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## **Smoke Testing Activity**

**June 16, 2017 between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
(Weather Permitting)**

### **Attention:**

Stamford WPCA will commence with a smoke test activity near the intersection of Elmcroft Road and Dye Lane on June 16, 2017 between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Purpose is to help locate some buried manholes.

### **General Overview of Smoke Testing Activity:**

Utilities have safely used smoke testing for many years. It helps to determine where other sources of water are entering the sewer system and identify system improvement needs.

During smoke testing, Stamford WPCA crews force smoke into sewer pipes through manholes. The smoke helps find cracks in pipes, uncapped customer lateral cleanouts, and prohibited connections that allow rain or groundwater into the sewer system.

Stamford WPCA will place door hangers on the homes included in the smoke test area two or three days before testing commences on a particular street. The letters and door hangers include a customer support number, so customers can call if they have questions or concerns about the testing. Stamford WPCA also notifies Stamford Fire and Police Departments in advance of the smoke testing activity, in the event they receive inquiries.

The smoke is non-toxic and non-staining, is not a fire hazard, and will not harm children, pets, or plants. Anyone with respiratory problems, however, should avoid breathing the smoke to prevent irritation.

For your peace of mind, you might want to make other plans for a child, an elderly person, or an invalid who would otherwise be home alone during the testing. Contact Stamford WPCA at the number below to request notification immediately prior to the test to help avoid any confusion or alarm.

**Stamford WPCA, 111 Harbor View Ave., Stamford, CT 06902**

For the test, Stamford WPCA asks customers to run or pour about a pint of water into any garage or basement floor drains and unused sinks to fill the P-trap. The trap normally has water in it, but if the drain has not been used recently, the water may have evaporated. The water will help keep smoke from the testing from entering through the drain.

During the test, don't be alarmed if you see smoke coming from vent stacks on buildings or holes in the ground. If the smoke enters your building, it may set off your smoke alarm. The smoke is harmless and should dissipate quickly - or you can open doors and windows to help ventilate smoke.

If you poured water down any unused drains but smoke still enters your building, it may indicate defects in your plumbing. Note the location of the smoke, and call Stamford WPCA at the numbers provided.

If you have questions about this planned smoke testing activity, please call Stamford WPCA at 203-977-5768.

**Note: WPCA personnel maybe walking thru properties to document/photograph where smoke maybe exiting, i.e., backyards, front yards, side yards, etc. If you own domestic animals, as much as possible, please ensure the animals are secured properly, so that WPCA personnel are not threatened/injured during these activities.**