



September 7, 2022

To: Tipp Gazette  
Tipp News  
Dayton Daily News  
Troy Daily News  
Weekly Record Herald  
TippNewsDaily  
KIT-TV

Re: Smoke Testing

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tipp City has contracted with Tele-Vac Environmental to perform sewer system testing the week of September 12<sup>th</sup>.

This test consists of blowing a non-toxic low pressure white smoke into the sewer system to find cracks or other defects that are in need of repair. The testing will take approximately one hour in designated locations.

Testing will be from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on West Main Street from west of the Railroad Tracks going north to Crane and between North Hyatt Street and the Railroad Tracks and is weather permitting.

Please contact the City of Tipp City at 937-667-6305 with any questions.

End

Eric Mack  
Director of Municipal Services

CC: Timothy J. Eggleston, City Manager  
Greg Adkins, Police Chief  
Cameron Haller, Chief of Emergency Services  
Tipp City Staff  
City Council  
FB – Twitter – Tipp City Website

**Should I be home during the smoke testing?**

You are not required to be at home during the smoke testing. If you will have pets at home, keep in mind that the smoke is not harmful to animals. However, it is advised that you open several windows for ventilation in the event that smoke does enter your home.

**How much area is being smoke tested?**

Testing will be occurring in the central downtown corridor of the City. This will be on West Main Street (West of the Railroad tracks) going north to Crane and between North Hyatt Street & the Railroad tracks. Signs will be placed along the roadways near the testing site.

**When will the test occur?**

Smoke testing is scheduled to occur the week of September 12th between the hours of 9:00am and 5:00pm. However certain weather conditions may cause a delay in the testing.

**If smoke gets into my house/building, how long will it take to dissipate?**

This depends on how much smoke enters the building, and how much ventilation you can provide. Usually the smoke is gone within 15 to 20 minutes.



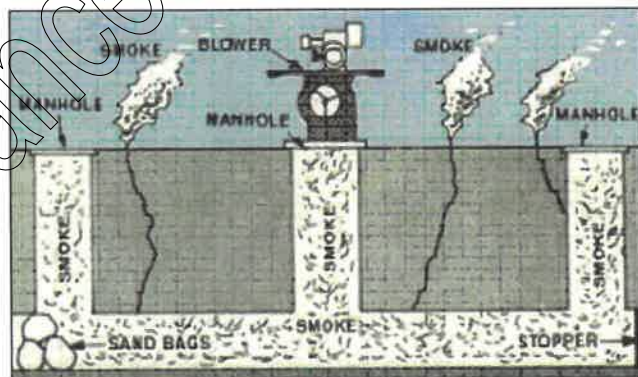
All public safety authorities have been notified. The technician leader and City workers will be available to answer questions. If you are present during the test, please contact the crew if any smoke enters your home or building. If you are away during the test and discover smoke in your house upon returning, call the number provided.

For further questions or other information, contact  
Tele-Vac Environmental main offices at  
513-398-4521.



**Tele-Vac Environmental**  
**7611 Easy St Mason, OH 45040**  
**513-398-4521**

## Notice of Smoke Testing



**For Information Call Tele-Vac  
Environmental main offices  
513-398-4521**

# NOTICE OF SMOKE TESTING

During **September**, dependent on weather conditions, Tele-Vac workers will be conducting sewer system tests in your neighborhood. They will be blowing a harmless simulated white smoke into the sewer system to find cracks or other sewer defects, which may need repair. Location and repair of such defects are essential to the economical and safe functioning of Tipp City's sewer system. The test will last approximately one hour in each location.

## How does this affect me?

As a result of the testing, simulated smoke may be seen coming from manhole covers, storm drains, roof vents, and building foundations. The smoke will not enter your home/building if it is properly plumbed and all of the fixture traps contain water.

**To minimize the likelihood of smoke entering your home/building, pour one gallon of water into any basement floor drains and unused sinks, tubs, and showers to fill the P-traps of your drains.**

If there are people who are immobile or have respiratory ailments in your home/building, please notify the Environmental Services Division at the number provided on the front. The Material Safety Data Sheet for the simulated smoke is available upon request.



## What do I do if smoke enters the building/house?

Smoke is NOT expected to enter your premises. If it should, however, please observe the following:

1. **DO NOT** become alarmed.
2. Open doors and windows to ventilate your premises. Cover the source of smoke with a wet towel. The smoke should clear out rapidly once the building is vented.
3. Immediately report any smoke in your premises to the City crew conducting the test, or by calling the Environmental Services Department at the number below.
4. If smoke enters your home/building, dangerous sewer gases might also be entering your home or building. You may have dry drain traps or improper plumbing. It may be necessary to have a licensed plumber inspect your house's plumbing.

## How does the smoke test work?

Smoke testing involves blowing a non-toxic low pressure white smoke into the sewer lines, through a manhole structure. Pressure will cause the main line and any connections to fill with smoke, while also sending smoke through any leaks in the sewer to the surface. Tele-Vac crew members will be searching the testing area for this smoke exiting the ground, which could imply a sewer system defect.



Do not be alarmed if you see smoke exit your rooftop sewer vents as seen in the picture above. This is completely normal.

## How might the smoke enter my house/building?

Since plumbing fixtures in your home or building are connected to the sanitary sewer system, there is the potential for the smoke to enter if the drains are not connected properly. This happens particularly under the following circumstances:

- The vents connected to your building's sewer pipes are inadequate, defective or improperly installed
- The traps under sinks, tubs, basins, showers and other drains are dry, defective or improperly installed
- The pipes, connections, or seals in the wastewater drain system in and/or under your building are damaged, defective, have plugs missing, or are improperly installed

## Is the smoke testing dangerous?

No danger of fire or explosion of sewer gas exists with the smoke testing process. The simulated white smoke is non-toxic and non-irritating to throat and eyes, and has no effect on animals or plants. Further, simulated smoke will not stain walls or furniture and leaves no residue.

# NOTICE OF SMOKE TESTING