

NOTICE OF SANITARY SEWER SMOKE TESTING

NY Rural Water Association will be conducting a sewer smoke testing study for the Village of Clayton to determine where storm water may be entering the sanitary sewer system. This study is a follow up to the 2016 smoke testing in areas that needed further investigation only. Many areas in the Village will not be effected by this study. Storm-water, sometimes referred to as "inflow", can enter the system during periods of wet weather through many sources including catch basins, damaged manholes, roof leaders, sump pumps, and basement drains. When present in excessive amounts, inflow increases the cost to operate the sewer system and can contribute to undesirable backups. Smoke testing of the sanitary sewer systems will help to locate these sources of inflow to the system.

The smoke testing operation involves blowing smoke into the sanitary sewer system and monitoring where the smoke exits to determine leaks. The smoke is non-toxic, will not stain and does not leave a residue. **More than likely smoke will not enter your building unless your plumbing is defective.** If you have a drain in your basement (such as a sink or a shower) that has not been used recently, you can prepare for the smoke test by pouring water down the drain to fill the trap. (We recommend that you fill these traps monthly since they prevent unhealthy sewer fumes and odors from entering your home through those drains). It is not necessary for you to be home during the smoke testing.

If the smoke does enter your building, it will set off smoke detectors; if you are home, open all windows to aid in the ventilation of the smoke, and notify the field crew in the street. The smoke should pass in 15 to 20 minutes. Your cooperation and patience will help in expediting the work effort. The Police, Fire and Public Works Departments are aware of the work and will assist as necessary.

Any persons with health concerns or technical questions regarding the testing should contact a representative listed below prior to the testing:

- **Village of Clayton: Megan Ervay (607) 857- 7421**
- **NY Rural Water Association: Steve Grimm (518) 828-3155 x 180**

If no one is available to take your phone call please leave a brief message containing your name, address, and phone number so that a project representative can contact you and answer any questions or concerns you may have prior to the testing.

Smoke testing may be performed in your neighborhood on 09/05/2018 from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weather permitting.