

INSIDE ORO LOMA



Biosolids contain important nutrients that can be used to enhance plant growth.

Oro Loma Initiates Use of Biosolids to Amend California Soils

The District's 10-Year Strategic Plan includes exploring alternatives for the beneficial reuse of biosolids. The Strategic Plan goal is aligned with Governor Brown's emphasis on healthy soils in the state.

Biosolids are the nutrient-rich organic byproduct of the wastewater treatment process. They contain essential plant nutrients and organic matter, which can be applied as fertilizer to improve and maintain productive soils and stimulate plant growth.

Oro Loma produces an average of 8,000 tons of biosolids each year. Presently, all this material is recycled as alternative daily cover at the Altamont Landfill. While this practice is the least costly, it neglects the benefits that biosolids can provide to replenish the state's agricultural land.

Upon researching options, District staff recommended and the Board approved

a pilot study to evaluate the use of biosolids for land application in the Central Valley. The pilot will be conducted in partnership with Synagro, a company that specializes in the management of biosolids throughout the United States. Synagro has partnerships with farmers throughout the Central Valley, employs a professional approach to environmental compliance, and is the market leader in the San Francisco Bay Area.

During the two-year pilot, the District will supply approximately 50% of its biosolids to Synagro. Staff will visit the land application site, observe the benefits of land application on crop yields, and review the application process.

Although the new alternative is slightly more expensive, staff anticipates managing the new option within the existing budget constraints.

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Put Holiday Food Scraps in Green Waste/Organics Cart



Fall and winter holidays often involve entertaining and lots of food—and that means lots of food scraps and waste. Please remember to collect food scraps and place them in your green waste/organics cart along with garden clippings, leaves, and untreated wood. A list of items that should go in your green waste/organics cart is available at oroloma.org/solid-waste-recycling/green-waste-food-scraps-organics/. You can get a larger green waste/

organics cart for free by calling Waste Management at (510) 613-8710.

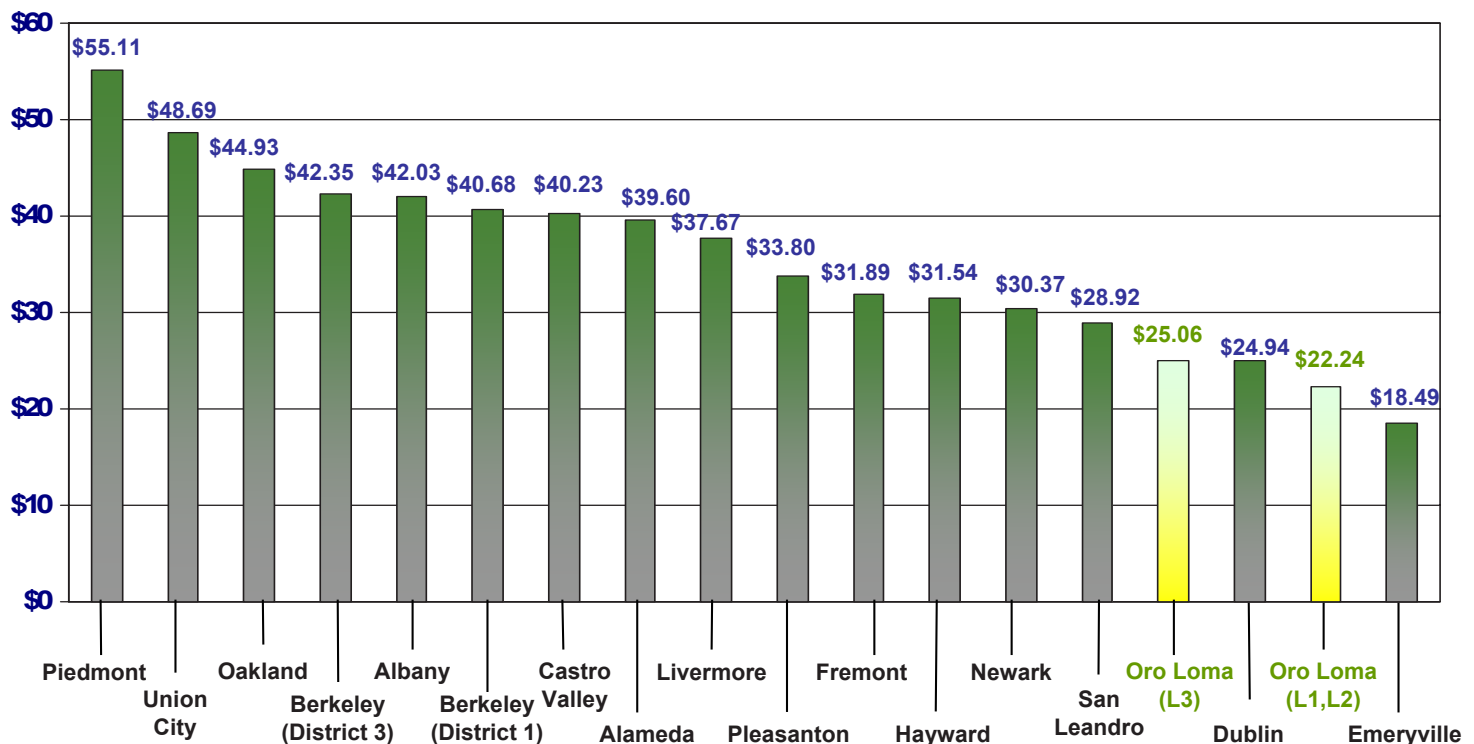
Food scrap recycling was introduced in Oro Loma in June 2009. At that time, compostables, which include food scraps and food-soiled paper, accounted for 49% of the trash collected in Alameda County. Today, less than 20% of trash in Oro Loma consists of compostables. Thank you for doing your part to reduce the amount of material sent to landfill.



Food scraps include: fruits and vegetables, meat, poultry, bones, seafood, egg shells, cheese, bread, beans, rice, pasta, tea bags, coffee grounds and filters, food-soiled paper and cardboard containers, paper plates, pizza boxes.

Great Service at Low Cost

Monthly Garbage & Recycling Rates Based on a 30-35 Gallon Garbage Cart in Alameda County



Oro Loma Sanitary District's rate in the Unincorporated Area (L1,L2) is 37% lower than the average monthly rate of \$35.47.

In my own words...



Oro Loma 2018 School Outreach Program

Oro Loma announces a new school outreach program

If you are a student in an Oro Loma Sanitary District school, grades K-12, you could receive a \$100 gift card simply by writing a paragraph that starts with the following phrase:

"I think recycling is important because..."

Your paragraph must be on topic in your own words, must be no more than 100 words, and must be legible. That's it. Simply give us your thoughts.

Each student in an Oro Loma District school is encouraged to submit an entry.

Ten students in each grade will receive \$100 gift cards and commemorative certificates at an Oro Loma open house on May 5, 2018. Schools that participate in the Oro Loma 2018 School Outreach Program will receive \$250.

This new program continues a tradition of Oro Loma support for District students and schools that began in 1993 with the first Earth Day Poster Contest. We are excited about moving to this more broadly inclusive school outreach program and look forward to having all students tell us why they think recycling is important.

The period for submissions is February 20 to March 23, 2018. Entry cards will be provided to the schools. More information will be available on the District's website at the beginning of 2018.

Outstanding Environmental Project Award

On October 10, Oro Loma received the 2017 Outstanding Environmental Project Award from the Friends of San Francisco Estuary for its experimental Horizontal Levee project.

Friends of San Francisco Estuary is a non-profit organization dedicated to "protecting, restoring, and enhancing the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary."

The Horizontal Levee is designed to mimic nature's ability to filter wastewater and protect the shoreline from sea level rise. The project was started in spring 2015 and completed in spring 2017. Researchers from U.C. Berkeley will monitor the water quality improvements and habitat restoration created by the project.



Wastewater Collection Corner

Don't Connect Roof or Yard Drains to the Sewer System

During heavy rains, diverting runoff into the sewer system can dramatically increase the volume of water going to the treatment plant. Piping runoff water into the sewer system, either from house gutters or a sump pump, is in violation of District, local, and federal regulations. Any illegal drain must be disconnected from the sanitary sewer system and re-routed to the appropriate storm drainage system.



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

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

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

BOARD MEETINGS—OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

First and third Tuesdays of every month at 3:00 p.m.

What's New

2018 Recycling Calendars

Recycling calendars for 2018 will be mailed at the beginning of January. If you do not receive your new recycling calendar by the end of January, or if you need assistance to determine which recycling schedule you are on (A or B), contact Waste Management at (510) 613-8710. The 2018 recycling calendar will also be posted on the Oro Loma website, oroloma.org.



Don't Forget

Collection dates

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

Recycle your holiday tree

Recycle your holiday tree on your regular pickup day, January 2-12, 2018. Green trees only; no flocking. Trees must be no more than 6 feet in length or cut into 6-foot lengths.

No bulky pickup January 1-12, 2018

Bulky pickup is suspended the first two weeks in January. Oro Loma residents are entitled to two bulky pickups per calendar year without

additional charge. Appointments must be made with Waste Management at least two weeks in advance. For more information, go to oroloma.org/bulky-waste-pickup/.

Stay in the loop

Sign up for monthly email updates from Oro Loma by going to oroloma.org/email/. The emails are short reads with news about Oro Loma and tips for recycling and keeping our environment healthy.

BPS

A Backflow Prevention System (BPS) can keep wastewater out of your home in the event of a sewer blockage. Visit oroloma.org/backflow-prevention-system/ for information.

