



ORO LOMA NEWS

San Lorenzo, CA

(510) 276-4700

www.roloma.org

Summer 2013

Issue 62

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Inside

- Earth Day 2013 Poster Contest Awards Ceremony
- Earth Day 2014 Poster Contest
- Mandatory Commercial and Multi-Family Recycling
- Helpful Reminders
- Sewer Service Charges 2013-2014
- Accountability Report
- Spotlight on Excellence Patricia Bocsan, Kristopher Decker, Samuel Bobbitt, Brian Charvet, Arlene Wong, Pearl Gonzalez

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Update on Construction of Two New Digesters

In April of this year, the District started the construction of two new 1-million gallon anaerobic digesters. Construction is on schedule and is approximately 35% complete. The anticipated completion date is October 2014.

Available reserves will supply the entire funding for the project. The District's reserve policy is structured to provide funding for the renewal of the plant's infrastructure. This includes the existing digester system, dating to 1948, which is nearing the end of its reliable life. The digesters constructed today are expected to deliver 75 years of service.

The construction of the new digesters will insure that the system has capacity to accommodate biological upsets, maintenance shutdowns,

and/or a major earthquake. Digesters are used to stabilize solids that are separated from the treated effluent. This reduces pathogens and odors, and makes the resulting product attractive for a variety of uses. Methane, which is produced during the digestion process, is captured and used by two engines to produce electricity. Along with the power from the District's solar array, this is enough to make the plant electrically self-sufficient.

The new digesters will also provide flexibility in plant operations when an existing digester needs to be maintained. The new digesters will incorporate fixed concrete covers, pumped mixing and withdrawal, and allow for grease receiving.



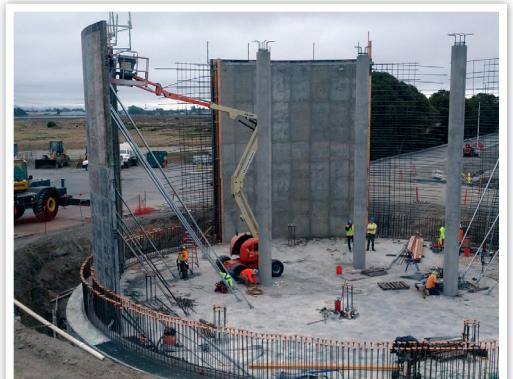
Excavation of Digester 6 (front) and Digester 7 (back)



Installation of concrete piles with pile driving rig



Installation of rebar cage for Digester 6 walls



Concrete walls and interior columns for Digester 6 with interior forms removed

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 \$700 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.

Bohannon 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.roloma.org.

Helpful Reminders

Your toilet is not a trash can!
Here are some things that don't belong in your toilet:

- disinfecting wipes
- moist towelettes
- baby wipes
- dental floss
- hair
- bandages
- sanitary products

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.

ORO LOMA/WASTE MANAGEMENT 20TH ANNUAL EARTH DAY POSTER CONTEST



RECYCLING "A" THROUGH "Z"



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.

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 District 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

Fees for Monitoring and Wastewater Discharge Permits		
User Classification	Annual Permit Fee	Annual Monitoring Service Fee
Significant Industrial User (Categorical)	\$649	\$8,183
Significant Industrial User (Non-Categorical)	\$649	\$10,770
Intermediate Users	\$649	\$2,774
Minor User	\$649	Fees to be determined
Special Discharge Permit		Volume Discharge Fee
Groundwater	\$649	\$2.510/100 cf water
Swimming Pools	\$163	N/A
Other Discharges	\$76 (minimum)	Fees to be determined

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

Subject	Accomplishment
Safety/Risk Management	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.
Sewer Service Rates	Lowest known rates in California for collection and treatment! 62% Lower than Alameda County average.
Solid Waste and Recycling	Among lowest in Alameda County—rates 36% lower than the average.
Fiscal Health	Zero debt; all bonds paid. Ongoing \$11M dollar Digester Facilities Upgrade to be paid from available reserves.
Treatment Performance	Met or exceeded all effluent treatment requirements for the past nine years.
Energy, Efficiency, and Sustainability	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.
Sewer System Performance	Zero overflows for the fiscal year. Second "no spill" year in the District's 101 year history. Continued ongoing infrastructure renewal program, replacing 2.3 of 280 miles of sewer system.
Public Information/Transparency	Budget, Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Audited Financial Statements, Board and Committee Meeting Minutes, and Salary Schedules prepared and posted to District website.
Financial Reporting	Awarded the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of USA and Canada Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting—19 Years in a Row.
Customer Service	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.



Oro Loma Sanitary District
2655 Grant Avenue
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Theme for
2014 Poster
Contest
Announced

Spotlight on Excellence

NEW EMPLOYEES



Patricia Bocsan,
Office Assistant

Patricia was hired as an Office Assistant in June 2013. In addition to providing customer support, she is responsible for the District's Accounts Payable, and assists the Engineering and Administrative staff. She is working towards a degree in Business Administration and looks forward to a long career with the District. Before working at Oro Loma, she worked at her father's remodeling company. In her spare time, Patricia enjoys being with her large family.



Kristopher Decker,
Field Engineer

Kris had been working as a contractor with the District since 2008. On June 6, 2013, he joined Oro Loma as a Field Engineer. An amazing staff, the opportunity to work on exciting projects, the chance to gain skills under professional engineers such as Bill Halsted and Jimmy Dang, and the potential to advance his career make Kris thrilled with his new job. He hopes to continue making Oro Loma the best wastewater treatment plant in the Bay Area.



Samuel Bobbitt,
Collection System Worker

Sam started with Oro Loma on April 1, 2013 as a Collection System Worker. Sam had worked for some time in the wastewater collection field, and when an opportunity arose to work for the District, he immediately applied. Sam was particularly drawn to the award-winning reputation of Oro Loma's wastewater Collections Department. He says this job is the best he's ever had; he loves it.



Brian Charvet,
Plant Operator II

Brian joined Oro Loma as a temporary maintenance worker in March 2013, after completing a year-long internship with the District. In August of this year, he was hired as a full-time Operator. As an Operator, Brian monitors the plant's wastewater treatment process to ensure its peak performance. The District's medium size allows him to get involved with a variety of tasks and people, while still allowing him to concentrate on specific jobs as needed.

PROMOTIONS



Arlene Wong,
Finance Manager

Arlene began her career with Oro Loma as a Junior Accountant in 1995 and was promoted to Accountant in 2003. She gained a wealth of knowledge on government finance from her mentor Anna Wilewski-Turon (former Finance Manager). Arlene has been a part of the District's continuous achievement of Govern-

ment Finance Officers Association's Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting, and was instrumental in the successful conversion of the District's accounting system earlier this year. Her greatest joy in working at Oro Loma comes from the culture of consistency and teamwork within the organization, where everyone brings valuable expertise for the common goal of serving the community. With Anna's retirement in May 2013, Arlene was promoted to the Finance Manager position and truly valued the opportunity. In her spare time, Arlene enjoys photography, traveling, and activities with her husband Chris and children Jonathan and Praise.



Pearl Gonzalez,
Accountant

In 2012, Pearl joined Oro Loma as an Office Assistant. Only one year later, she was promoted to the position of Accountant. Pearl credits Sally Green, the District Secretary, with teaching her office operations, and Arlene Wong, the District's new Finance Manager, with training her on the financial requirements of

Oro Loma. In her new position, Pearl hopes to find ways to simplify and improve current administrative procedures. Pearl has a nine-month-old baby girl (also named Pearl) and two sons, Hector and Alexis.