

2 P resident's Message

It has been nearly 20 years since the passage of State Assembly Bill 939 and Alameda County voter-approved Measure D, which worked together to establish a waste diversion goal of 50% at the State level and 75% within the County. Following the passage of these laws, municipalities like Oro Loma Sanitary District began offering separate green waste and recycling containers to customers, to divert materials from the landfill. Additionally, citizens have taken a greater interest in recycling, and many have changed their ways of living to match their beliefs.

Since the passage of AB939 and Measure D, the amount of material diverted from the landfill in Oro Loma Sanitary District has increased from a few percentages to 69%.

As expected, the first gains towards the 75% diversion goal were the easiest. Now, Oro Loma is working with its customers to achieve the last six percentage points towards the established goal. As a part of this effort, the Oro Loma Sanitary District Board voted to begin allowing food waste into the green waste bins beginning June 1, 2009. With the change, the material in your green waste bin will go to a compost facility and will be turned into a beneficial agricultural soil additive. The additional food waste diverted from your refuse cart should help Oro Loma reach its goal of 75% diversion. We look forward to providing you with the best service, and are counting on each citizen to do his or her part in achieving the diversion goal.

Unlimited Recycling Available for Residential Customers



Do you find that all your recycling is not fitting into your recycling cart? Unlimited recycling is available for residential customers. Just call Waste Management at (510) 613-8710 and ask for a larger recycling cart at no cost. Thanks for your recycling efforts and keep up the good work!

Backflow Prevention Systems

We like to think that when we flush the toilet or empty the bathtub, that is the last we'll see of the wastewater that leaves our house. Generally, that is exactly what happens. Sometimes, though, homeowners find wastewater backing up through drains and toilets. If your lateral—the pipe that connects your home plumbing to the sewer main—is not far enough above the rim of the sewer manhole, and there is an extraordinarily high volume of water in the main line, or if there is a blockage downstream that forces sewage upstream, you could find sewage coming out of the drains in your house.

A Backflow Prevention System (BPS) prevents sewage from flowing back into a building should there be a blockage in the lateral or an overflow in the main sewer line. The system consists of two parts: the backwater check valve (to allow wastewater to only flow away from the structure) and the overflow device (to allow an emergency escape path for wastewater). Oro Loma requires a BPS on all new construction, on any replacement or major repair to a lateral, on all structures where the property is damaged by a blockage in the sewer main or lateral, in existing structures when additional plumbing fixtures are installed, or when the structure's floor area is increased by more than 25%. The BPS requirements are available in Section 5.5 of Ordinance 35-14 at <http://oroloma.org/services/permits/index>.

Earth Day

April 18, 2009, 10 am - 2 pm
Early Earth Day Celebration at
The Davis Street Transfer Station
2615 Davis Street, San Leandro

LEARN ABOUT WHERE YOUR MATERIAL GOES WHEN IT LEAVES YOUR CURBSIDE. FIND OUT HOW RECYCLING WORKS. FUN AND INFORMATIVE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY.

FREE RECYCLED PAINT, SUSTAINABLE DOOR PRIZES, DROP OFF OF ELECTRONICS, & BAGS OF COMPOST!

- Tours of the facility • Educational performance by EarthCapades • Green raffle prizes
- Bay-Friendly Gardening Resources • Green building resources • Hands-on activities for kids



Our Waste Reduction Partners



Contact Rebecca Jewell at 510-563-4214
www.dsgardencenter.com

