

## Ashley Wayman

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**From:** Flocke, Karl <karl.flocke@tfs.tamu.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2021 9:21 AM  
**To:** abifred@gmail.com; Amber Lewis; Carrie Caylor; kevinsschell@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Flocke, Karl; Baylis, Alison  
**Subject:** Oak Wilt  
**Attachments:** OakWiltTreatmentMap Breakout.pdf; Oak\_Wilt\_Containment\_Cost\_Share\_2017.pdf

I have attached a map of the revised oak wilt area (shown in red). Please note that in addition to the discussed tree in the front yard of 3010 Hatley, there are also symptomatic trees in the back yard as well.

The map also shows a new orange/black line 100 feet away from symptomatic trees. This is the minimum recommended distance for the placement of a new trench line (Please note the trench would need to be relocated further out on the ground to avoid houses, pools, trees, utilities, etc.). Exact placement of the trench can be determined by yourself and the trenching contractor as long as it is at least 100 feet away from oak wilt symptomatic trees. New utilities buried to a depth of 4 feet or greater may be included as part of the oak wilt trench. Our assessment is that trenches work approximately 70% of the time. Some trenches “breakout” in one or more areas such as the original trench did. Trees within the 100-ft barrier, especially those without symptoms, may be uprooted or cut down and removed to improve the barrier.

Cost share money would most likely be available for this project. The maximum reimbursement for this project would be \$3000. Please see the attached fact sheet.

Trees up to 100 feet away from the disease are prime candidates for fungicide injection right now. Injecting trees does not stop the spread of the disease, but it can attempt to preserve the canopy of the injected trees. Injections are only about 80% effective. Often two injections are needed per tree, one now and one 1 ½ to 2 years from now. If the disease is not halted by a trench line, additional trees will need to be treated as the disease spreads.

The disease can spread about 75 feet per year. I encourage you to monitor your trees to see if the disease is spreading, and to keep your neighbors informed so that they may react before the disease reaches their yards. Ultimately the decision of whether or not to install a new trench will depend on a financial calculation. Whether it will be cheaper to attempt another trench to potentially contain the disease, or if it may be more cost effective to manage the disease with fungicide injections as it spreads. It may also be valuable to consider the costs already invested in the first trench. Getting several quotes on trenching and injections may help the community to better make these decisions.

The <https://texasoakwilt.org/getting-help/vendors> website will have lists of arborists, injection companies and trenching companies.

Please let me know if you have any questions,

### Karl Flocke

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