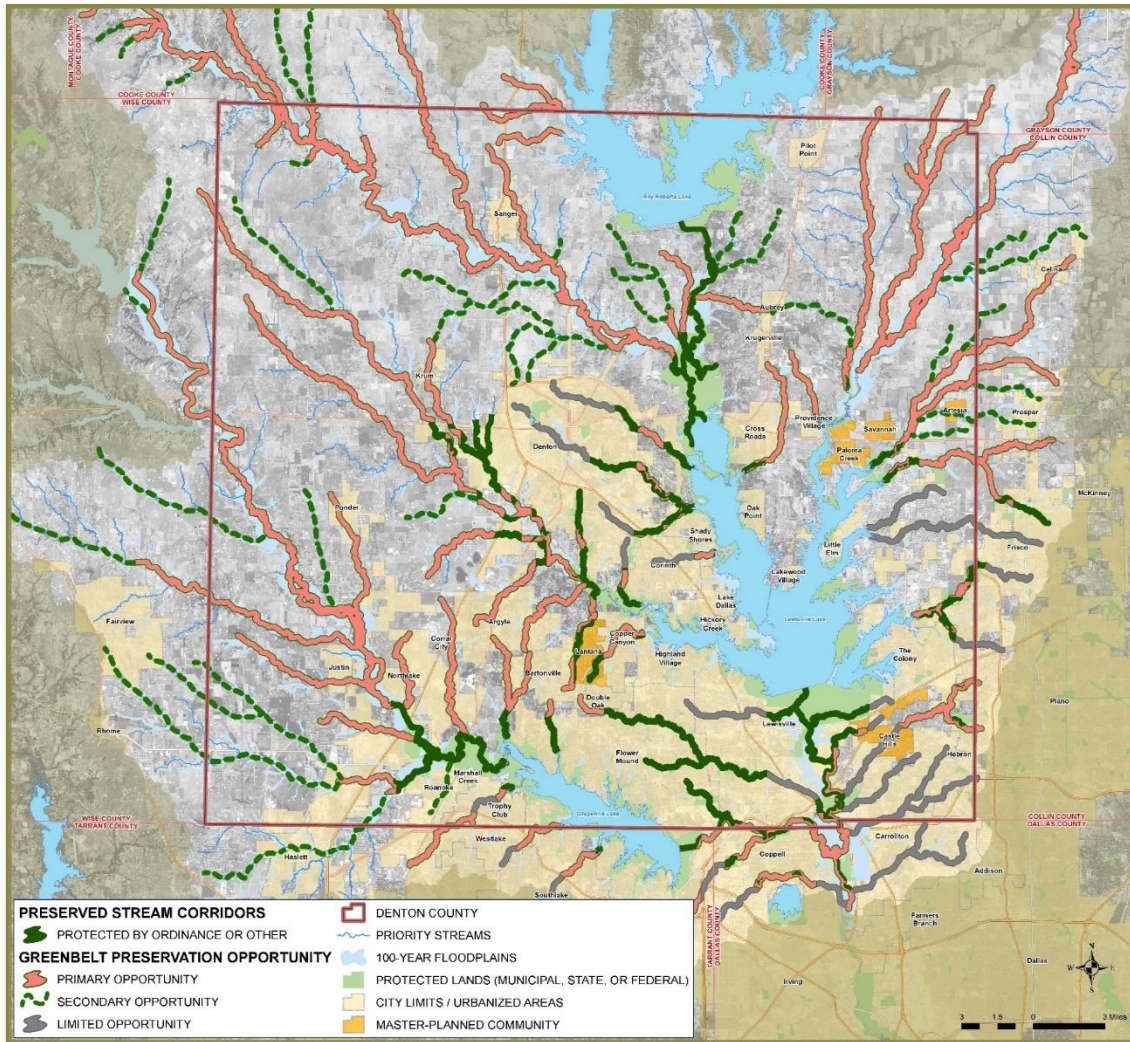




Riparian Vegetation is Key

- Stabilizes streambank soil
- Dissipates floodwater energy
- Filters water

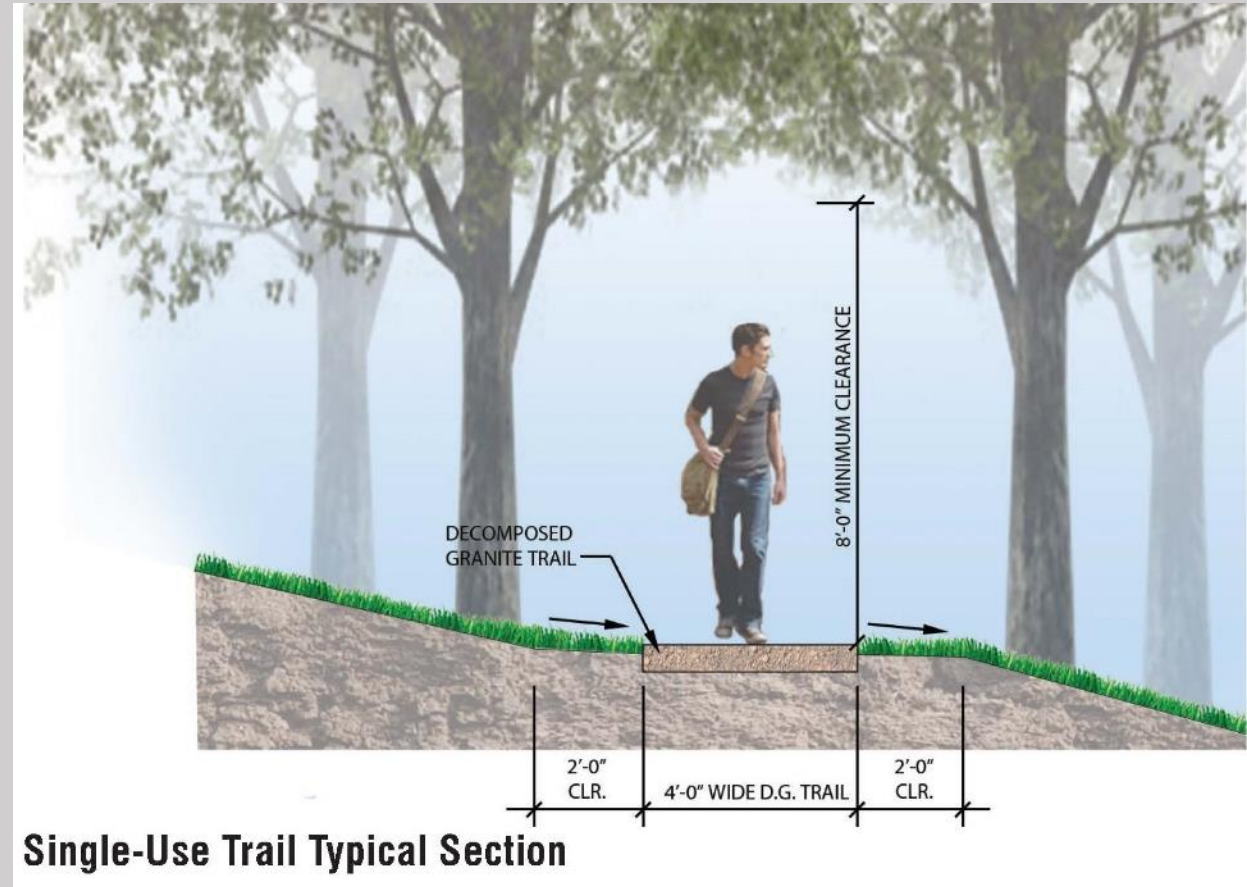
Denton County Greenbelt Plan



- Adopted by Denton County, UTRWD & UTCT in 2017.
- Guides preservation of greenbelts and related natural areas.
- Identifies strategic areas.
- Advocates a common vision.
- Provides a toolbox of implementation strategies - - on a voluntary basis.

Preservation/Protection Tools

- Development Standards
- Conservation Easements
- Alternative Development Ideas
- Green Infrastructure
- Trail Design Standards
- Mowing Regimes
- Private Landowner Resources



Green Stormwater Infrastructure



North Central Texas
Council of Governments

iSWM – iswm.nctcog.org

DENTON COUNTY GREENBELT PLAN



Denton County
Greenbelt Plan
For the Future



Entities Adopting the Greenbelt Plan

City of Aubrey

City of Corinth

City of Denton

Town of Double Oak

Town of Flower Mound

Town of Hickory Creek

City of Justin

Lake Cities MUA

Lantana

City of Lewisville

City of Pilot Point

City of Sanger

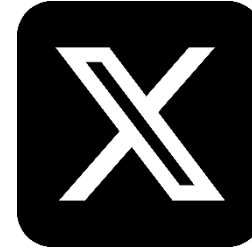
...interested?



Stay Connected!



Upper Trinity
Conservation Trust



@UTCTrust

www.utct.org

