Oro Loma Sanitary District Celebrates 110 Years of Service

Oro Loma Sanitary District was established in 1911 on approximately 800 acres on what was farmland and large food processing plants in San Lorenzo. Today, Oro Loma serves residents and businesses in a 13-square-mile area, providing wastewater collection and treatment, and refuse and recycling services. Since 1911, the District has responded to the changing needs of the community and the San Francisco Bay. Throughout its history, Oro Loma has made thoughtful and strategic decisions to better serve the community and protect the health of the San Francisco Bay. The District is well positioned for today and generations to come. After all these years, the pipes, facilities, and equipment are still in good condition.

Using Innovation to Tackle Serious Challenges

Oro Loma has an award-winning track record of innovation and efficient operations. Examples include:

Green energy
For most of the past decade, the District has produced all of its own power from solar and by harvesting biogas from the treatment process.

A horizontal levee
The system uses native grasses and an earthen berm instead of a seawall to buffer against rising bay waters.

Nutrient treatment
The treatment plant was upgraded in 2006 and again in 2020 to provide nutrient treatment.

Pipe replacement
The District plans to replace 40 miles of pipe over the next ten years.

Throughout all the growth and innovation, Oro Loma has remained true to its pledge to provide the highest value in wastewater, solid waste, and recycling services to its customers and protect the San Francisco Bay and its communities.
Unwanted medicines, prescription drugs, and sharps

Safe Disposal

Alameda County Household Hazardous Waste facilities cannot accept over-the-counter medicine and prescription drugs.

Unwanted medicines should never be flushed down the toilet or placed in the trash. Instead, unused or expired medicine should be dropped off at a pharmaceutical collection kiosk or mailed back in a free Mail-Back envelope. Sharps should be placed in FDA approved sharps containers and brought to a location that accepts sharps (needles & syringes).

Some local drop-off locations

City of San Leandro Public Works, 14200 Chapman Rd., San Leandro
CVS Pharmacy, 3667 Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley
Walgreens Pharmacy, 15500 Washington Ave., San Leandro

For more drop-off locations, visit stopwaste.org. To get a free Mail-Back envelope sent to your home, call Med-Project at (844) 633-7765 or go online to https://med-project.org/locations/alameda/mail-back/.

Never Flush Any of These Items. Ever!
Recycle Right

Help reduce recycling contamination by putting the right thing in the right cart.

Why recycle?
Recycling saves: Natural resources; energy; clean air and water; space in landfill.
Recycling also creates jobs by supporting manufacturers who use recycled material.

How to recycle right
Putting items in the recycling container that don't belong there contaminates the container. If the recycling cart has too much trash in it, it can't be recycled at all and is landfilled. Help reduce recycling contamination by knowing what goes where—recycling, organics, and trash—and putting it there. Always put your recyclables directly into your recycling cart. Never put your recyclables in a bag.

Learn more recycling tips
Both the oroloma.org and resource.stopwaste.org websites have great recycling tips.

Congratulations to the Oro Loma Community
State law requires jurisdictions to recycle at least 50% of what would otherwise go to landfill. For more than 10 years, Oro Loma has exceeded that goal.

Wastewater Collection Corner

Know Your Utilities
Water is running down your street—but where is it coming from? If you’re not sure, call Oro Loma at (510) 276-4700 right away. The District has a crew on hand 24 hours a day, seven days a week to handle emergencies.

But the problem may have nothing to do with the sewer. Maybe the water is coming from a water main valve (call EBMUD at 866-403-2683), or a clogged storm drain (call Alameda County at 510-670-5480).

Remember—if you think there might be a sewer problem, immediately call Oro Loma at (510) 276-4700.

Important Reminder

Statewide Mandatory Organic Waste Collection—SB 1383

Effective January 1, 2022, everyone in the State of California will be required to properly sort their waste. Residents, businesses, schools, and government agencies must subscribe to recycling and organics services and keep recyclables and compostables out of the trash. Additionally, food generating businesses will be required to donate edible food. Jurisdictions will be required to monitor contamination and provide customer notifications and impose penalties.

While many of the requirements of SB 1383 have been part of the District’s solid waste program for years, to be fully compliant with State regulations that mandate cart colors and identification, Oro Loma customers will receive new trash, recycling, and organics carts in 2022.

For information on SB 1383, visit https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/climate/slcp. For information on proper sorting, visit OroLoma.org.
**New Employees**

**Michael Gardner**
Michael comes to the District with several years of experience as a journeyman electrician with IBEW Local 6 and journeyman plumber with Rescue Rooter in San Leandro. His duties included the installation and removal of sewer and gas lines, as well as CCTV inspection and fiber optics installation. Michael is an Oro Loma resident and graduated from Arroyo High School.

**Hotilio Ruiz**
Hotilio joins the District after three years with the City of Richmond as a Maintenance Aid II. His duties there included ground maintenance work, street maintenance and surface repairs, and performing paving, painting, and electrical duties. Hotilio also has experience as a commercial driver and trainer on a variety of large commercial vehicles and construction equipment.