

IMPOTANT NOTICE – PLEASE READ
Smoke Testing of Sewers

August 31, 2011

Dear Owner/Occupant:

As part of the Town's infiltration and inflow survey, smoke testing of sewers will begin over the next few weeks. Smoke testing is used to locate where stormwater or groundwater may be entering the sewers from downspouts, drains and catch basins, or through cracks and deteriorated joints in the pipes.

Smoke testing will begin the week of September 4, 2011 and extend through the end of September. Access to your residence or business is not necessary to complete this test.

The testing involves blowing smoke into a section of the sewer between two manholes and noting where it discharges. **The smoke used for testing is white, harmless, odorless, non-staining and leaves no residue. The smoke is not harmful to people, pets, or furnishings. A notice will be placed on your door a few days before smoke testing begins on your street.**

The smoke will not enter your house or building unless there are defects in your sanitary plumbing. If smoke does enter your house or building, do not be alarmed. Open the windows and the smoke will disappear quickly, and notify the crew in the street that smoke entered your building. Prior to the testing, you can reduce the chances of smoke entering your building by pouring about a gallon of water down your sinks and drains. This water will accumulate in the trap (bend in the piping under the sink) and prevent the smoke from backing up into the building.

The smoke testing will be conducted by the Town's engineering consultants, BETA Group, Inc. and EST Associates, Inc. Representatives of these firms will carry photo identification. The hours for the testing are between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. The Fire and Police Departments will be notified of the smoke testing schedule daily.

For more information or to ask questions about the smoke testing, you may call the Town's consultant as follows:

Mr. Andrew Dennehy
BETA Group, Inc.
781-255-1982

Sincerely,
Michael J. Gagnon
Public Works Director