



The Township of Ewing

Bert H. Steinmann, Mayor

James P. McManimon, Business Administrator



EMERALD ASH BORER PEST ALERT

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a devastating parasitic insect that attacks our native ash trees (*Fraxinus* sp.) except mountain ash and will have a devastating impact on our tree canopy. According to the NJ State Forestry Services, NJ forests contain 24.7 million ash trees and ash is a commonly planted street and landscape tree in the state.

HISTORY

The EAB was accidentally introduced into Michigan from Asia in 2002 and has now spread to New Jersey. It was identified in Ewing in 2015. (see Rutgers RAST Report)

WHAT THEY DO

Adult females lay their eggs under a tree's bark. The larvae then feed on the inner bark and disrupt the movement of nutrients and water. Symptoms of EAB attack include canopy dieback. The tree WILL die within a few years if not treated.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Include woodpecker damage, S-shaped galleries under the bark of infested tree, and 1/8" D shaped exit holes.

TREATMENT

Proven treatments include systemic insecticides, which are most efficiently applied as a soil drench or by injections into the bark, typically by a Certified Arborist and repeated annually or biannually for (current estimate) at least 20 years. Work with your arborist to determine if your ash trees are good candidates for a treatment program, or whether tree removal is the most appropriate response.

OPTIONS

While the treatment option can be expensive (depending upon the size of the tree), the option of doing nothing to protect or save a vulnerable tree is not inexpensive either, as when the tree dies, it will have to be salvaged and its stump ground down or removed.

TRANSPORT

A quarantine order is in effect in NJ that prohibits transportation of EAB-infected wood beyond the state borders.



Figure 1- EAB infected tree

- For additional information about the EAB in Ewing, consult Ewing Township's web site at <http://ewingnj.org/Community-Information/Emerald-Ash-Borer.aspx>.
- For information about the EAB in NJ, go to or go to <http://www.emeraldashborer.nj.gov/>.