



SUDDEN OAK DEATH – SOD BLITZ

May 3rd & May 4th

Sudden Oak Death (SOD), caused by *Phytophthora ramorum*, is a serious exotic disease that is threatening the survival of tanoak and several oak species in California. Currently SOD is found in 15 counties and is currently found at the Monterey/San Luis Obispo County border. Early detection on bay laurel is key, before the infection of oaks and tanoaks, for a successful proactive attempt to slow down the SOD epidemic.



Matteo Garbelotto from UC Berkeley will be coming to talk about the launch of the new OakSTeP program (Oak SOD Testing Program) that will allow licensed arborists, preserve managers, and qualified government employees to team up with U.C. Berkeley to test oaks for SOD infection. We encourage you all to attend to hear Matteo and to participate in the 2019 OSD BLITZ!

Registration: <http://ucanr.edu/2019sodblitztraining>

TRAINING LOCATIONS:

1. Friday, May 3, 6:30 – 7:30 PM, Atascadero Library, Martin Polin Community Room, 6555 Capistrano Ave., Atascadero, CA
2. Saturday, May 4, 10:00 – 11:00 AM, SLO County Department of Agriculture, 2156 Sierra Way, San Luis Obispo, CA

COLLECTING:

- Saturday and Sunday, May 4 – 5. All materials necessary for the training and collecting over the weekend will be provided.

The SOD-blitz is to inform and educate the community about the disease and its effects, get locals involved in detecting the disease, and produce detailed local maps of disease distribution. The map can then be used to identify those areas where the infestation may be mild enough to justify proactive management.

A community meeting/training session held on a Friday evening and Saturday morning; followed by collection of leaf samples by volunteers on Saturday and Sunday.

Samples and accompanying forms are then turned in after collections are completed, at a central locations Saturday and Sunday afternoon/evenings.