

## **Emerald Ash Borer**

The emerald ash borer (EAB), an iridescent green beetle with a red or purple abdomen, attacked and killed millions of trees in the Great Lakes region of Detroit, Michigan, and Windsor, Ontario, in 2002.

The EAB measures about 1/2-inch-long and feeds off the foliage of ash trees. The larva is a cream colored, legless grub that lives just beneath the bark of the tree. Larvae create tunnels under the bark that interfere with water and nutrient transport. The EAB feeds on and kills ash trees.

Infested firewood and nursery products cause rapid spread of EAB. Quarantine is in effect for Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Maryland, according to [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info), a collaborative Web site maintained by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service and states reporting EAB infestation. Residents and visitors should make certain not to import logs or nursery products from these states. With careful attention by Minnesota residents and visitors, the state's ash forests can continue to flourish. Residents should keep careful watch of their ash trees to ensure early detection.

EAB is most commonly found during June and July but can be present between May and September.

Signs of infestation include death at the top third of the canopy, growth sprouts from the roots or trunk of the tree with leaves that are larger than normal, vertical fissures in the bark exposing the galleries in which the larvae bore and feed, and increased woodpecker activity as some species feed on EAB larvae. The adult EAB bores large D-shaped exit holes in the outer bark of the tree that also indicate infestation.

Ash is commonly used in urban landscaping, and it flourishes in Minnesota forests. Minnesota is home to an estimated 867 million ash trees, one of the largest volumes in the U.S. If residents suspect EAB infestation, contact the Arrest the Pest Hotline at (651) 201-6684. For more information, click on the links listed below.

Minnesota Department of Agriculture: <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/eab>

University of Minnesota Department of Forest Resources: <https://www.forestry.umn.edu/>

Emerald Ash Borer Web Site: <http://www.emeraldashborer.info/>

## **Certified Arborists**

Rainbow Tree Care	(651) 251-3810
S&S TREE	(651) 451-8907
St. Croix Tree	(651) 770-3744