



TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE

Central Texas: Oak Wilt Containment Cost Share

Oak Wilt, one of the most destructive tree diseases in the United States, is killing oak trees in Central Texas at epidemic proportions. Managing the disease requires an integrated approach which includes proper identification, preventing new infections and stopping the spread through roots.

There are only two methods to contain the disease by preventing new infection centers and stopping the spread through the roots. Cost share money may be available to destroy oak wilt diseased (or recently dead) red oak trees which will help prevent new infection centers. Cost share money may also be available to trench >48 inches deep around an oak wilt center to potentially stop the spread through roots.

As of 3/01/2017, the cost share rates available to qualified cooperators in qualified situations are:

1. **40% of costs to destroy a oak wilt diseased (or recently dead) red oak up to a maximum reimbursement payment of \$500 per cooperator per year. For cost share purposes, red oak trees refer to either Texas red oak (aka Spanish oak), Shumard oak or blackjack oak due to their ability to form fungal mats.**
2. **40% of costs to “trench” or sever the roots separating oak wilt diseased oak trees from healthy oak trees up to a maximum reimbursement payment of \$1000 per cooperator per year and total project maximum payment of \$3,000 for multiple cooperators. The trench must be >48 inches deep and must encircle or contain the disease to prevent spreading.**
3. **Other restrictions may apply.**
4. **An official award letter must be sent to cooperator before work can begin otherwise cooperator incurred costs will not be reimbursed.**

For more information on the above topics, visit <http://texasoakwilt.org/>