



City of Bristol Tennessee

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, December 20, 2013

Contact: Frank Neal, Utility Services Superintendent
Public Works Department
Utility Services Division
Telephone: (423) 989-5677
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Smoke and Sewer Testing Survey Continues

Inspection crews will be conducting a physical survey of the sanitary sewer system in the areas of First Colony Subdivision, Tara Hills Subdivision, Stonegate Subdivision, the Reserve Subdivision, Millwood Subdivision, Country Club, Old Jonesboro Road, Fairway Drive, and Churchill Circle.

City inspections crews will be in your area beginning Monday, December 30, 2013 and continuing through Friday, January 31, 2014. This survey will involve the opening of manholes in streets, alleys, and easements in yards. An important task of this survey will be the “smoke testing” of both public and private sewer lines. Video recordings and/or photographs will be taken to record the locations of defects indicated by this testing. Property owners will be notified in writing of any private sewer defects for eventual correction.

The smoke that you see coming from the vent stacks on homes or from the ground is non-toxic, harmless, and creates no fire hazard. The smoke should not enter your home or business unless you have defective plumbing or dry drain traps. As a precautionary measure, the city recommends that customers check all drain lines, including sink, bathtub, and floor drains, throughout their home or business to insure they do have water in them. If you are unsure, run water into drains for a few seconds. If the smoke does enter your home or business through plumbing, the potential exists for dangerous sewer gases to enter as well. Should smoke enter your home or business, you may contact the smoke testing crew working in the area and they will be pleased to assist you in determining the cause. If they cannot be located, please contact the city at the 423-989-5677 or 423-989-5576. If it is determined you have defective plumbing, you should consult a licensed plumber to correct the problem.

Citizens' cooperation in this survey will be greatly appreciated. The information gained from this study will be used to improve sewer services and may reduce the eventual cost to customers.

If someone has any questions or concerns during this testing and survey, please do not hesitate to contact David St. John, Utility Services Manager, or Frank Neal, Utility Services Superintendent, at (423) 989-5677 or (423) 989-5576.

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