Smoke Testing Advisory for
Cumberland County Communities

FAYETTEVILLE – Cumberland County residents are advised that NORCRESS/Cumberland County will be smoke testing sewer lines in the Towns of Falcon, Godwin and Wade in the coming weeks.

Smoke testing is done to locate sources of sewer odors, leaks and breaks in sewer lines. The type of smoke used is harmless, white to grayish-white in color, and may have a slight odor.

Testing will take place March 9 through April 8, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Residents may notice smoke coming from building sewer vents, gutters and downspouts or out of the ground along sewer lines. However, you may notice traces of the gray-white smoke (or its odor) entering your home or building. If so:

- Rest assured that the smoke, which has a distinctive odor, is not harmful to humans, animals or plants. In addition, it leaves no residue or stains.

- The presence of smoke may be an indication that you have a problem with the plumbing fixtures (such as drain traps or vents) connected to or associated with your sewer lines. The correction of any defects in the pipes and sewer on private property is the responsibility of the home (or property) owner, and NORCRESS/Cumberland County recommends that you consult a plumber. Location, identification and correction of the source of smoke entering your house or building is urgently advised. If the test smoke is able to enter your home, it means sewer gases/odors may also be able to get in.

- It may cause your smoke alarm to go off. NORCRESS/Cumberland County will notify local fire departments when testing is being conducted in the area.

- If smoke does get into your house, please ventilate your house.

For more information, please visit http://www.co.cumberland.nc.us/public_utility/smoke_testing.aspx or call our hotline at 678-7682.

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