Keep It Clean!

Castro Valley Community Celebrates Earth Day 2003

The rain didn’t dampen the spirits of the Castro Valley residents and Bay Area locals who enjoyed this year’s Earth Day events on April 12, held at the District offices. The 4th Annual Earth Day celebration included an Educational Festival, Castro Valley Community Clean-Up in partnership with Castro Valley Rotary Club, and 6K/1K Family Fun Run/Walk to benefit Boy Scouts Troop 708. The celebration brought together excited volunteers, speedy racers, and plenty of fun and free giveaways for attendees. 6K/1K participants won awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in their age and gender category.

Gardening tips, live animals, and hands-on activities were shared by groups with a desire to educate the public about conservation and local natural resources.

Kaulana Na Pua O Hawaii Dancers and the Eden Aoba Taiko Drummers provided live entertainment and Smokey The Bear was on hand. Volunteers rolled up their sleeves and picked up litter and debris from local streets, parks, sports fields, and hot spots, where litter is often found.

Marshall, Proctor, Stanton, and Chabot Elementary Schools recruited parents and students to beautify and tend to their campuses. Thank you to all our sponsors and volunteers. We hope to see you next year -- Earth Day is every day!

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Computer Round-Up

The District will be sponsoring a Computer Round-Up event which will be held on Saturday, July 26th from 9 am - 3 pm at Canyon Middle School for CVSD residents. This year’s event will accept computer-related items and television sets, which can otherwise be difficult to recycle. Acceptable items include: personal computers and laptops, computer monitors, cables, printers, keyboards, scanners, mice, speakers, and televisions. Items such as VCRs, vacuum cleaners, coffee pots, and other household electric items will not be accepted. See NewsNote article on page 4 regarding annual bulky clean-up collection of appliances, tires, etc.
Committed to the Highest Levels

When I was younger, service was a way of life. Store clerks were courteous, people were helpful and greeted you with a smile. I have not lost the sense that service separates the good organizations from the others. Service means providing the customer with respect and treating everyone fairly. It means finding ways to provide goods and services at a reasonable cost. Here at the Castro Valley Sanitary District, the Board and Staff are committed to providing the highest quality service. Sometimes, providing good service also means making tough fiscal decisions such as changing the date of the Board election.

The District changed the election date from the first Tuesday in November in odd-numbered years to the same day in even-numbered years. A town hall meeting was held to inform the community of this election consolidation. I sincerely hope the residents of Castro Valley clearly understand and appreciate the benefits of this action. This change will potentially save more than $300,000 in the next six years. This money is sorely needed to help balance the District’s budget without cutbacks which would compromise service to you. This service level has led to an award-winning collection and engineering department (see photo below).

This April, the District was awarded the Statewide Small Collection System of the Year Award from the California Water Environment Association.

The solid waste department continues to provide excellent service through its educational programs which include in-class presentations on recycling and wastewater treatment; outreach events such as Earth Day, Recycled Art Contest, Rowell Ranch Rodeo Parade and the Fall Festival to name a few. The District receives grant money for many of these public outreach programs which continue educating our residents about the value of reducing, reusing, and recycling. Service is key to the success of any organization and Castro Valley Sanitary District is committed to providing the highest level of service. We will continue to seek out new and innovative ways to improve our service while keeping costs down.

Dennis M. Waesp
President

Construction and Demolition Recycling Update

Construction and Demolition Debris continues to be a significant part of Alameda County’s waste stream, and we want to remind you that Castro Valley Sanitary District is doing its part to remedy that by requiring that fifty percent of such debris be recycled. All those doing construction and/or demolition projects within CVSD boundaries can pick up the necessary information and paperwork at the District office, 21040 Marshall Street, in Castro Valley. Remember, recycling your debris is easy, might save you some money, and it is the law. For more information contact Noelle at 510-537-0987 or noelle@cvsan.org.
From Rinds to Roses-Recycle your Food Scraps!

BY NOW, if you’re a Castro Valley Sanitary District resident you know that you can put your left-over food scraps and food-soiled paper in your greenwaste carts. But did you know that participating in this food scrap recycling is a way to close a loop in the recycling cycle? Here’s how it works: you buy the food, prepare and eat it, put your leftovers in your green pail (or a paper bag, juice/milk carton, etc.) and place it in the greenwaste cart. From there, the green & food waste (also called organics) is picked up by the greenwaste truck, where it goes to the composting facility and made into compost, which is used by farmers and landscapers. If you wonder why food-soiled paper can be added to the mix, remember that paper is made from trees and was once a living thing, which makes it organic, too! For more information contact Liz at 510-537-1500 or email liz@cvsan.org.

Trash, Recycling Rates Rise

EFFECTIVE MARCH 1st, the monthly rate for garbage, recycling and greenwaste was increased 1.58%, which amounts to six cents a week or 24 cents per month increase to the average customer. The modest adjustment covers increased costs of fuel, labor, transportation and disposal by Waste Management (WMAC, Inc.). Services include weekly collection of trash, recyclables, green waste and food scraps, used motor oil and filters, and latex paint. WMAC also provides an annual on-call curbside collection of bulky items from each customer residence. (See page 4.)

Projects Update

THE DISTRICT is continuing to make repairs and upgrades to the sewer system throughout Castro Valley. Projects include updating one of the largest pump stations, Pump Station #7, in the District near the intersection of East Castro Valley Blvd and Villareal Drive. 1300 feet of sewer mainline will be replaced near Elrod Drive and Haley Road. Two projects, primarily designed by District staff, will improve the quality of sewer service in Castro Valley. Completed projects include replacement of 50 feet of 18-inch sewer mainline near Crow Canyon Road.

Bag-Its
Now Available

IF YOU HAVE occasional extra trash, Bag-Its could be the answer for you. CVSD offices sell Bag-Its for just $2.50 for a 32 gallon bag which you fill with trash and place next to your garbage cart on collection day. (Limit 6 bags curbside per week.) You may purchase Bag-Its at CVSD offices - cash only or at WMAC offices in Hayward (22770 Main Street) or Oakland (172 - 98th Avenue) or call WMAC at 510-537-5500 to have the bags shipped to your home and billed to your account.

Household Hazardous Waste Dates

Drop-off dates for the Hayward Household Hazardous Waste facility, located at 2091 West Winton Avenue, will be June 5th, 6th & 7th.

Hours:
Thursday & Friday
9 am - 1 pm
Saturday
9 am - 11:30 am

For future dates, and additional days available by appointment - please call 1-800-606-6606
Board of Directors
Dennis M. Waespi, President
Ralph Johnson, President Pro Tem
Daniel M. Akagi, Secretary
Meyer S. Elkaim, Secretary Pro Tem
Harry Francis

Roland P. Williams, Jr., General Manager

Regular meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm in the District Board Room and are open to the public.

CVSD NewsNotes

Weekly Collection of:

Used Motor Oil:
Place up to 3, one-gallon oil jugs, furnished by WMAC, curbside for collection. WMAC will empty these oil jugs and return them to you, or they will leave replacement jugs for your next collection. Residents may also pick up oil jugs at CVSD District offices. Place oil filters in heavy plastic freezer bags.

Latex Paint:
Place up to 5, one-gallon containers of latex (water based) paint curbside for collection. Paint must be in original container with label identifying contents.

Recycled Art Contest
Recycled art entries will be accepted at CVSD between October 6 - 10, 2003.

It's never too early to be thinking about your entry for this year’s contest.

WMAC Trucks Have 2 Compartments
If you are out and about and happen to see the Waste Management trucks picking up your garbage and recycling, it may look as if the driver is mixing the two items. But if you look closely, you'll see the driver flip a switch between collections so that the garbage and recycling items are separated in the split-level trucks. Remember to place carts three feet apart, in the street against the curb by 6 am on your collection day.

Free Bulky Pick-Up
Did you know that every resident in the CVSD in a single-family dwelling, 4 units or less can have one FREE bulky pick-up per calendar year (January - December)? Items included are:
up to 4 passenger car or light truck tires
up to 3 large appliances
up to 2 cubic yards of garbage
up to 3 large furniture items
Trash must be bagged or boxed.
Tree prunings & branches (up to 6’ diameter) must be tied in bundles not longer than 4’.
To schedule your pick-up, call WMAC at 510-537-5500.

Kreature Komforts
Dropping off clean, reusable linens - towels, sheets, and blankets - for local animal shelters is an ongoing program at CVSD. Kreature Komforts was started in October 2001 in celebration of Second Chance Week, a statewide event.
The response has been met with overwhelming enthusiasm and hardly a week goes by that staff doesn't drop off a car load of comforts to keep our four-legged friends dry and warm. Donations are accepted year round, Monday - Friday during business hours 7:30 am - 4:30 pm.