



HARRISONBURG | VA FRIENDLY BY NATURE



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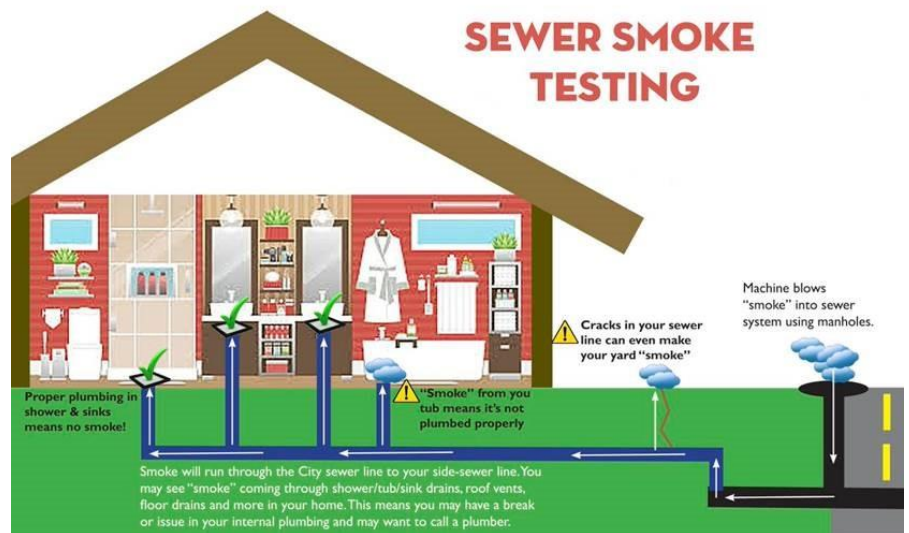
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City’s Public Utilities Department to conduct annual testing of sewer system

HARRISONBURG, Va. – The City of Harrisonburg’s Public Utilities Department will soon begin 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 will begin Monday, Aug. 24, and 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 begins on Monday, Aug. 24.

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

Ashby Avenue
 Broad Street
 Commerce Court
 Commerce Drive
 Commercial Court
 East Gay Street
 East Johnson Street
 East Rock Street
 East Washington Street
 East Wolfe Street
 Edom Road
 Effinger Street
 Fifth Street
 Glenfield Court
 Harris Street

Hearthstone Lane
 Jackson Street
 Jefferson Street
 Kelley Street
 Kratzer Avenue
 Liberty Street
 Longview Drive
 Madison Street
 Mason Street
 Massanutten Street
 Monroe Street
 Moore Street
 Myrtle Street
 Noll Drive
 North Main Street

Northfield Court
 Northglen Lane
 Simms Avenue
 Stonefield Court
 Summit Street
 Sumter Court
 Third Street
 Viewmont Court
 Viewmont Drive
 Vine Street
 Virginia Avenue
 West Gay Street
 West Johnson Street
 West Rock Street
 West Washington Street

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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