

SANITARY SEWER SMOKE TESTING

GRU performs smoke testing to locate defects in the collection system.

WHAT IS SMOKE TESTING?

- Air is combined with non-toxic smoke and blown into manholes.
- Smoke travels through sewer pipes and escapes through roof vents, cracks and other openings.

WHY IS GRU SMOKE TESTING?

- Escaping smoke reveals cracks, openings and connections to stormwater systems where rainwater can enter the sanitary sewer system.
- Excess rainwater and groundwater entering the sewer system increases operational costs and can potentially cause sanitary sewer backups.

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

- Prepare drains by filling with water:
 - Run the faucet for 60 seconds.
 - Fill the drain with approx. 1 gallon of water.

*Any person with respiratory conditions such as emphysema or asthma should avoid exposure to the smoke. The smoke should not enter the building but can if plumbing drains are dry or if piping in or under the house is defective. If smoke enters the building, any person with respiratory conditions should leave the home for the duration of the test and notify nearby GRU crews.



Crew members blow non-toxic smoke into manholes.



Smoke coming from home vents is typical, normal and a good sign.

THE SMOKE IS:

- Non-toxic
- Non-staining
- Non-flammable

The smoke should not enter your building, but if it does, it will have a distinct odor and will dissipate in approximately 15 minutes. Exposure can be reduced by opening doors and windows until the smoke clears the building.

For additional information, visit gru.com/smoketest or contact Water/Wastewater Dispatch at **352-334-2711**

