Collect and Submit Shrubs and Trees for Testing

**Shrubs**

1) **Digging Shrubs When Possible**
   
   A. **Use Shovel or Spade**
      
      Dig around the root ball and **DO NOT** pull the plant up because you will tear weakened roots!
   
   B. **Cut the root ball in half**
      
      The entire roots are not needed but retain the side of the root ball that displays symptoms. Remove any excess soil. Also, make sure to retain the small, fibrous roots.
   
   C. **Remove Branches**
      
      Remove a couple of branches about halfway down the plant.
   
   D. **Trim Shrub**
      
      Trim the remaining large branches back, but keep some with the sample.

2) **Wrapping Shrubs**
   
   A. Use a large garbage bag to contain the roots and soil.
   
   B. Place another bag cover over the leaves and branches for shipping.

3) **Take Additional samples**
   
   A. Make sure to take a sample of roots and soil from any adjacent plant that is showing symptoms.

4) **Label each bag**
   
   A. Be sure to include (DATE, NAME, and specify SAMPLE)

5) **Provide Information**
   

**Trees**

1) **Sampling Trees**
   
   A. **Look for signs and symptoms that can be sampled**
   
   B. **Branches**
      
      Sample the branches by cutting them several inches beyond each side of the affected area.
      
      Be sure to INCLUDE live wood in the sample and also collect some fine roots and soil if possible.

   C. **Note:** Take note of any change in the environment or property around the tree, such as, digging weed spraying, new side walk, etc.