CVSD Celebrates 70 Years

The year was 1939 and everyone in Castro Valley had septic tanks or outside toilets. The citizens voted to create the Castro Valley Sanitary District and a 45-mile sewer system serving 5,000 people was constructed. Today, 70 years later, the District maintains approximately 160 miles of sewer lines and 9 wastewater pumping stations that serve over 55,000 residents and 300 businesses.

The District takes great pride in the many programs it has offered the community over the years such as the District Wide Garage Sale, collection of old towels for animal shelters; various Earth Day events; Recycled Art Contest; Document Shredding & U-Waste Collection; Lateral Replacement Grant Program; and, Compost Give-Away, to name a few.

The District is approximately one month into the new 10-year municipal solid waste collection agreement with Waste Management of Alameda County, Inc. with enhanced recycling services such as curbside collection of batteries; all #1-7 plastics, aluminum foil products, and scrap metal.

With just 15 employees, Castro Valley Sanitary District looks to the future with a goal of continuing to provide outstanding wastewater and solid waste services to the community as it has for the past 70 years.

Stimulus Funding May Be Coming to CVSD

The District has been working diligently to implement construction projects described in the Master Plan article below. The District has also been working to obtain funding in the most fiscally responsible manner possible. A $25 million low interest or no interest loan may be awarded to the District within the next 60 days for necessary construction projects to keep Castro Valley fully compliant with all applicable environmental regulations.

“We have positioned ourselves better than any other agency to receive funds for our projects,” stated General Manager Roland Williams. Be on the lookout for more information in the near future regarding project funding.

Master Plan Projects

An environmental review of the Collection System Master Plan is now complete and the District will proceed with ongoing construction improvements beginning this summer. Two large projects that will start soon include the Castro Valley Boulevard Streetscape Trunk Sewer project and extensive improvements along Lake Chabot Road, Quail Avenue and Walnut Road.

The Castro Valley Boulevard Streetscape Trunk Sewer project is named for the portion of trunk sewer that is included with the Alameda County Public Works and the Community Development Agency's streetscape improvement project. When potential impacts to the existing sanitary sewers from the project were recognized, the District worked together with County staff to develop a sewer improvement plan. This sewer will be constructed along portions of Castro Valley Boulevard, Redwood Road, San Miguel Avenue, and Kerr Street.

The major sewer improvements along Lake Chabot Road will include the length between Carmel Drive and Christensen Lane, as well as Quail Avenue and Walnut Road north to the split with Vineyard Road.

The combined projects will include construction of over 10,000 feet of sewers at an approximate cost of $4.5 million. The projects will reduce the risk of overflow and decrease maintenance costs associated with the existing older sewers.

Green Office Remodel

The District recently converted the existing garage into new office space for the Wastewater Department. The new office is an excellent example of how environmentally preferable, recycled, and energy-efficient products can be used in home and office remodel projects.

Energy efficiency is an important consideration when designing projects. Choosing the right appliances with the correct energy rating not only reduces daily operating costs but reduces carbon emissions. The new office uses an energy-efficient HVAC system. A combination of tinted glass with dual panel windows and thoroughly insulated walls help to maintain a consistent temperature inside, independent of outside weather conditions.

Furniture and flooring choices were selected for their reduced impacts to the environment. The District used existing furniture before purchasing refurbished furniture from local vendors. Natural linoleum flooring called Marmoretta from Armstrong was installed with 36% rapidly renewable resources comprised of cork, linseed oil, wood flour and jute backing, as well as 35% pre-consumer recycled content in the form of wood dust and cork flour. Both the linoleum and paint used in the offices are low VOC, providing better indoor air quality.

Waste Management of Alameda County, Inc. provided 12 debris boxes for the project. Approximately 48 yards of concrete and 80 yards of construction debris were processed at the Davis Street Construction and Demolition Materials Recovery Facility (C&D MRF) where 100% of the concrete and approximately 75% of the construction and demolition materials were recovered for reuse or recycling.
General Manager's Message
NEW LOOKS FOR WWW.CVSAN.ORG AND THE PIPELINE NEWSLETTER

Thank you for taking the time to read through the Spring Edition of the Castro Valley Sanitary District's (CVSD) Pipeline newsletter. We hope you are enjoying the new look of the Pipeline. We also hope you will enjoy the new look of CVSD's redesigned website at www.cvsan.org.

Both the Pipeline and website have been redesigned with you in mind. Not only has the look of the website been changed but the content and usability has been enhanced to make it more interactive and user friendly. So, once you have finished looking at the Pipeline, please take a moment to view the website and see how we did.

Thanks again for continued interest and support of the Castro Valley Sanitary District!

Roland P. Williams, Jr.
General Manager

Curbside Reminders

Q. Why are my 3 carts being exchanged for new ones?
A. New carts are necessary in order to be serviced by the new vehicles.

When the District issued its Request for Proposals in 2007, new collection containers were included in the proposal to ensure that the existing hauling company would not have an unfair financial advantage since they owned the carts. At the end of the 2009-2010 franchise agreement, CVSD owns the carts.

Carts have a life-expectancy of 10 years, therefore the delivery of new carts to all cart customers in 2009 streamlines the replacement efforts and keeps costs lower.

The new carts have a full-color graphic on the lids with images to pictorially explain what goes in each cart.

Q. My recycling and garbage used to be picked up by the same truck. Has that changed?
A. Yes. Starting on May 4, 2009, recycling, organics, and garbage will all be picked up by separate collection trucks. The new trucks will run on clean-burning Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) at no additional cost to residents and businesses.

Wastewater Tip of the Quarter
LATERAL REPLACEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

On July 6th, the District will continue its highly successful Lateral Replacement Grant Program (LRGP). $50,000 has been allocated to the 2009/2010 fiscal year. For qualifying laterals, CVSD will contribute 50% of the cost of a complete line replacement (up to a maximum of $2,000).

Compost Give-Away ‘09

1,831 residents collected their 2 free bags of Wonder Grow compost at the District’s Compost Give-Away held March 2nd – 31st. The District thanks Castro Valley Adult School students, Workbench True Value Hardware, and Pete’s ACE Hardware for providing convenient and helpful give-away sites. The nutrient-rich compost is made from Castro Valley’s food scraps and yard trimmings.