

Protect Your Trees From Oak Wilt

The oak wilt disease has recently been discovered in Kronenwetter. The Village is dedicated in our attempt to prevent the spread of the disease. In January 2014 the Village adopted an Oak Wilt Ordinance which outlines and regulates oak tree management practices in the community. **Do not injure, prune, or cut oaks from April 15th through August 15th.** It is during this time that oaks are most susceptible to the disease, therefore such maintenance is prohibited during this period. Oaks can still get infected during the other months, but it is less likely. If pruning oaks around your house, or clearing an oak lot for a house, it's advisable to do so during the winter months.

If wounding does occur, or pruning is necessary in response to an emergency (storm or equipment damage), apply a dressing to the wound within 24 hours. The cut surface of stumps from living, non-infected oaks should be immediately painted with a tree wound dressing. The wood of a newly infected tree that is cut down, needs to be debarked, burned, chipped, or covered with a tarp and sealed for a year. The Village has designated a drop-off location at the Village's Yard Waste Site where residents can bring oak trees that died and were cut in the past year. The site will be open from August 15 to mid-November. Trees received during this timeframe will be chipped during the winter to prevent the spread of oak wilt infection.

In 2014, the Village is offering a cost sharing program to those residents making an effort to properly control or prevent the spread of oak wilt disease. The program will reimburse property owners 50% of the expense incurred from hiring a professional forestry consultant to assess their property and layout a site-specific management plan (i.e. marking diseased trees for removal and identifying a method for removal). Only costs associated with consultation are eligible to be reimbursed. This will not include payment for the actual removal of diseased trees. Cost sharing is limited to a maximum of \$200.00 per property.

If you have questions or would like additional information about what you can be doing to help combat oak wilt, please contact Randy Fifrick at 715-693-4200 ext. 30 or rfifrick@kronenwetter.org.



Wounds are often caused by construction activity.



Apply tree wound dressing to the last 3 growth rings.



Store infected wood with a 4-mil or thicker sheet of clear plastic.