

Title: **Sewer Dye Testing Procedure**

Sewer dye testing is used to study the flow or migration of water from one area to another. Examples are to verify discharge locations of storm sewer lines, check for illicit connections between storm and sanitary sewers, or verify the integrity of sewer lines. Because of the brilliant colors used, they often cause concern to the general public when they show up down stream.

Sewer dyes used by University employees and contractors shall be non-toxic and biodegradable. A current MSDS sheet should be readily available during its use.

Sewer dye comes in tablets, liquids, powders, and wax. It also comes in many florescent/brilliant colors including red, green, yellow, and blue.

Sewer dyes shall be used in accordance to the manufactures instructions.

**The following people will be notified by telephone to (at least 1 hour) on each day prior dying a pipeline, catch basin, manhole, roof drain, etc. Sewer dye testing notification is required to be done by the person (or direct supervisor) doing the testing.**

- 1. UMD Facilities Management @ (218) 726-8262**
- 2. UMD Environmental Health and Safety @ (218) 726-7139**
- 3. UMD Police @ (218) 726-7000**
- 4. MPCA @ (218) 723-4660**
- 5. City of Duluth Storm Water Utility @ (218) 723-3551**
- 6. WLSSD (sanitary sewer only) @ (218) 722-3336 (Ext. 301) (Process Control)**

**The following information should be relayed:**

- Date, Time and Location of Testing**
- Reason for Testing**
- Color of Dye**
- Anticipated Surface Water or System to be Affected  
(Oregon Creek / Tischer Creek / Miller Creek / WLSSD System / etc)**
- Contact Information  
(Name / Company / Telephone Number)**

When notified, these people will be able to respond to concerned citizen's calls in regard to dye testing. They will be able to say that it is routine water testing and the dyes, although colorful, pose no harm to the environment.

Any conclusions drawn from sewer dye testing shall be reported to UMD Facilities Management (241 DAdB 1049 University Drive Duluth MN 55812-3011 or Fax (218) 726-8127) within 5 business days. The information shall be written and include:

- Project Information (Number / Name / Manager)**
- Date, Time and Location of Testing**
- Reason for Testing**
- Surface Water or System Affected**
- Contact Information (Name / Company / Telephone Number)**
- Summary of What Was Found (Include Maps / Drawings if Necessary)**

Responsible Party: University of Minnesota Duluth Storm Water Steering Committee

Contact: UMD Facilities Management (218) 726-8262

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