

Oro Loma Earth Day 2008 Poster Contest



The posters are in and they look great!

Last year over 2,700 entries were received and a total of \$15,400 was awarded to students and their schools. This year there were 3,523 entries, and since the cash prize awards have been increased by over 40%, the total of cash prizes awarded will be even more.

On Earth Day, April 22, the winners in this year's contest will be announced, but exactly what each contestant won won't be revealed until the awards ceremony, which will be held on May 27, 2008 at the Marina Community Center in San Leandro.

Be sure to check the District's website at www.roloma.org on April 22 for all the winners, and again on May 27 to find out what they won. In addition to the cash prize winners, the Oro Loma website will list the names of the 15 contestants in each grade group to win a Certificate of Merit. These honorary certificates do not carry any cash prizes, but they recognize the efforts of some of our most talented students.

Information on the Oro Loma/Waste Management Earth Day 2009 Poster contest will be printed in upcoming newsletters.



Mule trains must take recycling materials out of Yosemite's High Sierra Camps. Oro Loma customers just need to put their recycling carts at the curb every other week. The 2008 recycling schedules are posted on www.roloma.org.

E-Waste Event Is a Huge Success

On Saturday, February 9, 2008, 106,991 pounds of obsolete and unwanted electronic equipment were diverted from landfills at a free and convenient e-waste event sponsored by Oro Loma Sanitary District. The event was held in the Arroyo High School parking lot, and would not have been possible without the help and approval of the San Lorenzo Unified School District. Over 1,200 cars brought in the unwanted equipment.

Since February 8, 2006, it has been illegal in California to dispose of electronic waste in the trash. In addition to providing a safe and environmentally-responsible way of disposing of e-waste, the event generated \$6,644.94 in revenue for the District. ASL Recycling separated and removed the collected material for recycling at their facility in San Jose.

The February e-waste event was such a success that the District is planning another one in September. Look for more information in upcoming newsletters.



Some of the computers, laptops, printers, cables, cords, DVD players, power supplies, disk drives, tape drives, computer monitors, keyboards, TV sets, VCRs, microwaves, stereo equipment, cell phones and zip drives collected at the free e-waste event.



Worm Composting

Spring is here and with it comes a whole list of gardening tasks. Most of us who love gardening look forward to this time of year, but even the most stalwart have to admit it would be nice to get some help.

How about a couple thousand helpers?

Red wiggler worms may be small, but they do a great job composting kitchen food waste to produce one of the richest soil improvements around. And they hardly ever complain. Use the composted worm castings in your garden or mixed into potting soil for indoor plants.

Alameda County residents can get a three-tiered stacked Wriggley Wranch Worm Bin for only \$29 by going to www.stopwaste.org. The worm bin takes up little room and doesn't smell, so even apartment dwellers can enjoy this fun way of turning fruit and vegetable scraps into useful compost.



While at the StopWaste website, be sure to watch the short tutorial on worm composting and check out all the other garden-related material that is free or low cost to Alameda County residents.

