



City of Kyle E-NEWSLETTER



For the week of September 4, 2015

This weekly Kyle E-Newsletter contains pertinent information about events and happenings in the City of Kyle. To subscribe, simply [click here](#) and put "Kyle Newsletter" in the subject line to be added to the distribution list.

Kyle's Public Works is Smokin'

You may have seen smoke rising up from the ground around Kyle over the past few weeks. Nothing to be alarmed about — the city's Public Works Department along with one of



Smoke billowing up from the wastewater collection system evaluation along Old Hwy 81 in Kyle last week. Crews use smoke to test the system.

its contractors, Burgess & Niple (B&N), was conducting a wastewater collection system evaluation. In other words, they were testing the wastewater system underneath our streets and land.

They used smoke, which was pumped

into a section of the wastewater line system using a large fan. In a perfect system, the smoke would rise up through manhole covers and the tops of buildings and homes.

But when smoke rises up from areas it shouldn't — such as from underneath a sidewalk or in a field — crews can see exactly where there are potential issues. How? Essentially, the smoke seeps out of leaks and cracks in the system.

Over the three-week test, crews found about 35 areas of the city that need to be addressed; the final total will be included in the contractor's report. Many leaks were in the older part of Kyle. Some of those pipes are clay, while many newer pipes are made of PVC.

Why are there issues with pipes?

Gerald Boman of B&N said there are a variety of reasons. For example, he said shifting soil caused by heat and/or prolonged drought, pipes being hit or damaged by construction or mowing crews and the age of the pipes can all contribute to finding leaks in the system.

Clay pipes can last 50 to 100 years, as can

Continued below

Staying safe with city employees

Safety is a major concern for the city of Kyle's employees. In addition to our employees being injured, which we hope to always avoid, on-the-job injuries can lead to productivity issues, lost work time and workers compensation payments, all of which can have a negative impact the city's bottom line.

That's why our department directors emphasize safety first.

Recently the Parks & Recreation Department surpassed a previous

record with no accidents or injuries. That team went more than 306 days without an injury or accident. Which is impressive, considering they often work with machinery, mow



Kyle employee Max Vasquez is shown here mowing the hilly area of the Kyle Public Library last week.

grass, climb ladders and perform all kinds of tasks to keep the city's parks and other facilities

looking great and in good working order.

Director Kerry Urbanowicz bought his employees lunch last week to say good job and thanks to his staff. The lunch was paid for out of his own pocket because he believes it's important to reward his crews for a job well done.

"This is serious dedication we have from the men and women working for the citizens of Kyle. I hope we continue having lunches and the streak never ends," he said.

Smoke test continued from above

PVC, but they can also become damaged through normal wear and tear, and from human-caused damage.

Warren Christian, the city's Public



An employee from Burgess & Niple, working with Kyle's Public Works Dept., initiating a wastewater system smoke test, which finds leaks in the system.

Works Superintendent, said the smoke test identified the areas of concern. He will now help prioritize repairs and replacements to the wastewater system.

"Now that we know the locations of problem areas," Christian said, "the

next step is to determine which of those should be repaired or replaced first."

He said there are funds in the budget for a portion of the repairs but depending on how the Kyle City Council votes on the tax rate and budget, it's unclear if Public Works will have the money to make all of the repairs this year.

Christian said damaged wastewater pipes can cause issues during a rain event, particularly if it rains as it did earlier this summer.

"Excessive inflow and infiltration from rain runoff can overburden the wastewater collection system, sometimes causing overflows from downstream manholes and/or clean-outs," Christian said.

"In addition, an increase in treatment costs are incurred due to the excess water that enters the collection system and eventually makes its way to the treatment plant."

Upcoming Public Meetings

Special Called Kyle City Council Meeting

Tues, Sept. 8 at 7 p.m.

Kyle Public Library Board Meeting

Thurs, Sept. 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Kyle City Council Meeting

Tue, Sept. 15 at 7 p.m.

Can't make a meeting?

Kyle City Council meetings are [Streamed Live](#) on the Internet

Learn more:

Stay Connected to your city - find meetings, events, news and more at www.cityofkyle.com

Don't forget to like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) for the most accurate, up-to-date information about Kyle.

Recognitions and Kudos

Kyle recognizes the following employees:

Great job!

Congrats to Kyle PD's **Stephanie Robinson** who recently became the Director of the Central Texas chapter of the Texas Law Enforcement Records Association.



The Texas Crime Prevention Association recently honored the **Kyle Police Department** and **Officer James Plant** for their "outstanding" crime prevention efforts.

In the News

Kyle is now a hands-free city. Learn more about the ordinance passed by city council [here](#).

September is National Preparedness Month

Prepare for emergencies - don't wait until it happens. Visit ready.gov/september to learn more.

Historic Photo Roundup

The Hays County Historical Commission is hosting a photo roundup. Bring your historic photos of Kyle and/or Hays County to the roundup from 1 - 5 p.m. Sept. 27 at Kyle City Hall. Photos will be scanned and returned right away.



For more information on all City of Kyle services and programs, visit www.cityofkyle.com or call 512.262.1010. Main newsletter photo by Marie Elbert.