

SOD Blitz Marin County

April 24-26, 2026

www.sodblitz.info

The NORS-DUC team will organize the annual SOD Blitz in Marin Co., April 24-26, 2026.

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 “citizen science” 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).

Nine steps to get ready for the 2026 SOD Blitz:

1- All the info are online at www.sodblitz.info

Check the [SOD Blitz 2026 Schedule](#) to find a survey time in your community.

2- [Register for the Blitz Online](#) – We need everyone to register so that we can contact you with the results in the fall. Also, if you are planning to sample in the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District [please complete this online waiver](#).

3- Complete the online [SOD Blitz Survey training](#) by watching the video and power point presentation.

4- Pick up your sample collection packet at your local SOD Blitz station listed in the SOD Blitz 2026 Schedule. For Marin Co.: **main entrance of the Science Center, Dominican University of California, 155 Palm Avenue**

5- Please return the sample collection packet before the deadline. The exact deadline is posted at your local SOD Blitz station (usually Monday before 9pm).

6- Unless otherwise noted, each station will be manned the first day of each SOD Blitz between 10am and noon, however you can collect and return samples until the local event's sample return deadline.

7- Don't forget to fill in the feedback survey, included in the sample collection packet, to help us improve the program.

8- If you have ever performed any action to protect your oaks/tanoaks from SOD, whether surveying for SOD, following a specific gardening schedule to minimize the spread of SOD, removing infectious or dead trees, or treating trees, please fill in the [SOD Treatment Survey Form](#). This form is also included in your survey collection packet.

9- Thank you for your help!

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