

NOTICE

WASTEWATER SYSTEM SMOKE TESTING

Halifax Water will be conducting a smoke test survey in your area between

**FEBRUARY 2-6 2010
(INCLUSIVE)**

A "SMOKE TEST" SURVEY IS USED TO LOCATE DEFECTS IN THE WASTEWATER SYSTEM

The smoke you see coming from vent stacks on the roofs of homes and holes in the ground is NON-TOXIC, NON-STAINING, WHITE TO GRAY IN COLOUR AND CREATES NO FIRE HAZARD. For more information please consult the manufacturer's website:
www.gethurco.com/PDFfiles/MSDS_Report.pdf

The smoke should not enter your home unless you have defective plumbing or unused plumbing fixtures.

**IT IS VERY IMPORTANT ALL
OCCUPANTS OF THE BUILDING BE
AWARE OF THIS TESTING**

Upon receiving this notice, residents are advised to ensure all plumbing fixtures have water in the p-trap, including floor drains prior to our testing.

Halifax Water Employees will be investigating and recording sources of smoke on individual properties. All Halifax Water employees carry photo ID.

HALIFAX WATER
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
490-RAIN (7246)
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Why is Halifax Water conducting smoke testing?

Halifax Water aims to reduce the amount of stormwater (rain, surface water or groundwater) which enters the wastewater system (flow from toilets, sinks, showers, etc.) through cracked pipes, downspouts and sump pumps directly connected to the system. Collectively this water is known as Stormwater Inflow.

During a rainstorm, the average home may allow as much as 6000 litres of water from rooftops, driveways and area drains to enter the wastewater system.

If downspouts, sump pumps and area drains are connected to the wastewater system, this water must be collected and treated in the same manner as wastewater which is unnecessary.

When too much stormwater enters the wastewater system, the following problems may occur:

1. Wastewater may back up into basements or onto property creating potential health concerns, damage to property and the need for an expensive cleanup.
2. Wastewater may overflow from manholes or pumping stations and contaminate our rivers, lakes and harbour, resulting in negative impacts on the environment, risks of public exposure and violations of federal and provincial regulations.
3. Wastewater systems may require upgrades sooner than planned resulting in increased utility bills to residents.
4. Washouts of microorganisms at wastewater treatment facilities leading to decreased efficiency, increased operating costs and/or regulatory compliance issues.
5. Wastewater systems reach capacity leading to restrictions for future growth.

For more information on the Halifax Water Stormwater Inflow Reduction Program and how you can minimize your stormwater contribution to the wastewater system, please visit:
www.halifaxwater.ca/rain

PLEASE NOTE:

If a change in weather forces a delay in smoke testing from the dates indicated on the reverse, residents will receive a new notice 3 days in advance of the new testing dates.

