## CITY OF WASECA I&I TESTING

## SE AREA SEWER SMOKE TESTING NOTICE

The City of Waseca has scheduled smoke testing of the sanitary sewer system between April 18-29, as weather permits—see the attached test area map. City crews will be testing sewers in the SE area, mostly south of the RR tracks, west of 8<sup>th</sup> St and east of South State St. The reason for this testing is to help pinpoint where rainwater is leaking into sewer pipes, which is called Inflow and Infiltration, or I&I.

The testing involves using fans to push smoke into the City sanitary sewers through City manholes. This testing is not intended for individual building plumbing; it is a test of public and private sewer lines outside the home or building. In Waseca, each property owner does own the sewer service from the home or building to the City main. Sewer mains are usually located under the City streets and right of way, but some sewer services and City mains are located in backyards, alleys, and easements.

The white colored smoke used for testing is non-toxic without permanent odor, and soon disappears, leaving no trace. It is possible for the smoke to enter your building through faulty plumbing or dry traps in floor drains. Prior to April 18, please pour one (1) gallon of water into any seldom used drains to ensure the traps are not dry.

If during this testing smoke does enter your building, this may indicate a problem with your plumbing that would also allow sewer gas to enter your building. A properly plumbed building will have a vent pipe on the roof, which will release smoke during the testing.

City staff conducting the testing may cross yards to look around buildings to identify locations where smoke is escaping from the sewer system.

If you have any questions or concerns about this process, please contact the City of Waseca Utilities at 507-835-9713.

The Waseca Fire Department is aware of this City project so that test smoke is not misunderstood as fire smoke.

Notices are provided on Facebook, the PEG Channel, and City website.

## 2022 PLANNED CITY SANITARY SEWER LINING

Also planned in 2022 is lining of City sanitary sewer pipes in parts of the same area in which smoke testing is being done. Should the lining project be approved by the City Council, individual letters of explanation to property owners & renters will be mailed, as well as notices through Facebook, the PEG channel, and City website.

