

Smoke Testing of Wiarton Sanitary Sewers

June 10th to June 28th, 2019

Smoke will be visible coming out of Wiarton sewers throughout the month of June, beginning June 10th.

The Town of South Bruce Peninsula will be inspecting sanitary sewer lines using a “smoke” testing procedure to get a better understanding of any issues above and below ground where rain water can enter the sanitary sewer system.

Thompson Flow Investigations inc. will hand deliver notices door-to-door prior to undertaking the smoke testing work.

Please do not be concerned if smoke is exiting manholes or rooftop vents / drains in the testing area. This is normal.



The “smoke” being used is a non-toxic coloured vapour that has no harmful effects on people or pets and is non-staining. The test involves forcing this “smoke vapour” into the sewer system to replicate water flow and to identify entry and exit points for water. The smoke will dissipate quickly shortly after the test is completed.

The “smoke” will not be able to enter a building unless a leak is present in the building’s system due to defective, damaged or improper plumbing, or due to dried-out plumbing traps in infrequently-used drains.

The Town asks Wiarton residents to pour a litre of water down their floor drains and any unused drains to help avoid smoke entering their home. This only has to be done once.

It is possible for residents with major allergies to experience a short-lived irritation. As an added precaution, those residents could leave windows opened for ventilation during the testing.

Residents with any concerns or health problems, they feel the Town should be made aware of, are asked to call the Project Manager, Karen Dennison at 416 806 8330 or the Town’s Director of Public Works, Lara Widdifield at 519 534 1400 x 133.