



News Advisory

SUDDEN OAK DEATH IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY: A COMMUNITY MEETING

Date: September 10, 2007

Contact: Katie Palmieri
Public Information Officer
(510) 847-5482

LOS ALTOS HILLS--A Sudden Oak Death (SOD) community meeting will be held at Los Altos Hills Town Hall on September 12, 2007. A cooperative venture of the Los Altos Hills Open Space Committee, the California Oak Mortality Task Force (COMTF), and the USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Research Station, the informational meeting is intended to provide disease information, preventative treatment options, and information on how to remove and dispose of infested material properly. There will also be an open panel discussion during which community members can ask questions, express their concerns, and brainstorm options for proactive community activities and management strategies.

When: Wednesday, September 12, 2007
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Where: Los Altos Hills Town Hall
26379 Fremont Road
Los Altos Hills 94022

“The greatest advantage we can have against this aggressive pathogen is to work together on collaborative management responses that incorporate large swaths of land. Meetings such as these arm citizens with the necessary tools to take action on an individual level as well as on a community level. That is positive and powerful,” said Mark Stanley, COMTF chairman.

Caused by the plant pathogen *Phytophthora ramorum*, Sudden Oak Death is severely impacting wildlands throughout 14 coastal California counties. Since the 1990s, more than a million oak and tanoak trees have died from this pathogen and at least another million are currently infected.

For more information on the meeting, contact Nancy Couperus at couperusj@sbcglobal.net or (650) 941-4808. For more information on Sudden Oak Death and *P. ramorum*, contact Katie Palmieri at palmieri@nature.berkeley.edu.