

# Pest Alert

## Emerald Ash Borer *Agrilus planipennis*



The exotic emerald ash borer (EAB) has been killing ash trees across North America. Native to China, eastern Russia, Japan, and Korea, it was first discovered near Detroit in 2002 and has since spread to 25 states, including New Jersey.

### Damage

This metallic green insect infests and kills ash trees—all ash species are susceptible, with the exception of mountain ash. EAB larvae feed on the inner bark and disrupt the movement of water and nutrients, essentially girdling the tree. This insect often infests the upper branches of the tree first and may affect branches as small as 1" in diameter. It takes 2-4 years for infested trees to die, but mortality is imminent.



### Signs and symptoms

Often the first sign that a tree is infested is woodpecker damage.

When feeding on EAB, woodpeckers scrape off outer bark, leaving smooth, light colored patches. Under the bark of an infested tree, you can often see S-shaped galleries weaving back and forth on the surface of the wood. The beetles also leave 1/8" D-shaped exit holes. Between May and August, you may find the 1/2" long metallic green adult beetles which have a copper color abdomen under the wing covers.

### Emerald Ash Borer in New Jersey

Since its discovery in North America, EAB has spread rapidly. It occurs in 25 states and 2 Canadian provinces. It was first discovered in NJ in 2014. The greatest impact will be for community trees and privately owned trees.

The beetles are strong fliers, and good at finding ash trees. When the beetle first arrived in Maryland, the infested area expanded about 1/2 mile per year.

Often people unintentionally spread this insect when they move firewood from an infested area to a new location. Beetles and larvae also hitchhike to a new area in nursery trees and saw logs.

**Over the next few years,  
99% of NJ ash trees  
will die due to emerald  
ash borer infestations**

### Ash in New Jersey Facts

- Forests contain 24.7 million ash trees
- 24% of all forested land contains ash
- Ash is found in forests throughout the state, but concentrated in northern New Jersey
- Ash has been commonly planted as a street and landscape tree throughout the state

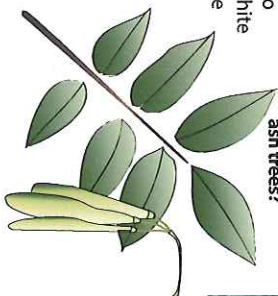




# Assess Ash Trees for Emerald Ash Borer

**START**

Please note:  
emerald ash borer also infests white fringetree



Do you have ash trees?

- Compound leaves with 5-9 leaflets
- Seeds are samaras in clusters in August
- Opposite Branching

YES

Are your trees in good condition?

- Healthy and vigorous
- Has more than 1/2 its leaves
- No signs of insect damage

YES

Are your trees in a good location?

- Enough room to it to grow to over 50' tall
- Enough room for crown to spread over 45'

YES

- Will hit overhead utility lines at 50' tall
- Will hit side obstructions with crown spread of 45'

not sure

NO

Is the circumference of the tree more than 60"?

(Measure at 4.5 feet from the ground.)

YES

NO

## Treat & Monitor

Call a Tree Professional to apply a preventative treatment to your ash tree with a circumference less than 60".

- Timing** April 1 - May 15
- Treatment** Soil drench (1.47% imidacloprid)
- Precautions** Follow label directions
- Reapply** Yearly (as long as EAB are active)
- Find a NJ Certified Tree Expert: [www.NJTreeExperts.org](http://www.NJTreeExperts.org)

Get at least two estimates and ask for insurance and references

NO

Your trees are not susceptible to emerald ash borer infestation. This invasive pest only targets ash species.

## Remove

Call a Tree Professional to:

- Remove at-risk trees
- Remove infested trees

Find a NJ Certified Tree Expert: [www.NJTreeExperts.org](http://www.NJTreeExperts.org)

Get at least two estimates and ask for insurance and references

- Unhealthy, planted on poor sites
- Missing more than 1/2 its leaves
- Exhibits insect damage, split bark and/or woodpecker damage

## Evaluate

Call a Tree Professional to:

- Treat trees larger than 60"
- Evaluate tree health or site

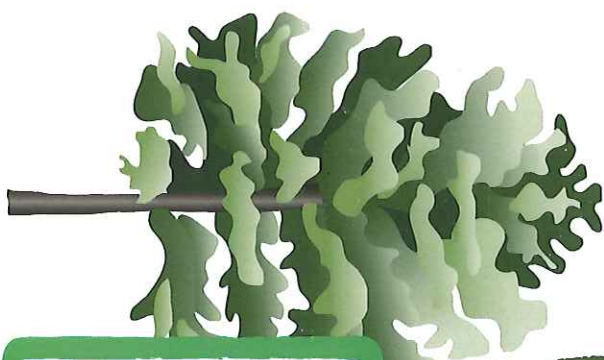
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## No Action

Minimally, identify your ash, and monitor them. Even if you take no action, your ash trees are still susceptible to emerald ash borer infestations. Once infested, your tree will become weak and may even be a hazard to your home or family.

learn more: [www.emeraldashborer.nj.gov](http://www.emeraldashborer.nj.gov)







**TOWNSHIP OF MILLBURN  
RESOLUTION 14-250  
APPROVE RECCOMENDATION OF SHADE TREE ADVISORY BOARD PERTAINING TO  
EMERALD ASH BORER AND TO PRESERVE THE ASH SPECIES**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Millburn, in the County of Essex, to accept the recommendation of the Millburn Township Shade Tree Advisory Board to use a combination of strategies to mitigate the threat to public safety caused by the emerald ash borer's devastation of native ash trees, and to preserve the ash species in the best management practice available;

- 1.) Removal of afflicted, dying ash trees as directed by the Township forester, in the Town's ownership;
- 2.) Treatment with insecticide of carefully selected ash trees whose continued existence is deemed a high public interest;
- 3.) Pre-emptive removal of ash trees located in highly trafficked public places deemed to pose immediate or near-future threat to public safety.

Adopted by Township Committee on December 2, 2014

*I, Christine A. Gatti, Township Clerk of the Township of Millburn, do hereby certify this document to be a true copy of the original which is on file in my office.*

Date: 12/4/2014

  
Christine A. Gatti, Township Clerk  
Township of Millburn