

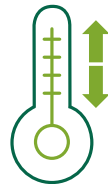
Plant Health for SUSTAINABLE FORESTS

Plant health is **your** health.



Forest products are a **\$200 billion industry** and support over 2.5 million rural jobs in the U.S.¹

Forests also provide over **\$63 billion in ecosystem services** like climate regulation, waste treatment, food production, recreation, and more.²



Forests are threatened globally by diseases and pests and new invasive threats arrive each year. For example, approximately 2.5 new forest insect pests arrive in the U.S. each year!³

Here's what YOU can do

- **Don't move firewood!** Many insects and diseases can accidentally be moved long distances on firewood or other contaminated wood and plant products. Instead, burn local firewood.
- **Buy local!** Buy from local nurseries and follow all regulations regarding importation of plants.
- **Keep an eye out!** Be on the lookout for new insects and diseases. Early control is much more effective when eradication is possible. Report invasive plant pathogens and pests to the National Plant Diagnostic Network (<https://www.npdn.org/>).
- **Bring home memories, not pests!** When travelling abroad, do not bring live plants home from other countries and sanitize your shoes after hiking or visiting fields.



Sudden oak death

- Invasive pathogen (*Phytophthora ramorum*) causes disease on many plants worldwide
- In the U.S., it is killing oak and tanoak trees on the West Coast and has caused over \$140 million in losses between 2010 and 2020⁴
- There is a huge risk of potential spread to the eastern U.S. where oak species dominate over 47% of the eastern U.S. forestlands and account for much of their estimated \$1.3 trillion timber value.

Sources: #1, data from U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities (www.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=3cd3bb86c2944b7faa172c0e25504879) and American Forest Foundation (www.forestfoundation.org/family-owned-forests-for-rural-communities); #2, data from The Wilderness Society (www.sierraforestlegacy.org/Resources/Conservation/FireForestEcology/ForestEconomics/EcosystemServices.pdf); #3, data from Lovett et al., 2016 (<https://esajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1890/15-1176>); #4, data from Kovacs et al., 2011 (www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0301479710004627).



Here's how scientists help

- Stop new introductions through regulation, inspection, early detection, and eradication.
- Promote healthy trees and forests through management, since healthy trees are less susceptible to insects and diseases.
- Develop more resistant trees that can overcome invasive insects and diseases through breeding.
- Fight invasive species directly, via development of biological control agents or innovative treatment options.



For more information visit planthealthisyourhealth.org