

FACTSHEET

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

IOWA



The emerald ash borer (**EAB**) was first identified in the United States in 2002, and is responsible for the death and decline of tens of millions of ash trees. EAB has also impacted numerous communities in the states of: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and the provinces of Ontario and Quebec Canada. Human movement of EAB is the number one way EAB infests new areas. Unknowingly, people's behaviors associated with everyday living and commerce has greatly contributed to the spread of the emerald ash borer.

Questions (Q) and Answers (A):

Q. What is EAB and why is it a pest?

A. The emerald ash borer is a very small and very destructive wood-boring beetle. Metallic green in color, (See Picture above) its slender body measures ½ inch in length and 1/8 inch wide. The average adult beetle can easily fit on a penny. EAB attacks all North American ash (*Fraxinus* species) trees and once EAB infests a tree it will likely die within three to five years after symptoms are seen.

Q. What are the signs that an ash tree is infested with EAB?

A. Die back at the top of the tree is one of the first symptoms, suckering, along the main stem, woodpecker damage, and bark cracks are symptoms too. For more information about EAB symptoms in ash trees, other diseases that affect ash trees in Iowa, and when treatments should be used, go to the **ISU Extension website listed below:**

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/pme/EmeraldAshBorer.html>

Q. What is being done?

A. Federal funds support The Cooperative Emerald Ash Borer Program where the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and State agencies work together with municipalities, universities, the green industry and the public at large to detect, control, and manage EAB.

Q. What is my role?

A. Become an active participant and support the Program. Don't move firewood, visually inspect your trees, know State and Federal regulations, spread the word about EAB and ask questions. Also, if you notice any activity or situation involving firewood, green lumber, logs or any other wood products, use the contact information listed on this factsheet.

Q: What States and areas of the United States of America (USA) are quarantined for the emerald ash borer?

A. In the State of Iowa, Allamakee County is the only EAB quarantined county. In the rest of the United States, the entire states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, West Virginia, and in addition to these entire state quarantines, portions of Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and Wisconsin are also quarantined for EAB.

For a current map of areas quarantined for EAB in the USA go to:

http://www.emeraldashborer.info/files/MultiState_EABpos.pdf

Q. What items are restricted from moving freely from the quarantined areas?

A. The following can only be moved from a quarantined area with federal approval: (1) the emerald ash borer (2) all hardwood species of firewood (3) ash nursery stock, green ash lumber and other materials living, dead, cut or fallen including logs, stumps, roots, branches, slabs, and composted and non-composted ash chips. In addition, any other article or product may be determined to be a regulated article if an inspector determines that it presents a risk of spreading EAB. These items are called "regulated articles".

Q. Is there any way I can legally move ash products such as logs, lumber, stumps, branches, and chips greater than 1 inch in diameter outside of Illinois, or other quarantined areas?

A. Yes, the first step is to contact either the USDA, or Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) for assistance. There are opportunities for timber, wood and tree care industries to continue to conduct business through the use of processing options associated with compliance agreements, certificates or limited permits. Effective treatment options for these regulated articles include removal of bark and one half inch of wood, kiln drying sterilization and fumigation.

Q. What is a compliance agreement, certificate and limited permit and how do I obtain them?

A. These documents are simply written agreements between a person moving regulated articles and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and USDA where you agree to comply with the requirements of the agreement. Compliance agreements, certificates and limited permits are monitored by State and/or Federal regulatory personnel.

Additional Regulatory Information Website:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/emerald_ash_b/regulatory.shtml

For additional information or questions please call or write to:

Robert Meinders: State Plant Health Director
USDA, APHIS, Plant Protection and Quarantine
11213 Aurora Ave. Urbandale, IA 50322
Tel: 515-251-4083

Email: robert.d.meinders@aphis.usda.gov

For additional information on EAB use the USDA Website below:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/emerald_ash_b/index.shtml

Robin Pruisner: State Entomologist
Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship (IDALS)
2230 South Ankeny Boulevard Ankeny, IA 50023
Tel: 515-725-1470

Email: robin.pruisner@iowaagriculture.gov

For additional information on EAB and other forest pest use the IDALS Website below:

<http://www.iowatreepests.com/>