



HARRISONBURG | VA FRIENDLY BY NATURE



For Immediate Release – Aug. 30, 2021

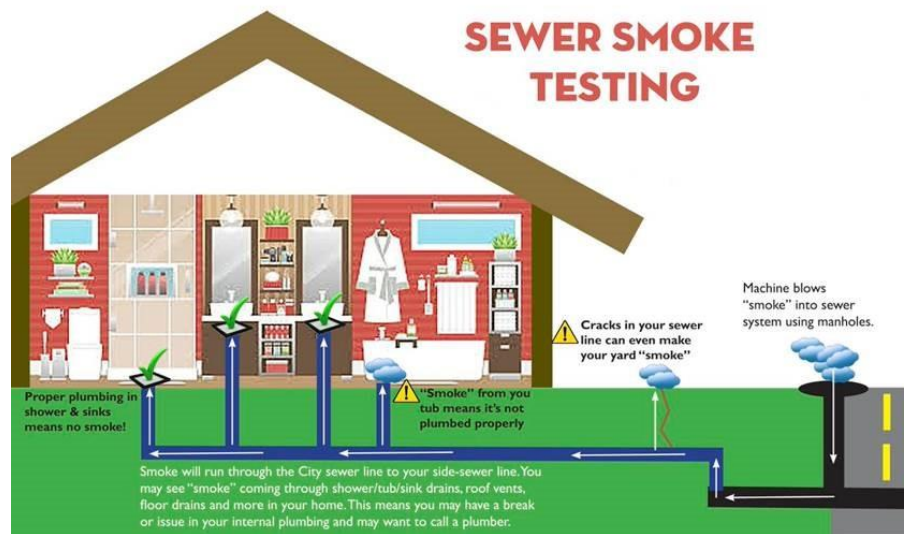
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City’s Public Utilities Department conducting annual testing of sewer system

HARRISONBURG, Va. – The City of Harrisonburg’s Public Utilities Department has begun its annual testing of the sanitary sewer system.

The effort involves release of a non-toxic and non-staining test smoke into area manholes, which will travel through the sanitary sewer system. The purpose of this testing is to detect any breaks or leaks in the City’s system and make appropriate repairs, if necessary.

Testing began Monday, Aug. 30, and will run through November. During this time, residents may notice smoke rising from manhole covers, yards where systems run, or even from their bathtubs, toilets or sinks.



(Above) This graphic shows how the annual testing works, and where residents may notice some smoke. Testing began Monday, Aug. 30.

This year’s testing will take place in the following areas:

Acorn Drive
Alpine Drive
Ashby Avenue
Birch Drive
Blakely Court
N Burkwood Court
S Burkwood Court
Buttonwood Court
CF Pours Drive
Charles Street
Clinton Street
College Avenue
W Dogwood Drive
Drake Lane
Emerson Lane
Frost Place

Hillcrest Drive
Holly Hill Drive
Ivy Lane
Jefferson Street
Lake Terrace Drive
N Liberty Street
Lincolnshire Drive
Madison Street
N Main Street
Monroe Street
Moore Street
Mount Clinton Pike
Old Richmond Circle
Old Windmill Circle
Park Road
Parkway Drive

Red Oak Street
Roberts Court
Royal Court
Shank Drive
Sharon Lane
Spruce Court
Suter Street
Technology Drive
Ty-Way Crossing
Upland Drive
Victorian Village Drive
Villa Drive
Vine Street
Virginia Avenue
Waterman Drive
Wilson Avenue

Harmony Drive
Hawthorne Circle
Heritage Drive

Parkwood Drive
Pine Court
Poets Court

Woodland Park Circle
Wordsworth Court

Eastern Mennonite University
V M R C

Eastern Mennonite High School
Harrisonburg Rockingham Community Service Board

The city has a total of 190 miles of sewer lines and a section of those lines are tested each year.

Some smoke will be seen being released from rooftop plumbing vents, which is an indication of a properly installed plumbing system.

Tips for residents:

- Pour one gallon of water into the drain traps of floors, sinks, showers and tubs, which will prevent sewer gases or smoke from entering a home or business.
- If the non-toxic smoke enters a residence or business, this is a sign of a defect in the plumbing. When this occurs, there is no need to contact emergency services. Open a window or door for ventilation, note the location of the smoke, and contact a qualified plumber.
- Anyone with respiratory or cardiovascular conditions should not stay in a building where smoke has entered as a precautionary measure.

Anyone with questions may contact the Public Utilities Department at 540-434-9959.

The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 54,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is available online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.



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