GENERAL MANAGER’S MESSAGE

Welcome to CVSan’s first 2012 quarterly “Pipeline” newsletter. As you may have seen, CVSan continues to raise its profile in the community. In this issue, we have featured the Engineering Department on the cover, showing 1 of our 9 pump stations. In future Pipelines, other departments will be featured as well on the cover. We believe it is important for customers to know what CVSan’s departments do for you.

The Engineering Department is working hard to improve all CVSan facilities including underground piping, pump stations, and easements. Currently, our most visible project is Alameda County’s Castro Valley Boulevard Streetscape Project; we are minimizing inconvenience to the community by working with the County. When complete, this project will provide required wet weather flow capacity for CVSan while Alameda County improves Castro Valley Blvd. This year, the Engineering Department will be constructing another $4 million dollars in sanitary sewer improvements.

Look for more information on the other departments: Administration, Maintenance, and Solid Waste in future Pipeline newsletters. Wishing you a happy and prosperous new year.

Roland P. Williams, Jr.
General Manager

CALIFORNIA’S NEW COMMERCIAL RECYCLING LAW

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU COMPLY

1. Subscribe to recycling service from Waste Management of Alameda County, Inc. (WMAC).
2. Self-haul to the Davis Street Transfer Station, and/or
3. Arrange for the pick-up of the recyclable materials from a person or vendor who does not charge for service.

Call the WMAC Recycling Coordinator at (510) 613-8751 to schedule a free solid waste assessment at your business and to sign up for recycling services. For more information about AB 341, visit www.calrecycle.ca.gov/climate/recycling.

BLOCKED SEWER? CALL US FIRST!

A call to CVSan could save you money! If you have a problem with your sewer—and you are within Castro Valley Sanitary District’s service area, CALL US FIRST at (510) 537-0757. We will come out and inspect your sewer main lines at no charge to you. If it is determined that the problem is not in the main sewer line, you may then wish to call a plumber to check your private sewer lateral (the pipe from your building or home to the main) for a blockage. Please note: If you call a plumber before calling CVSan to check our main sewer line, you will be responsible for all charges incurred by the plumber.

CVSan Main Office: (510) 537-0757 (M-F 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)
Sewer Emergencies After Hours, please call (510) 506-5821.
If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to call the Main Office.
Current Sewer Construction Projects

Construction on Alameda County’s Castro Valley Boulevard Streetscape Project was suspended from 11/21/2011 to 1/3/2012, to prevent potential adverse impacts from winter weather and to reduce inconvenience to the community during the holidays. The remaining portions of the Streetscape Sewer Improvement Project will kick off in the New Year with lateral extensions to businesses on the north side of the Boulevard.

Plans for the construction of the Redwood Road Trunk sewer between Heyer Avenue and Castro Valley Boulevard is under discussion. CVSan is working hard to minimize inconvenience to the community. Please visit the Alameda County Redevelopment website, http://www.acgov.org/cda/redevelop/ for updates.

Sewer Management Plan Controls SSOs

Did you know, a sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) is any spill or overflow from the sewer system? SSOs include overflows that may or may not reach storm drains, creeks, the Bay, or other watersheds. SSOs include backups into residential and commercial buildings that result from blockages or flow conditions within both the public and private portions of the sewer system.

The goal of the Castro Valley Sanitary District (CVSan) Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) is to provide effective management, operation, and maintenance of all elements of the wastewater collection system. The Plan will help reduce the number of SSOs that occur, mitigate any negative impacts when overflows do happen, and prevent avoidable overflows.

School Custodians’ Vital Work with Food Scraps

Most schools in Castro Valley have robust food scrap recycling programs, and there are many people to thank for their amazing efforts in sustaining these programs. We want to take this opportunity to thank the custodians at Castro Valley Unified School District (CVUSD). Maintenance and Operations Supervisor Charlotte Irwin, Program Technician Carey Sanchez Para and their crew really go the extra mile to support waste reduction.

For example, many custodians take an active part in the lunchtime recycling program, assisting and guiding students to the correct bins and procedures. Just to name a few, Rosa Wu at Stanton (shown in picture, above), Tim DeForest at Creekside, Dan Polous at Independent, and substitute Randolf Paugeo at Castro Valley Elementary are custodians who help every day to make our recycling programs a success.

Great job and thank you to all CVUSD custodians!

Heads Up! Future Sewer Projects

Three CVSan Master Plan Projects are in planning and design stages for construction in summer 2012. One ongoing project, the Streetscape Sewer Improvement Project, also will be under construction. Locations that will be impacted by traffic delays and potential lane closures are:

- Redwood Road between Heyer Ave & Castro Valley Blvd. (C. V. Blvd.),
- Forest Ave north of C. V. Blvd.,
- Sandy Road between James Ave & Seven Hills Road,
- Madison Ave between Seven Hills Road & Seaview Ave,
- Seaview Ave between Sandy Road & Madison Ave

Tips: It is best to drop off pharmaceuticals in a plastic bag with a zip closure.

Join CVSan’s Earth Day Events on April 28th

CVSan will celebrate our glorious planet Earth with two Earth Day events. The first is a Clean-Up event; please register by April 16th at www.cvsan.org or call 510-537-0757 to beautify a community site from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Projects include litter removal, weed abatement, and planting of native plant species.

The second is a Recycle & Compost Give-Away where pharmaceuticals, reusable goods, and sensitive documents for shredding will be collected at Canyon Middle School from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Free bagged compost, from your organics cart, will be distributed at the event, limit three 1-cubic foot bags per household or business. Supplies are limited! Please note, participation in the Clean-Up is not required to receive free compost, however you must be a CVSan resident or business (bring ID). Visit www.cvsan.org for more information.

Lateral Replacement Grant Program (LRGP) is here to help

Approximately $16,000 in grant funds is still available to CVSan homeowners whose private sewer lateral needs replacing. If you qualify, the program reimburses 50% of the cost of replacement, up to a maximum of $2,000.

CVSan looks at the potential lateral defects (through televising of the line by your contractor) and how they affect the whole sewer system. For example, a sag in the lateral could be a bad problem for the homeowner, but doesn’t impact the sewer main; so, even though the line might need to be replaced, it might not be approved for the grant. The most critical defects include open joints that allow groundwater, grit, and soil to enter the main line. Large or open cracks are also big factors. Excessive roots push joints apart and widen cracks as well.

For more, please visit www.cvsan.org/lrgp or call (510) 606-1300.