



## Smoke Testing Fact Sheet

- Work crews will smoke test several hundred feet of sanitary sewer main at one time. The total time to smoke test one section of sewer main is about 15 to 20 minutes.
- Residents that are connected to a section of sewer main that is going to be tested will be notified by door hanger the day before smoke testing takes place.
- The Fire Departments will be notified of the smoke testing.
- A smoke generator will be placed on a sanitary sewer manhole and smoke will be forced through the sewer main using a ventilation fan.
- The smoke will travel the length of the sewer main and any connecting pipes.
- If you do not have any deficiencies in your plumbing the smoke will release through the ventilation pipes on your roof.
- **If you have any seldom used drains in your house please pour water into these drains. The water seals drain traps and prevents smoke from entering your house through the drain.** If smoke does enter your home, open windows and doors to allow the smoke to disperse, and contact one of the on-site personnel who can assist you in determining the source of the smoke within your home. With ventilation, the smoke should dissipate within 20-30 minutes.
- Although the smoke product utilized by the District is specifically designed for this testing purpose and is relatively harmless, we feel it prudent to relay the following manufacturers concerns:
  - The smoke may cause temporary irritation to nasal passages. Any smoke irritation should be temporary and should quickly disappear after exposure has ceased.
  - Persons with heart and/or respiratory ailments should leave the home during the testing. **Please contact the District at (360) 734-9224 prior to the testing dates if you suffer from either condition.**
  - House pets should react in a manner similar to a prudent person and will leave smoky areas. As a precaution, please be sure pets are provided with proper ventilation. Pets quartered in confined areas with no exit available will require alternative arrangements during the testing.
  - Normally, the smoke will leave no visible residue. If smoke enters your home, and you find that residue has formed as a result, it can be easily removed with soap and water.