

# City of Grosse Pointe Park

15115 EAST JEFFERSON AVENUE □ GROSSE-POINTE PARK, MICHIGAN 48230 □ PHONE (313) 822-6200

**DATE:** August 9, 2017

**TO:** Residents of Grosse Pointe Park, North of Jefferson

**FROM:** City of Grosse Pointe Park, Public Works Department

**RE:** Fog/Smoke Testing of the Sanitary Sewer

The City of Grosse Pointe Park's Engineering Consultant (Stantec) and city's work crew will be conducting fog/smoke testing of the sanitary sewer on streets North of Jefferson within the month of August. A red door hangar notice will be posted two days prior to testing of your street. Please find below some questions and answers that you may find helpful in clarifying what this activity entails. For more detail, please contact Tom Vandeputte the City's Department of Public Works Supervisor at 313-822-5100 or email vandeputtet@grossepointepark.org

## **Why is the City conducting this testing?**

- Attempt to identify non-polluted water sources that are connected to the sanitary sewers (downspouts, storm catch basins, footing drains, etc.).
- The overall aim is to reduce the probability of sewer surcharge during intense rain events.

## **How can I identify who the City and Stantec (Engineering Consultant) employees are?**

- Public Works employees of the City and Stantec will wear yellow safety vests and have ID badges identifying themselves. Please be advised Stantec and Public Works employees **MAY** have to access backyard manholes during testing.

## **What is smoke testing?**

- Introduction of smoke into the sanitary sewer
- The smoke used is **NON-TOXIC, NON-STAINING, HAS NO ODOR, WHITE TO GRAY IN COLOR AND CREATES NO FIRE HAZARD.**
- Visual inspection for smoke in yards, around homes, and areas manholes to locate sources of non-polluted water that are connected to the sanitary sewers (downspouts, storm catch basins, footing drains, etc.).

## **What should you do to prepare before testing?**

- Minimize the possibility of smoke getting inside your house by doing the following:
  - Make sure to run ½ gallon of water in all drains in tubs, showers, sinks, and floor drains.
  - If a floor drain is known to not have a water trap, cover it with a wet rag.
  - Fill the sump pump with enough water to cover pump inlet.
- Contact smoke testing crew immediately if smoke is detected inside of home.
- You do not need to be home when the testing takes place as field crews **will not** need to enter your residence.

## **Why is the City NOT testing on the day as advertised on the red door hangar?**

- If rain is in the forecast for the day of testing, has rained hard the day before or the sewers are saturated above normal levels the City will postpone until conditions are dry for testing. As soon as conditions are right the City will resume testing.

**What will the City do?**

- The Public Safety Department of Grosse Pointe Park will be on notification and in communication with the smoke testing crew to avoid responding to false alarms.
- Assist homeowners who are unsure if they have properly prepared their home for testing.
- Provide immediate response to anyone who identifies smoke inside his or her home.

**Who do I contact if I have questions related to smoke testing?**

- Department of Public Works Supervisor, Tom Vandeputte at 313-822-5100.

**What do I do if smoke enters my home?**

- The fog/smoke **is not toxic.**
- Open windows/doors to provide ventilation.

For a power point presentation and more details, please visit the City's website at [www.grossepointepark.org](http://www.grossepointepark.org)

**How long will the testing last on my street?**

Crews will start testing around 8 a.m. and could last up until 4 p.m. the same day.