Why Does The Fire Department Flow Test Hydrants?

The City of Canyon Fire Department receives inquiries during the summer about the hydrant flow test program and fire hydrant inspection stirring up water line sediment. The hydrant program is conducted annually for the Insurance Services Office (ISO) requirements.

The Insurance Service Office is an agency that rates fire departments and requires that fire hydrants be inspected for proper operation at least once a year. The flow rates of each hydrant are tested every 3 years by district (see attached map). Hydrant flow test records are checked regularly by the ISO to help determine our fire department's class rating. These ratings are based on a 1 through 10 grading system, 1 being the best rating and 10 the least. The Canyon Fire Department rating is a 3. By conducting programs such as the hydrant testing we can improve our rating that in turn lowers insurance premium cost for commercial buildings and may also reduce residential rates as well.

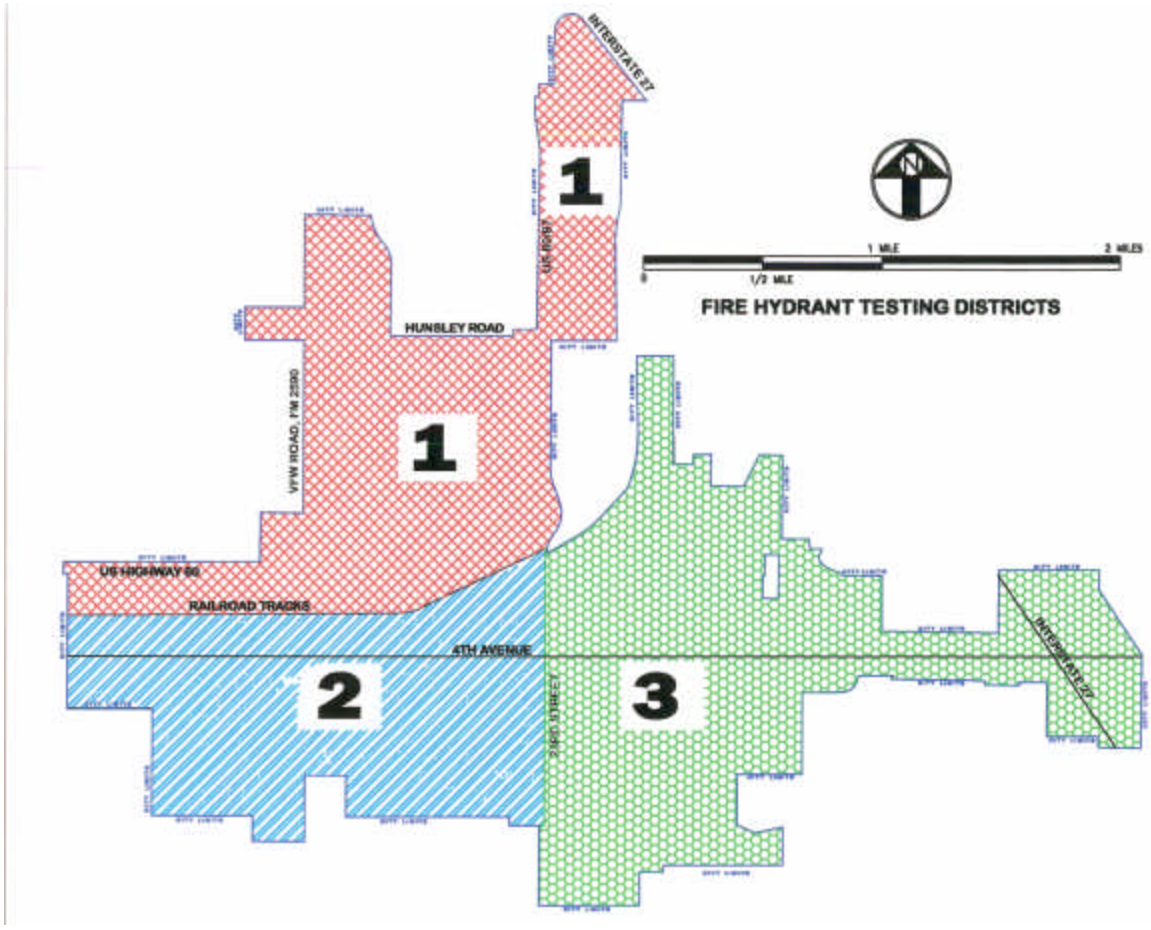
Fire hydrant flow testing is conducted on a 3-year cycle. This year the hydrant testing/flushing will start on Monday July 13, 2009. Flow testing will take place in district one (1) daily, Monday through Friday 8am – 4 pm.

During the time of testing you may notice that your water is brown. If so turn on you lawn sprinklers or run some water in the bath tub for about 5 minutes to help clear out you lines. In the event of doing laundry, do **NOT** dry your clothes if they appear to have rust stains on them. If this occurs re-wash your clothes.

Below is a map of the different Districts that we will be flow testing on a 3-year cycle. Check to see what district your home is in for flow testing. District 1 will be tested this year 2009, District 2 in 2010 and District 3 in 2011.

District 1- Red
District 2- Blue
District 3- Green

Note that any new hydrants that have been put into service will be flow tested this year then put into the cycle according to the districts. All other hydrants that are not in the district being flow tested will be checked for operation. Operational checks consist of making sure each hydrant opens and closes easily, water flows freely, drains properly and is lubricated. For any questions or concerns feel free to contact us at 655-5010 or 655-5003.


FIRE HYDRANT TESTING DISTRICTS
1 MILE
2 MILES
0
1/2 MILE
INTERSTATE 27
OAK ROAD
HUNSLEY ROAD
VFW ROAD, FM 2590
US HIGHWAY 60
RAILROAD TRACKS
4TH AVENUE
CENTER STREET
INTERSTATE 27
1
1
2
3