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NIRA Consulting Engineers, Inc.

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Dye Tests

- Dye tests are designed to verify that the vent and trap line tested discharges into the CTMA sewer system.
- It is illegal to have roof drains, driveway drains, storm drains, sump pumps or any other connection that discharges into the sanitary sewer system any rain water, ground water and/or surface water. No other waters, other than that which is discharged from property installed internal plumbing may enter the Authority system.
- Dye tests are required for all new construction and all exchange of property, including refinancing.
- Dye tests must be performed by an Allegheny County licensed plumber and are valid for two years.
- Dye tests must be performed in order to obtain a No-Lien letter from CTMA.
- Dye tests are usually paid by the owner of the property.
- In case of dye test failure, the property owner is responsible for all repairs.
- All repairs must be inspected by CTMA's engineers, NIRA Consulting Engineers, before a No-Lien letter can be issued.

No-Lien Letter

- A No-Lien letter is requested by financial institutions on the property being sold, when the buyer is requesting a loan or when the owner is refinancing.
- A No-Lien letter can be issued for a property without a building (vacant lot). This does not require a dye test.

Please see the “Municipal Authority Dye Test/ No-Lien Letter Application” in the Applications Section of CTMA’s website, for further details and pricing information. See also Resolutions 04-09-98-01 and 04-09-98-02.