



California's forests are in danger!



What can you do?

Park only in designated parking lots.

Stay on trails and out of muddy areas.

Do not collect or move plant material or soil in parks.

Do not bring plant material into the park.

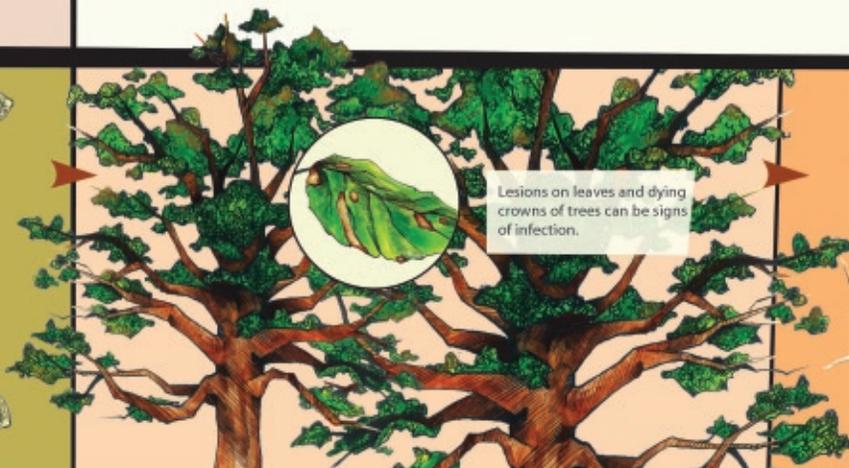


Just one spore of the virus that causes the forest disease Sudden Oak Death is enough to infect thousands of ancient trees. By the time the disease was first recognized in 1995, many of California's oaks—among the oldest and largest in the nation—were already dead or dying. Since then, Sudden Oak Death has caused the widespread death of tens of thousands of oak trees. It can also affect at least 40 other tree species, including California's Douglas firs and even our coast redwoods

In California, as in other states and countries, Sudden Oak Death has been found in stream water, in soil, and among the leaves and twigs in forest undergrowth. Though insects and birds are possible carriers, human movement of infected materials may also contribute to the rapid spread of this devastating disease.



Tiny spores produced by the fungus-like organism that causes Sudden Oak Death land on wet leaves or stems and then germinate to infect the tree.



Lesions on leaves and dying crowns of trees can be signs of infection.

The most common symptom is red-brown to black cankers that seep dark-colored sap.

