

[The City of Newport Public Works](#)

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**MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release**

DATE: November 26, 2018

SUBJECT: **Smoke Testing on November 29, 2018 in the SW Elizabeth St. Corridor**

Contact person: Tim Gross, City Engineer/Director of Public Works
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The City of Newport will be performing smoke testing of some sewer lines. Smoke testing activities are scheduled to occur on Thursday, November 29, 2018. Most of the area in the SW Elizabeth Street corridor, from Olive Street to Government Street, will be tested.

Smoke testing is an efficient and cost effective way to identify system leaks and locations where unwanted storm water is entering the sewer lines. These problem areas are quickly identified by the smoke escaping through the holes in the system and being observed above ground by workers.

During testing, which lasts about 5 minutes in each area, residents may notice smoke escaping from their eaves and yard drains. Also, smoke may enter the house through faulty or improper traps and drains. To minimize the smoke entering your house, please pour water into all drains including floor drains prior to the testing. Residents can rest assured that the smoke is non-toxic, non-staining, non-flammable and is harmless to people, animals, and plants.

During testing, smoke should exit the vent stack on the roof of houses and possibly escape through manholes. Any other observed smoke may suggest there is a problem with the sewer system. If the smoke can get in your house, it indicates that sewer gases can also enter your house. If this is the case, a plumbing professional should be contacted. If you notice smoke in your house or on your property please report it immediately to the personnel conducting the test or call the City of Newport Public Works Department at (541) 574-3366

Thank you for your cooperation.