

Bad Beetle Blitz

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You are needed!

Learn how to find and document the possible presence and distribution of bad beetles (invasive shothole borers and goldspotted oak borer) in the Santa Monica Mountains.

During this four-part training, experts from the UC ANR will teach you how to identify infestations in native and non-native trees. Then, join us to collect valuable and much-needed data. Sponsored by Los Angeles County Supervisor Kuehl with many thanks to the UC Agriculture and Natural Resources/ UC Cooperative Extension (UC ANR) and Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures.

Volunteers are required to attend all four events (first training is online, second will be in-person, third is to survey an area on your own, and fourth is an online office hour). The in-person event will be held outdoors and will abide by current CDC COVID-prevention guidelines, including social distance, small group size, mask wearing, and frequent hand sanitizing.

Space is limited. RSVPs required. Please contact Carina Walker at badbeetle.project@gmail.com to RSVP. Come prepared with appropriate shoes for hiking, hat, sunscreen, and drinking water. Red flag or excessive heat warnings will cancel the event.




Supervisor Sheila Kuehl

TRAINING #1

ONLINE at www.ishb.org Must be completed before May 18th. Email Carina a copy (or screenshot) of the completion certificate to badbeetle.project@gmail.com.

Must download and make an account with iNaturalist on cellphone prior to training #2. Join the Ventura and LA County Bad Beetle Watch project. For more iNaturalist project information, go to <https://www.rcdsmm.org/resources/caring-for-your-oak-trees/>

TRAINING #2

TUESDAY, MAY 18, 9:30am to 12:30pm (In-person)

LOCATION

Shane's Inspiration Playground 4800 Crystal Springs Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90027
Enter Griffith Park and follow signs on Crystal Springs Drive to the Ranger Station near Fern Canyon. Turn on the Fire Road, pass the Merry Go Round, and park across from the playground in Merry Go Round Lot 3.

AGENDA

9:30 - 9:45	Registration
9:45 - 10:15	Introductions, site overview and safety. Divide into 2 groups.
Group 1	
10:15-11:05	Pest identification & management
11:05-11:55	iNaturalist and observation practice
Group 2	
10:15 - 11:05	iNaturalist and observation practice
11:05 - 11:55	ISHB identification & management
12:00 - 12:30	Whole Group Wrap-up and questions. Feedback survey. Signing up for May 25 th survey locations

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- ▶ Review the information learned in the online training
- ▶ Assess trees and identify signs and symptoms of ISHB-FD infestation
- ▶ Differentiate signs of ISHB from lookalike pests, especially in dead wood
- ▶ Learn about signs and symptoms of GSOB infestations in oaks
- ▶ Understand general preventative measures and management practices
- ▶ Understand the value of volunteer-based data and how it will be used in this project
- ▶ Learn how to use iNaturalist to submit an observation for this project

TRAINING #3

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 9:30am to 12:30pm

Meet at Survey site selected during Training 2
Small group guided tree surveys using iNaturalist in the field.

TRAINING #4

THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 10:30am to 12:00pm

Online office hour. Bring your burning images and questions and we will answer them!