

The Regional Water Resource Agency (RWRA) will be conducting leak tests of the sewer system in your area by forcing non toxic smoke into the sewer lines. This smoke will help locate places where improper stormwater connections and other surface waters are entering the RWRA sewer system, as well as reveal breaks, defects and sources of sewer odors. Leak testing is part of our continuing effort to provide a safe, economical, efficient, and environmentally sound sewer system throughout the RWRA service area.

While most residents will never see or smell the smoke, RWRA wants you to have as much information as possible about the testing. A special non-toxic smoke will be used in these leak tests. The smoke is manufactured for this purpose and, therefore, leaves no residuals or stains and has no effect on humans, animals or plants. The smoke has a distinctive, but not unpleasant odor that generally is white or gray in color.

If traces of the smoke or its odor enter your house or building, it is an indication that gases and odors from the sewer system also may enter. Evidence of smoke in your house during the smoke testing should be immediately reported to RWRA and to your plumber. Location, identification, and correction of the source of smoke entering your house is strongly recommended. While RWRA will render all possible assistance, the correction of any defects in the pipes and sewer on private property is the responsibility of the owner.

Leak testing smoke may enter your house if:

- Vents connected to your building's sewer pipe are inadequate, defective, or improperly installed; or
- Traps under sinks, tubs, basins, showers and other drains are dry, defective, improperly installed or missing; or
- Pipe, connections and seals of the wastewater drain system in and under your building are damaged, defective, has plugs missing, or are improperly installed.
- You may see leak testing smoke from outside roof downspouts should they be connected to the sewer system

This testing will be ongoing. However, the actual testing in your neighborhood may last only a few minutes. We plan on providing an approximate 2-week notice before testing is scheduled in your neighborhood. When you receive this notice, we suggest that you run water into all drains for one minute, especially those used infrequently.

If your property is not owner-occupied, we ask that you help us by forwarding this important information to anyone living or working there. If you have any questions, or desire more information, please call (270) 687-8450 during regular office hours (7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.), or visit our Web site anytime at [www.rwra.org](http://www.rwra.org).