



For Immediate Release
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Sewer System Testing To Take Place Next Week

Harrisonburg, VA – The City of Harrisonburg Public Utilities Department will soon conduct testing on portions of the sanitary sewer system in neighborhoods along Reservoir Street. These tests will evaluate city-operated sewer systems in conjunction with residential plumbing.

Testing will take place starting Oct. 16 and will conclude around Nov. 30.

The following residential areas will be tested during this phase of the project:

- Lady Slipper Court
- Hillmont Apartments
- Copper Beech Townhomes
- Campus View Condominiums
- Avonlea Lane
- Breckenridge Court
- Avalon Woods Subdivision
- Foley Road
- Ridgeville Lane
- Pearl Lane

Employees with Harrisonburg Public Utilities will release a non-toxic and non-staining test smoke into the manholes, which will travel through the sanitary sewer in order to detect any potential breaks or leaks in the system.

Residents should expect to see smoke being released from roof top plumbing vents as this is an indication of a properly installed plumbing system.

If there is a defect in the plumbing of a home, some of the non-toxic smoke could enter the residence. When this occurs, there is no need to contact emergency services. It is recommended to open a window or door for ventilation, note the location of the smoke, and contact a qualified plumber.

Testing on sewer systems is typically conducted in a different area of the city each year. The testing being conducted next week is the largest area that has been tested at one time.

Residents with questions regarding the testing procedures may contact the Department of Public Utilities at 540-434-9959 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

*The **Harrisonburg Department of Public Utilities** is responsible for providing water and sewer services to residences and businesses. The Department currently manages approximately 16,000 accounts. For more information about these functions of the city, visit www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/public-utilities.*

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