



NOTIFICATION OF SMOKE TESTING

This letter is to notify you that the **City of North Bay Village** is conducting a required sanitary sewer evaluation program designed to eliminate groundwater and stormwater from entering the sanitary sewer system. A **Sanitary Smoke Testing** will be performed starting on Thursday, February 22nd, 2024.

Smoke testing is a commonly used procedure, it consists of placing a blower on top of a sanitary sewer manhole and blowing non-toxic smoke through the pipes to locate defects that would allow groundwater and stormwater to enter the sewer system. The smoke to be used, is specifically manufactured for this purpose, therefore, it is non-toxic, non-staining, it leaves no residue, has no effect on plant or animal life, and will **not** create a fire.

The test will be conducted by **300 Engineering Group, LLC**, a local engineering firm. Clearly marked trucks and uniformed crew members will be onsite available to answer questions. The crew may need to walk around the front and back of the property to look for signs of smoke coming from area drains, down spouts, or the ground.

The Miami-Dade County Fire Department and the Village's Police Department have been made aware of the smoke testing project area and schedule. Reminder notices will be given to businesses at least 24 to 48 hours prior to work where the testing will be conducted. During testing, smoke may be seen coming out of storm catch basins or the ground, which could indicate broken manholes, improper connections, damaged or missing clean-out caps, or cracked pipes. Please note, that there is a potential for smoke to enter a property that has plumbing fixtures not properly trapped from the sanitary system. Please perform the following tasks to prevent smoke from entering your business.

- Make sure all drain traps and plumbing fixtures have water in them. Fill seldom used drains (such as floor drains, garage sinks, etc.) with water by running the faucet for 30 to 60 seconds or filling the drain with approximately 3 cups of water.
- Prepare drains as soon as you receive this smoke testing notice, this only needs to be done once before testing begins.
- Smoke should not enter your business; however, if it does, it could be an indication of a defect in your plumbing system. This defect could allow sewer gases to enter your business, which is a potential health hazard. Corrections of such defects are the responsibility of the property owner, and a licensed plumber should be consulted to ensure the proper corrections are made. If smoke enters your business, please notify the field technicians who are conducting the test.

This important program will help decrease the inflow and infiltration into the wastewater system, which will reduce the risk of wastewater overflows and lower the cost of unneeded groundwater and stormwater treatment. We appreciate your patience and understanding, we will make every effort to minimize the inconvenience or disruptions this procedure may have on you. If you have any further questions or concerns regarding smoke testing, please contact the North Bay Village Public Works Department at (305) 865 - 0506.

Sincerely,

Marlon Lobban, PE
Public Works Department Director
North Bay Village
mlobban@nbvillage.com