

Earth Day 2015 Poster Contest Winners Honored at Awards Ceremony

A festive ceremony was held on Wednesday, May 27, 2015 in the Titan Auditorium of the San Leandro Marina Community Center to honor the winners of the 21st annual Oro Loma/Waste Management Earth Day Poster Contest.

Over 1,800 students from schools 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, "Recycle **RIGHT** in Oro Loma," asked students to show they knew the correct way to recycle in Oro Loma.

Students were notified they were winners on Earth Day, April 22, but it wasn't until the awards ceremony that they found out which prize they had won.

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 received \$100 Participation Awards. Ten Certificate of Merit winners in the six grade groups received \$25 each.

In all, \$25,300 was awarded to students and schools in Oro Loma Sanitary District.

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



Winners in the Oro Loma/Waste Management Earth Day 2015 Poster Contest



Organics Collection Program in Schools

Food scraps collection has been introduced in the cafeterias of nine San Lorenzo Unified School District elementary schools. Thanks to all the students, administrators, staff, and custodians who are working hard to make the program a success!

Oro Loma/Waste Management Earth Day 2016 Poster Contest



The Oro Loma/Waste Management Earth Day 2016 Poster Contest, ALL-IN-ONE ORGANICS, Oro Loma Food Scraps Program, asks students to consider the advantages of the Oro Loma food scraps collection program and show how easy it is to participate. The contest starts January 19, 2016 and ends March 18, 2016.

Food scraps and food-soiled paper products make up most of the recyclable portion of what people throw away. At the landfill, food scraps take up valuable space.

By participating in the Oro Loma ALL-IN-ONE ORGANICS Food Scraps Program, food scraps and food-soiled paper products are sent to a composting facility, where they are turned into compost—a valuable resource used by landscapers and farmers. Compost returns nutrients to the soil and reduces the need for chemical fertilizers. In addition, compost helps protect the soil and save water.

Food products such as fruit, vegetables, breads, cereal, dairy, meat (including bones), coffee grounds, filters and tea bags are all accepted in the program, as are food-soiled paper products including paper towels, plates, napkins, pizza boxes and paper lunch bags. Items that are not accepted include plastic (bags and Styrofoam), glass, metal, liquids and pet waste.

Collecting food scraps is easy. Here is all you need to do: collect food scraps in your kitchen; empty the collected scraps into your green waste cart along with garden trimmings; and set your green waste cart out for weekly collection.