

# YOU WILL SEE SMOKE!

## NOTICE: Sanitary Sewer Smoke Testing in PARCHMENT

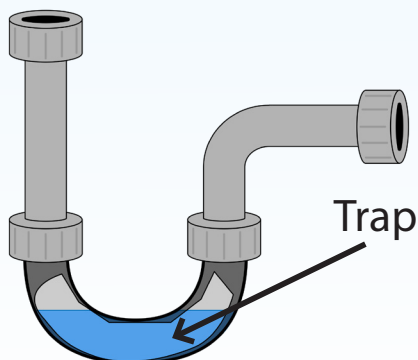
This summer, inspection crews from Prein&Newhof, a consultant for our community's sewer management program, will be conducting SMOKE TESTING of the City's sanitary sewer system. Smoke testing locates breaks and defects in the sewer system, as well as places where storm and other surface waters are entering sanitary sewers.



*image courtesy jea.com*

## Smoke Testing: Frequently Asked Questions

- Q. Is the smoke harmful?**  
A. No. It may make you cough, but it is not harmful to your health and will not harm your clothing.
- Q. How do I avoid getting smoke inside my home/business?**  
A. Check to see that all traps under basins, washing facilities and floor drains have water in them. If you can't tell, pour a gallon of water into the drain.
- Q. What do I do if the smoke gets into my home/business?**  
A. Contact the crew working in the area. Open windows for ventilation.
- Q. What is the purpose of smoke testing?**  
A. To reduce wasted expense of pumping and treating extra water that does not need to be going down the sewers. Smoke testing can reveal broken sewers and bad connections so we know where to make repairs.
- Q. I will not be home during the smoke testing and I have pets in the house. What should I do?**  
A. The smoke is not harmful to pets. If you are concerned about how your pets may respond to smoke, you may want to leave some windows partially open for ventilation should any smoke enter the house. Make sure to keep water in the drains to help avoid the issue.
- Q. If smoke gets into my home/business, how long does it take for the smoke to dissipate?**  
A. This depends on how much smoke there is and how much ventilation you can provide.
- Q. Can smoke stop up the sewers?**  
A. No.
- Q. What happens if you find a bad sewer or lack of traps in a building?**  
A. This information will be documented and given to the City. Depending on the findings, they will then determine what steps are necessary to remedy the problem.



City of Parchment

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