Oro Loma and Waste Management Honor Earth Day 2013 Poster Contest Winners at Awards Ceremony

A festive ceremony was held on Tuesday, May 28, 2013 in the Titan Auditorium of the Marina Community Center in San Leandro to honor the winners of the 19th annual Oro Loma/Waste Management Earth Day Poster Contest.

Well over 2,000 students from schools all across Oro Loma submitted entries in the contest, which was open to all Oro Loma Sanitary District students in grades K-12 attending a school that is served by Waste Management. The theme of this year’s contest, “It’s Your Bay—Keep It Clean,” asked students to show they can help keep this amazing resource we call San Francisco Bay clean and healthy.

Prize categories included a Recycling Star Kindergarten group in which five students won $100 each. Cash prizes of $150 for First Place, $500 for Second Place, $300 for Third Place, and $150 for Honorable Mention (two) were awarded in six grade groups from first to twelfth grades. Matching cash prizes were awarded to the winning students’ schools. Schools that submitted eligible entries but had no winners were given $100 Participation Awards. Ten Certificate of Merit winners in the six 1-12 grade groups received $25 each. In all, $25,400 was awarded to students and schools in Oro Loma Sanitary District.

Bolohan Middle School at 1,550, San Lorenzo High School at 1,450, and Arroyo High School at 1,350 were the schools with the most prizes this year.

On Earth Day, April 22, students found out they were winners, but it wasn’t until the awards ceremony on May 28 that they found out if they had won a First, Second, Third Place or Honorable Mention award.

A complete list of winners with links to their posters can be found on the District’s website, www.oroloma.org.

2014 Poster Contest

For 20 years, Oro Loma and Waste Management have teamed up to sponsor a poster contest that promotes environmental awareness among students in the District.

The 2014 contest theme, “Recycling A through Z,” asks students to show they understand recycling isn’t something you just do on your recycling pickup day. Recycling is something you do every day and in every way.

The contest starts January 21, 2014 and ends March 21, 2014. Winners will be announced on Earth Day, April 22, 2014. A formal awards ceremony, where the placement of winners is announced, will be held on May 28, 2014.

Helpful Reminders

Your toilet is not a trash can!

Here are some things that don’t belong in your toilet:

- disinfecting wipes
- most soaps
- baby wipes
- dental floss
- hair
- bandages
- sanitary products

Sewer Service Charges 2013-2014

On June 7, 2011, the Oro Loma Board adopted Ordinance No. 37-27, authorizing that sewer service charges be approved by resolution. At the same time, the Board evaluated the sewer service charges and the District’s cash position for the next five years, and determined that, in the absence of annual increases, the Oro Loma cash position in Fiscal Year 2015-2016 would be less than half of the level of reserves established by the Board. Consequently, the Board provided all property owners with written notice regarding a proposed 3% per year increase in sewer service charges for the following five years, and held a public hearing on the matter. Objections to the proposed increase were not made by the owners of a majority of separate parcels of property in the District, so the Board adopted a schedule of sewer service charges for the five fiscal years.

Effective July 1, 2013, the minimum annual sewer service charge for Oro Loma customers is $158, which is the equivalent of the lowest annual residential rate. Following are the 2013-2014 residential sewer service charges:

- Single Family Dwelling $195/year
- Multiple Family Dwelling $195/year
- Mobile Homes/House Trailers $158/year

Mandatory Commercial and Multi-Family Recycling

Under state law AB341, all commercial enterprises and public entities that generate four or more cubic yards of garbage per week, and multi-family housing complexes with five or more units are required to adopt recycling practices. All businesses and housing units covered under this law had until June 30, 2013 to have recycling programs in place. Oro Loma is pleased to announce that all multi-family dwellings in the District subject to the requirements of AB341 are in compliance.

Under this California law, those who do not comply are subject to fines and fees. Waste Management can provide customers with free waste and recycling assessments to meet their needs and bring them into compliance. To set up a waste and recycling assessment appointment for your business or multi-family housing complex, call Waste Management at (510) 613-8710.

For details on the 2013-2014 sewer service charges, please visit us online at www.oroloma.org, and click on the Sewer Use section.

Accountability Report to Our Customers—Fiscal Year 2013-2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Accomplishment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Safety/Risk Management</td>
<td>No lost time injuries in five years. Awarded California Sanitation Risk Management Authority’s Safety, Health, Environmental, Liability and Losses (SHELL) Award for outstanding risk management practices—one winner statewide.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewer Service Rates</td>
<td>Lowest known rates in California for collection and treatment! 62% Lower than Alameda County average.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solid Waste and Recycling</td>
<td>Among lowest in Alameda County—rates 36% lower than the average.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal Health</td>
<td>Zero debt; all bonds paid. Ongoing $11M dollar Digester Facilities Upgrade to be paid from available reserves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment Performance</td>
<td>Met or exceeded all effluent treatment requirements for the past nine years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy, Efficiency, and Sustainability</td>
<td>Generated 933,000 kW of Solar Power. Received 2,057,000 gallons of diluted restaurant grease, contributing to the production of 111 million cubic feet of digester gas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sewer System Performance</td>
<td>Zero overflows for the fiscal year. Second “no spill” in the District’s 101 year history. Continuing ongoing infrastructure renewal program, replacing 2.3 of 280 miles of sewer system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Information/Transparency</td>
<td>Budget, Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Audited Financial Statements, Board and Committee Meeting Minutes, and Salary Schedules prepared and posted to District website.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer Service</td>
<td>We still answer the phone with a live and knowledgeable person 24 hours a day—usually by the second ring. Our response time for sewer trouble calls is under 10 minutes during working hours.</td>
</tr>
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