

## Acoustic Sewer Screening Town of Penetanguishene

### What are we doing?

The Town of Penetanguishene has retained Rapid Assessment Technology Services (RATS) Inc. to complete an acoustic screening of the sanitary sewer network in your neighbourhood. The survey area is highlighted on the map included with this notice.

### What is Acoustic Sewer Screening?

Two small, surface-mounted devices send and receive sound through the pipe to measure blockage levels—no cameras or crews enter the sewer. Each 5-minute test generates a 0–10 score that tells us whether the pipe is clear or needs follow-up cleaning/CCTV inspection.

### Why?

Blocked or partially blocked sewer pipes can lead to sewer overflows and basement flooding. Screening lets the Town identify which pipes need maintenance while avoiding unnecessary cleaning and traffic disruption.

### When?

The screening will be performed over the **Spring/Summer of 2025**.

### What do I need to do?

**Nothing.** You do NOT need to take any action. This notice is only to inform you that our contractor will be working in your neighbourhood.

### I have a question, who should I talk to?

Some common questions are answered on the next page. Should you have any further questions, please contact: Bryan Murray, P.Eng., Director of Public Works at the Town of Penetanguishene at (705) 549-7453 ext. 107 or [bmurray@penetanguishene.ca](mailto:bmurray@penetanguishene.ca).

Thank you,

Public Works  
Town of Penetanguishene

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What equipment will I see?

You may see two small units placed on open manholes for several minutes. No excavation, flushing or loud machinery is required.

### 2. What is the purpose of the survey?

To identify which sewer segments require maintenance—helping the Town focus cleaning, CCTV, and other maintenance activities only where they're truly needed and preventing blockages before they happen.

### 3. What information are you collecting?

Only sewer pipe-related data: acoustic blockage score (0-10), pipe length & diameter, GPS location, and basic observations on manhole condition. We do not collect any personal or household information.

### 4. Will there be noise?

At the street level, you may hear a series of cycling tones for several minutes. This is normal test equipment operation and poses no safety concern.

### 5. Can the acoustic sound be heard inside residential homes or businesses?

Rarely. If a dry trap or direct air connection exists, tones may be audible but remain within safe sound levels.

### 6. How do I know if it is the Town's contractor?

If asked, the Town's contractor will provide identification and business card for follow-up.

### 7. Do I need to be home for the survey?

No. You may not even notice the work has been completed.

### 8. How accurate is the technology?

Years of validation with CCTV confirm a false-clear rate below 5 %. If the equipment is uncertain, the segment is flagged for follow-up inspection.

### 9. What happens next?

Only pipes that score low will be scheduled for cleaning or CCTV.