FH22-2014

NEBRASKA FOREST SERVICE

Emerald Ash Borer:

Readiness Planning for Nebraska Communities

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www.nfs.unl.edu

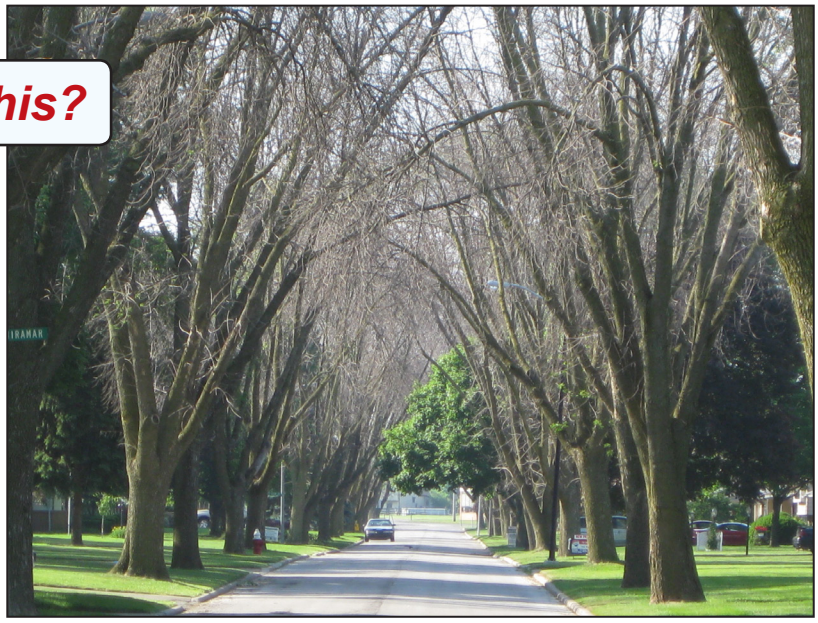
Is your community ready . . .

Ash-lined street in 2006, Toledo, Ohio.

Emerald ash borer (EAB) is a pest of historical significance that will change the face of the landscape in your community.

The Nebraska Forest Service can help you prepare!

. . . for this?



Same street three years later—all ash trees dead.

Why Prepare Now?

- Emerald ash borer (EAB) is a highly invasive pest that has killed millions of ash trees in North America.
- Historically this pest will rival Dutch elm disease in its impact on community and rural forest resources.
- If you do not plan ahead, your community may be faced with many problems when EAB arrives.

Exponential Tree Death:

- Overwhelmed with dead trees.
- Huge budget-buster.
- Dead ash are brittle and quickly become hazards.
- Public complaints increase.

Benefits of Planning Ahead:

- Removal costs can be spread out over many years.
- Replacement trees can become established and functional.
- Public awareness campaigns can be implemented to gain citizen support.
- High-value ash trees can be identified, and plans can be made for protecting these trees.

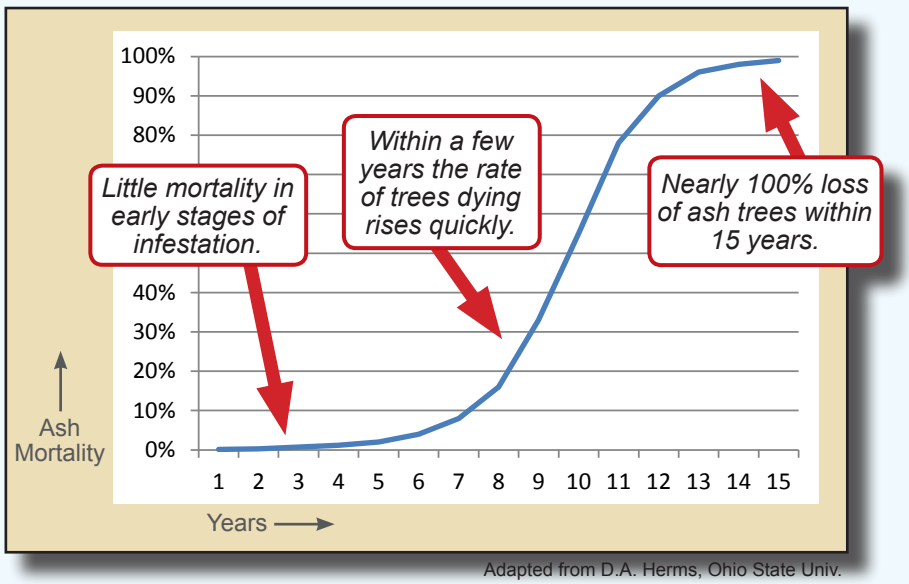
Some Questions to Ask Yourself

- How many ash trees am I managing? What is their size and health status?
- Can my landscape crew identify a potential EAB infestation?
- Are regulations in place for removal of infested ash trees on public and private property and for planting new trees?
- Do I have a marshalling yard for tree debris? How will infested trees be handled verses non-infested trees?
- What treatment options exist?

- Who will do tree work? Are personnel trained? Do I have the necessary equipment?
- How will tree work be paid for?
- How can I get citizen support?
- Options for working with nearby communities?

Ash Death Curve

If left unchecked, EAB can destroy a community's ash tree population in 15 years.



Adapted from D.A. Herms, Ohio State Univ.

- Ash mortality is generally low early in the infestation, but dead trees begin to overwhelm a community within a few years.
- Depending on the initial population of ash trees, a community may have to deal with dozens or even hundreds of dead trees **per year** at the height of an EAB infestation.
- EAB may go undetected for several years leaving less time to prepare for extensive tree loss.

Assistance

Nebraska Forest Service personnel can provide guidance to your community in planning for and dealing with EAB.

Groups we work with include:

- **city employees**
- **tree boards**
- **college campuses**

How we can help:

- **Preparedness Planning**

  Assist with a survey of public ash trees, discuss landscape issues, and provide guidance in developing an EAB management plan for your community.

- **Pest Control Information**

  Diagnose ash tree problems and discuss control options for EAB.

- **Public Awareness**

  Work with your community to educate the public and gain citizen support.

- **Informational Workshops**

  Help conduct workshops to inform and educate the public or train employees on EAB and related issues.

Nebraska Forest Service

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Informational Materials Available for Community Distribution

Free brochures are available from the Nebraska Forest Service. Online versions are available at: nfs.unl.edu/EAB

EAB and Related Brochures:

EAB: Frequently Asked Questions (FH18-2012)

- *Basic Q&A on EAB.*

EAB: Guidelines for Nebraska Homeowners (FH17-2012)

- *Helps homeowners evaluate their ash trees and make decisions about treatments and removals.*

EAB: Treatment Options (FH13-2012)

- *Side-by-side comparison of treatment options for both professionals and homeowners.*

Decline in Ash Trees: Borers and Bark Beetles (FH20-2014)

- *Many insects besides EAB attack ash trees. Provides plenty of pictures to help with diagnosis.*

Decline in Ash Trees: Diseases and Environmental Stresses (FH21-2014)

- *Companion brochure to "Decline in Ash Trees: Borers and Bark Beetles." EAB isn't the only cause for ash decline!*

EAB: Readiness Planning for Nebraska Communities (FH22-2014)

- *Basic guide to the importance of planning for EAB and what the Nebraska Forest Service can do to help your community.*

To order:

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Online versions are available
at the Nebraska Forest Service EAB website:

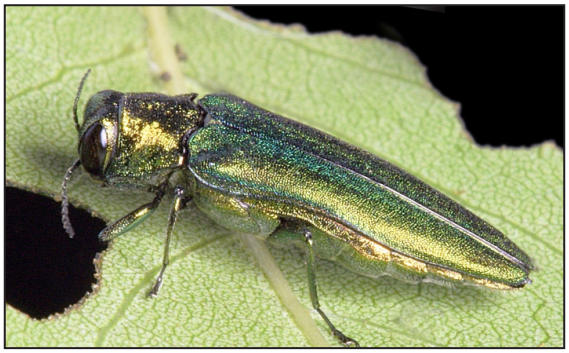
nfs.unl.edu/EAB

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

Some Facts:

- ✓ Exotic, invasive metallic green beetle from Asia.
- ✓ Kills trees by tunneling beneath the bark.
- ✓ Easily transported to new areas in infested firewood.
- ✓ All North American species of ash are susceptible including green, white, black, and blue ash and their cultivars such as:

Marshall's Seedless	Autumn Purple
Patmore	Autumn Applause
Bergeson	Fall Gold
Summit	True Blue



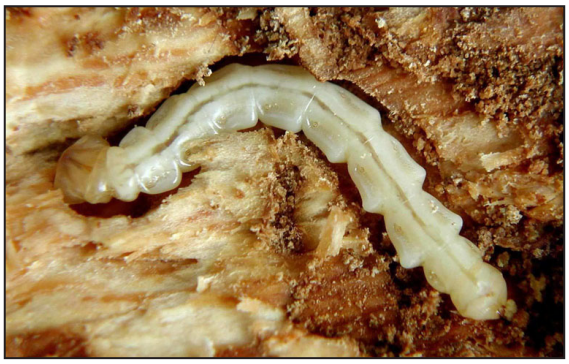


Photo credits:

Page one ash trees: D. Herms, Ohio State University
Page two marshalling yard: D. Cappaert, Michigan State University
Page four EAB adult and larva: D. Cappaert, Michigan State University
Page four dead trees: City of Upper Arlington, Ohio

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