



“The City Built for Family Living”

Fire Department

March 29, 2022

The Copperas Cove Fire Department is conducting its annual fire hydrant testing from April 1st, 2022 through June 30th, 2022. All City hydrants will be tested to ensure that they are operable and able to produce the required water pressure when needed. Because this testing must be done during normal operating hours, it will be impossible to know in advance just where or when the testing will take place in any specific area.

Opening hydrants can sometimes cause a temporary discoloration of water in nearby homes. If you notice discoloration in your water, it is not a cause for concern. The discoloration is not harmful in any way and residents are encouraged to run water until it is clear before washing clothes or drinking it. In most instances, the water will clear in approximately five minutes. If the discoloration persists, residents should wait an hour and try again.

This kind of testing not only ensures the protection of Copperas Cove’s residents; it also is an evaluation indicator used by the Insurance Services Office (ISO), which rates cities according to the fire protection they offer. This annual testing is essential to maintain the Fire Department Class 2 fire rating and to ensure that hydrants are operating efficiently for fire protection purposes.

In addition to being a requirement of ISO, hydrant testing provides many benefits for residents and fire personnel. The testing monitors the “health” of the City’s water system, identifies potential weak areas in the system, stirs up materials that settle in the hydrant, and cleans out the lines. Fire personnel gain firsthand knowledge of where hydrants are located, assure they are visible from the road, operational as a “first water’ source, and are able to confirm they are maintained on a regular basis. The testing protocol followed by Copperas Cove Fire Department personnel is based upon the standards of NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 291.

If you observe a hydrant which is out of service or experiencing problems, contact the City of Copperas Cove Water Department at 254-547-2416. The Fire Department tests the hydrants, but does not perform any maintenance.

Sincerely;

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