



## Charles Town Utility Board

### ATTENTION

The Charles Town Utility Board (CTUB) has hired Hydrostructures, LLC. to perform physical inspections of the sanitary sewer system in your area along with SMOKE TESTING of the sanitary sewer lines to locate defects in the system. These tests will be performed during the next several weeks based on the schedule below (schedule may be altered due to rain events, contact CTUB with any questions):

**Tuscowilla Hills Area: Week of July 29 and August 5, 2019**

**Locust Hills Area: Week of August 5 and August 12, 2019**

**Belvedere Heights Area: Week of August 19, 2019**

**Orchard Hills Area: Week of August 19, 2019**

**Portions of Old Town Ranson and Downtown Charles Town: Week of August 26, 2019**

Doorknockers will be delivered to these areas on advance of Smoke Testing.

The purpose of these tests is to locate breaks and defects in the sanitary sewer pipes that allow stormwater to enter the sanitary sewer system. Large quantities of stormwater in the sewers use up part of the pipe and pumping capacity needed to carry wastewater. This system overloading can cause sewage backups and possibly overflows.

The smoke testing portion will involve blowing **HARMLESS** smoke into the sanitary system, to locate where unwanted storm water may be entering. The smoke that you see coming from the vent stacks on houses or from holes in the ground is: **NON-TOXIC, CLEAN, HARMLESS TO HUMANS, PETS, FOOD AND MATERIAL GOODS, and CREATES NO FIRE HAZARD.** Persons with severe asthma should avoid breathing any smoke to avoid irritation.

The smoke should not enter into buildings unless leaks or plumbing defects exist. Please make sure that all seldom-used drain traps and plumbing fixtures have water in them by pouring approximately 24 ounces of water into each drain upon receipt of this notice. This will prevent sanitary sewer gases or odors and smoke from entering the building. Smoke may also enter your building around a faulty wax ring at the base of toilets. Should smoke enter your building, you may contact a member of the smoke testing crew working in the area or call and someone will assist you in determining where and why the smoke has entered. The smoke will clear within a few minutes with proper ventilation.

Your presence at home is not required during the testing. All public safety authorities have been notified. We would appreciate if you would share this information with your neighbors to prevent

needless concern. **A list of common questions and answers have been provided on our website: [www.ctubwv.com](http://www.ctubwv.com).**

Should you have any further questions, please see the program contact numbers listed below. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated as we work to successfully complete this important effort.

Kristen M. Stolipher

Assistant Utility Manager, Charles Town Utility Board

(304) 725-2316

**Hydrostructures contact information:**

**Justin Lemonds, Project Superintendent (910) 690-3114.**