HOMEOWNERS RISK ALERT: ARE YOUR ASH TREES A VICTIM OF THE

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

What is EAB?

- EAB is an invasive insect discovered in the USA in 2002.
- EAB infests Ash trees which are common in residential and forest areas in New Jersey.¹
- EAB larvae cut off the water supply and causes trees to become dry and brittle.



Damage from EAB larva

What are the signs of EAB?

- Infested trees will experience canopy dieback, if not treated, this will eventually affect the entire tree.
- Other identifiers are: bark flecking, woodpecker marks, D-shaped exit holes in bark and excessive sprouting from the lower trunk of tree.



- If you have infested Ash trees on your property, they could pose a safety risk to your family, your home and your neighbor's property.
- Infested Ash trees become dry and brittle, therefore branches will break more easily than a healthy tree branch.





- Little to no stress on branches of infested trees will cause them to snap or shatter.
- Never allow children to play in or near an Ash tree that is showing symptoms of being infested by EAB.



Canopy Dieback

For more information on EAB please visit:

- Emeraldashborer.nj.gov
- Emerald Ash Borer Network emeraldashborer.info
- Rutgers Agricultural Experiment Station njaes.rutgers.edu
- NJ chapter International Society of Arboriculture <u>www.njaisa.com</u>
- NJ board of Tree experts
 - www.njtreeexperts.org





D-shaped exit holes indicating presence of EAB.

HOMEOWNERS RISK ALERT: WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

1. Let nature take its course

- All infested Ash trees will eventually die within a few years if not treated by a professional.
- If your Ash tree is in a forest setting; letting the tree die may be a good option. If tree is in a suburban setting, the tree should be removed by a professional.
- If the tree has more than 50% canopy damage, then the tree cannot be saved.²



A dead Ash tree can be a scary sight and a safety hazard!



2. Professional insecticide treatment

- An infested tree needs to be relatively healthy prior to treatment.²
- Treating your tree with insecticides can be a more cost effective option than removal. It is best to engage a professional when choosing to treat your tree²
- Licensed Tree Experts (LTEs) can advise you on the best options for your specific tree. Trees can be treated by soil drench or injection, truck injection and or bark spray.
- For more information visit <u>Emeraldashborer.nj.gov</u>

REPLANTING TIP:



Be sure to diversify the tree population on your property to protect against future disease.

Ask your Licensed Tree Care expert or ISA Certified Arborist for more information on the right trees to plant.

3. Hire a licensed tree care company

- Visit <u>www.njtreeexperts.org</u> to find a Licensed Tree Expert (LTE) or Licensed Tree Care Operator (LTCO) in New Jersey.
- Even though there is a significant cost associated with tree removal, do not try to remove the tree on your own.
- All reputable companies should have insurance for property damage, personal liability and workers compensation.³



Tree removal needs to be performed by skilled professionals



References

- 1. http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/whatiseab.html
- Herms, D. A., McCullough, D. G., Smitley, D. R., Sadof, C. S., & Cranshaw, W. Insecticide Options for Protecting Ash Trees from Emerald Ash Borer. http://www.emeraldashborer.info/documents/Multistate_EAB_Insecticide_Fact_Sheet.pdf
- Gilman, E. F., Duryea, M. L., Kampf, E., Partin, T. J., Delgado, A., & Lehtola, C. J. Assessing Damage and Resorting Trees After a Hurricane; Urban Forest Hurricane Recovery Program. <u>https://www.freshfromflorida.com/content/download/65158/1531708/Assessing_Damage_and_Restoring_Trees_After_a_Hurricane_by_UF-IFAS_EP29100.pdf</u>
- 4. Pictures from "Emerald Ash Borer in New Jersey" presentation at http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/whatiseab.html and from Brian Skinner