

PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID OAKLAND CA PERMIT NO. 544



Oro Loma Wins SHELL Award

## New Website Lets Alameda County Residents Win Prizes and Learn about Food Scrap Recycling



Want to win prizes for stepping up your food scrap recycling game? Ready Set Recycle, which provides Alameda County residents with resources and rewards for reducing their waste, has a new website, www.ReadySetRecycle.org, chockfull of opportunities to learn about food scrap recycling and win prizes while doing so.

With the new Recycling Rewards program, residents can win \$25 prizes each month by logging in and completing various challenges, such as answering a set of food scrap recycling trivia questions; taking a pledge to recycle; and engaging with StopWaste via Facebook and Twitter.

Residents who complete the challenges will be entered into a drawing and winners can choose from a variety of prizes, such as a CSA produce box, a Peet's Coffee & Tea gift card, a bag of compost, and a donation to a local food bank.

Other Ready Set Recycle website features include:

- Recycle Where?
- Sorting Tips
- Recycling in Your School
- Recycling in Your City

To learn more about Ready Set Recycle or enter the new Recycling Rewards challenge, visit www.ReadySetRecycle.org.

## **NEW BENCHMARKING SERVICE FROM STOPWASTE**

Stopwaste, Alameda County's waste management authority, is introducing a new benchmarking fee and service. Stopwaste will study what is being thrown away as trash, and identify how much of that trash could be recycled or composted. A report will be prepared showing the results for a given service area, and mailed to all residents within the county. The report summarizes the findings of the study, and provides suggestions on how to decrease trash levels. Stopwaste is charging an annual fee of \$1.81 per residential account with one cart of trash service per week.

## **OPT OUT OF BENCHMARKING FEE**

After receiving the first benchmarking service report (scheduled for January 2014), residents will have a 60-day window to opt out of paying the fee and receiving the report. To opt out, visit <a href="www.StopWaste.Org/benchmark">www.StopWaste.Org/benchmark</a> or email <a href="mailto:benchmark@stopwaste.org">benchmark@stopwaste.org</a> within 60 days of receiving the first benchmarking report. Residents who do not opt out within this time frame will continue paying the benchmarking fee and receiving reports as long as they reside in Alameda County.

President's Message continued from page 1

and standard practices. After those three years, the District was ready to apply.

Winning the SHELL award was a strategic goal established by the Oro Loma Board of Directors in our 10-year plan. The Board recognized the award's focus and value of proactive risk control across all phases of the District's operation. After the win, staff requested and obtained the applications from the competitors. This year, staff will audit the best practices in the state and select those to incorporate into our practices. It is another way the District works to maximize the public's investment in its infrastructure and protect the environment.