

Act Quickly to Control Oak Wilt



There is no cure for oak wilt, but you can prevent the spread of the disease to nearby oak trees through quick action.

Report suspected oak wilt infections:

- Oak Wilt Viewer map: <https://qrgo.page.link/5BG39>
- E-mail: DNR-FRD-Forest-Health@Michigan.gov

If you suspect oak wilt, contact an Oak Wilt Qualified Specialist using **MichiganOakWilt.org**

Trained oak wilt management professionals can help you confirm the disease, control the spread and protect healthy oaks from oak wilt.

 **MichiganOakWilt.org**

Learn more about oak wilt, report infections, and find an Oak Wilt Qualified Specialist at:

 **MichiganOakWilt.org**



The Michigan Oak Wilt Coalition strives to reduce the adverse effects of oak wilt on people, communities, and natural resources.

COPYRIGHT 2021 MICHIGAN OAK WILT COALITION.
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Keep Michigan's
Oak Trees **ALIVE!**

**PREVENT
OAK WILT**

AVOID PRUNING from April 15th—July 15th
Paint immediately if wounds occur
Prune oaks in winter when possible
DO NOT MOVE FIREWOOD!

[Learn More:](#)

 **MichiganOakWilt.org**

Michigan's Oaks Are In Danger

Oak wilt is a deadly disease of oak trees. Trees with this fungal infection are unable to conduct water, causing severe wilt and leaf drop. Red oaks die within 6-8 weeks of infection.

Oak wilt spreads in two ways:

1. **Beetles**, attracted to the sap at fresh pruning cuts or open tree wounds, carry fungal spores from infected oak trees to healthy oaks.
2. **Connected root systems** enable the fungus to spread to surrounding oaks.



A sap beetle feeds on an infected oak. Photo: Wisconsin DNR.



Naturally-occurring root grafts connect neighboring trees.

Oak Wilt Is Preventable



Oaks are beautiful, valuable trees that make up a large portion of Michigan forests, landscapes, and communities. Oaks provide food and shelter for wildlife, improve air and water quality, and are an essential part of Michigan's recreation and wood products industries. This disease kills thousands of oaks per year, but you can help prevent oak wilt.

Prevent Oak Wilt

- Avoid pruning during the high-risk period of April 15th through July 15th. The safest time to prune oaks is in the winter months.
- Seal wounds that occur on oaks during the high-risk period.
- Don't move oak firewood because you can spread oak wilt to new areas.

How Oak Trees Show Symptoms of Oak Wilt



Wilt patterns in red oak leaves. Photo: Monique Sakalidis



Infected oaks drop leaves unexpectedly

- Oak tree leaves, often starting near the top of the tree, wilt and may quickly become brown or bronzed. Most noticeable from June to September.
- Oak trees drop leaves rapidly as the disease progresses, and red oaks die within weeks.
- Oak trees die along with neighboring dead oak trees that have died over multiple years.