



KNOWING IS ½ THE BATTLE: Emerald Ash Borer

WHAT IS EMERALD ASH BORER?

Emerald ash borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis*, is an exotic beetle that was discovered in southeastern Michigan near Detroit in the summer of 2002. The natural range of EAB, is eastern Russia, northern China, Japan, and Korea. The beetle had not been detected in the US before 2002. Since its discovery, EAB has been found from Canada to the South Eastern US.

The adult beetles superficially feed on leaves, but the larvae (the immature stage) feed underneath the bark in the vascular system of the tree. The damage cause by EAB larvae effectively cuts off water and nutrient flow with in the tree.



Adult Emerald Ash Borer

Pic by Howard Russell, Michigan State University, Bugwood.org

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WHY SHOULD I BE CONCERNED ABOUT EMERALD ASH BORER?

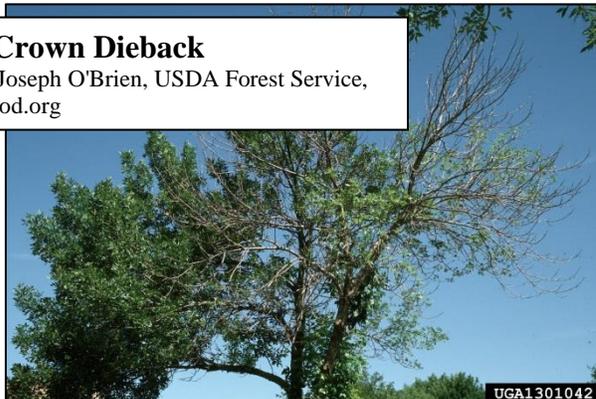
Emerald Ash Borer has been detected in Grandville County, NC and EAB is present in Tennessee and Virginia where it has killed most untreated ash trees. EAB affects all genera of ash. To date it has not infected any other species of tree but ash trees.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS & SYMPTOMS OF EMERALD ASH BORER

EAB moves fast to do irreconcilable damage to ash trees. Infected trees exhibit tip dieback followed by large limb mortality. One-third to one-half of the branches may die in one year. Epicormic branches may develop along the trunk. Most of the canopy may die within 2 years of initial symptoms.

Ash Crown Dieback

Pic by Joseph O'Brien, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org



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Epicormic Branches along Trunk

Pic by Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bugwood.org

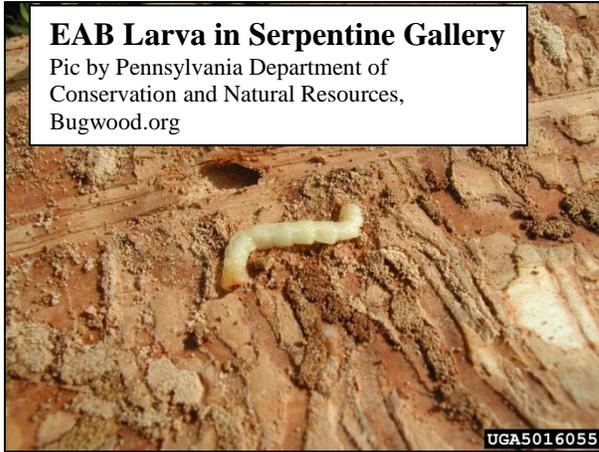


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EAB larvae form characteristic serpentine galleries under the bark of the tree. Bark cracks, or sunken areas on the trunk are symptomatic. In late spring, adult beetles emerge from trees leaving D-shaped exit holes.



WHAT CAN I DO?

Preventatively treating your ash trees is the only way to save them against EAB. Ash trees that are not protected may eventually become infected, and may die.

Heartwood Arborists have several proven methods for combating EAB. We can develop a plan that works best for you and your landscape.

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