Oak Wilt in the Finger Lakes

Finger Lakes PRISM Webinar

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Red Oaks

White Oaks
Image courtesy of Shaun Johnson, DEC Forest Health Diagnostic Lab
Nitidulids feed in pads and emerge with spores in and on their bodies.

Nitidulids visit fresh wounds on healthy oak and deposit spores.

Spores germinate and infect oak tree.

Fungal pressure pads and spore-bearing mats form under bark.

Infection spreads throughout the tree and leaf symptoms develop.

Discoloration develops in vascular tissues.

Tree dies.

Fungal spores move through grafted roots into adjacent uninfected trees.

Healthy trees become infected.
Photos courtesy of Brice June, NYS DEC
2019 Oak Wilt Surveys

- Quarantine districts
- Oak distribution
- Positive 2019
- Negative 2019
Site Plan:
Cut trees 3 through 7, leave tree 8.
Insert a trench between trees 3 and 8 with a barrier.
The landowner will pay for this trench barrier.
Insert a trench behind removed trees 4 through 7.
For more information on Quarantine District regulations and boundaries, check out the Commissioner’s Orders on the DEC Oak Wilt Website.
Report Symptomatic Trees

foresthealth@dec.ny.gov
1-866-640-0652
Pruning BMPs

PREVENT OAK WILT
DON'T PRUNE
March-Sept
Firewood Movement

USE LOCAL FIREWOOD

PROTECT TREES

Don’t Spread Pests & Disease
Summary

1) Report symptomatic trees that drop leaves in July-August.
2) Avoid pruning or wounding oaks from March-September. If wounding does occur, seal with paint.
3) Avoid moving firewood to reduce risk of transporting spore mats.
Thank You
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