

## Utilities Department continues sewer probe in Grand River Village

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The Lake County Utilities Department continues its work to investigate the sanitary sewers in Grand River Village.

County Deputy Sanitary Engineer Denis Yurkovich provided county commissioners with an update Tuesday on how the Utilities Department's efforts are going in the village.

"These sewers are 80-plus years old," Yurkovich said. "We have a structured approach to finding sources of infiltration into the sewer system."

There are about 150 to 160 homes that are part of the system, he said.

Some have reported backups within the past year or so.

In August, crews completed smoke testing through the entire village.

"That's the first step of the process," Yurkovich said. "With the dry conditions and dry

ground it promotes the ability for us to blow smoke and see where it is escaping."

Crews can then see locations such as catch basins, cracks in the pipe or various locations, he said.

It also helps identify possible locations where stormwater might get into the sanitary system, he said.

The next step of the process is dye testing and televising the pipe system.

"We get our TV cameras in the pipe and pour dye water in those locations and see where the smoke is coming out to confirm to see how it is actually getting out," Yurkovich said.

Smoke and dye testing has been completed in the northern part of the village, he said. It continues in the southern and higher ground residential areas.

The last step in the process is the installation of flow meters to give the Utilities Department an idea of how much water is flowing to help prioritize improvements, Yurkovich said.