



ORO LOMA NEWS

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Inside

- President's Message
- Unlimited Recycling for Residential Customers
- WM Earth Day Celebration
- Backflow Prevention Systems
- Solar Energy Project
- Food Scraps Recycling Is Coming to Oro Loma
- Sewer Permits
- Spotlight on Excellence
Chad McCarthy
- Pollution Prevention

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Seismic Upgrade to the Sewer System

The Hayward Fault crosses the pipe network of the Oro Loma Sanitary District in 13 different locations, including a 27-inch trunk line that carries over one quarter of the District's wastewater, and another 10-inch pipe that runs under Interstate 580. Because a major earthquake along the Hayward fault could cause a service disruption and potential health concerns, District staff initiated and constructed system improvements over the past nine months to reduce the risks posed to the citizens of its service area.

As a part of this effort, the District is installing manholes on both sides of critical fault crossings, and is replacing the portion of pipeline in between with pipes made of high-density polyethylene (HDPE). This material is much stronger and more flexible than the vitrified clay or cast iron pipes used in most fault crossings. In a major seismic event, the pipe will flex and stretch with the ground movement. The District is also upgrading the pipe/manhole connections with additional concrete and reinforced collars. The upgraded connection was designed by Oro Loma engineers to keep the pipe from pulling out of the manhole during a major seismic event.

The implemented design was significantly less expensive than alternative seismic systems offered commercially.

In addition to improvements at the crossings, the District developed a comprehensive tactical plan to deal with the effects of an earthquake. The plan includes emergency staffing, a fleet of portable generators, portable pumps, emergency communications, and an inventory of critical spare parts and critical chemicals. All of these efforts are performed as a part of the District's ongoing mission "To provide the best possible service at the lowest possible cost."



View of special manhole showing reinforced collar around new HDPE pipe

Oro Loma Earth Day 2009 Poster Contest Winners to be Announced April 22



The 15th annual Oro Loma/Waste Management Earth Day Poster Contest ended on March 20th. In this year's contest, "Recycling Rules!" students showed why recycling is important, and that they understood the rules for recycling in Oro Loma. Contest winners will be announced on Earth Day, April 22. The exact placement of cash winners will be revealed at a festive awards ceremony on May 26th at the Marina Community Center.

Cash prizes of \$700 first place, \$500 second place, \$300 third place, and two Honorable Mentions of \$150 each will be awarded in six grade groups.

Last year, the District awarded students and their schools a total of \$27,300. Oro Loma is proud of its commitment to community education.