

The Use of Smoke Machine to Locate Pollution Sources Video:

Produced by: Neil Churchill and Mark Szymanski
Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
50A Portside Drive, Pocasset, MA 02559
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Video Abstract

This ten minute video demonstrates the use of a smoke machine for locating non-visible pollution sources impacting discharges from storm drains and other pipe systems. Machine setup and operation will show smoke release into both manholes and the horizontal ends of discharge pipes. Different methods and materials for the blocking pipes and storm drains will also be exhibited. The use and types of safety gear is demonstrated for the operator's protection and comfort. The machine is capable of releasing large amounts of smoke over long distances (0.5 miles) so large systems can be checked for problems and be mapped by local Health agents and Department of Public Works. Notification of local police and fire departments is important. This machine has been used in a number of towns in southeastern Massachusetts. Types of pollution sources found so far: illegal connections from home septic systems to storm drains, sump pump overflow, cross connections between storm drains and sewer systems, and roof drains illegal connected to storm pipes. The equipment which is needed to perform the test is exhibited. DMF video tape library catalog number: 03MADMF844.