

**NEWS RELEASE
CITY OF JONESVILLE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SMOKE TESTING PLANNED

The City of Jonesville will be smoke testing the sanitary sewers in the downtown area. This testing is scheduled to begin the week of October 16th. The testing will involve opening manholes and blowing smoke through the sewers with a portable blower to locate defects in the sewer system. The smoke testing will also reveal sources where storm water and other surface waters enter the sanitary sewer system.

A special, non-toxic smoke will be used in these tests. The smoke is manufactured for this purpose. It leaves no residuals or stains, and has no effect on plant or animal life. The smoke has a distinctive, but not unpleasant, odor. Visibility and odor of the smoke lasts only a few minutes, where there is adequate ventilation.

Because the plumbing in your home or place of business is connected to the sanitary sewer system, some smoke may enter your building. This could occur if one of the following conditions is present:

- Vents connected to your building's sewer pipes are inadequate, defective, or improperly installed.
- Drain traps for sinks, tubs, basins, showers, and other drains, are dry, defective, improperly installed, or missing.
- Pipes, connections, and seals of the wastewater drain system in and under your buildings are damaged, defective, have plugs missing, or are improperly installed.

If you have any seldom-used drains, pour water in the drain to fill the trap, which will prevent sewer gases or odors from entering the building.

If traces of this smoke or its odor enter your house or building, it is an indication that gases and odors from the sewer also may enter. Gases and odors from the sewers can be both unpleasant and a health risk to the occupants. If smoke enters your home or business during the testing, you should contact a member of the smoke-testing crew working in your area or call the Jonesville Wastewater Plant. The crew member will be able to help you locate where the smoke has entered your home or building.

The City of Jonesville hired Jones & Henry Engineers, Ltd., for this testing. All personnel involved with the testing can be properly identified either by badges or clothing.

The information gained from this testing will be used to improve your sewer services.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Rick Mahoney at the Jonesville Wastewater Plant at (517) 849-9450 or Ken Kohs from Jones & Henry Engineers at (269) 967-1874.

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Contact Information:

Jeff Gray, City Manager
265 E. Chicago Street
Jonesville, MI 49250
(517) 849-2104
(517) 849-9037 fax
manager@jonesville.org