General Manager’s Message

Welcome to the latest edition of the CVSan Pipeline newsletter. It’s hard to believe that summer is almost over and school will be starting soon! As you will see in this edition, there are many facets to solid waste collection services. Besides the usual garbage, recycling and organics, we want to offer to everyone in Castro Valley the most effective and convenient means to dispose of trickier items, like pharmaceutical waste, paint, and fluorescent light bulbs. With proper disposal methods, we all help to reduce what goes to the landfill and, more importantly, we keep potentially harmful materials from getting into the ground and our waterways.

Remember: You can also use your free bulky pick-up once a year to remove large items from your home. Not only are these items sometimes difficult to have removed otherwise, by using this service, many of the items are recycled.

For more information go to www.cvsan.org/BulkyPickUp.

Thank you for taking time to review the CVSan Pipeline, and have a great fall season!

Roland P. Williams, Jr.
General Manager

You Could Be the Next Prizewinner Just for Recycling

Are you the best recycler on your block? Alameda County residents can win prizes for keeping trash out of their recyclables and compostables. During regular garbage collection days, the Ready Set Recycle prize crew will select random garbage carts and sort the contents. Single-family households with the smallest amount of recyclables and compostables in their garbage (or, better yet, none at all!) could earn Star Sorter status and receive $50 prizes in cash or gift cards. Residents can also participate in the contest by playing the Speed Sorter Game online and entering monthly prize drawings for gift cards to Peet’s Coffee, Jamba Juice, Safeway, and more. Learn more at www.ReadySetRecycleContest.Org.

First Ever Waste Audit for Canyon Middle School

Canyon Middle School has taken impressive steps towards reducing waste at the school. During the 2012/13 school year, Canyon completed its first-ever waste audit. Sixth grade students from the school service group, Canyon Connection, took on the challenge of sorting through an entire day’s worth of garbage. The purpose of the audit was to see what actually could have been placed in the recycling or organics carts. Students found that 85% of the material found in the garbage could have been recycled or composted. The waste audit results were broadcast school-wide along with announcements encouraging students and staff to recycle and compost their waste properly.
Recycling Your Oil Filter Pays!

Do you change your own motor oil? Do you live in a single-family home? Notify Waste Management of Alameda County, Inc. (WMAC) at least 24 hours before setting out your used motor oil and filter for recycling. Afterwards you will receive a coupon in the mail for a new filter, valued at $10! Residents can participate in this program from September 2 – October 11, 2013. Call WMAC’s Customer Service Center, Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at (510) 537-5500.

Your used motor oil filter must be set out at the curb in order to receive a filter coupon. Coupons expire October 21, 2013.

Check Before You Dig - Call Us First

When planning a yard or home improvement project, it’s easy to see obstructions above ground, but it’s harder to know what’s underground. The reality is there’s a lot of infrastructure under there, including sewer lines. Most of the sewer pipes in Castro Valley run down the center of the street, but some snake through yards or easements. If you’re planning to dig in Castro Valley, we can help prevent surprises by identifying and marking sewer mains that are within or near your construction zone. So please “Call Us First” before you dig: (510) 537-0757.

Unwanted Paint at Home?

In case you missed the CVSan Recycles collection event on August 10, you can still drop off your unwanted paint in CV for free! Please visit paintcare.org for a full list of drop-off locations and materials accepted. In Castro Valley, you can drop off at Dunn Edwards at 20923 Redwood Rd. and Kelly-Moore at 3090 Castro Valley Blvd.

Keeping an Eye on Critical Pump Stations

CVSan has nine pump/lift stations that collect nearly a quarter of a million gallons of wastewater sewage per day and convey it through almost 10,000 linear feet – just under two miles – of sewer lines. These stations ensure wastewater collection service to over 1,000 Castro Valley residents in four distinct geographic areas. The stations are composed of sewer wells, underground plumbing, submersible pumps, and sophisticated electronic control systems that allow 24/7 continuous operation.

CVSan Board, Community Advisory Committee members, and staff have toured several of our pump stations to see firsthand how they work, why they’re so critical to providing wastewater collection service to certain communities, and what changes or improvements may be needed in the future.

Safety is #1 for Workers & Drivers

When CVSan maintenance workers perform sewer inspection, maintenance, or conduct other work on public streets or highways, they must be protected from traffic hazards at all times. A variety of traffic control measures – such as signs, lights, and cones, along with continuous patrols – are used to provide that protection. Whenever workers are active on a public roadway, Cal/OSHA requires traffic control measures that meet the requirements of the California Vehicle Code and comply with the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways (CAMUTCD). CVSan maintenance personnel are trained to evaluate and mitigate roadway hazards, so that both drivers and workers have safe access to all public thoroughfares.

What is a Defect Rating?

Need to replace your sewer lateral? CVSan can help by granting up to $2,000 to property owners whose private sewer lateral qualifies under our defect condition rating system. The defect condition rating system is an assessment of the lateral to determine the degree of defects to the line. Condition ratings take into consideration: pipe cracks, roots, water infiltration evidence, and other defects. Each defect is given a numerical designation. Those laterals found in poor condition may receive grant funding. For complete program details, please visit www.cvsan.org/grants or call CVSan at (510) 606-1300.

Construction Update

You may have noticed construction activities on many side streets this summer. CVSan is taking advantage of the good weather to dig up and repair some aging sewer pipes throughout Castro Valley. The recently completed Master Plan Priority 1 Phase 2 project began construction in April and consists of six line segment repairs and one spot repair. The project was constructed by J&M, Inc. of Livermore for a contract amount of $799,997. Approximately 900 feet of existing sewer was replaced, and an additional 220 feet of new sewer was installed. These new pipes repaired defects, such as sags in existing sewer lines, and the increased pipe diameter reduces potential bottlenecks in the sewer system.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Timothy McGowan  President
Daniel M. Akagi  President Pro Tem
Dave Sadoff  Secretary
Ralph Johnson  Secretary Pro Tem
Melody Appleton  Board Member