



News Advisory

SUDDEN OAK DEATH PREVENTATIVE TREATMENT TRAINING MEDIA OPPORTUNITY

Date: October 16, 2007

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WOODSIDE—Media are invited to attend a Sudden Oak Death (SOD) preventative treatment training session that is being offered to community members and local gardeners and arborists on October 20, 2007. The training will focus on the only CA Department of Pesticide Regulation-approved preventative treatment for use on SOD-susceptible trees. While not realistic for use on a forest-wide level, the treatment is effective for use on a tree by tree basis. Attendees will learn about how the phosphite-based product works, responsible use of the product, how to identify appropriate trees to treat, the application process, and important follow-up application information. Hands-on demonstrations will be included.

When: Saturday, October 20, 2007
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Where: Woodside Mounted Patrol Grounds
521 Kings Mountain Rd.
Woodside, CA

Matteo Garbelotto (UC Berkeley Forest Pathologist and Mycologist performing treatment and efficacy studies of the preventative treatment) will be conducting the training, a cooperative effort of the town of Woodside, town of Portola Valley, Woodside Fire Protection District, University of California, California Oak Mortality Task Force (COMTF), and the USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Research Station.

Caused by the plant pathogen *Phytophthora ramorum*, SOD is severely impacting woodlands throughout San Mateo County. Since the mid-1990s, *P. ramorum* has killed at least a million oak and tanoak trees in California. At least another million trees are currently infected.

For more information on Sudden Oak Death and *P. ramorum* or the training, contact Katie Palmieri, COMTF PIO, at (510) 847-5482 or palmieri@nature.berkeley.edu.

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