

CTGR staff, working with Keller Associates, will conduct sanitary sewer smoke testing from Tuesday, August 4 through Thursday, August 6 to support development of the Tribe's Utility Master Plans.

What to expect

- The test uses non-toxic, non-staining smoke pushed through sewer lines with a blower.
- You may see light smoke outdoors near manholes or vents. In some homes, smoke alarms may activate briefly.
- The testing does not create a fire hazard and does not harm people, pets, plants, or buildings.

Why we're doing this

- Smoke testing helps our Utility team find leaks or faults in the system so we can plan improvements that keep our community safe and services reliable.

If you see smoke indoors

- Light smoke can enter homes through dry floor drains or seldom-used fixtures. If you notice smoke:

1) Open windows and doors to air out.

2) If smoke becomes dense, step outside for fresh air.

3) Contact the smoke-testing crew at (503) 879-2404 or Ryan.Webb@grandronde.org so we can assist right away.

Important safety note

- In the unusual event smoke enters because of a break in your sewer line or inadequate sewer venting, please call (503) 879-2404 or email Ryan.Webb@grandronde.org immediately. This helps us make sure sewer gas is not entering your home. If you suspect sewer gas, leave the house and wait for the crew's assessment.

A few easy prep tips

- Run water for 10–15 seconds in floor drains or seldom-used sinks/showers to fill traps and reduce the chance of smoke entering.
- Make sure pets are indoors or in a calm space; testing smoke is harmless, but alarms can startle them.
- Our crews will be clearly identified and will not need to enter homes.

Questions or need assistance?

- Call (503) 879-2404 or email Ryan.Webb@grandronde.org during testing hours and we'll help. There is no cost to residents.

Thank you for your patience as we complete this important work for the Grand Ronde community.