



ORO LOMA NEWS

San Lorenzo, CA

(510) 276-4700

www.roloma.org

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Issue 63

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Oro Loma Sanitary District
2655 Grant Avenue
San Lorenzo, CA 94580
(510) 276-4700
www.roloma.org
Questions: info@roloma.org

Emergency 24/7 Phone
(510) 276-4700

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Oro Loma Wins SHELL Award for Excellent Risk Management Practices

Oro Loma Sanitary District was awarded the 2013 California Sanitation Risk Management Authority's Safety, Health, Environmental, Liability, and Loss (SHELL) Award in August 2013. The award recognizes the top agency among the 43 water/wastewater agencies participating in the self insurance cooperative—recognizing excellence in risk management categories that include safety, employee health, environmental practices, employment practices, and general liability.

The primary goal of the award is to encourage proactive risk control, as opposed to reactive methods. Historically, risk control involved studying losses and how to prevent them. Best practices today involve the collection and assessment of forward-looking indicators. Examples of such indicators include surveys of employee attitudes toward safety, anonymous inquiries to determine if employees know how to do their jobs safely, encouraging the reporting of mistakes, and conducting regular audits of existing procedures to identify "drift" away from the standard. As an example, if employees report that they perform work they do not know how to safely perform, an organization may be a prime candidate for a loss.

On the liability and environmental protection



categories, the District has implemented best practices to train on emergency response, and discuss potential hazards when performing complex or infrequent tasks. This year during a pump station bypass exercise, the discharge hose ruptured. If the hose had failed in a real event, the result could have been a sewage spill into the environment. These types of proactive testing and drills are what the SHELL award encourages and recognizes.

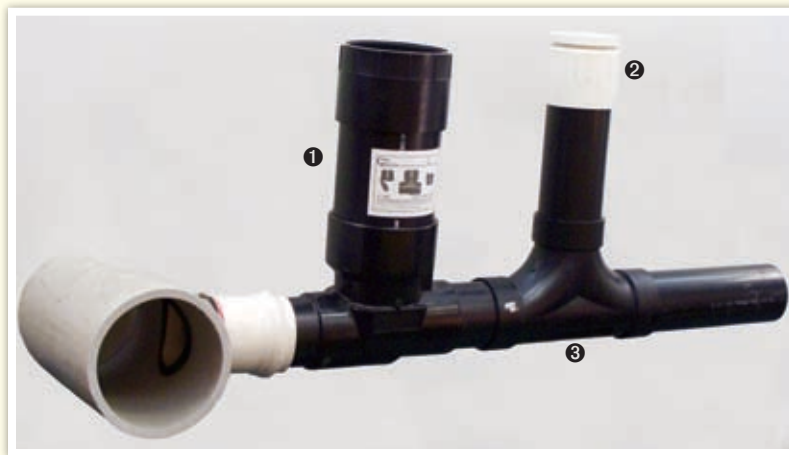
At the awards ceremony, the award judges asked how long it took to fill out the 17 page award application; General Manager Warner replied that it took three years. He went on to explain that three years ago, District staff used the application to audit its practices and identify areas for improvement. Over the two following years, staff implemented new policies, procedures,

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How to Protect Your Home from Raw Sewage

Oro Loma works very hard to maintain its record of having one of the lowest sewage overflow rates in California. But it is impossible to eliminate all the variables that can cause an overflow.

A backflow protection system installed on your lateral—the pipe that connects your home plumbing to the sewer main—will prevent sewage from backing up into your home from a blockage or overflow in the sewer main. The system redirects the sewage to your yard, rather than allowing it to come up through drains inside your home. The system consists of an extendable backwater check valve, the overflow device, and a two-way clean-out. The backwater check valve has a one-way valve that allows wastewater to flow in only one direction—away from your



house. *Note: The backflow protection system will only keep sewage from the street's sewer main out of your home. It will not help if your lateral is clogged between your house drain and the device.*

An overflow prevention system has been approved for use in Oro Loma. Though there is no permit fee for installing the system, we recommend installation by a licensed plumber. Keep the system clear of obstructions, such as dirt or vegetation, which might interfere with its operation.

For more information, call Oro Loma at (510) 276-4700.

1. Extendable backwater check valve
2. Overflow device
3. Two-way cleanout

Helpful Reminders

ORO LOMA 24/7 EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- Slow drains?
- Sewer backed up?
- Water or worse coming out of a sewer cleanout or manhole?

Call (510) 276-4700

Recycling Schedules

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING INFORMATION

Waste Management (510) 613-8710

RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE INFORMATION

Waste Management (510) 613-8710

ANNUAL BULKY WASTE CLEANUP APPOINTMENTS

Waste Management (510) 613-8710

GENERAL RECYCLING INFORMATION

Home Composting ("Rotline") (510) 444-SOIL
Davis St. — SMART Center (510) 638-2303
County Recycling Hotline (877) STOPWASTE

GARBAGE/GREEN WASTE DROP-OFF

Davis St. Transfer Station (510) 638-2303

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF

Drop-off days and hours (800) 606-6606

IMPORTANT COLLECTION INFORMATION

Trash and green waste are collected curbside EVERY week on your pickup day. Recycling is collected EVERY OTHER week (gray-shaded weeks on recycling calendar) on your pickup day.

Write your pickup day here.

The following collection holidays are observed in 2014:
New Year's Day, January 1
Thanksgiving, November 27
Christmas, December 25

Collection Holidays
are shown in white type.



If your pickup day falls on these holidays or the day after these holidays, your collection will occur on the following day.



Oro Loma
Sanitary District



S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
JANUARY 2014							FEBRUARY 2014							MARCH 2014						
			1	2	3	4							1							
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
APRIL 2014							MAY 2014							JUNE 2014						
			1	2	3	4					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					
JULY 2014							AUGUST 2014							SEPTEMBER 2014						
			1	2	3	4					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
OCTOBER 2014							NOVEMBER 2014							DECEMBER 2014						
			1	2	3	4							1	1	2	3	4	5	6	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			

Recycling carts are picked up during gray-shaded weeks on your regular collection day.



The 15-month Oro Loma 2013-2014 calendar featuring winners in the 2013 Earth Day Poster Contest have been delivered to schools throughout the District. Calendars may also be picked up the District office at 2655 Grant Avenue, San Lorenzo, CA 94580

The 2014 Recycling Schedules have been mailed. If you haven't received yours by January 31, 2014, call Oro Loma at (510) 276-4700.

2014 Poster Contest

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



RECYCLING "A" THROUGH "Z"

Visit www.oroloma.org to find ways you can recycle every day and in every way.

The Oro Loma/Waste Management 20th annual Earth Day Poster Contest kicks off January 21, 2014 and ends March 21, 2014.

The theme of the 2014 contest is "Recycling A through Z." Students must 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.

Students attending schools in Oro Loma Sanitary District that are serviced by Waste Management for recycling are eligible to enter. For complete contest rules and a list of eligible schools, visit www.oroloma.org.

Grade groups and prizes are as follows:

Grade Groups: K, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12

Prizes

Kindergarten

Recycling Star Awards (5) \$100

Grade Groups 1-12

First Place \$700

Second Place \$500

Third Place \$300

Honorable Mention (2) \$150

Certificates of Merit (10) \$25

The names of all winners will be posted on www.oroloma.org on Earth Day, April 22, 2014, and the exact placement of First Place through Honorable Mention winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony on May 28, 2014.

Matching prizes will be awarded to the winning students' schools for Recycling Star Awards and First, Second, Third Place, and Honorable Mention Awards. A school representative must be present at the May 28, 2014 Awards Ceremony to accept the matching prizes. No matching prizes will be awarded for Certificates of Merit.

All First, Second, Third Place, Honorable Mention and Recycling Star winners will be featured in the Oro Loma 2014-2015 calendar.

Tips for Trouble-Free Plumbing

Whatever goes down the drain in your home enters a system of sewer pipes and pumps before reaching the Oro Loma wastewater treatment facility. From there, treated wastewater is discharged into San Francisco Bay. Along the way, pipes and pumps can be clogged by grease, wipes, and other items. Although Oro Loma maintains a state-of-the-art treatment facility, no facility is able to remove all traces of chemicals and other pollutants from household products that go down the drain.

Follow these tips to prevent clogs, avoid costly repairs, and help protect the environment.

KITCHEN

1. Manually wipe grease and fatty foods from pans and dishes before washing.
2. Pour cooled grease and cooking oil into a disposable container, store it in the freezer to harden, then dispose of it in the trash.
3. Never allow these to go down the drain or garbage disposal: grease; greasy/fatty foods; fat, lard, shortening; meat drippings; frying oil; salad oil; butter, margarine; dairy products; soups and sauces; coffee grounds; produce stickers; meat; egg shells; bones; nuts.
4. Collect food scraps in your small green pail or in a cardboard milk or takeout container, then transfer the scraps to your green waste cart.

BATHROOM

1. Flush ONLY human waste and toilet paper. Put these in the trash, never in the toilet: disposable wipes; feminine hygiene products; condoms; paper towels; disposable diapers; cat waste and litter; cigarette butts; dental floss; cotton swabs; hair.
2. Prevent hair and pet fur from going down drains.
3. Never flush or pour unwanted medications down a drain. For a directory of free pharmaceutical collection sites, visit <http://www.nodrugsdowndrain.org/NoDrugs/> and enter your zip code.

ALL DRAINS

Never pour chemicals, solvents, pesticides, paint products, or other forms of Household Hazardous Waste down any drain, inside or outside the house. Do not put them in the trash. Bring them to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility for safe disposal. For more information, call (800) 606-6606.

DON'T FLUSH SO-CALLED "FLUSHABLE" WIPES!

Never flush disposable cleaning/disinfecting wipes, moist towelettes, or personal hygiene wipes—even if they are labeled as "flushable." These wipes do not break down in water and they can clog District sewer lines, lift station pumps, and wastewater treatment equipment.



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

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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, chock-full 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 www.StopWaste.Org/benchmark or email benchmark@stopwaste.org 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.