

# INSIDE ORO LOMA



## ORO LOMA SANITARY DISTRICT OPEN HOUSE

### JOIN US!

**Take a tour, meet our people, and enjoy a day of education and fun with Oro Loma Sanitary District.**

**WHERE:** Oro Loma/Castro Valley Treatment Facility  
2600 Grant Avenue, San Lorenzo, CA 94580

**WHEN:** **MAY 11, 2019 | 10:00am - 2:00pm**

**WHAT:**

- ⚙️ Treatment Plant Tours
- ★ Student Recognition
- ♻️ Hands-on Activities – Fun for the Whole Family
- ✂️ Complimentary Eats and Treats

[www.OroLoma.org](http://www.OroLoma.org) | [f OroLomaSD](https://www.facebook.com/OroLomaSD)

WASTEWATER  
SOLID WASTE  
& RECYCLING

*Serving Our  
Community,  
Protecting Our  
Environment*

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# Cogeneration Engine Rebuild

The District has been energy neutral for the past eight years, thanks to energy efficiency improvements, a large solar array, and a cogeneration system that uses biomethane from the process to produce heat and electricity. Our cogeneration engines have produced more than \$20M worth of electricity over their 28-year life and are scheduled to remain in service for another six years. Our Maintenance Department's expertise in maintaining and rehabilitating these engines helps keep our sewer rates and carbon footprint to a minimum.

A rebuild of the cogeneration engine is now underway. District Mechanics Rob Fletcher, Jeff Hansen, and Sam Lahey are leading the 2019 effort, with help from Peterson Power Systems of San Leandro. District staff have pre-ordered the parts and expect the cogeneration system to be back in service in five weeks. These rebuilds happen every six years and have doubled the life of the Oro Loma cogen system compared to the useful life of a typical system. Taking care of our existing equipment and planning for our future is part of how Oro Loma provides excellent service to our community.



The cogeneration engine being removed by crane for rehabilitation

## Think Before You Toss!

Through its partner, Waste Management, Oro Loma Sanitary District provides trash collection, residential recycling, and green waste/organics collection services to 45,000 residential customers.

To minimize the amount of trash that goes to the landfill, it is important that recycling and green waste carts only contain permitted items. Please do your part by observing the following steps:

- Recycling cart: Items should be empty, clean, dry, and free of food and liquids.
- Green waste (organics) cart: No plastic, glass, or metal.

For a full-sized version of this service brochure, please visit [OroLoma.org/think-before-you-toss](http://OroLoma.org/think-before-you-toss)

### RECYCLABLES



Landfill



Compostables



HHW

### COMPOSTABLES



Landfill



Recyclables



HHW



#### Used Batteries & Motor Oil

Put old household batteries in a sealed plastic bag on top of the recycling cart. Put motor oil jugs and filter next to cart.



#### Food Waste Collection

Use a kitchen food pail, other reusable containers, or collect with paper bags or newspaper, then dispose into green waste cart.

# 10-Year Strategic Vision and Goals

The Board is set to adopt an updated 10-Year Strategic Vision and Goals Plan at its May 21, 2019 meeting, at a special time of 6 p.m. The plan lays out several challenges that the District faces and details its commitment to meeting these challenges and maintaining the lowest sewer service charges in the Bay Area.

*The Plan reflects our desire to improve our reliability and partner with our community to help improve the environment.*

To maintain the District's strong record of compliance with regional, state, and federal regulations and to continue its high standards of reliability, the plan commits to significant upgrades to its sewer collection system. These include identifying and replacing sewer pipes with structural defects and removing root intrusions throughout the system.

The strategic plan builds on the substantial progress made in addressing issues identified in prior plans. In FY

2017/18, the District replaced a record five miles of collection system pipe.

The 10-Year Strategic Plan also envisions sending a generation of employees into retirement without injury, responding well to new regulations, proactively communicating with the public,

managing for the highest long-term value, and achieving further excellence in the wastewater industry.

The plan also addresses growing challenges related to reduced global demand for recycled material. Also included in the plan is a study to identify opportunities and costs for non-potable (non-drinking) recycled water projects, such as using treated wastewater for irrigation and industry.

Given the ever-changing environment, the strategic goals document will be updated again in 2021.

## Don't Forget

### In my own words...



Names of students whose entries were chosen in the Oro Loma 2019 Schools Outreach Project will be posted on OroLoma.org on Earth Day, April 22. The students will be recognized at the Oro Loma Open House on May 11, 2019. Students may also arrange to pick up their awards at the District office on Grant Avenue.

### Fats, Oil, and Grease (FOG) clog plumbing and sewer pipes.

When you pour FOG down the drain, the fats, oils, and grease don't go away. They stay around to clog your plumbing and sewer pipes. Pour used cooking oil into a sealable container and bring it to one of Alameda County's household hazardous waste sites for recycling.



## Wastewater Collection Corner

"Disposable" and "flushable" wipes do not break down in water. They collect and clog household plumbing and sewer mains.

Sewer main overflows pose a serious threat to San Francisco Bay. Clogged plumbing in a home can cause problems that are difficult and expensive to clean up.

**Do not flush anything but toilet paper and human waste.**

"Flushable" wipes need to be manually removed from wastewater stream.





Oro Loma Sanitary District  
2655 Grant Avenue  
San Lorenzo, CA 94580

**Oro Loma Sanitary District Office 24/7 Emergency Response (510) 276-4700**

**Waste Management (510) 613-8710**

**Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste (800) 606-6606**

**BOARD MEETINGS—OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**First and third Tuesdays of every month**

**Visit [OroLoma.org](http://OroLoma.org) for meeting dates and times**

## *What's New*

### **Sewer Service Charges**

An increase to the Oro Loma Sanitary District Sewer Service Charges will go into effect July 1, 2019. The 7.5% increase is part of a five-year plan approved by the Board on May 17, 2016. The 2019 sewer service charge for single-family residential customers becomes \$275/year (from \$256/year). The new rate remains the lowest in Alameda County.

### **Sewer System Management Plan**

Since 2004, the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board has required all wastewater treatment facilities in the San Francisco Bay Area to develop detailed Sewer System Management Plans (SSMP). The SSMP outlines the management, operation, and maintenance of the facility's collection system. The District, which has had an active sewer system management program since 1988, published its first SSMP on January 28, 2005. On February 5, 2019, the Board approved an updated SSMP. More information on the District's SSMP and its award-winning collection system are at [OroLoma.org](http://OroLoma.org).

## *Retired*



### **Ray Green**

Ray was hired in 2005 as a Utility Worker Trainee and promoted to Mechanic I in 2007. His commitment to maintaining the District's 14 lift stations helped prevent overflows and protect the environment. Ray plans to spend time with family, listening to music, and fishing.



### **Sally Green**

Sally was hired in 2003 as an Office Aide and promoted to District Secretary in 2010. Sally played a key role in the District's Schools Outreach Program and its recycling program. She plans to spend time in the sun with her children, grandchildren, and husband, Ray.



### **Lenny Rather**

Lenny was hired as a Collection System Worker in 1991 and promoted to Supervisor of Field Maintenance (later Collection System Manager) in 1997. His motto was "Treat Every Customer Like Family." He plans to spend his retirement fishing on the Bay.



### **Gene McCutcheon**

Gene was hired in 2014 as a Plant Operator II and worked around the clock, seven days a week, to protect the environment. With over 30 years in the wastewater industry, Gene was a mentor to a new generation of operators.

