

10 Ways That You Can Help Oaks



DECADE
OF THE
oak



1. Enjoy and Appreciate Oak Habitats

- Visit local parks, natural areas, and refuges with oak woodlands and prairies.
- Follow #DecadeOfTheOak on Facebook or Instagram to learn more.
- Gather and share acorns with your community.
- Learn more about local oak and prairie partnerships at oakalliance.org.



2. Plant and Care for Acorns and Young Oaks

- Plant native oaks.
- Use tree tubes or wire caging to deter rodents, deer, and mowers.
- Ensure they have ample space to grow.
- Use mulch around the base of oak trees.



3. Protect Legacy Oaks

- Don't water mature trees.
- Avoid root damage and limit construction impact.
- Remove encroaching trees within 1.5x of the edge of a mature oak's foliage.
- Be mindful of pesticides, herbicides, and other chemicals.



4. Adopt Oak-Friendly Land Management Practices

- Leave a tillage buffer and plan irrigation.
- Avoid moving firewood to prevent the spread of tree diseases and pests.
- Create a prescribed grazing plan or forest management plan.
- Learn about oak-friendly land management and maintain oak understories.



5. Support Oak Habitat Restoration

- Plant native oak-associated shrubs and wildflowers.
- Volunteer for restoration projects.
- Remove invasive species.



6. Reduce Wildfire Risk in Your Community

- Practice fire-wise habitat management by reducing ladder fuels and dense brush that can increase fire intensity.
- Support prescribed fire as a management tool to reduce invasive species, promote native plant regeneration, and maintain healthy oak ecosystems.



7. Learn, Educate, and Advocate

- Inform yourself and share about the importance of oak trees.
- Support policies protecting oaks and oak-friendly agriculture and forestry.
- Attend workshops to learn more about the natural environment.
- Visit museums and tribal centers to learn about the significance of oaks.



8. Support Wildlife That Depends on Oaks

- Leave branches and deadwood that provide habitats for insects, birds, and fungi.
- Retain tree cavities or install nest boxes to support cavity-nesting birds.
- Keep your dog on a leash to avoid disturbance to wildlife.



9. Participate in Community Science

- Report oak tree health issues
- Participate in citizen science projects to monitor diseases like Mediterranean Oak Borer and Sudden Oak Death.
- Contribute to online data projects like those on iNaturalist and eBird.



10. Donate to Conservation Organizations

- Support groups dedicated to oak protection and restoration through donations or volunteering.

Learn more and connect:

[OAKALLIANCE.ORG](https://oakalliance.org)



Pacific Northwest
Oak Alliance