



## **PACE 10 Steps Up Sewer Cleaning and Inspection**

*Sewer cleaning and inspections, including smoke testing, are picking up under PACE 10*

KUB crews are working to inspect and clean all 1,237 miles of KUB's wastewater service mains. Projects under way or starting by June will clean and inspect about 500,000 feet of pipe in neighborhoods throughout KUB's service territory.

Areas affected include Upper First Creek, around Fountain City and North Broadway, and Lower First Creek, around Delrose, Magnolia, and Cherry Street. Other projects are in Lonsdale, Woodland, North Central; Northwest in Norwood, West Haven, Holiday Hills, and Wooded Acres; South Knoxville, near South Haven, Moody Avenue, Sevierville Pike; and West along Lyons Bend and Northshore.

Cleaning helps prevent blockage-related problems that cause backups in buildings and overflows in the environment. It also identifies pipe problems that require rehabilitation or replacement.

Regular inspections and cleaning also helps prevent problems in pipes with a history of blockage-related overflows. The schedule ranges from once a month to once every 42 months. If follow-ups show the pipe needs more or less cleaning, KUB adjusts the schedule. Pipes stay on an inspection schedule until they are rehabilitated or replaced.

**Smoke Testing Finds Problems:** Testing lines by forcing smoke into manholes helps identify defects in KUB pipes and private sewer laterals [the customer-owned pipe connecting to KUB's system]. It also helps find prohibited connections, such as roof downspouts or driveway drains, that customers must disconnect to avoid overloading sewers with rainwater.

Crews distribute door hangers with simple instructions just before testing starts in an area. Remember: It is normal to see smoke exit vent stacks, and smoke can enter homes through plumbing defects.

The smoke is non-toxic and is not a fire hazard. If it enters homes, however, it may set off smoke alarms. The door hangers include contact information for someone who will be in the area with the crews and can answer questions.

**Crews Use Manholes for Access:** Inspection, cleaning, and smoke testing crews access pipes through manholes in the street, in easements, or on customers' property. They don't dig in yards or streets and don't need to enter homes.

**Do Your Part for Our Environment:** Remove prohibited connections: One downspout equals adding 33 homes to the sewer. When it rains, the extra water not planned for in sewer design can flood the pipe and cause overflows. For more on ways to help protect our environment, see the Environment tab at [www.kub.org](http://www.kub.org)

