

SOD Blitz Marin County

April 19-22, 2024

https://nature.berkeley.edu/matteolab/?page_id=148

The NORS-DUC team will organize the annual SOD Blitz in Marin Co. from April 19-22, 2024.

SOD stands for Sudden Oak Death; it is a deadly plant disease caused by the invasive pathogen *Phytophthora ramorum*, killing millions of trees in coastal California. The SOD Blitz is an annual event, organized by Prof. Matteo Garbelotto and his team from UC Berkeley together with local partners along coastal California. SOD-blitzes inform and educate the community about Sudden Oak Death, get locals involved in detecting the disease, and produce a detailed web-based map of disease distribution. The map can then be used to identify those areas where the infestation may be mild enough to justify proactive management. The SOD Blitz is one of the biggest citizen science events in forest pathology worldwide!



Sampling will focus on leaves of California Bay Laurel showing typical SOD symptoms (shown above).



Get ready for the 2024 SOD Blitz Marin County April 19-22

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1) Register online for the SOD Blitz

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/UCB2/SODBlitz2023Registration>

2) Complete the online SOD Blitz Survey training

<https://nature.berkeley.edu/matteolab/?p=3314>

3) Download the free app SODmap mobile

https://nature.berkeley.edu/matteolab/?page_id=732

to see trees that were previously sampled and to get the coordinates of the trees you sample. It is OK to resample trees!

4) Pick up your sample collection packet outside the main entrance to the Science Building, Dominican University. 155 Palm Avenue, San Rafael (approach via Acacia Avenue: walk through a little park and cross over a wooden bridge).

5) Collect samples anywhere in Marin Co. on your own schedule.

6) Please return the sample collection packet before the deadline.

7) Sampling packets can be picked up and returned anytime between April 18, 4 pm and April 23, 9 am.

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