

Resolution No. 130819

GENOA CHARTER TOWNSHIP
Livingston County, Michigan

OAK WILT RESOLUTION

Whereas, Genoa Charter Township's trees, woodlots, landscapes, greenbelts, natural areas and right-of-ways, represent a valuable and precious asset, necessary to preserve; and

Whereas, various oak (*Quercus*) species comprise a significant component of this natural and rural forest environment, in some locations as much as 80-90% of the dominant tree species; and

Whereas, Genoa Charter Township is concerned a deadly disease known as oak wilt caused by the fungus *Ceratocystis fagacearum* is a threat to the Township's oak population. Improper tree trimming/removal practices may result in the establishment of oak wilt disease epicenters, which may lead to increased disease activity with devastating aesthetic and economic losses. It is therefore both advisable and prudent to attempt to prevent and control oak wilt.

The Genoa Charter Township Board of Trustees hereby resolves the following:

Tree Care Practices: Oak Wilt Prevention

- a) Oak trees **should not be pruned or trimmed between April 1 and October 15** regardless of their location. Exceptions include pruning for storm damage, construction, utility work, accidents, etc. (see item b).
- b) It is the responsibility of the property owner, developer, contractor to repair or cause to be repaired any oak trees that are inadvertently injured between April 1 and October 15, by removal of exposed jagged surfaces followed by prompt sealing with a tree pruning sealer or latex paint. Such repair should take place within hours of the injury.
- c) Oaks that exhibit symptoms of oak wilt (see the attached and/or Genoa Township's web site) or show signs of decline or death should be reported to the Livingston County Road Commission (517) 546-4250.

Tree Care Practices: Oak Wilt Management

- a) Suspected cases of oak wilt should be reported as soon as observed, to Livingston County Road Commission, (517) 546-4250.
- b) Any developer, contractor and/or owner(s) of property preparing a site for construction during April 1st through October 15th should adhere to the above oak wilt prevention practices.
- c) Trees confirmed with oak wilt are the responsibility of the property owner to perform or cause to be performed, one or several of the following practices.
 - i) Members of the red oak family, which have died of oak wilt, should be removed within 5 weeks.

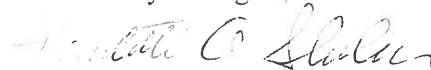
- ii) Members of the red oak family not infected by oak wilt, but potentially root grafted to a tree that was killed or diseased with oak wilt, should be treated by injection of the fungicide Alamo by a registered company.
- iii) Members of the white oak family diseased with oak wilt may recover with Alamo tree injections. Trenching may be a practice in lieu of or in addition to injections for oak wilt management (see www.genoa.org).
- iv) Dead oak trees should be removed and properly disposed by chipping to less than 3 inches or removed to a disposal site for debarking, burning or burial. Oak wood retained as firewood should be sealed with a (brown or green) tarp during the warm season, April 1 - October 15.
- v) Stumps left by removal of oak trees should be promptly removed, buried or sealed.

Tree Care Practices: Best Practices and Public Education

- a) Genoa Charter Township staff will pursue best management practices for the Township's own efforts in dealing with suspected cases of oak wilt.
- b) The Township will promote public education regarding oak wilt through the Township website at genoa.org, and also through newsletters and social media.

Copies of this resolution shall be communicated to appropriate State and County representatives, utility companies, tree service companies as well as Township property owners.

This Resolution is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Genoa Charter Township Board in a meeting thereof duly held and called on the 19th day of August, 2013.



Paulette A. Skolarus

Genoa Charter Township Clerk