

Emerald Ash Borer

The Village has identified three major tree pests that threaten to destroy a significant number of valuable shade trees and dramatically impact the appearance, the environmental stability, and the real estate value of Village properties. They include **Emerald Ash Borer**, **Gypsy Moth**, and **Dutch Elm Disease**.

The purpose of this brochure is to provide residents with information to help lessen the impact of possible insect and disease infestation of trees on residential properties. This information will be specific to each of the three pests mentioned and will include:

- Identifying the pest
- Identifying signs and/or symptoms of tree infestation
- Developing a plan for the prevention of each pest, as well as the treatment, removal, and replacement of dead and diseased trees.



Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an exotic, emerald green beetle that was purportedly brought to the United States from Asia via shipping crates. It was first discovered in southeastern Michigan in 2002. Since that time it has quickly spread across the border into Canada and through fifteen states, infesting and killing tens of millions of ash trees. All species of ash are susceptible. Spread is exponential, making a significant impact in a relatively short period of time. In the spring of 2010, the beetle was found on the southwestern limits of the Village of Lincolnshire, in a corporate campus. It is anticipated that the insect will quickly make its way through corporate campuses and into

Village residential properties, with full impact estimated to be within five years.

In response to the EAB discovery and because an estimated 30% of the Village tree cover is white, green, or blue ash, the Village of Lincolnshire has developed a Village wide plan of action relative to the potentially devastating impact of EAB on Lincolnshire properties. This plan is available to residents on the Village website www.village.lincolnshire.il.us.

The EAB threat is imminent and will affect all Village residential properties that have any species of ash, whether in the formal landscaped or naturalized areas. It is advised that all property owners:

1. Survey all shade trees on property to determine if ash trees are present.

- Ash tree leaves are usually compound with 5-11 glossy green leaflets.
- The bark of mature ash trees is gray and furrowed, often appearing in a diamond shape.
- Ash buds are located directly opposite from one another on the stem.



2. Once ash tree presence is determined, know how to identify the beetle and understand its life cycle.

- The adult EAB is metallic green, ½” long, 1/8” wide. Fully formed adults emerge from trees May through July. They feed on foliage for one to two weeks prior to mating. Then the female EAB lays 50 to 100 eggs on bark surfaces or within bark crevices and crack. The adult is visible from May through September.
- The eggs hatch in 7-10 days into 1” long, cream-colored larvae, with narrow, segmented bodies. These larvae begin to bore into the tree and feed on phloem and outer sapwood, creating winding s-shaped galleries just under the bark, as they feed. This cuts off the flow of water and nutrients in the tree, causing dieback and death. The larvae remain inside the tree through the remaining stages of the cycle and are never visible.
- The larvae feed into late fall and overwinter in the tree. Pupation occurs in mid to late spring, and the adults begin to emerge, thus completing the cycle.



3. Know the signs and symptoms of EAB infestation.

- **Crown dieback** is the most visible sign of infestation. Look for dead branches at the top of the tree crown.
- **Suckers, or new young branches**, will sprout from the base of the tree and on the trunk.
- The bark may split vertically and woodpeckers may feed on the beetles, leaving visible damage on the bark.
- Adult beetles emerging from the trees leave distinctly **“D” shaped holes**, 1/8’ in diameter, on the trunk or upper branches.



4. Examine all ash trees to determine possible EAB infestation.

Management plan

Once a possible EAB infestation has been determined:

- Contact the Village Environmental Service at 847-883-8600 to report the location of the infestation.
- Collect beetles, if visible, in a small plastic bag.
- Contact a certified arborist to determine the severity of the infestation and what possible plans of action, including treatment and/or removal you may want to pursue.

- Contact a certified landscape professional to discuss possible treatment and removal. Make certain the company is licensed with the Illinois Department of Agriculture, regarding the use of pesticides specific to this insect, as well an understanding of the IDA's quarantine regulations on removal of diseased wood.