

Notice of Sewer Line Smoke Testing

Dear Valued Neighbor and Client,

The District has recently completed an approximately 20-year program to renovate or replace all of the aging sewer lines within the District using modern, durable, and long-lasting pipe materials. All of this was accomplished within the District's normal annual budgets except for the last recently completed segments, which were funded under voter approved bond authority at as minimal a level as possible.

The program was undertaken primarily to seal the system and prevent infiltration of storm water runoff into sewer lines and in turn prevent that storm water from being unnecessarily processed through our sewage treatment plant. The program was also intended to mitigate sanitary sewer overflows and spills during heavy rainfall events.

Accordingly, the next phase of the program will be to smoke test the system for any possibly remaining breaches. This smoke testing will also reveal any breaches or unlawful connections in home/business owner lines that connect to the District's mains, including possible line breaks, uncapped clean-outs, illegal rain gutter or drainage connections, and other such conditions.

The smoke testing will begin in early July and possibly run through August, depending upon the weather and will be performed by AAA Flexible Pipe Cleaning Company, a contractor the District has used previously with positive results. When the contractor will be working in your area, they will provide local notice that they will be doing so, primarily via door hanger notices.

Important things you should know about the smoke testing:

- Smoke that you may see will be **white to gray in color, does not have the usual fire smoke or electrical burning odor, does not create a fire hazard, and is non-toxic and non-staining**. Persons with respiratory ailments should nonetheless avoid breathing any smoke to avoid possible irritation.
- The smoke should not enter your home unless you have defective plumbing or dried up drain traps. If you have any **infrequently used sinks, showers, or other fixtures with drains, or any infrequently used toilets; please be sure to run water in such fixtures and/or flush these toilets to fill up the drain traps and prevent any smoke from entering your home.**
- Please place clean-out caps on any uncapped/open sewer clean-outs. These are usually located outside in yards.
- If you do find smoke in your home or business, be sure and first verify the source of the smoke is test smoke and not from a fire. If it is from a fire, call 911 immediately and report it; otherwise, do not call 911 and please report the problem to the contractor's crew in your area conducting the test as soon as possible so that they can help you locate the source of the breach in your lines while the test is in progress.
- If there is any individual in your home or business who has respiratory problems and has limited mobility, please notify the contractor as soon as you are aware they will be working in your area and they will provide the necessary time for you to make sure any such individuals are safe before testing begins.

If you have any questions regarding the smoke testing, please contact Jose Varela or Lupe Candanose with AAA Flexible Cleaning Co., Inc. at (281) 476-5200.

Sincerely,

Mario Runco

Mario Runco
President, Board of Directors