

July 8, 2013

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The City's public works department will be doing smoke testing of the sanitary sewer system Wednesday and Thursday in the Oak Valley subdivision. This is the third smoke testing in Oak Valley this month.

The area that will be tested July 10-11 includes Springhill from Springhill Court to Cardinal Ridge, Cardinal Ridge from Renfro to Evandale, Hollow Creek from Wood Duck Court to Cardinal Ridge, Parkridge from Hollow Creek to Evandale, Oak Valley Road from Parkridge to Cardinal Ridge, Glen Oak from Parkridge to Cardinal Ridge, Wood Hollow from Parkridge to Oak Valley Road, Acorn Lane from Wood Hollow to Cardinal Ridge, Shady Hill from Wood Hollow to Cardinal Ridge, Evandale from Parkridge to Cardinal Ridge, Springhill Court, Blackbird Court, Starling Court, Kinglet Court, Wood Duck Court, Amanda Court and Breanne Court. See map, <http://tinyurl.com/k3mvr54>.

The goal is to identify areas of the wastewater collection system that need repairs or maintenance. Testing may also identify areas on private property where repairs are needed such as roof drains that may be connected to the sanitary sewer which will need to be disconnected, damaged service lines, and faulty or failing connections inside the home or business.

City workers use a forced air blower to put smoke into the sanitary sewer collection system. The sanitary sewer lines are plugged in segments to isolate the smoke. That allows the blower to develop enough pressure to force the smoke to escape through any openings or defects in the system.

The smoke used for testing is non-toxic, creates no fire hazard, and leaves no residue. It has a light odor, similar to paper burning and may cause minor throat irritation if inhaled. People who have respiratory conditions such as emphysema, asthma or bronchitis should be careful when exposed to any kind of smoke.

Any indication of odor or smoke inside your residence or business is an indication that there are possible plumbing problems that may allow gases or odors from the sewer to enter. If smoke does enter your home or business, call the City's Public Works department at 817-426-9830 and tell the call taker that smoke is entering your building. Give your name, address and phone number. The City recommends that at least one gallon of water be poured into each drain in your home or business to insure that all infrequently used drains have the proper amount of water in them to operate properly.