

# INSIDE ORO LOMA



Native wetland plants and reeds are flourishing on the Oro Loma horizontal levee.

## The Horizontal Levee Is Thriving

In just one year, native plants have taken root and are thriving on Oro Loma's horizontal levee. Save The Bay calls it, "One of our most successful projects ever."

### The plants look like they have been there for years.

Save The Bay is the largest regional organization working to protect and restore San Francisco Bay. In February 2016, they transplanted the last of 70,000 native wetland plants and reeds to the District's new horizontal levee. In only one year, the plants have established themselves and are flourishing.

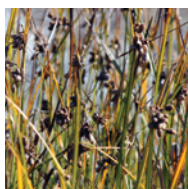
Jesse Olson, Nursery Manager for Save The Bay, credits much of the project's success

to the extraordinary cooperation they have had with Oro Loma. In particular, she noted the District creating the onsite plant nursery, and its willingness to irrigate the plants once they were transplanted onto the slope.

The levee and an 8-million gallon holding basin behind it, will provide additional water-holding capacity during periods of heavy rain. The levee and the basin are designed to mimic nature's ability to filter wastewater and protect the shoreline.



California Aster



Alkali Bulrush



March Baccharis



Western Goldenrod



WASTEWATER  
SOLID WASTE  
& RECYCLING

*Serving Our  
Community,  
Protecting Our  
Environment*

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# Keeping Old Van Saves Water, Money

The District is saving 58% on water usage while saving wear and tear on the sewer system.

Oro Loma is committed to continuous improvement and strives to provide the best possible service in the most efficient manner. This principle guided the decision made in 2014, when the Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) van needed to be replaced after 14 years in service. Once a new van with upgraded software and backup monitors was acquired, one question remained: What to do with the old van? The answer: Fix it and keep it in service!

## What does a CCTV van do?

Oro Loma maintains 273 miles of underground sewer lines. CCTV cameras on tractors are used to remotely inspect those lines. It takes one van about two-and-a-half years to inspect all the lines.

Software allows operators to see and record the pipe's condition as the tractor goes through the sewer lines. The information collected allows Oro Loma to design cost-effective rehabilitation and replacement programs. Using CCTV causes very little wear and tear on the sewer system.

Oro Loma also has a program to routinely clean sewer pipes using a hydro jetter. A hydro jetter shoots water at very high pressure inside a sewer line. The equipment uses about 65 gallons of water a minute. A hydraulic root cutter might also be used to cut roots from inside the pipe.

A hydro jetter does a great job cleaning pipes, but it also uses a lot of water and puts wear and tear on the system. Was it possible that some lines were being cleaned that did not need immediate



The new CCTV van

cleaning? Could the District maintain the highest standard of system maintenance while still saving water and money? Yes!

## Using the old van allows Oro Loma to save water and money.

With two CCTV vans, the District is able to inspect lines more often and perform targeted cleaning. By pipe-inspecting and only cleaning those pipes that needed it, the District saved 1,459,436 gallons of water in 2016. In addition, by not putting unnecessary stress on the sewer system, Oro Loma is extending the life of the pipes that carry wastewater.



## Wastewater Collection Corner

Your toilet is not a trash can.

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.

You can help prevent sewer backups both in the street and in your home by not flushing anything other than toilet paper and human waste. **Do not flush items labeled "flushable wipes,"** as they do not break down in water and will cause sewer backups.

Sewer pipe inspection camera trolley and monitor for viewing real-time video



# Illegal Dumping: Who to Call

## Illegal dumping is everyone's problem

Not only is illegal dumping unsightly, it puts the whole community at risk. A piece of furniture, a few tires, and some trash dumped on a street corner or empty lot encourages more illegal dumping. Rats and other vermin have a new home. Property values decline. Children playing among the debris are at particular risk. Illegal dumping affects everyone.



## Who to call

Oro Loma collects trash, recycling, and green waste/organics from residents and businesses in the District. Its contract with Waste Management does not provide for street cleanup, public refuse containers, or removal of illegally dumped items on city streets or private property. Cities and counties are responsible to ensure removal of illegally dumped items. Here is the contact information to report illegal

dumping in the public right-of-way:

**City of Hayward** (510) 881-7745

**City of San Leandro** (510) 577-3400

**Alameda County** (510) 670-5500  
(for unincorporated areas)

You can also go online to [www.acpwa.org/request-services](http://www.acpwa.org/request-services) to report illegal dumping in the county.

## Two free bulky pickups a year

Oro Loma single-family residential customers are entitled to two free bulky pickups per year. Household furniture and mattresses,

large appliances, trash, and small appliances are among the items accepted. Items over 75 lbs., hazardous waste, and rocks, dirt, concrete or construction debris are not accepted. To schedule your bulky pickup, call Waste Management at least two weeks in advance at (510) 613-8710. You will receive a postcard in the mail confirming the date of your bulky pickup. More information is available at [oroloma.org/bulky-waste-pickup/](http://oroloma.org/bulky-waste-pickup/).



The whole community suffers when illegal dumping is allowed to continue.



Oro Loma single-family residential customers are entitled to two free bulky pickups a year.

## Don't Forget



## 2017 Earth Day Poster Contest

There is still time to enter the Oro Loma/Waste Management Earth Day 2017 Poster Contest. The contest is open to all students attending grades K-12 in a District school that is serviced for recycling by Waste Management. The theme of this year's contest is: "Reduce Trash. Think Before You Toss!" Free poster paper is available at schools and at Oro Loma's District Office.

Entry deadline is March 17, 2017.

For more information go to [oroloma.org](http://oroloma.org).



## Plastic Bag Ban

On November 8, 2016, California voters approved Proposition 67, a state-wide ban on carry-out plastic bags.

As of May 1, 2017, all retail stores in Alameda County must stop providing single-use plastic bags.

Restaurants must stop providing the bags on November 1, 2017.

Retailers and restaurants may still provide multi-use bags, but they must charge at least 10¢ a bag.



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

### Oro Loma Recognized for Excellence in Government Finance for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Year in a Row

Oro Loma has again won the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) award for excellence in financial reporting.

The GFOA's Awards for Excellence in Government Finance recognize innovative programs and contributions to the practice of government finance that exemplify outstanding financial management. The awards stress practical, documented work that offers leadership to the profession and promotes transparency in public finance.

## Message from the Board of Directors

Strategic planning discussions establish a clear direction for the next 10 years and beyond.

### Key areas of emphasis

**Infrastructure** - To maintain Oro Loma's wastewater collection and treatment operations at the current award-winning levels, the Board has challenged staff to develop measures for infrastructure health. This includes a goal of replacing approximately 27 miles of sewer line over the next ten years.

**Customer communication** - Data from a recent survey shows that some customers are unsure about what



Staff is charged with improving the overall health of the sewer system.

Oro Loma is or what it does. In response, the District has developed a Communications Plan to increase awareness of the District within the community and to raise awareness of each person's role in making our community a better place.