



Photo credit: David Cappaert, USDA Photo Gallery

Emerald Ash Borer

(*Agrilus planipennis*)

What is Emerald Ash Borer?

Emerald ash borer, commonly abbreviated to EAB, is an invasive beetle originally from Asia. The beetle was first identified in southeast Michigan in 2002. It is estimated that EAB arrived in the 1990s, traveling on wood packaging. It has since been identified in 35 states.

Why should you care about EAB?

Emerald ash borer feeds on the phloem of ash trees, and with enough attacks, the trees will eventually die. EAB targets all species of true ash, including black (*Fraxinus nigra*), white (*Fraxinus americana*), and green (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*). In places where EAB infestations are severe, up to 99% of the ash dies.

Landowner Options for EAB Management

There are several options for landowners with ash on their property. Including monitoring the health of ash trees, having hazardous or dying trees removed, planting areas with ash with other native species, and at-home treatments for smaller trees (those with diameters of less than 15 inches at DBH). More information regarding treatment can be found by following the links on the right.

Identifying at risk trees

All ash trees in Michigan are at risk of attacks by EAB. Typically, the beetles prefer larger trees, but will prey on trees of any size. If you have an ash on your property, monitor for signs of infestation. These include:

- Canopy dieback
- Epicormic sprouting (sprouting from roots and trunk)
- Bark splitting
- S-shaped galleries in the wood and D-shaped holes in the bark
- Increased woodpecker activity

Additional Information

General information on EAB in Michigan:

- [Michigan State Invasive Species Site](#)
- [USDA APHIS Storyboard](#)

Landowner Treatment Information:

- [Michigan State University Study](#)
- [Insecticide options - North Central IPM Center](#)
- [Tree Removal Information, Michigan DNR](#)

Other Useful Links:

- [Don't Move Firewood](#)