Mediterranean Oak Borer Tree Removal Process

The presence of Mediterranean oak borer (MOB; *Xyleborus monographus*) in Wilsonville is of high concern. The MOB is an invasive, tiny, wood boring beetle called an "ambrosia beetle." Ambrosia beetles do not feed on wood directly, but instead cultivate fungus grow in the tunnels (galleries) they create in the wood. While there are native ambrosia beetles, the MOB carries fungi that have been connected to a tree disease called oak wilt that can kill an oak tree in 2-3 years.

If your Oregon white oak tree is displaying any of the symptoms, it is imperative that you follow the process below to prevent the spread of this invasive pest.
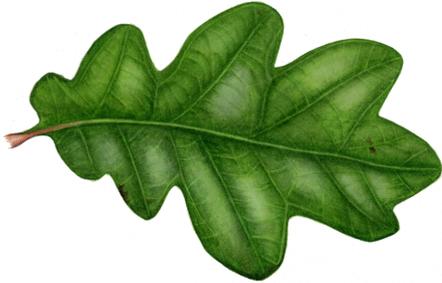
Step 1: Report
Report the suspected tree to the Oregon Invasive Species Hotline (https://oregoninvasiveshotline.org/). It is a quick and easy online process that alerts representatives at Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) .

Step 2: Confirm
Obtain confirmation from a representative from ODA or ODF that MOB is present in your tree.

Step 3: Contact City
Report the confirmed infestation to City staff with the Wilsonville Planning Division (Planning@ci.wilsonville.or.us, (503)682-4960). This can either be done by the property owner or by a certified arborist hired to assess the tree.

Step 4: Treatment
If the tree has not lost 30% or more of its canopy or has limited or no evidence of MOB, treatment could be an option. Contact City staff (Planning@ci.wilsonville.or.us, (503)682-4960) if you plan to treat your tree(s). Companies focused on tree health should be able to recommend up-to-date treatment options. If the tree has been impacted enough to warrant removal, continue to Step 5

MOB Symptoms

- Dying scaffold/leader branches

- Frass (fine, powdery sawdust) on trunk or at base

- 1/10 inch borer holes or MOB beetles

Step 5: Tree Removal Permit

If removal is needed, arborists and tree care companies (or the property owner) must obtain an Tree Removal Permit from the Wilsonville Planning Division before removing the tree. Prior to removal staff will confirm that the infested tree can be removed and will share up to date information on appropriate disposal methods and resources as available. A condition of approval for the Tree Removal Permit is submitting evidence of proper disposal to the City.

Step 6: Disposal

Contact City staff immediately after removal to coordinate disposal. Below are the current best practices for disposal that does not further spread MOB.

- Per ODA, the best disposal method is to burn the tree on-site, but this is not a feasible solution when the tree is located in an urban area with residences and businesses in close proximity. Coordination with Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (TVF&R) is required.
- The next best disposal method is to break down the tree into the smallest pieces possible and transport the woody debris in a completely enclosed truck to an incinerator or chip recycling center. (Must inform recycling center of the MOB presence)
- If an incinerator is not available or feasible, the next best disposal method is to chip the wood into one (1) inch pieces, or as small as possible (1"-3" is the recommended range). The chips should be left on site and at a safe distance from other Oregon white oak trees on the property.
- If incineration or recycling is not possible the transport of covered infested material to a disposal facility that can preform deep burial in an enclosed disposal area. It is best to transport material during colder months when beetles are less active (December-February) to avoid spreading MOB in transit.
  * DO NOT MOVE DEBRIS OUTSIDE OF WILSONVILLE WITHOUT CITY PERMISSION*

Step 7: Plant a Tree

Replant a tree, when required. Communicate with the Wilsonville Planning Division to determine if replanting is required and what tree can be replanted, and to find out if there are any upcoming citywide tree plantings planned.