



The City of Bedford Utilities will be in your neighborhood conducting sewer line cleaning and inspections with the tentative schedule mapped up to 8/30/2021.

There are 35 different sewer sheds that the sewer cleaning is divided. A map is included on the city website at www.bedford.in.us

Door hanger notices will be placed on residences the day before cleaning if at all possible. We are working on a notification system as well that can call, text, and email information to our customers. You will be able to associate a number to the address to contact you in case of emergencies such as boil orders and other information that can be relayed to customers.

The sanitary sewer lines are cleaned using high performance sewer cleaning equipment. A cleaning nozzle is propelled from one manhole to the next using water under high pressure. The nozzle is then pulled back to the starting manhole. As the nozzle is pulled back, water scours the inside of the sanitary sewer pipe. Any debris in the pipe is pulled back with the water. The debris is removed from the manhole with a vacuum unit. If roots are found, they are cut with a root cutter. This process is repeated on every sewer line cleaned. The main is also recorded with a camera and an assessment of the main and manhole conditions are recorded in order to assist in needed improvements.

The cleaning process causes a vacuum in the sewer. This will not affect most homes, but some homes may be affected that have inadequate or partially blocked drain vents or no backwater valves. The vacuum may cause "P-traps" (the little S shaped bend in the pipe under sinks and drains) to be sucked dry. Should you notice a sewer smell resulting from this, run a little water in your drains to refill the P-traps. During the process, residents might experience a rumbling sound, in addition to the possibility of water entering the sink, bathtub or toilet.

Some recommendations to prevent or minimize the possibility of water entering the sink, bathtub, or toilet.

Shut the water valve off to your toilet(s), put the toilet seat(s) down and cover floor drains with car mats on the days that the sewer cleaning is scheduled. This will minimize any possible splashing of the P-trap water in homes that are poorly vented.

The precautions are recommended only during our working times of 7 am until 330 pm Monday through Friday and dependent upon weather.

Residents can put things back as they were when the equipment has moved off their block.

Two brochures regarding disconnecting downspouts from the sanitary sewer and ways and reasons to fix sewer defects on private property are available on our website at www.bedford.in.us or in the utilities office lobby.

Ordinance 10-2016 regarding prohibited water entering the sanitary sewer system is also listed on the website.



