Tracer Wire Requirements
Storm Sewer

1. Tracer wire shall be an approved and listed, 10 to 14 gauge solid copper wire with a plastic coat to prevent corrosion.

2. Tracer wire shall be taped to the top of the pipe at intervals of 6 to 20 feet and at all bends.

3. Do not wrap tracer wire around a pipe, as this could cause stress and potentially break the tracer wire.

4. Tracer wire shall be provided with access points at a minimum of 300 feet and at the exterior of the building. At access points the tracer wire shall be brought up to grade with valve boxes, cleanouts, manholes, vaults, or other protective methods such as PVC raceways.

5. An extra 18 inches of wire shall be provided at the termination point.

6. Sewer contractor shall leave an extra 20 feet of tracer wire at the termination point of the storm sewer at the trench line for riser to grade.

7. Tracer wire shall have an access point at the curb stop and/or at the building exterior and brought up to grade. An approved splice may be made at the curb stop, near the grade in a small diameter raceway extending 18 inches below grade for protection.

8. Splices shall be approved in accordance with the manufacturer’s requirements or made with split bolt or compression type connectors. A waterproof connection is necessary to prevent corrosion. Splices should be held to a minimum.

9. If the pipe is installed using a boring or jetting tool, tracer wire can be preinstalled in a raceway, installed concurrently with the pipe or blown in after the pipe is installed.

10. If the tracer wire is broken, it should be replaced or repaired to provide proper continuity.