QUARTERLY CALENDAR
June - August 2011

Davis Street Transfer Station Tour
June 15 from 9:00 a.m. - Noon
Register by June 1st at www.cvsan.org. See inside for more details.

Lateral Replacement Grant Program
Begins July 5. See inside for more details.

CVSan Recycles Day
Saturday, August 13, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Visit www.cvsan.org for more details.

Upcoming CVSan Board Meetings:
June 7, July 5 & August 2
Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in CVSan’s Board Room and are open to the public.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS & WEBSITES

Castro Valley Sanitary District (CVSan)
510-537-0757 (M-F 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)
510-506-5821 (sewer emergencies after hours)
www.cvsan.org

Waste Management of Alameda County
510-537-5500 (residents)
510-613-8700 (businesses)
www.wm.com

Household Hazardous Waste
800-606-6606
www.household-hazwaste.org

Castro Valley Sanitary District
21040 Marshall Street
Castro Valley, CA 94546
510-537-0757 | www.cvsan.org

„Effective environmental services since 1939“
General Manager's Message

CVSan has been in the forefront of environmental matters for more than 70 years. In 1939, community leaders formed the Castro Valley Sanitary District. The purpose was simple: provide wastewater services to the community of Castro Valley. The first plan of action was to build 15 miles of pipe to carry wastewater from each and every building to a treatment facility. This was a monumental feat for the community, but CVSan was up for the task.

The same is true today: the Castro Valley Sanitary District (now known as CVSan) has embarked on several ambitious programs and projects. First, we have begun renovating more than 10 miles of pipe that need to be replaced due to age or inadequate capacity. Just as the founders of CVSan did 70 years ago, today the agency’s leaders are planning for Castro Valley’s next 70 years and beyond.

Roland P. Williams, Jr.
General Manager

Sewer Construction Update: Castro Valley Blvd.

Phase II of the Streetscape Project is well underway. This phase consists of constructing a new sewer line along Castro Valley Boulevard between San Miguel Avenue and Redwood Road. Once the new, larger sewer line is constructed down the middle of Castro Valley Boulevard, the two small sewer lines on the north and south side of the boulevard will be abandoned. Replacing the two sewers with one larger sewer will reduce maintenance work and increase the flow capacity of the sewer system. The end result will be reduced maintenance costs and reduced risk of sewer overflows. Please contact Alameda County’s construction hotline at (510) 670-5991 for questions or to report construction-related concerns.

Secrets from the Sewer Line

CLOSED-CIRCUIT TV INSPECTION

Video cameras aren’t just for Hollywood and capturing family memories. CVSan has been using a specially designed closed-circuit televideo (CCTV) camera to inspect Castro Valley’s 160 miles of sewer pipe since the mid-’90s. Using a CCTV camera is the best way to assess the condition of a sewer pipe, as it shows an up-close view of places that would be inaccessible to a worker. Crews begin by removing the lid of a sewer manhole. They then lower the camera (pictured at right) into the pipe, maneuvering it with a remote control system. The video images are transmitted to a monitor connected to a computer system located inside the CCTV van. There the operator looks for problems such as roots, cracks, and grease. A crew member analyzes the condition of the pipe and stores a record of the pipe’s condition in the computer. Staff then uses the data to make decisions about how to design, maintain, and repair underground pipelines. Prior to the use of this technology, much of the work done on sewer pipelines was based on conjecture and best-estimation. CVSan performs over 125,000 linear feet of video inspection annually. That’s about 24 miles a year!

Can you guess where these items were found? That’s right—in local sewer pipes! Help prevent clogs and keep items out that don’t belong.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Harry Francis
President
Ralph Johnson
President Pro Tem
Timothy McGowan
Secretary
Daniel M. Akagi
Secretary Pro Tem
Dave A. Sadoff
Board Member
Reduce Your Waste to Increase Your Wallet Size

Castro Valley Sanitary District single-family residents (four units or fewer) are eligible to receive a $50.00 credit on their next recycling & garbage bill by reducing their garbage cart down to a 20-gallon size. Bill payers may request a downsize, starting June 1, by calling WMAC’s message center at (510) 613-8745 with required account information. Cart exchanges will begin July 1 and will be scheduled by appointment.

By reducing your garbage cart to a 20-gallon, you will be:

✓ “right-sizing” your garbage cart to better represent what you actually send to landfill.

✓ saving approximately $12.00 per month on your bill, or $144.00 per year for each change from a 32- to 20-gallon cart. Your next bill will

be prorated from the date your request was confirmed with Waste Management of Alameda County, Inc. (WMAC).

✓ receiving a $50.00 credit on your next WMAC bill.

Funds are provided by Castro Valley Sanitary District from a $64,000 settlement with WMAC. The program is available to customers on a first-come, first-served basis.

Visit www.cvsan.org or call (510) 537-5500 for program details, eligibility guidelines, and a list of the account information required for the message center starting June 1.

Reading Your Recycling & Garbage Bill

For single-family residents (four units or fewer), you may have noticed this quarter’s recycling and garbage bill includes three lines of monthly rates, plus an additional fourth line that reads “Credit for June.”

At the May 3, 2011 Board of Directors meeting, the Board accepted rates effective July 1, 2011 that include a 9.35% increase, approved at the April 7, 2009 Board meeting following a Public Hearing. This quarter, your bill reflects the month of June at the old rate (“Credit for June”), and the months of July and August at the new rate effective July 1, 2011. Next quarter, your bill will reflect three months at the new rate.

Please see our article above to learn more about Castro Valley Sanitary District’s upcoming “Reduce Your Waste Size” program. This program provides a credit to residents who reduce their garbage cart size.

Reduce FOG to Prevent Clogs

VSan continues to partner with restaurants to reduce the amount of fats, oils, and grease (FOG) clogging Castro Valley’s sewer pipes. FOG can enter the sewer system through kitchen sinks, drains, and poorly maintained grease traps. CVSan works with restaurants to make sure FOG is disposed properly and kitchen drains are connected to a fully functional grease trap.

FOG creates blockages that can damage property and create environmental problems. As a result, FOG can impact the cost of sewer maintenance. Every step taken to prevent FOG build-up not only helps reduce the restaurants’ plumbing costs, but also helps CVSan keep rates low. CVSan currently has the second-lowest Sewer Service Charge in all of Alameda County.

Good People. Great Service.

Senior Collection System Maintainer Greg Williams was on his lunch break, thinking he was just going out for some pizza, when he came across a number of notes, placed on the windows of several businesses. The notes indicated serious concerns with a nearby property leaking raw sewage. Greg contacted the tenant at the property and found that a sump pump was inoperable. CVSan informed the tenant of his options and the landlord of potential fines from state agencies. Since this incident, sewer leakages at this site has ceased, and public health and environmental preservation have been restored. On any given day, the four crew members inspecting and cleaning the sewer lines in our community don’t know what they will come upon. They are prepared to deal with sewer issues at any time—even on a lunch break—knowing that leaks are cause for health and environmental concern.

Need to replace that leaky old sewer? LET CVSAN HELP YOU PAY FOR IT!

CVSan’s next cycle of the Lateral Replacement Grant Program (LRGP) is scheduled to begin July 5, 2011. Through this program, the agency grants up to $2,000 to property owners whose private sewer lateral qualifies under our defect rating system. Reimbursements are limited, and grants are provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

Visit www.cvsan.org or call (510) 537-0757 for program details, eligibility guidelines, and a list of the account information required for the message center starting June 1.