



SMOKE TESTING SEWER LINES

What is the benefit to the City for performing a Smoke Test?

Smoke testing is used to identify sections of sewers which may exhibit inflow during rainfall. Inflow sources are roof leaders, cellars, yard and area drains, foundation drains, abandoned building sewers, faulty connections, illegal connections, and storm water drainage cross connections. It can also detect structural damages and leaking joints in sewer pipes and overflow points in sewer systems.

What exactly is a Smoke Test?

A two/three man crew places a smoke blower over manholes and smoke is blown through the sewer system. Anywhere the smoke exists, there is a potential for storm water to enter the sewer system.

How are smoke test crews recognizable in the field?

All field personnel will have a high visibility shirt or safety vest on. Dunn Engineers, Inc. and City employees will be conducting the testing.

Is the smoke hazardous?

No! The smoke that comes out of the vent stacks on houses or holes in the ground is non-toxic, harmless, and has no odor. It does not create a fire hazard.

Does the resident need to be home when the Smoke Testing is performed?

Homeowners do not need to be home and field crews will not need to enter the residence. Field crews will record the testing, taking photos and measuring distances so the defects can be located.