General Manager’s Message

As we come to the close of 2019, I am proud of CVSan reaching the milestone of 80 years of service to the community. We have been part of the fabric of Castro Valley since our inception in 1939 and have become an industry leader as an award-winning zero waste and wastewater agency.

I hope you had a chance to stop by the CVSan pavilion at the Castro Valley Fall Festival in September. We showcased all aspects of our operation including Zero Waste initiatives, engineering projects, and wastewater maintenance operations, including live demonstrations of closed-circuit television, and our high-powered sewer cleaning equipment. We had a great time with each of the visitors to our booths.

Over the next several years, CVSan will continue to lead the industry in Zero Waste objectives by achieving more than 90 percent diversion by 2029 and will continue to exceed EPA and state wastewater regulations of minimal sewer overflows and resource management and renewal.

I am eager to take this journey together with the amazing people of Castro Valley. Let’s see what great things we can accomplish in the next 80 years. Happy anniversary!

Roland P. Williams, Jr.
General Manager

Zero Waste Week Schedule

Get ready for Zero Waste Week 2020! For this iteration of Zero Waste Week, CVSan is presenting two new events and some familiar ones. Have a look at the schedule for the week, taking place February 5th – 8th. Visit cvsan.org/zerowasteweek for more information and to RSVP for events.

Wednesday, February 5th – Tree Fruit Gleaning Event 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 6th – Cooking Workshop with the Zero Waste Chef 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Friday, February 7th – Movie Screening 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 8th – Fixit Clinic featuring Bike Repair and a Clothing Swap 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Make Zero Waste a part of your everyday life! Visit selectmystopath.org for tips to live a Zero Waste lifestyle.

Earth Day Clean-Up

Volunteers are needed for CVSan’s Earth Day Clean-Up on Saturday, April 25, 2020. CVSan will help with cleanup and beautification projects at schools and public sites, and we need your help! Please register to volunteer at cvsan.org/ed. For every volunteer, CVSan will make a five dollar donation to the charity of your choice. This year, the three charities are the Alameda County Library Foundation, Castro Valley Educational Foundation, and Hayward Area Recreation and Park District (H.A.R.D) Foundation. Don’t forget to select a charity when you arrive!
Reduce Your Waste Size

If you are a single-family resident, you are eligible to receive a one-time $50.00 credit by participating in the Reduce Your Waste Size program. To qualify for the program, downsize your garbage cart to a 20-gallon cart for at least one year. Simply call Alameda County Industries (ACI) at 510-483-1400 to inform them that you would like to participate and to schedule your cart exchange. Right-size your garbage cart to better represent the volume of garbage you actually send to the landfill, and save money at the same time. Visit cvsan.org/content/reduce-your-waste-size-program for more details.

Prevent Wasted Food

Does it go in the refrigerator, on the counter, or in the pantry? Answering this question for produce can extend the life of your favorite fruit and veggies and prevent wasted food. For example: avocados, peaches, and tomatoes are best stored on the counter to ripen first. Once ripe, they go in the refrigerator. Fruit such as mango, pineapple, and watermelon are best stored in the pantry. Vegetables like broccoli, carrots, and lettuce are best stored in the refrigerator, separately from fruit.

Find more tips from the Stop Food Waste Campaign’s Fruit and Veggie Storage Guide at stopfoodwaste.org/resources.

Remember the 3Ps - Pee, Poop, and Paper

CVSan would like to remind residents and businesses that only the 3Ps—pee, poop, and paper—belong in the sewer system. Any other materials, including so-called ‘flushable’ wipes, should never be flushed down a toilet or put down a drain, because they can cause sewer pipe blockages and pump damage. This can lead to sanitary sewer overflows and create a potential health hazard. So, please remember the 3Ps.

Prepare for the Rainy Season

During the rainy season, sewer pipes handle more water than usual. The impact of excess rainwater in our wastewater collection system creates a heightened risk of sanitary sewer overflows and backups in private sewer laterals (the pipe that connects your home to the public sewer main). Property owners can prepare by making sure private sewer laterals are equipped with a backflow prevention system and are in good working order. If you see water coming from a manhole or your backflow prevention system, call us at 510-537-0757 during business hours or 510-506-5821 after hours. For tips on how to prevent blockages, visit cvsan.org/callusfirst.

2020 and the Future

CVSan is launching a new website in 2020! Our staff has been working diligently on the design and content of the new website, which will provide easier navigation and user-friendly pages. The information will be refreshed and kept current, and there will be new features available such as the ability to publish maps to reflect the current projects occurring throughout Castro Valley. Along with the new website, CVSan will be implementing agenda management software resulting in easier access to Board and Committee meeting packets that consist not only of agendas, but also of supporting documents.

Recycles Day

CVSan’s next Recycles Day will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2020, at Canyon Middle School from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. CVSan residents and businesses can drop off textiles, used cooking oil, e-waste, documents for shredding, and tires, as well as pick up free compost and a voucher for construction and demolition debris drop-off (limited supply). Textiles include items such as clothing, towels, linens, bathmats, curtains, shoes, stuffed animals (clean and in good condition), area rugs, and carpet (must be in rolls that can be handled by one person). Visit cvsan.org/recyclesday for more details.