# INSIDE ORO LOMA



Horizontal levee with 8-million gallon equalization basin behind it.

## Oro Loma Wins California Award for Outstanding Capital Project of the Year



The Oro Loma and Castro Valley Sanitary Districts received the Outstanding Capital Project of the Year award from California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) for the demonstration of the horizontal levee concept. The Horizontal Levee has been identified as one of the most promising responses to sea rise within the San Francisco Bay Area. The award recognized the project's use of green, sustainable, and innovative technology.

The demonstration helps the public imagine what the leading response to sea rise might look like along the East Bay shoreline. Visitors can walk around the levee and observe the wildlife it attracts, as well as the diverse plant life. The District is now partnering with

researchers at UC Berkeley to evaluate the water quality improvements and habitat created by the project. Preliminary research results show that remaining nutrients and trace pharmaceuticals in the treated wastewater are removed as water passes through the levee structure. The final results will be used to inform future efforts and to improve the next version of the horizontal levee.

If you would like to see the levee in person, sign up for one of our regularly scheduled plant tours by going to www. oroloma.org/ tours or calling (510) 276-4700.



### WASTEWATER SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING

Serving Our Community, Protecting Our Environment

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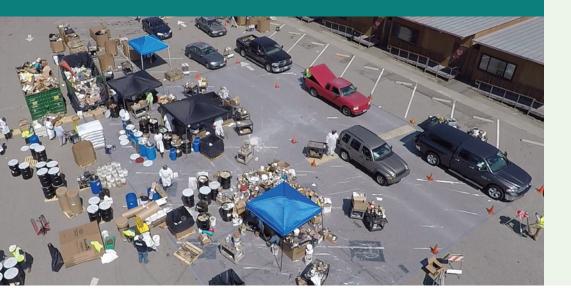
Timothy P. Becker Director

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Editor Andreea Simion

# Household Hazardous Waste Event



# "The whole experience was great."

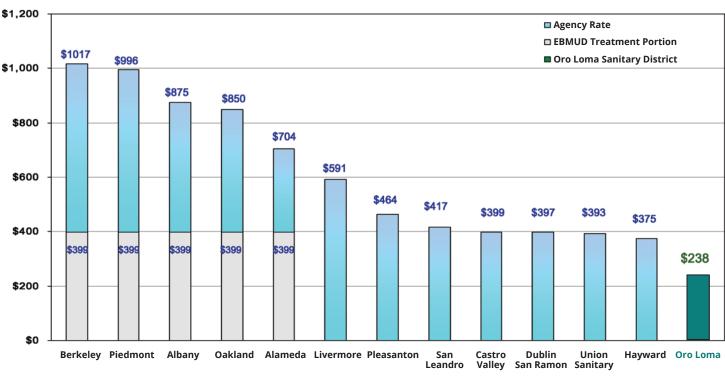
On September 10, 2017, Oro Loma and Alameda County partnered to sponsor a free household hazardous waste collection event in San Lorenzo.

In just four hours, 440 residents dropped off paint, pesticides, batteries, fluorescent bulbs, and electronics. Over 300 pounds of pharmaceuticals were collected and 1,000 bags of organic compost were given away.

The organization and coordination of the event was praised by many of the participants, including one who wrote, "This was a prized example of government service at its best."

The household hazardous waste collection event in San Lorenzo as seen from above.

### **Great Service at Low Cost**



Annual Sewer Service Charges for Single Family Residences in Alameda County Fiscal Year 2017-18

Oro Loma Sanitary District's rate is 60% lower than the annual Alameda County average rate of \$594.



The Oro Loma/Castro Valley wastewater treatment plant

# **Additional Plant Security**

Earlier this year, Oro Loma performed a site security audit to determine ways to improve the security of its staff and the equipment used to clean water for the San Francisco Bay. As a result of that audit, the Oro Loma Board authorized the implementation of new security measures to limit and detect unauthorized access to the facility. Video cameras were installed in key process areas, and an electronic system was implemented to control vendor and visitor access to the District premises. The security improvements will help us continue our strong record of reliable service and award-winning safety performance.

Please remember that trash, recycling, and green waste carts must be removed from the street after pickup. Thank you.

## Don't Forget

#### **Collection dates**

If your trash, recycling, or green waste collection dates fall on Thanksgiving, Christmas, or New Year's Day, your pickup will occur on the next calendar day.

### Cooking oil clogs plumbing and sewer pipes.

Thinking of deep frying your holiday turkey this year? Don't forget that when you pour used cooking oil-and other fats and greasedown the drain, they don't go away. Fats, oil, and grease stay around to clog your plumbing and sewer pipes. Instead, pour oil from deep frying into a sealable container and bring it to one of Alameda County's household hazardous waste collection sites. Some Safeway and Whole Foods Markets will also accept used cooking oil. Go to StopWaste.org to find a convenient site near you.





### Wastewater Collection Corner

#### "Thank you for your service!"

The Oro Loma collections crew has a record that is hard to beat. Response time to a customer's call for service is under 10 minutes during business hours and under 20 minutes after business hours. And customers are giving the crews rave reviews for service, ability to solve problems, and courtesy.

If you have a sewer problem or see water coming out of a sewer manhole, immediately call Oro Loma at (510) 276-4700. A crew will come out to investigate at no cost to you.



Oro Loma Sanitary District 2655 Grant Avenue San Lorenzo, CA 94580

### **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS TO KEEP HANDY**

Oro Loma Sanitary District Office 24/7 Emergency Response (510) 276-4700 Waste Management (510) 613-8710 Alameda County Recycling Hotline (877) STOPWASTE Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste (800) 606-6606

### What's New

### In My Own Words...

For 23 years, Oro Loma has challenged students to explore important environmental issues by competing in an annual Earth Day Poster Contest. For 2018, the Board is making this important learning experience available to even more students.

Instead of creating a poster, students will be asked to write a short paragraph that starts with the sentence, "I think recycling is important because..." The entry of any student, regardless of talent or ability, may be selected. Eligible entries must be legible and on topic.

More information on this expansion of Oro Loma's commitment to the District's students and schools will follow in upcoming newsletters and on the District's website, www.oroloma.org.

### New Employee

### Daniel Rossman



We are proud to introduce Oro Loma's newest employee, Field Engineer Daniel Rossman. Daniel, who works in our Engineering Department, will initially focus on the District's strategic goal of improving the average condition of the sewer system over the next 10 years. Within that time frame, the District will replace more pipes than in any other period in its 100-year history.

Daniel earned a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and a Master's Degree in Geotechnical Engineering from Arizona State University. Before joining Oro Loma, he worked with a geotechnical engineering firm for several years. There, Daniel gained experience in geotechnical investigations and studies, construction inspection, and project management. Daniel's knowledge and experience are already leading to improvements to the projects he is managing. We are happy to welcome Daniel to the Oro Loma family and look forward to his future contributions to the District's success!