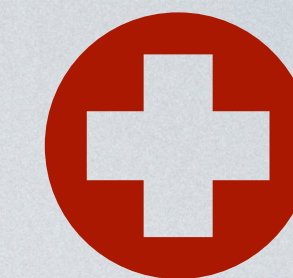




BLUE MOUNTAIN FOREST HEALTH



General Recommendation Trim lower branches to 8 to 10 feet from the ground to slow a wildfire's ability to spread from the ground to low branches on the tree.

Abiotic Issues

- **S**everal abiotic issues have been observed in locations throughout the community.
- **A**biotic refers to a non-living factor present that has impacted the health of plant life.
 - Sudden temperature shift - hot to frigid
 - Extremely dry conditions during the growth season
 - Wind
 - Trees near the road could be impacted by chemicals used by the county for de-icing after snow removal
- **A**biotic issues do not always result in tree death as long as issue is mitigated by the property owner. Once needles drop improvement should occur the following year.

Biotic Issues

- **D**ouglas Fir Pole Beetle suspected on some properties
 - Trees that are dead should be cut down and removed - fall is the best time to prevent further infestation
 - Contact Bugs-N-Crud team to confirm pest issue - who remove a small section of bark to identify pest and recommend treatment
- **D**warf Mistletoe present in several trees. This is a parasitic plant that feeds on the ponderosa host tree, robbing the tree of nutrients and water.
 - Recommend removal to prevent spreading of dwarf mistletoe to other trees on or near property.
 - Dwarf mistletoe, once mature spreads by explosive release up to 33 feet to the next tree victim.
- **T**ussock moths recently observed on Westridge
 - Treat with BT (Bacillus Thuringiensis) spray early in spring once confirmed.

Bugs-N-Crud (B-N-C) team was established in 2021 to diagnose probable issues with trees within the community (primarily evergreen / conifer trees). To contact the B-N-C team please [Click Here](#)