



Information and resources for oak wilt

Oak wilt is a fungal disease affecting oak trees. It can move from tree to tree through natural spread (i.e. root system, insects, weather) or by human assistance (i.e. pruning trees or movement of firewood). All species and varieties of oak are susceptible to oak wilt.

The fungus grows on the outer sapwood of oak trees restricting the flow of water and nutrients through the tree and causing the foliage to wilt. While some trees can recover from the infection, the fungus can kill the tree.

There is currently no available treatment for oak wilt.

General Messaging on Oak Wilt

- [Oak wilt](#) poses a significant threat to Canada's trees and forests. While it is a slow moving disease, if it becomes established, it could have a major impact on Canada's natural resources and forest industries.
- The public can help slow the spread of oak wilt by [reporting any suspect finds to the CFIA](#).
- The CFIA also asks the public **not to prune oak trees between April and November**. Oak trees are at high risk for oak wilt infection during this time. Beetles can carry the oak wilt fungus from tree to tree and can enter wounded trees.
- Signs and symptoms of oak wilt include:
 - dull green, brown or yellow leaves;
 - leaf discoloration beginning on leaf tips and moving in towards the centre of the leaf;
 - cracks in the trunk of dead trees;
 - white, grey or black fungus under bark surface of dead trees;
 - and early and sudden leaf drop beginning at the crown of the tree.
- Learn more about oak wilt at inspection.canada.ca/oak-wilt

Visuals you can use

- [English](#) | [French](#)

Additional resources you can amplify

- [Report of oak wilt in Niagara Falls, Ontario \(2023\)](#)
- [Pest fact sheet](#)
- [Plant pest card - Oak Wilt](#)
- [Oak wilt response framework for Canada](#)
- [Science bulletin: Early warning research verifies the oak wilt threat is real](#)