

# STATEWIDE OAK WILT APRIL - JUNE 2017 QUARTERLY UPDATE



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

Crews from New York State's Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and partner agencies continue to manage oak wilt at confirmed infection centers in five towns and one borough in New York State, including Brooklyn, Canandaigua, Islip, Riverhead, Scotia, and Southold for eradication or control. For background information on oak wilt, please visit: [www.dec.ny.gov/lands/46919.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/46919.html).

## Insect traps were checked by DEC staff

- Five traps in Green-Wood Cemetery and Prospect Park were checked biweekly by DEC staff. The USDA Forest Service will check for the presence of oak wilt fungus on the beetles collected.
- DEC staff checked 21 insect traps in Canandaigua, 21 traps in Central Islip, and 5 traps in Brooklyn.
  - Trap results will help DEC help identify which nitidulid beetle and bark beetle species may be spreading the disease.

## Oak tree monitoring

- Dozens of trees were monitored in various locations including: Wildwood State Park, Southold, Brooklyn, Islip, Cutchogue, Brightwater, the Bayard Cutting Arboretum, the Green-Wood Cemetery, Caledonia, Letchworth State Park, Watkins Glen State Park, and points throughout the Southern Tier.
- Photo monitoring units were installed in Brooklyn and in Central Islip.

## Ground surveys

- Windshield surveys were used to spot symptomatic trees along several miles of roadsides in Wading River, Cutchogue, and West Islip.
- During southern pine beetle aerial surveys, DEC mapped areas with dead oak trees to check for possible oak wilt infection. In Brooklyn and Suffolk County, 39 of these areas were ground-truthed and 6 individual trees were checked.

## Outreach

- Four DEC interns and seasonal staff as well as 27 Natural Heritage Program staff, 20 Region 2 Environmental Conservation Officers, and 25 State Parks biologists were trained in oak wilt identification.
- Presentations were made at the Long Island Arborists Association meeting, the LIISMA PRISM Invasive Species Conference, and meetings of the Central Pine Barrens Commission and the Town of Southold.
- Outreach materials, including an oak wilt film, bus shelters ads and various factsheets, were developed and widely distributed.



DEC staff installing funnel trap in Canandaigua, NY.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Division of Lands and Forests

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