INFECTION CONTROL WHILE PERFORMING MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES
SANITARY SEWER SYSTEMS

General
The following procedures should be followed when performing maintenance activities that could expose employees to body fluids that are present in sanitary sewer systems.

Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) should be worn when the potential for contact with body fluids exists while clearing system blockages. PPE could include any or all of the following items: disposable Tyvek QC suits, disposable latex or rubber gloves, and full face shields.

The use of force pumps and augers should always include the following PPE equipment, Full Face Shield and rubber or latex gloves.

Cabling activities (at the point of the cable entering the system) should include disposable Tyvek QC suits, full-face shield, and disposable rubber or latex gloves.

Tools
Tools used during sanitary sewer system repairs/maintenance should be placed into “Red Bio-Hazard” disposable bags when repairs are complete to be transported back to staging (shop) area.

All tools (drain augers, force pumps, cables, hand tools) are to be soaked in a solution of bleach (10%) and water to clean before being put back into service. *

Disposal
All disposable gloves, Tyvek QC suits, and Red BioHazard bags should be disposed of in Hazardous waste containers.

Training
All Duke Medical Center Engineering and Operations employees are required to receive annual training on infection control procedures as part of the WTSN training.

Contractor employees who routinely are assigned to maintenance/repair activities that include sanitary sewer systems are required to receive WTSN training annually.

Hepatitis B Vaccination
Duke Engineering and Operations employees follow the standard procedures set forth in the Duke University Medical Center Infection Control Manual.

Contractor employees who routinely are assigned to maintenance/repair activities that potentially expose them to bloodborne pathogens may obtain Hepatitis B vaccinations through MC E&O Administration.

The contracting firm, which employs the contract employee, shall request the vaccination in writing to E&O Administration. The contracting firm will be responsible for all fees associated with the vaccinations.