JOIN US!

Take a tour, meet our people, and enjoy a day of education and fun with Oro Loma Sanitary District.

WHERE: Oro Loma/Castro Valley Treatment Facility  
2600 Grant Avenue, San Lorenzo, CA 94580

WHEN: MAY 11, 2019 | 10:00am - 2:00pm

WHAT: 🌟 Treatment Plant Tours  
🌟 Student Recognition  
🌟 Hands-on Activities – Fun for the Whole Family  
🌟 Complimentary Eats and Treats

www.OroLoma.org | OroLomaSD
Cogeneration Engine Rebuild

The District has been energy neutral for the past eight years, thanks to energy efficiency improvements, a large solar array, and a cogeneration system that uses biogas from the process to produce head and electricity. Our cogeneration engines have produced more than $20M worth of electricity over their 28-year life and are scheduled to remain in service for another six years. Our Maintenance Department’s expertise in maintaining and rehabilitating these engines helps keep our sewer rates and carbon footprint to a minimum.

A rebuild of the cogeneration engine is now underway. District Mechanics Rob Fletcher, Jeff Hansen, and Sam Lahey are leading the 2019 effort, with help from Peterson Power Systems of San Leandro. District staff have pre-ordered the parts and expect the cogeneration system to be back in service in five weeks. These rebuilds happen every six years and have doubled the life of the Oro Loma cogener system compared to the useful life of a typical system. Taking care of our existing equipment and planning for our future is part of how Oro Loma provides excellent service to our community.

Think Before You Toss!

Through its partner, Waste Management, Oro Loma Sanitary District provides trash collection, residential recycling, and green waste/organics collection services to 45,000 residential customers.

To minimize the amount of trash that goes to the landfill, it is important that recycling and green waste carts only contain permitted items. Please do your part by observing the following steps:

• Recycling cart: Items should be empty, clean, dry, and free of food and liquids.

• Green waste (organics) cart: No plastic, glass, or metal.

For a full-sized version of this service brochure, please visit OroLoma.org/think-before-you-toss
10-Year Strategic Vision and Goals

The Board is set to adopt an updated 10-Year Strategic Vision and Goals Plan at its May 21, 2019 meeting, at a special time of 6 p.m. The plan lays out several challenges that the District faces and details its commitment to meeting these challenges and maintaining the lowest sewer service charges in the Bay Area.

2017/18, the District replaced a record five miles of collection system pipe.

The 10-Year Strategic Plan also envisions sending a generation of employees into retirement without injury, responding well to new regulations, proactively communicating with the public, managing for the highest long-term value, and achieving further excellence in the wastewater industry.

The plan also addresses growing challenges related to reduced global demand for recycled material. Also included in the plan is a study to identify opportunities and costs for non-potable (non-drinking) recycled water projects, such as using treated wastewater for irrigation and industry.

Given the ever-changing environment, the strategic goals document will be updated again in 2021.

Wastewater Collection Corner

“Disposable” and “flushable” wipes do not break down in water. They collect and clog household plumbing and sewer mains.

Sewer main overflows pose a serious threat to San Francisco Bay. Clogged plumbing in a home can cause problems that are difficult and expensive to clean up.

Do not flush anything but toilet paper and human waste.

“Flushable” wipes need to be manually removed from wastewater stream.

Don’t Forget

Names of students whose entries were chosen in the Oro Loma 2019 Schools Outreach Project will be posted on OroLoma.org on Earth Day, April 22. The students will be recognized at the Oro Loma Open House on May 11, 2019. Students may also arrange to pick up their awards at the District office on Grant Avenue.

Fats, Oil, and Grease (FOG) clog plumbing and sewer pipes.

When you pour FOG down the drain, the fats, oils, and grease don't go away. They stay around to clog your plumbing and sewer pipes. Pour used cooking oil into a sealable container and bring it to one of Alameda County's household hazardous waste sites for recycling.
What’s New

Sewer Service Charges

An increase to the Oro Loma Sanitary District Sewer Service Charges will go into effect July 1, 2019. The 7.5% increase is part of a five-year plan approved by the Board on May 17, 2016. The 2019 sewer service charge for single-family residential customers becomes $275/year (from $256/year). The new rate remains the lowest in Alameda County.

Sewer System Management Plan

Since 2004, the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board has required all wastewater treatment facilities in the San Francisco Bay Area to develop detailed Sewer System Management Plans (SSMP). The SSMP outlines the management, operation, and maintenance of the facility's collection system. The District, which has had an active sewer system management program since 1988, published its first SSMP on January 28, 2005. On February 5, 2019, the Board approved an updated SSMP. More information on the District's SSMP and its award-winning collection system are at OroLoma.org.

Retired

Ray Green
Ray was hired in 2005 as a Utility Worker Trainee and promoted to Mechanic I in 2007. His commitment to maintaining the District's 14 lift stations helped prevent overflows and protect the environment. Ray plans to spend time with family, listening to music, and fishing.

Sally Green
Sally was hired in 2003 as an Office Aide and promoted to District Secretary in 2010. Sally played a key role in the District's Schools Outreach Program and its recycling program. She plans to spend time in the sun with her children, grandchildren, and husband, Ray.

Lenny Rather
Lenny was hired as a Collection System Worker in 1991 and promoted to Supervisor of Field Maintenance (later Collection System Manager) in 1997. His motto was “Treat Every Customer Like Family.” He plans to spend his retirement fishing on the Bay.

Gene McCutcheon
Gene was hired in 2014 as a Plant Operator II and worked around the clock, seven days a week, to protect the environment. With over 30 years in the wastewater industry, Gene was a mentor to a new generation of operators.