City of QUINCY

Department of Public Works

SMOKE TESTING

During the month of October Woodard & Curran, a firm hired by the City of Quincy, and its subcontractor, will be conducting smoke testing of the sanitary sewer in your area. The testing is necessary to ensure the proper performance of sewer collection facilities.

During the test, a non-toxic, and non-staining white smoke is introduced into the sanitary sewer system via a smoke generating machine. The smoke passes through the sewer system and out through improper connections such as drain inlets and roof drains. During this procedure, the smoke will also be venting through holes in manhole covers located in the street and through plumbing vent pipes located on or near the surface of your roof. This is normal and should not be cause for alarm.

Smoke should not enter your premises unless there is either a dry trap in an unused fixture, or a defect in your plumbing. You may wish to pour some water down your unused plumbing fixtures to ensure that

the drain trap will be effective. Should smoke be detected within the building DON'T BE ALARMED. Simply open the windows to ventilate the home and report the presence of smoke to the crews conducting the test outside in the vicinity of your building. If possible, they will assist you in locating the source that allowed smoke to enter the building.

Although the smoke is non-toxic and non-staining, it could cause minor lung irritation, especially to those with lung ailments such as asthma or emphysema.

If you have not already done so, please contact Woodard & Curran at 978-557-8150 if you have these or other similar health conditions, so that appropriate precautions can be taken. Again, it is unlikely that smoke will enter your home if proper precautions are taken.

Please Note:

- You are not required to be at home during the test
- Testing is done in dry weather and may be delayed for 24 to 72 hours if it is raining
- If not at home during the test, please take precautions to ventilate the area where your pet will be

Thank you for your cooperation,
City of Quincy Water & Sewer Department,
and Woodard & Curran.