

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY OF THE BOROUGH OF BEDFORD

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August 13, 2021

NOTICE TO MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY OF THE BOROUGH OF BEDFORD SEWER CUSTOMERS

Weather permitting, the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Bedford will begin conducting smoke testing of sewer mains and laterals throughout the Bedford sewer system on August 18, 2021, between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm. Testing is expected to continue for the next two weeks. Smoke testing is currently planned to be performed in all areas of the Bedford Borough sewer system. This testing is being undertaken in an effort to locate leaks and sources of storm water inflow and groundwater infiltration into the sanitary sewer system. In order for the testing to be done effectively, the weather and the ground must be dry. Therefore, if it is raining or if the ground becomes sufficiently wet before the test date, the testing may be postponed to a later date.

During testing, smoke should not enter your house unless the lateral from your house is improperly or inadequately trapped, the water seal in the trap has evaporated, or there is a leak of some type within your sewer. In order to be sure that your basement drains are properly sealed, you should pour a gallon of water into each drain, floor drain or trap prior to testing. This will help to prevent smoke from entering through these drains. If smoke is observed inside your home at any time during the testing, please immediately notify the persons in the street conducting and observing the test, or call the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Bedford at 814-623-8192. It is normal for smoke to escape through the vent pipe that protrudes through the roof of your home and should **not** be a cause for alarm. Smoke may also appear around your foundation or in the house gutters depending upon the condition and type of sewer connection at your residence.

Although the smoke is not toxic to humans and is considered harmless, you should avoid unnecessary exposure to it, as it may be irritating to your nasal passages. The smoke has a slight odor but leaves no residue. If smoke should enter your home, you should ventilate it by opening doors and windows. You should also take care to ensure that your pets are also not exposed to the smoke. Any irritation experienced, however, will be temporary and should dissipate after exposure has ceased.

Local "Bedford" Radio Stations will be used to inform the public of alterations to the smoke testing schedule.

Please contact the Bedford Borough Office at 623-8192 should you have any questions regarding the smoke testing.

Barbara E. Diehl
Borough Manager

EMAILED TO:

- BEDFORD GAZETTE
- BEDFORD COUNTY FREE PRESS & BEDFORD COUNTY SPEAKS
- BEDFORD AMBULANCE
- DOWNTOWN BEDFORD, INC.
- BEDFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT
- BEDFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT
- BEDFORD COUNTY VISITORS BUREAU
- BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL, MAYOR, SOLICITOR & EMPLOYEES
- BEDFORD COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY OF THE BOROUGH OF BEDFORD AUTHORITY

FAXED TO:

- CESSNA COMMUNICATIONS: Please air periodically as time allows.
- WSKE RADIO: Please air periodically as time allows.
- BEDFORD COMMUNICATION NETWORK