Sewer Service Rates, Connection Fees Increase

CVSD still among lowest in Bay Area

For the first time in more than five years, rates for sewer service in Castro Valley Sanitary District will increase. The $22 per year increase is needed to cover inflation to the District's cost of doing business. Even with the increase, the Sanitary District will still have the second lowest rate of the 16 sewer agencies in Alameda County—far lower than the Bay Area average rate. The new rate is $12.66 per month ($151 per year) and will continue to appear on residents' tax bills. It is scheduled to take effect on July 1.

The fee for new connections increased to $8,500 last January, based on a rate study performed by a local economist.

The Sanitary District is required by law to set rates which will pay for the operation, maintenance and eventual replacement of the sewer system and the treatment plant, of which CVSD owns a quarter interest. "Without this increase, the District would be forced to borrow money and pay interest to cover the required upgrades," says General Manager Roland Williams. "It is necessary to pay for the continued improvements in the quality of the wastewater collection system, the design and initial phase of the wastewater treatment plant upgrades and education programs that have helped make this community an environmental leader."

As this issue went to press, the rate increase, which is part of the District's 2002/03 budget, was set for adoption following a public hearing on May 7.

For more information, call CVSD at 510-537-0757.

Save Even More with LRGP

Replacing your leaky old sewer lateral? You'll be able to save even more if you take advantage of the District's Lateral Replacement Grant Program (LRGP) after July 1. The maximum $1,000 allotted per residence will be doubled to $2,000 (50% of the cost, or a maximum of $2,000) beginning in July. The program is available to all homeowners in CVSD who replace their entire lateral from the house to the connection to the public mainline. For more information—and before you hire a contractor—call the District at 510-537-0757.
President's Message

The Difference Is You in 2002

For a better environment and happier community, the difference is clearly YOU in 2002!

Boulevard and Redwood Road was an exciting and much needed program. I am proud to report that CVSD is the first jurisdiction in Alameda County to include food scrap recycling services. In April, every resident received a small kitchen pail with an informative brochure on the program at their door. April also saw a change of command at District offices. Mr. John Snyder retired as District Manager and Mr. Roland Williams is now the General Manager. Mr. Williams has worked for the District for more than seven years and intends to continue to make quality service the District's highest priority. As you have read in the cover article, the District will be increasing sewer service charges to cover the cost of providing service in this area. This increase, of approximately $1.85 per month for residential customers, has been postponed as long as possible. The last increase was in 1996. This change in the service rate will still place Castro Valley as one of the lowest in Alameda County and the State of California and that is very important to me and the rest of your Board of Directors.

As you read the articles in this issue, whether it be sewer, garbage, or recycling related, please remember that for a better environment and happier community the difference is clearly YOU in 2002.

HARRY FRANCIS
President

Collection System Projects Continue on Track

CASTRO VALLEY has seen its fair share of construction in the past few years from a variety of agencies, and the Sanitary District has become very sensitive to the concerns of the community. For that reason, the District performs its projects in a manner that has the least amount of impact to the traveling public and residents of the area. The District recently completed a sanitary sewer rehabilitation project ahead of the paving operations to be performed by Alameda County on Center Street. The project was bid, awarded and performed from January to April of 2002. Work near Creekside Middle School was performed during spring break to avoid interfering with traffic to and from the school. Other sanitary sewer projects have been conducted in conjunction with other agencies, such as East Bay Municipal Utility District's Southern Loop Project and the LAVWMA Export Line, to minimize traffic congestion and repeated inconvenience to local residents. The District's full time inspection assures compliance with plans to bring the projects in on time and on budget.
**WMAC Trucks Have a New Look**

The Waste Management of Alameda County (WMAC) trucks that pick up your garbage and recyclables have a brand-new look. In a single pass, these automated trucks can pick up garbage and recyclables. While it may appear that drivers are mixing it all together, the trucks are actually bi-level (see photo at right), with two compartments for collection.

It’s important to use the three carts provided by WMAC because these are specially designed to work with the new trucks, and not using them may cause an interruption in service. You’ll also need to place the three carts (garbage, recycling and greenwaste) 3 feet apart from each other (see below) and in the street against the curb by 6 a.m. on your collection day.

If you need a garbage, recycling or yardwaste cart, or if your service was missed, please call WMAC toll-free at 510-537-5500 (for missed service, you may also call CVSD at 510-537-1500).

District residents may also request one on-call bulky pickup per calendar year (Jan.–Dec.). Up to three appliances, three pieces of furniture, four tires and 3 cubic yards of garbage can be set out for collection. Call WMAC to schedule a pickup at 510-537-5500.

**Please Remember:**

- Don’t pack your carts too tightly.
- Be sure your cart lids are closed.
- Place any small pieces of paper or other materials in paper bags to minimize messes made when carts are emptied.

---

**Food Scrap Recycling: Easy As 1-2-3!**

By now, you should have received a green pail for recycling household food scraps—you know, those leftovers that usually wind up down the disposal or in the garbage. Food scraps, which account for about 20% of what goes to the landfill, will be taken to a facility and made into compost.

Food scrap recycling is as easy as 1-2-3. One, collect food scraps in your new pail. Two, empty its contents into your big greenwaste cart, the one you set out at the curb once a week. And three, set your cart (not the little green pail!) out for weekly pickup, as shown in the photos above. Keep your pail clean by lining it with newspaper, paper bags or milk or juice cartons (no plastic bags).

If your pail hasn’t arrived yet, call Waste Management of Alameda County at 510-537-5500. For other questions or concerns, call the District at 510-537-0987 or 537-1500.

Kitchen pail “dos” include all food leftovers and scraps including fruit, vegetables, cheese, bones, meat, poultry, seafood, bread, rice, beans, pasta, etc. Also acceptable are coffee grounds, filters and tea bags; food-soiled paper such as napkins, towels, pizza boxes and paper milk cartons, and paper bags and newspaper (to line pail and wrap food scraps).

DO NOT put the following in the pail: glass, metal, diapers or sanitary napkins, cans or bottles, liquids or plastic of any sort.

The program is completely voluntary, but remember—every bit we keep out of the landfill helps! Castro Valley residents have done a great job of recycling and now they have an opportunity to recycle even more. Food scrap recycling is easy...it’s free...and best of all, it’s good for our environment!
CVSD NewsNotes

Goodwill Industries
If you don’t need it maybe someone else does! A Goodwill Industries donation trailer will be at CVSD on May 18–19 (Sat. and Sun.), from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Goodwill is looking for usable clothing, housewares, toys, books and small appliances in working order. Questions? Call CVSD at 537-1500.

Used Tire/E-Waste Roundup is set for July 13
What do used tires and old computer monitors have in common? Both can be disposed of on July 13 at the District’s Tire/Electronic Waste Roundup Day! The event will be assisted by Davis Street Transfer Station and held at CVSD offices. There will be eight categories of electronic and electric waste that can be recycled at the event—everything from hair dryers to that old B&W television that’s cluttering your garage. Please note that the event is open to District residents only. Look in your next Waste Management bill for further information.

Pick up your free guide
Alameda County Recycling Guide 2002, a 42-page guide that tells you everything you need to know about recycling and source reduction, is now available. Drop by the District’s Marshall Street headquarters to pick up your copy today!

Rowell Ranch Rodeo Parade
As this issue went to press, District directors and staff were looking forward to participating in the Rowell Ranch Rodeo Parade. Our parade theme this year is echoed in the nameplate of our newly redesigned Pipeline: The Difference Is You in 2002. The float will feature a food scrap pail, the newest addition to our programs to reduce unnecessary waste to the landfill. A secondary motto was “We’ve got what it takes to take what you’ve got.” And we do!