**Project EARTH 2004**  Honoring Earth Day

**How Can I Help Make Castro Valley a Nice Place to Live and Work?** On Saturday, May 1, 2004 at CVSD’s Project EARTH 2004, there will be three opportunities to help! **First** - use your feet to move you in the 5th annual 5K Run/Walk, to raise funds for Castro Valley Sports Foundation (www.cvsfs.org). The Foundation is raising funds to modernize the sports facility at Castro Valley High School (CVHS) for students and the community. This year’s new flat and fast course will go from CVSD to CVHS and back! Register by April 9, 2004 for early registration discounts - $20 Adults, $10 Youth; participants will receive an event T-shirt and energy breakfast. Registration brochures are available at CVSD offices and online at our event website, www.cvsan.org/earthday04. **Second** - take a practical and hands-on opportunity on May 1st to beautify our streets and neighborhoods by participating in the 2nd annual Community Clean-Up; meet at 9:00 am at a location near you. Visit our event website for more details and to see participating Castro Valley schools. All volunteers will receive materials for the day, a free event T-shirt and lunch! And **third** - celebrate the community’s efforts at our free Festival that same day at CVSD on Marshall St from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Enjoy educational booths, fun hands-on activities, games, arts, live entertainment, and give-aways! For more information visit our event website or contact Naomi at (510) 537-0757 or naomi@cvsan.org.

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**Don’t Throw Money Down the Drain**

Sending food scraps down the sink’s garbage disposal is the easy way to make them “go away.” But don’t flip that switch! The garbage disposal uses extra electricity, increases the amount of wastewater treated, and can potentially add to sewer blockages - all of which ultimately cost money and can raise sewer rates. Instead, you can add your food scraps, along with food-soiled paper, to your yard clippings, to be turned into useful compost. CVSD was first in Alameda County to start a food scrap recycling program, which is incorporated in your greenwaste costs. Now other areas have begun the program. Residents in Fremont, Alameda, Pleasanton and San Leandro will also be adding their food scraps to their greenwaste containers - and to the composting process. For more information contact Noelle at (510) 537-0987 or noelle@cvsan.org.
Looking Back, Looking Forward

THE Castro Valley Sanitary District (CVSD) will be 65 years old this year. As the incoming president I am looking to the future of the District, but I can’t help also looking back at how the District first came to be.

In the District’s newsletter of that era, “The Progress Report,” the following was reported to the public: In 1931 voters approved for East Bay Municipal Utility District to bring water service to Castro Valley. This gave landowners in Castro Valley a chance to develop large parcels of land into smaller home sites. With water coming to the area it was necessary to think about disposal of the wastewater generated from these home sites.

In August of 1939 the citizens of Castro Valley voted the Castro Valley Sanitary District into existence. This was largely due to the efforts of the Castro Valley Chamber of Commerce and its secretary, Gerald Worthley. The Chamber of Commerce continues its relationship with the District to this day.

The newly formed Castro Valley Sanitary District next obtained a grant from the Federal Work Projects Administration (WPA) to construct the initial sewage collection system. This sewage system is still in place today, and is the backbone of the wastewater collection pipe network in Castro Valley.

In 2004 CVSD is preparing to enter into another joint project, this time with Oro Loma Sanitary District. The wastewater treatment plant, which we co-own with Oro Loma, is undergoing a major modernization that will cost approximately $25,000,000. CVSD’s share of this cost will be 25%, or $6,250,000. We applied for State grant funds as our predecessors did in 1940, but with the State’s poor economic condition these funds may not be available for a few years. Because we are under order from the Regional Quality Control Board to complete this modernization before the funds become available, both Districts have decided to dedicate reserve funds to finance the project to avoid a radical increase in sewer service rates. Construction should begin later this year.

Castro Valley Sanitary District continues to be committed to the highest levels of wastewater and solid waste service to the community, as it has been since the beginning some 65 years ago.

Ralph Johnson, President

Getting to the Root of the Matter

AHHH—Springtime, flowers, planting trees...wait! Before you plant that lovely new tree, take some time to think about just what, and where, you’re planting. We often don’t think about just how aggressive tree roots can be, creating blockage in sewer pipes and even damaging them. These roots enter the pipes through tiny cracks in search of moisture. Once inside the pipe, the roots flourish and eventually fill the pipe. To help control this problem, we need to be reminded that the house’s sewer lateral is the responsibility of the property owner. The best way to perform preventative maintenance is to schedule regular cleaning of your lateral. And to help avoid the problem in the first place remember to:

1. Know where your sewer (continued on Page 3)
Engineering Projects

CVSD’s Engineering department has been working to keep our sewer system in good working order around Castro Valley. Among the projects happening:

Small Underground Repairs Annual Projects will make 45 repairs to the public sanitary sewers; each repair typically lasts two days, and the projects are scheduled to be done by July.

2005 Wastewater Collection System Master Plan will highlight areas in the District’s wastewater system that require improvements and modifications. The plan, to be undertaken by a selected consultant, will take approximately two years to complete.

Vergil & Grove Sewer Replacement will use a trenchless replacement method known as pipe-bursting to replace the existing sewer line. Pipe-bursting will reduce disruption to traffic and minimize the impact to local residents. Construction is planned for the fall this year.

Pump Station No. 7 Rehabilitation will repair Pump Station No. 7, located on Villareal Drive. The rehab project will comply with current legislation and regulations governing the wastewater industry, and is anticipated to be finished by June 2004.

Lateral Replacement Grant Program (LRGP)
The District has continued this successful grant program. By July 1, 2004, the District anticipates to continue the program if funds are available.

Awards

CASTRO VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT CAME HOME a winner! Tim Helton, Sr. was named the 2003 Collection System Person of the Year and Sergio Ramirez was named the 2003 Collection System Supervisor of the Year by the California Water Environmental Association. The award recognizes personal and professional achievements, environmental compliance, and hard work. Tim Helton, Sr. has been at CVSD since 1986, and this is Sergio Ramirez’s second professional award. We are proud to provide great service to the residents of the Castro Valley Sanitary District.

Root of the Matter continued from Page 2

line is. If you’re not sure, check the Yellow Pages for a pipe-finding service under “Pipe and Leak Locating.” Plant away from your pipes.

2. Know what to plant.
Certain types of trees and shrubbery have root systems that are quite aggressive, and best planted away from your pipes. A list compiled by the Contra Costa Sanitary District includes poplar, willow, ash, elm and birch as having especially vigorous roots, and large trees such as eucalyptus, pine and cypress can also be problematic. 3. If a tree continually causes problems, you may want to have the tree removed - but be sure all roots are removed, as they can continue to grow underground. Please check with an arborist and/or a licensed tree removal service for assistance.

Recycled Paper Presentations

FOR THE PAST 6 YEARS, Castro Valley Sanitary District has offered recycling programs to local third-grade classes and over 3,000 students have gone through the program so far. The children learn about the four R’s - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rot, and have a hand at making recycled paper. So far this year, 13 classes have had presentations. Morning and afternoon programs are scheduled on Thursdays in the District’s Board room. The students are given a tour of District offices and learn about the many different uses of the District’s vehicles. The children leave with a more thorough understanding of the 4 R’s and the District’s role in the community.

Need Some Help?

Report Sewer Emergency: During business hours - (510) 537-0757 After hours - (510) 506-5821

Missed Garbage Service: Waste Management of Alameda County (WMAC) (510) 537-5500
Board of Directors
Ralph Johnson, President
Daniel M. Akagi, President Pro Tem
Meyer S. Elkaim, Secretary
Harry Francis, Secretary Pro Tem
Dennis M. Waespi

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

Goodwill Industries Trailer
A Goodwill Industries donation trailer is now located at the 580 Marketplace behind 24-Hour Fitness on East Castro Valley Blvd. Drop-off hours are from 10:30 am - 5:00 pm, 7 days a week, rain or shine. This is a great way to recycle those items you no longer need! Please contact Goodwill Industries with any questions at 1-888-4GOODWILL.

Kreature Komforts
Dropping off clean, reusable linens such as towels, sheets and blankets for local animal shelters is an ongoing program at CVSD. Kreature Komforts was started in October 2001 to celebrate Second Chance Week, a statewide event. The program has been received with overwhelming enthusiasm. Donations are accepted year round, Monday - Friday during business hours 7:30 am - 4:30 pm.

Construction and Demolition
In keeping with its work toward reaching the goal of 75% diversion mandated by the County for the year 2010, Castro Valley Sanitary District is continuing to require that anyone doing building and/or demolition projects within the Sanitary District area must recycle at least 50% of what is generated by the project. Information on compliance with this procedure is available for all CVSD building permit applicants at the Castro Valley Sanitary District office, 21040 Marshall Street. Contact Noelle at (510) 537-0987 or noelle@cvsan.org.

Workers Comp Costs Under Control
Castro Valley Sanitary District is proudly approaching a milestone - we are at 42 months of zero work hours lost due to injuries. Part of this achievement is made possible by having continuous safety meetings and periodic safety trainings which include all departments.