

# Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

The Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) was first found in Minnesota in May 2009, in St. Paul. Dodge County was added to the quarantine zone on September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

## What is the EAB?

EAB is a type of metallic wood-boring beetle that attacks ash trees from as small as one-inch diameter to large mature trees. Trees are often killed in about four years, although it can take as little as two years. When trees are first attacked, the symptoms are hard to notice.

### Adults

- 1/3 to 1/2-inch-long slender body
- Bright iridescent green to copper-green
- Purplish-magenta underneath wings



Source: <https://extension.umn.edu/tree-and-shrub-insects/emerald-ash-borers#replacing-ash-trees-1472163>

### Larva

- 1 to 1-1/4 inches (fully grown), no legs
- White, flat body with small brownish head

## How to identify an ash tree?



Branches grow directly across from one another (opposite)



Compound leaves (a group of leaflets joined by a stalk to a woody stem)



Five to many leaflets with smooth or finely toothed margins

Source: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialanimals/eab/idashtrees.html>


## What are the signs of EAB infestation?


- Dieback of leaves in the crown
- Suckering shoots at the base of the tree
- "D" shaped holes
- "S" shaped channeling
- Vertical cracks along the trunk
- Woodpecker damage



## What to do?

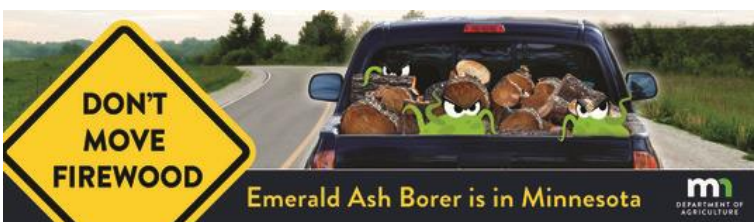
- Treatment possible – Tree health to be considered
- Removal – It is easier and less expensive to remove the tree while it is alive. Once an ash tree is dead, the branches become brittle making it much more challenging and dangerous to cut down.
- Active season: Avoid removing or pruning ash trees when possible
- Dormant season: Conduct pruning & removal, chip wood or keep it on site if possible
- Don't move ash tree wood, especially outside of the quarantined area
- Replace removed trees with a new specie (do not plant ash trees)

 **Active Season**  
May – September

 **Dormant Season**  
October – April

## Resources

- <https://mnag.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=63ebb977e2924d27b9ef0787ecedf6e9>
- <https://extension.umn.edu/tree-and-shrub-insects/emerald-ash-borers>
- <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/eab-info-homeowners>
- <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants-insects/ash-tree-waste-disposal-sites>
- <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialanimals/eab/idashtrees.html>



Dodge County  
Environmental Services  
(507) 635-6272