General Manager’s Message

CVSan’s 80th anniversary is already off to a great start. First, we were recognized by the California Water Environment Association (CWEA) as the San Francisco Section’s Collection System of the Year. A few weeks later, we were honored to receive the California Sanitation Risk Management Authority’s (CSRMA) Workers’ Compensation Excellence Award. This award reflects our commitment to worker safety—we have not lost any time to workplace accidents for over twelve years.

 Earlier this month, you may have noticed a new white and green vehicle collecting organics, recycling, and garbage in your neighborhood. Now that CVSan’s carts and bins are serviced by Alameda County Industries (ACI), we can offer brand new services such as curbside cooking oil and textile recycling and the option to request up to two 96-gallon recycling carts at no additional charge.

As always, thank you for taking the time to read our Pipeline newsletter and keeping up to date with all the changes ahead.

Roland P. Williams, Jr.
General Manager

Make the Switch, Go Paperless with Your New ACI Account

Paperless billing is an easy way to receive your monthly or quarterly bill and the Pipeline newsletter. Customers who previously set up paperless billing will need to set up new accounts with Alameda County Industries (ACI). Go to AlamedaCountyIndustries.com for more information and to clear the paper clutter!

Call Us if You Receive a Sewer Maintenance Door Hanger

When most people picture a manhole, they envision it in the middle of a street. However, in Castro Valley, there are dozens of manholes found on easements in the backyards of residential properties. If we can’t access the manhole to clear the roots and perform maintenance, your sewer line can overflow.

To protect your property and our field staff, make sure you call CVSan at (510) 537-0757 or the provided number if you receive a sewer maintenance door hanger so we can arrange to inspect and clean the sewer line within the following week. You just need to help our field staff access the manhole by unlocking gates and ensuring nothing (like patio furniture or the family dog) is blocking the manhole.

An easement is the right to use a specific piece of someone’s property for a specific purpose.
Check Private Sewer Lateral before Selling Property

Are you planning to sell your home? Have you checked the condition of your private sewer lateral? Effective July 1, 2019, CVSan’s Ordinance No. 179 requires property owners to obtain a sewer lateral compliance certificate before selling any property within CVSan boundaries. If the property does not have a valid compliance certificate, the property owner must perform a closed-circuit television (CCTV) inspection of the private sewer lateral. A CCTV permit must be obtained from CVSan, and the inspection must be witnessed by a CVSan inspector. For more information about Ordinance No. 179 or to check your property’s compliance status, please visit cvsan.org/PSL.

Fourth Annual Zero Waste Week 2019

February’s Zero Waste Week was filled with community events, including a tree fruit gleaning where we saved 1,895 pounds of fruit for the Castro Valley food pantry and a recycled art and toys Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) event where more than 50 students made toys and art out of things they would normally throw away. We also hosted a hands-on D.I.Y. personal care workshop with Kathryn Kellogg of Going Zero Waste where 28 attendees took home several personal care items they made from scratch. At the Fixit Clinic and Swap ‘N Sew, over 20 community members fixed 70% of the items brought to the event.

Throw a Zero Waste Summer Party

Throwing a party this summer? Here are some tips on making it Zero Waste!

• Decorate with repurposed items, such as LED lights or candles, or use the beauty of nature to your advantage and host your party outside!
• Try tablecloths and cloth napkins for a timeless look that replaces single-use items.
• Serve food on reusable plates with reusable cutlery.
• Make your own beverages, such as iced tea or lemonade, to serve from a pitcher and cut down on single-use containers.

Center Street Project

This spring CVSan released a Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for public comment for CVSan’s proposed Center Street Project. The draft demonstrates that the proposed project will not have any significant or unmitigable effects on the environment and complies with the California Environmental Quality Act. CVSan has also released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for architectural services for the project. More information can be found at cvsan.org/CenterStreet.

Slow for the Cone Zone

Every day CVSan staff are out in the field maintaining our community’s sewer lines. Often that means setting up traffic diversions in the street. If you see a cone zone, remember that traffic rules still apply. There will always be a detour so that drivers can pass on the correct side of the road. Driving around a traffic diversion on the left-hand side can lead to collisions. We ask that you slow down while passing a cone zone so both you and our staff get home safely.