



Deer Creek Drainage Basin Authority Dye Testing Policy

In an effort to eliminate unwanted storm water and surface water from its sanitary sewer system, the Deer Creek Drainage Basin Authority has enacted a dye testing policy for the purpose of identifying and eliminating unlawful connections to its sanitary sewer conveyance system. In accordance with local township ordinances (Township of West Deer Ordinance No. 364, Township of Indiana Ordinance No. 160 & 326), the Deer Creek Drainage Basin Authority will conduct dye tests at ALL properties that are currently connected to the DCDBA conveyance system. In addition, any new or existing properties with intentions to connect to the DCDBA conveyance system will be subject to a dye test **BEFORE a new tap inspection can be approved.**

A dye test is also required any time a lien letter is requested, as when a property is sold or refinanced.

Dye Test Procedures:

DCDBA will conduct dye test inspections in accordance with the following procedures.

1. Advance notice will be given to property owners whose homes have been identified within the designated area to be dye tested. A door hanger will be posted on the property to inform the property owner of the Authority's intentions to dye test their home, while specifying a time frame for the test. Scheduling for 'requested' dye tests, such as lien letter requests, will be arranged at the time of the request.
2. DCDBA employees will locate, inspect, and note on the inspection form all surface water access points, including but not limited to the following: area drains, driveway or parking lot drains, stairwell drains, sump pumps, downspouts, fresh air vents (FAV), and cleanout pipe stacks. Any issues with the inspected drains will be noted on the inspection form.
3. The manhole downstream of the property is identified, located, and opened for observation.
4. Each surface water access point that was identified will be tested one at a time. Dye is to be added to the first surface water access point, while the location and dye color are noted on the inspection form.
5. Running water is then injected into the surface water access point and allowed to run for several minutes.

6. The Authority field employee then inspects the downstream manhole for the colored dye. If the dye is observed in the manhole, then it is noted on the inspection form and the access point is failed. If no dye is observed, the access point is passed.
7. Steps 4-6 are to be continued for all remaining access points, while utilizing various colored dyes for each individual point and noting the results on the inspection form.
8. A follow up letter along with a copy of the inspection form is then generated and mailed to the property owner. If the property passed the dye test, a certification letter is sent to the property owner. If the property failed the dye test, the required changes will be explained in the letter along with designating a date for the corrections.

Violations / Enforcement

Property owners who have received notice that their property has failed the dye test will be given the opportunity to make the required changes or repairs. If the property owner is unresponsive or unwilling to make the requested changes to bring their property into compliance, then the Authority will utilize the existing township ordinances as a means of enforcement, subjecting the property owners to fines ranging from \$500-\$600 per occurrence plus court costs.