How should you send your samples?

**In person:** The Plant Clinic is open 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. For directions, visit the following website:  
www.puyallup.wsu.edu/map.htm

**Mail packages to:**

WSU Puyallup Plant Clinic  
7612 Pioneer Way E  
Puyallup, WA  98371-4998

**Please DO NOT mail on a Friday** or before national holidays because the specimens may deteriorate in transit or over the weekend.

How much does the service cost?

Commercial insect/plant problems…….. $25  
Commercial turf problems……………… $25  
Golf course turf problems (expedited)... $50  
Plant identification…………………… $5

Special tests may incur additional fees. We accept payment by cash or check only. Please make checks payable to ‘WSU Puyallup Plant Clinic’.

For more information, contact Jenny Glass:

Phone: (253) 445-4582  
Fax: (253) 445-4569  
Email: glass@puyallup.wsu.edu  
www.puyallup.wsu.edu/plantclinic/index.html

Visit the *Hortsense* website to obtain background and management information for common plant problems in Washington:

pep.wsu.edu/hortsense
An accurate diagnosis is the most important step in solving plant problems!

How should you package your specimens for shipment?

- Place roots and associated soil in a plastic bag. Pack the plant and bag into a sturdy box for shipping. Wrap fleshy material such as fruits, fungi, and tubers in dry paper towels or newspaper. Place bulky materials (branches, stems, and twigs) in plastic bags, then pack into a sturdy container. Include padding to prevent injury during shipping.

- Kill insects by freezing, then pack gently with tissues or cotton in a vial. Enclose the vial with the completed form in a box. Do not send live insects or dead insects in a bag, envelope, on tape, or on sticky traps.

How should you collect a sample?

- Select plant material that is showing symptoms of concern.
- Send several specimens showing various stages of the problem, especially the early stages.
- Many problems originate belowground in and around roots—Please include roots and soil!
- Provide complete background information (use forms provided).
- Please do not submit dead, dry, decayed or rotted samples.

How should you package your specimens for shipment?

- Kill insects by freezing, then pack gently with tissues or cotton in a vial. Enclose the vial with the completed form in a box. Do not send live insects or dead insects in a bag, envelope, on tape, or on sticky traps.

What information should you provide?

You may obtain forms for insect diagnosis (C0495) and plant problem diagnosis (C1006) at your local WSU Cooperative Extension office, or on the internet at pubs.wsu.edu. Please include the following:

- Personal contact information (address, phone, fax, email)

- Detailed information about the problem: When was problem first noticed? Is the problem spreading, and how fast? How many plants are affected?

- Detailed information about plant and its cultural care: type of plant, age, condition of surrounding plants, site description (drainage, exposure, weather), irrigation, pesticide and fertilizer use (type, rate, date)

Services:

- Insect identification and management recommendations
- Plant problem/disease diagnosis and management recommendations
- Plant identification

Benefits to you:

- Better insect and disease management
- Improved plant health
- Money saved
- Reduced and more effective use of chemical treatments

Wilting, yellowing, or die-back:
Dig up and submit whole plants (with roots).

Potted plants: Send the whole plant, including roots and soil.

Fruit, leaves, flowers, twigs or branches: Send specimens showing diseased and healthy tissue.

Turf: Collect samples at least 4-by-4 inches square and 3 inches deep. Include roots, thatch, and soil!

Vascular wilt of trees (Verticillium wilt or Dutch elm disease): Send several branch sections that are ½ to 1 inch in diameter and about 8 inches long from branches with wilting or yellowing leaves.