

Emerald Ash Borer



WHAT IS EMERALD ASH BORER?

Emerald ash borer (EAB) is an invasive wood-boring insect. Native to China and Eastern Asia, this beetle was first detected in North America in 2002. EAB attacks and kills healthy and stressed ash trees. All ash trees are susceptible to EAB in varying degrees, and 99% of ash trees are killed within 8-10 years of the beetle arriving in an area. Once detected, EAB cannot be eradicated. EAB was first detected in Winnipeg in 2017.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

1. Dying branches near the top of the tree
2. Suckers (epicormic shoots) emerging from the trunk or near the base of the tree
3. Higher than normal seed-crops
4. Structural deformities such as cracks and splits in the trunk
5. "Blonding" - excessive woodpecker damage.
6. D-shaped exit holes on trunk



<https://addisonindependent.com/news/ash-borer-alert-it-s-time-to-take-action>



[Treeswinnipeg.org/emerald-ash-borer/](https://treeswinnipeg.org/emerald-ash-borer/)



[Halifax.ca/transportation/streets-sidewalks/urban-forestry/emerald-ash-borer](https://halifax.ca/transportation/streets-sidewalks/urban-forestry/emerald-ash-borer)

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT YOUR TREE HAS EMERALD ASH BORER

1. Record the location of the tree
2. Record the signs and symptoms you have observed
3. If possible, collect an adult beetle and keep it in a container to preserve it
4. Call or email 311 (311@winnipeg.ca), contact the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, or call the Emerald Ash Borer hotline at 1-866-463-6017



How to identify an Ash tree

In Winnipeg there are green, black, and Mancana ash (aka Manchurian ash).

Leaf: Ash trees have compound leaves. This means that there are 5-9 leaflets on a single petiole from a single bud. Leaflets are serrated, oblong, and pointed.

Bud: Opposite arrangement - two buds will form side by side on a twig.

Bark: Green ash has diamond shaped bark grooves. Black ash bark is smooth in young trees and becomes warty as the tree matures. Mancana ash also has smooth bark that develops shallow grooves over time.

Form: Most green and black ash trees have a strong single leading stem. Sometimes green ash will have co-dominant stems (two competing leading stems). Mancana ash usually has many stems that split off of the main trunk that form a very round canopy.

**AT APPROXIMATELY
356,000; ASH TREES
MAKE UP ABOUT
40% OF WINNIPEG'S
URBAN FOREST.**



Compound leaf



Green ash



Mancana ash

Preventing the Spread of EAB

WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. Don't move firewood
2. Burn firewood where you buy it
3. Increase diversity by planting a variety of tree species
4. Learn how to identify an ash tree
5. Learn how to identify the sign and symptoms of EAB



What Is Being Done to Manage EAB?

The City of Winnipeg is using the “Slow Ash Mortality” (SLAM) approach to manage EAB. The SLAM approach involves injecting a percentage of eligible ash trees on public property with a pesticide* to preserve them for as long as possible and removing the remaining ash trees on public property over time. In this approach, sometimes seemingly healthy ash trees are removed. While the sudden loss of trees can be a very disappointing change to the landscape, in its early stages an EAB infestation is nearly impossible to detect and if left uncontrolled EAB spreads quickly, killing all ash trees in a short period of time leaving dangerous standing dead trees.

*The City of Winnipeg Insect Control Branch will treat ash trees on public property, injecting a percentage of eligible trees with either TreeAzin or IMA-jet. For more information visit the City of Winnipeg website: <https://www.winnipeg.ca/publicworks/insectcontrol/insect/EABschedule.stm>

Get Prepared for EAB

Trees Winnipeg has put together four advisory steps for private property owners to consider to prepare for EAB:

1. Invest in your trees. Water all of your trees, practice species diversity, don't move firewood.
2. Have your trees assessed by a certified, licensed, and insured arborist. For information on how to contact a qualified arborist you can visit the Trees Winnipeg or City of Winnipeg websites for more information.
3. Explore your management options. There are preventative chemical treatment options that can be done by a certified arborist. Alternatively, there is value in planning and budgeting for tree removal. Once an ash tree dies from EAB, it quickly dries out and becomes hazardous and there may be risk to people and property.
4. Safety. Consider the above recommendations and manage your ash trees as dies so that no one gets hurt. Ensure safety is top of mind now and in the future.

Have a tree question? Contact the Tree Committee!

Ivan Sabesky (Chair): melivan@mymts.net

Melva Widdicombe: mlwidd@gmail.com

Kayla Maxwell: kayrmaxwell@gmail.com

Vivian Sullivan: vmsullivan@shaw.ca

Teresa Cavett

Iain Day

Sources & Additional Information

Province of Manitoba:

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/stopthespread/fis/eab/faq.html>

City of Winnipeg:

<https://www.winnipeg.ca/publicworks/parksOpenSpace/UrbanForestry/EmeraldAsh.stm>

Trees Winnipeg:

<http://treeswinnipeg.org/emerald-ash-borer/>