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The City's public works department will be doing smoke testing of the sanitary sewer system Tuesday-Thursday next week in the West Bend subdivision. This is the seventh smoke testing.

The area that will be tested Aug. 20-22 includes 420 homes. The area encompasses Ridgetop Drive, Rock Springs Drive, Stockton Drive, McKavett Drive, Carlin Lane, Aaron Drive, Raenae Drive, Marcia Lane, Micah Road, Rachel Street, Heather Street, Naomi Court, Hannah Street, Caleb Street, Eden Street, and Andrew Street; Morgan Drive from Pebble Creek to Alsbury Boulevard; Cumberland Drive from Summercrest Boulevard to McKavett; Cedar Ridge from Ridgetop Drive to Aaron Drive; and Cedar Ridge from Morgan Drive to Andrew Street. See map, <http://tinyurl.com/puao663>.

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.