

## Boxwood Blight Quarantine

Boxwood blight is caused by the fungus *Calonectria psuedonaviculatum* and affects plants in the Buxaceae family. The disease shows up on boxwood shrubs as leaf spots, stem lesions, and premature leaf drop. The disease can spread rapidly in warm and humid conditions. Fungicides merely mask the symptoms. Given the ease of contagion and risk of unknowingly moving infected material, Tennessee is establishing a quarantine for all material that may spread boxwood blight. The regulated articles include but are not limited to:

- Boxwood plants and any material containing boxwood plants (e.g., greenery, compost, mulch, soil, or waste).
- Sarcococca plants and any material containing Sarcococca plants (e.g., greenery, compost, mulch, soil, or waste).
- Any equipment, shipping materials, compost, mulch, soil, or waste that does not contain, but has been exposed to, boxwood or Sarcococca plants.

### Are You Importing Boxwood or Sarcococca?

Regulated material brought into Tennessee must be accompanied by a **Phytosanitary Certificate** and a **Compliance Agreement** with a boxwood blight cleanliness program or participation in a boxwood blight cleanliness program.

Any business or person importing regulated material from outside the state of Tennessee must notify the Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA) within three days of the expected delivery.

Fill out a [Shipping notification form](#) available online or email Notify the Tennessee Department agriculture (TDA) regarding the shipment by emailing [plant.certification@tn.gov](mailto:plant.certification@tn.gov) , along with the invoices, compliance agreement/ compliance stamps, and phytosanitary certification within three days of the expected delivery.

If you have any questions, please contact the Consumer and Industry Services Division Plant Certification Section at (615) 837-5137 or [plant.certification@tn.gov](mailto:plant.certification@tn.gov).

