



CITY OF FRAMINGHAM
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
FRAMINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 01702

*“Dedicated to
Excellence
in Public
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Media Alert

Framingham DPW to conduct a Sewer Dye Testing Program

FRAMINGHAM, MA- The Framingham Department of Public Works will begin conducting a Sanitary Sewer Dye Testing Program the week of October 28th. This program will investigate private property connections that allow rainwater or groundwater to enter the sewer system. Dye testing is a common practice that involves pouring a non-staining dye into suspected sources (e.g., roof downspouts, sump pumps, and floor drains). A source is confirmed if the dye is observed in the sewer system.

The City of Framingham is required by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) to identify sources of clean water such as rainwater or groundwater (inflow) that enter the sewer system. The City pays the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority (MWRA) for every gallon of water that enters the sewer system regardless of its source. Removal of inflow to the sewer system will reduce sewer capacity and overflow issues, protect surface water quality, and decrease the City’s sewer costs.

The 2019 Private Source Inflow Removal Concept Report identified over 100 potential sources that are suspected of discharging clean water into the sewer system.

Homeowners/Residents of properties identified with potential inflow sources will receive notification this week with further instructions. The City’s engineering consultant, Weston & Sampson, will conduct the dye testing.

The City will work with the owner(s) of properties where confirmed inflow sources are found to mitigate the problem. There will be no cost to the property owner(s) for this work.

For more information about this program, please visit: www.framinghamma.gov/dyetesting

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