



## Solar Energy Project

Work is progressing on the installation of the 500 Kilowatt (kW) solar panel array by Renewable Technologies Incorporated (RTI). Most of the conduit has been installed underground, and the necessary transformers and inverters are on site.

Under an agreement between RTI and Oro Loma, the District will supply the land and RTI will be responsible for the design, construction, and maintenance of the solar array. The District will purchase power produced by the array from RTI. The estimated savings for 2010 will be \$80,000. Staff expects a similar annual savings for the remaining life of the 20-year contract. Much of the savings comes from the PG&E rate schedule, which will allow the District to trade 1 kW of excess power during the day for approximately 2.5 kW during the night.

One time-saving construction innovation being employed involves the use of giant ground screws instead of cast-in-place concrete piles. The ground screws can be installed in minutes instead of days and are immediately usable. There is no need to wait days for concrete to cure. Ground screws are also easily removed or adjusted, if necessary, and have an expected life of 70 years. The screws have been used extensively in Europe and are in limited use on the East Coast.

The contract between RTI and Oro Loma gives the District the option to purchase the array after 20 years, should the District choose to do so.



*Ground screws being tested*

## Food Scraps Recycling Is Coming to Oro Loma

**All-in-One Organics Recycling will be available in Oro Loma as of June 1, 2009!**

Food scraps and food-soiled paper are the largest single item in our waste stream—making up approximately 35% of what we throw away in Alameda County. With food scrap recycling, food and food-soiled paper are sent to a composting facility, which turns the waste into a valuable resource for landscapers and farmers.

Under the program, which is partially funded by STOPWASTE.ORG, all table scraps and food-soiled paper products can be placed into the green cart that is used for yard waste. A small green bucket may be provided to all single family homes and condos/apartments with four units or less to make the transfer of table scraps to the large green waste recycling cart easy and efficient.

**More information on this project will follow. Until then, please continue placing ONLY yard waste in your green cart.**

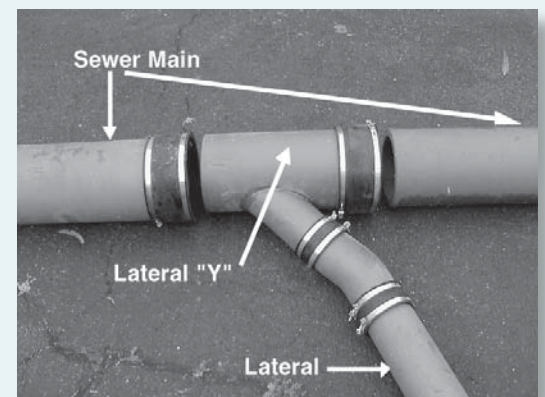


## Sewer Permits

Within the Oro Loma Sanitary District boundaries, property owners are responsible for the repair and maintenance of the private sanitary sewer laterals, which run from a point two feet beyond the outside face of the building foundation to the connection to the District's sanitary sewer main line, including the "Y" connection, tee fittings or tap. Routine cleaning of the lateral does not require a permit, but any repair, alteration, extension and replacement of the sewer line is subject to the District's permit requirements, even if there is a building or plumbing permit on file with the City or County. Sewer permits are required to make sure that the work complies with District standards, which insures the integrity of the collection system for all customers.

When any sewer work is performed without authorization by a sewer permit, the parcel owner or contractor is required to obtain a permit for that work, and pay double the normal permit and inspection fees. In addition, the parcel owner or contractor must provide the District full access to inspect the work that was done. All sewer work within the District must be completed in accordance with Ordinance No. 35-14. Please call (510) 276-4700 or visit [www.roloma.org](http://www.roloma.org) for sewer permit questions and requirements.

Homeowners should check to see that their contractor has a valid license in one of the following classifications: "A" general engineering; "C-34" pipeline; "C-36" plumbing; or "C-42" sanitation systems. A "B" license is not sufficient. To check a contractor's license, go to [www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov) or call (800) 321-2752. Be sure that the contractor has obtained the necessary permit before work is started.



*Property owners are responsible for repair and maintenance of their sewer lateral, up to and including the lateral "Y."*