

Oro Loma Earth Day 2009 Poster Contest— RECYCLING RULES!

We all know how important recycling is, but did you know that in Oro Loma you can recycle empty aerosol cans, but not Styrofoam cups? That you can recycle plastic bags, but that they must be bundled? Or that green waste is collected every week? Do you know the rules?

The 2009 poster contest marks 15 years of Oro Loma and Waste Management promoting environmental awareness among District students and schools. In those years, we've asked students to see into the future and to explore the past, to investigate all aspects of recycling and to tell us why schools are an important part of the conservation loop. The upcoming contest should be particularly fun and educational. This time, we are asking students to both show us why recycling is important, and what the rules are for recycling in Oro Loma. They (and their parents and teachers) can find out the rules by going to www.oraloma.org.

Entry forms will be printed in the Oro Loma 2008-2009 calendar, and will be available online and in schools on January 20, 2009. Entries in the 2009 poster contest may be submitted from January 20, 2009 through March 20, 2009.

Cart Etiquette

When you put your garbage and recycling carts out for pickup, please be sure not to block pedestrian or vehicular traffic.

As a courtesy to your neighbors, please remember to retrieve your trash, recycling, and green waste carts from the curb and return them to a safe location by your house, out of view from the street, after they have been emptied.



President's Message



Jason Warner, General Manager

In November, 2007, General Manager Mike Cameron informed the Board that he would be retiring from the District at the beginning of May 2008. In December 2007, the Board began working to recruit his replacement. Six months and 45 candidates from around the State later, the Board, after a special closed session meeting held on July 28, 2008, offered the General Manager position to Jason Warner, Oro Loma's District Engineer.

Jason first came to the District in 2004 as a Senior Project Engineer working on the \$34.1 million Treatment Plant Capacity Restoration Project. He left the District in 2005, going back to his previous employer, Delta Diablo Sanitation District, where he was awarded the 2006 Engineering Employee of the Year. He returned to Oro Loma in July 2007 in the position of District Engineer, taking charge of the Engineering Department, which is comprised of three engineers, a construction inspec-

tor, and an engineering technician.

Jason's background includes extensive experience in planning and implementing capital improvement programs up to \$60 million, collection system modeling, construction management, and project management across a wide range of disciplines. He holds a Civil Engineering degree from UC Davis, and is a registered Professional Engineer. He is currently working to complete a Master's Degree in Public Administration at California State East Bay and is a member of the Public Administration Honor Society.

Jason is known for his high level of enthusiasm, taxpayer advocacy, and commitment to high levels of customer service. These attributes are a good fit with Oro Loma whose mission is to "Provide the Best Possible Service at the Lowest Possible Cost."

Jason lives in Pleasanton with his wife and three daughters.

Recycling Theft Costs You Plenty

California has recently seen a disturbing increase in theft from recycling carts by thieves who take what they want and often dump the rest on the ground, or even take everything, including the cart.

Residents often don't realize how much these thieves cost them.

The over 400 carts reported presumed stolen throughout the District in 2007 had to be replaced at a cost of over \$19,000, an expense which District customers support through their recycling fees.

In addition, Oro Loma is legally obligated to provide a recycling program for its residents. Waste Management is under contract with the District to supply this service. That contract assumes a certain revenue from the recycled material collected. When material is stolen, that revenue cannot be met, and fees for the garbage and recycling program may go up.

There are several things you can do to discourage this kind of rustling, and several things you should not do. First of all, what you should **not** do:

1. **Never directly confront the thief.** Some thieves expect to make several hundred dollars a night and are brazen enough to trespass onto private property to commit their crime. Don't do anything to jeopardize your safety.

2. **Don't ignore the problem.** With your help and cooperation, this type of theft can be reduced.

What You Can Do

1. Put your recycling carts out by 6 a.m. the morning of pick-up, not the night before.
2. Talk to your neighbors, homeowner association, or apartment manager about doing the same thing.
3. Write your address on your recycling carts in permanent marker.
4. Report trespassing to your local law enforcement department.

