



Invasive, deadly oak wilt confirmed in Crow Wing County

Oak wilt, a non-native, invasive fungal disease that kills all species of oak in Minnesota, has been confirmed for the first time in Crow Wing County. To reduce further spread, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is reminding area residents and visitors to avoid pruning oak trees until August and

not move firewood.

Now located in 40 Minnesota counties, oak wilt has slowly been spreading north. The University of Minnesota Plant Disease Clinic laboratory confirmed several infected oak trees on private land on the east side of Gull Lake, 20 miles north of the previous northernmost location of oak wilt in this region. This small oak wilt pocket will be treated this autumn, and the DNR will closely monitor the surrounding area for new oak wilt infections. Oak trees within a 20-mile radius of any known oak wilt location are at high risk of developing the disease. With this new detection, oaks in much of Crow Wing County and southern Cass County are now threatened. Brainerd, Breezy Point, Crosby, Cross Lake, Ironton, Jenkins, Lake Shore, Nisswa, Pequot Lakes and Pine River are in the high-risk zone.

To read more details on oak wilt prevention and how best to deal with infected trees and wood, see the [DNR's oak wilt management webpage](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/treecare/forest_health/oakwilt/management.html):
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Article courtesy of Landsburg Landscape Nursery.

