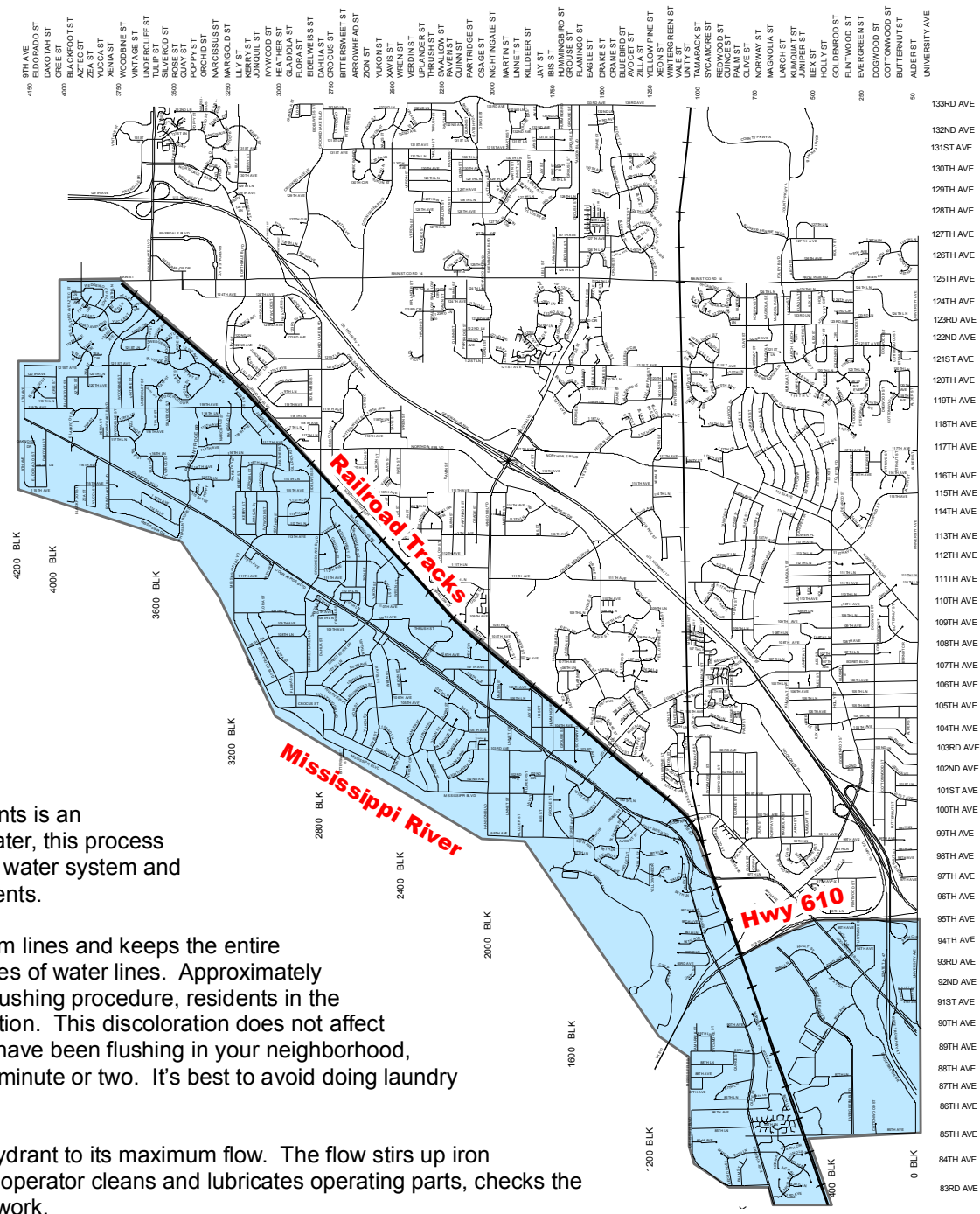




## 2010 Spring Hydrant Flushing will begin April 5, 2010



Hydrant Flushing Area

**Hydrant Flushing** The process of periodically flushing fire hydrants is an important maintenance activity. Although it may appear to waste water, this process is part of a routine maintenance program necessary to maintain the water system and to continue to deliver the highest quality water possible to our residents.

Flushing the water system on a routine basis removes sediment from lines and keeps the entire distribution system refreshed. Coon Rapids maintains over 290 miles of water lines. Approximately one-third of the hydrants are flushed each year. As a result of the flushing procedure, residents in the immediate flushing area may experience temporary water discoloration. This discoloration does not affect the safety of the water. If you experience discoloration after crews have been flushing in your neighborhood, clear the pipes in your own home by running all water faucets for a minute or two. It's best to avoid doing laundry until the discoloration clears.

**What Happens During Flushing?** A city operator opens each hydrant to its maximum flow. The flow stirs up iron deposits and settlements and removes them from the system. The operator cleans and lubricates operating parts, checks the operation of the hydrant and valve, and records any needed repair work.