



2015 Poster Contest Winners Announced

Winners of the Oro Loma/Waste Management Earth Day 2015 Poster Contest were announced on Earth Day, April 22. The theme of the 2015 contest was “Recycle **RIGHT** in Oro Loma.” Over 1,800 entries were received. Choosing winners is always difficult. This year was particularly difficult as we received so many wonderfully imaginative entries.

Grade groups and prizes in this, the District’s 21st annual poster contest, were as follows:

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

Prizes:

Kindergarten:	Recycling Star (5)	\$100
Grade Groups 1-12:	First Place (1)	\$700
	Second Place (1)	\$500
	Third Place (1)	\$300
	Honorable Mention (2)	\$150
	Certificates of Merit (10)	\$ 25

The names of all winners were posted on the District’s website, www.oraloma.org, on April 22. Although students who won a First through Honorable Mention prize found out they had won one of those prizes, they will not know until the awards ceremony on May 27 which prize they won. Their names were listed in alphabetical order on April 22. Certificate of Merit recipients knew on April 22 that they won that prize.

After the awards ceremony, a complete list of winners and their prizes will be posted, along with links to their posters.

At the awards ceremony, matching cash prizes will be presented to the schools of the Recycling Stars and First, Second, Third Place and Honorable Mention winners in grades 1-12. Schools that submitted eligible entries but had no winners will receive \$100 Participation Awards.



Judges in the annual Oro Loma/Waste Management Poster Contest include representatives from Oro Loma and Waste Management, and design professionals.

Think before You Flush



Despite manufacturers’ claims, those “flushable” personal hygiene wipes that are so popular do not belong in the sewer system. Unlike conventional toilet paper, these wipes do not break down in water. After being flushed, the wipes clump into tangled masses that can clog a home’s internal plumbing and the private sewer line (the lateral) that connects to the District’s sewer main. A clogged lateral can be very messy and expensive to correct. Homeowners are responsible for the cost of clearing their laterals. In the event of a clogged lateral, homeowners are asked to call Oro Loma as soon as the plumber leaves to make sure the blockage has been completely removed. Oro Loma’s 24/7 phone number is (510) 276-4700.

Clogs that reach the District’s sewer main can cause wastewater to overflow out of manholes and into streets and nearby storm drains and creeks. Such overflows threaten the health and safety of the community and the environment.

At the wastewater treatment plant, intact wipes collect on screens and get caught in gears and pumps.

“Flushable” wipes belong in the trash, not in the toilet.

Here are some other things that belong in the trash, not in the toilet: makeup pads; cleaning wipes; hair; bandages; latex products; dental floss; kitty litter (please bag kitty litter before disposing in the trash); diapers; cotton swabs; hygiene products; baby wipes; whitening strips and their wrappers.

In the Trash NOT in the Toilet

