Emerald Ash Borer in Montgomery County
August 2015

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been confirmed in central rural Montgomery County (northwest of Red Oak adjacent to highway 34). Here is a summary of steps to take and resources available for those concerned about their trees and EAB. Click on hyperlinks to access resources.

1. First confirm that you have an ash tree. The resource “Common Problems of Ash Trees” can help in this process.
2. If you have confirmed you have an ash tree, you can next check your tree for symptoms using this diagnostic aid: “Does My Ash Tree Have Emerald Ash Borer?” We also have available “EAB or Native Borer?”
3. Homeowners have two options available to them:
   A. **Remove** a failing/declining ash tree and replace it with another species. Plant with tree diversity in mind.
   B. **Protect** your ash tree by treatments.
      a. If the tree is 20” diameter or smaller, homeowners may be able to treat the tree. Early spring (mid-April to mid-May) is the best time for this type of treatment
      b. If the tree is larger than 20” diameter, a certified pesticide applicator (category 3OT) will need to make the treatment.
   C. **NOTES:**
      a. Ash trees killed by EAB are brittle and should be considered hazardous. Tree companies cannot climb a tree killed by this pest, as it is not structurally sound/won’t support climber weight. Ash trees should be removed before being infested by EAB.
      b. We do not know the extent of the EAB population in Montgomery County. Any ash tree within 15 miles of Red Oak are at risk of attack by EAB.
      c. *Since this find is late in the growing season, no treatments are suggested for the remainder of 2015.* It is a good time for a homeowner to locate prospective companies, get bids, and review these during the winter months. You can search for commercial applicators in our area using “Finding a Certified Pesticide Applicator for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)”.
4. “Managing Emerald Ash Borer: Decision Guide” is available to help you decide if you should treat.
5. If you decide to treat with insecticide, “Emerald Ash Borer: Management Options” is available at

More information on Emerald Ash Borer can be found at:
www.Emeraldashborer.info
www.extension.iastate.edu/psep/EmeraldAshBorer.html