

What is EAB?

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an exotic beetle that was first discovered in the U.S. in southeastern Michigan during the summer of 2002. EAB probably arrived on solid wood packing material carried in cargo ships or airplanes that traveled from its native Asia. The adult beetles nibble on ash foliage, but cause little damage. The larvae feed on the inner bark of ash trees, girdling the tree and disrupting the transportation of water and nutrients, much as the mountain pine beetle affects pines.



Since its discovery, EAB has spread throughout 26 states and two Canadian provinces. EAB has caused the death of tens of millions of ash trees throughout the impacted area. It has been estimated that the cost of treatment, removal and replacement of impacted ash trees in communities alone will exceed \$10.7 billion. EAB has caused mortality in all North American varieties of ash and has very few predators and parasites in North America.

Ash Trees in Colorado

While ash trees are not native to most of Colorado, ash has naturalized in several riparian areas. Several species of ash, including green and white ash, are very popular landscaping trees and represent 15 to 20 percent of the urban and community forests of Colorado. The loss of these trees would significantly impact many communities.



Ash leaves are compound with 5-9 leaflets, depending upon the species.

EAB in Colorado

The Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado Department of Agriculture and the USDA-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service conduct an annual detection trapping program for EAB. This cooperative trapping program is designed to monitor Colorado for the presence of EAB. Early detection of a pest like EAB will help protect ash trees in Colorado. EAB could be present in communities for three or more years before tree decline is apparent.

Support for this brochure provided by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, through the Western Integrated Pest Management Center.

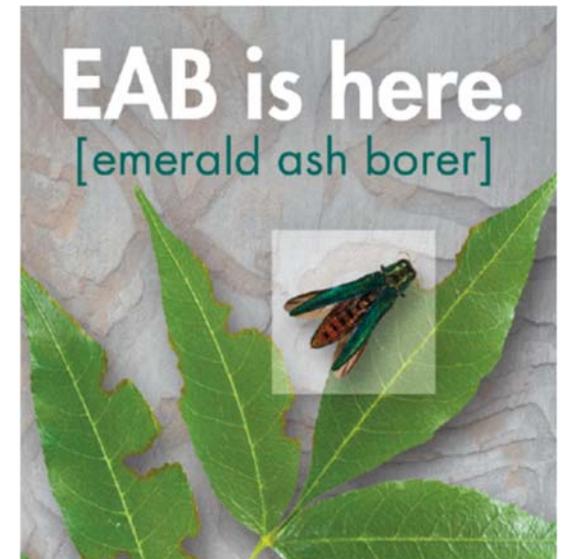


For information and available EAB management options for homeowners, visit:
www.BoulderCountyEAB.org



Watch Your Ash!

*What you need
to know about
Emerald Ash Borer
in Boulder County*



www.BoulderCountyEAB.org

Identifying Tree Symptoms of EAB Infested Ash Trees

- Sparse foliage or thinning of the canopy
- Presence of epicormic shoots, sprouting from the trunk and roots or suckers
- Bark splitting
- D-shaped emergence holes on branches
- Increased woodpecker activity
- Serpentine galleries from larvae feeding under the bark



D-shaped adult beetle emergence exit holes.

Photo by Dan Herms



EAB larval feeding galleries.

Identifying EAB

- Adults are approximately ½ inch long
- Metallic emerald green head and wings
- Coppery reddish-purple abdomen
- Larvae are cream colored and have bell-shaped segments



Left: EAB larva; Center: adult EAB beetle; Right: abdomen color of adult EAB beetle.

Now is the Time for Action!

All ash trees in Boulder County are at risk. Residents are encouraged to identify ash trees on their property and make a plan for action.

Use the EAB Decision Guide (available at www.BoulderCountyEAB.org) to help you choose the right options for your ash tree.

Residents can preserve ash trees with pesticide treatments, remove and replace ash trees, or just remove unhealthy ash trees. Do not wait until you are out of time to make a decision. Trees that die from an EAB infestation quickly become brittle and may become hazardous.



Thinning canopy of an EAB infested ash tree.

Preventative Treatments

Effective chemical treatments are available for protection of ash trees from EAB. Annually or biennial treatments are required for the life of the tree and may require application by a professional State of Colorado Certified Pesticide Applicator.

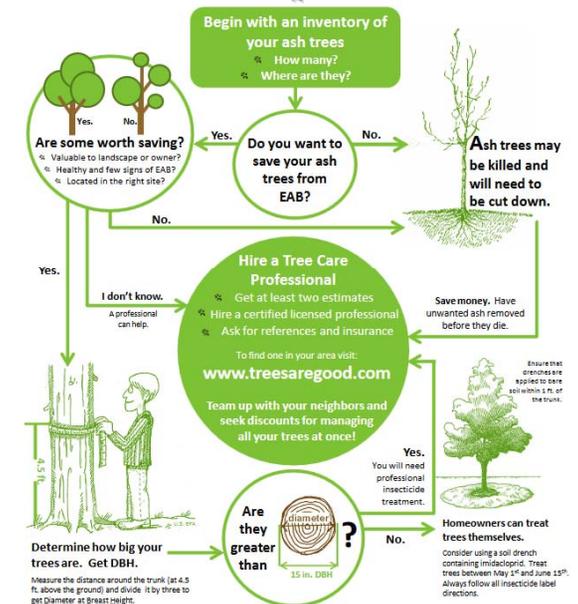
Not all ash trees are suitable for chemical treatment. A tree must be in good health and free of major defects allowing distribution of the chemical throughout the tree. You may need to consult a Certified Arborist to help you make that decision.

Wood Disposal

Help slow the spread of EAB and transport ash wood only during the non-flight period of EAB, between **September 1– April 31**.



Managing Emerald Ash Borer: Decision Guide



Protect your urban forest. Act Now. Save Trees. Save \$!