**General Manager’s Message**

It is hard to believe that 2016 is quickly coming to an end. By now, students have settled into the school year, hard at work. We at CVSan also have been busy with our autumn activities. In September, we enjoyed connecting with residents at the Fall Festival and sharing updates on our important projects and programs. In October, we met with the Castro Valley Unified School District Board of Education, updating them on our school recycling, organics, and Green Ribbon programs. We really appreciate the partnership we have developed with the schools and all the great work that has been accomplished over the years. As we turn our attention to the upcoming holidays, we’d like to wish you a safe, happy, and thoughtful season.

Roland P. Williams, Jr.
General Manager

**Construction Updates**

Castro Valley Sanitary District is in the process of beginning a project to replace and relocate a 50-year-old, 635-foot, 6-inch diameter ductile iron force main from one of our pump stations, and rehabilitate our current flume structure. Both of these areas are in need of repair, due to excessive wear over time.

During the project, we will also retrofit some assets with new technology to mitigate foul odors and accommodate easier entry into the confined space. To get more information and updates on our current projects, please visit [www.cvsan.org/projects](http://www.cvsan.org/projects).

**Select Your Path to Zero [Holiday] Waste**

Looking to express gratitude and appreciation this season without buying new things? Here’s how:

**Children:** Shop “pre-loved” toys at a garage sale, or give a gift certificate for classes.

**Millennials:** Give a car-sharing membership, create a photo-based family recipe book, or upgrade digital services.

**Matures:** Write a poem, give tickets to a Castro Valley performance, or help a senior with tasks around the home or yard.

If you are wrapping a gift, remember that foil wrapping paper and curling ribbons are not recyclable or compostable.
Drop-Off Unwanted Pharmaceuticals at Eden Hospital

To protect the health of our community, it is important that you do not dump any pharmaceutical waste down the drain or in the garbage. Instead, CVSan has arranged a partnership for safe disposal of prescription and over-the-counter medicines. Drop them off at Sutter Eden Medical Center, 20103 Lake Chabot Road, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There is no cost. For more information, visit www.cvsan.org/pharms.

Tips: it is best to drop off pills in a zip lock bag and recycle the containers in your blue recycling cart.

Follow Us on Pinterest

CVSan gets crafty! Residents now can follow CVSan on Pinterest. Our boards are full of tips, articles, videos, and crafts related to the 4Rs (Reuse, Reduce, Recycle, and Rot) and how to live a more sustainable lifestyle. To follow CVSan’s boards, visit www.pinterest.com/CVSan.

Fall Yard Clean-Up Made Easy – Paper Garden Bags

Do you have extra leaves and yard trimmings this season that won’t fit in your green organics cart? Single-family residents can purchase Paper Garden Bags for occasional extra yard trimmings, in person or by mail, for $7.32 each. The cost for Paper Garden Bags includes collection by Waste Management of Alameda County, Inc. (WMAC) and processing of materials collected.

Bags may be purchased in person at CVSan (21040 Marshall Street) or WMAC offices (172 98th Avenue, Oakland, or 22770 Main Street, Hayward). To order by mail, call (510) 537-5500. A postage charge of $3.50 for 5 bags or $5.00 for 10 bags will be added to the cost. Large paper bags found at hardware stores may not be substituted; their price does not include collection or processing.

Keep FOG Out of Drains this Holiday Season

The holiday season is a favorite time to gather for special meals. For such events, food preparation and clean up can produce a lot of FOG (fats, oils, and grease). Remember that FOG clogs pipes, leading to costly repairs, so it’s important to keep it from going down the drain. Use a scraper to rid pots and pans of grease, then put it into the green organics cart. Wipe down plates with paper towels, then add the towel to the organics as well. Following these simple steps help keep the pipes clean and keeps your holidays clog-free.

Shop at 4R Star Businesses

The CVSan 4R Business, 4R Planet program certifies “4R Star” businesses that complete ongoing activities in each of the 4R categories – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rot (organics). 4R Stars go above and beyond the usual recycling and composting programs to reduce even more waste. Please show your thanks by shopping at your local 4R Star businesses this holiday season! With over 100 businesses participating, 4R Stars offer everything for your holiday shopping needs, from retail, restaurants, pet services, financial services, health care, and more.

A complete listing can be found at www.cvsan.org/4RStarDirectory.