EMERALD ASH BORER

THE GREEN MENACE



What is an invasive species?

- moves in from somewhere (not native)
- rapidly grows out of control
- out-competes native species for food, water and sunlight.

Invasive species have a negative impact on:

biodiversity
human and ecosystem health
natural resources and international trade
Harmful to environment

It has no native predators to keep it in check!







What is the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)?

EAB - small, metallic green, wood-boring beetle; kills all species of ash trees

Marianne Prue, Ohio Department of Natural Resources - Division of Forestry, Bugwood.org

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)



Agrilus planipennis

History

- Invasive wood-boring beetle Native to Asia
- Probably introduced to SE Michigan area in 1999 likely brought in ash wood used for shipping pallets & packing materials
- Confirmed in 2002
- EAB feed on and eventually kill all native ash trees (*Fraxinus spp.*)
- Since its introduction into NA, 35 states, and the District of Columbia, have confirmed infestations.
- 2009 Confirmed in western Cattaraugus Co. NY

More history

- Natural spread of EAB = ~ 2miles/year
- However, rapid spread through NA most likely due to –

Transport of infested firewood, ash nursery stock, unprocessed ash logs, and other ash products

 Federal and state agencies have instituted quarantines of infested areas to regulate the transport of ash products

The EAB Life Cycle



EAB Life Cycle

- Adult EAB feeds along leaf margins
- Females feed 1-2 weeks before laying eggs
- Average female EAB may lay 60-100 eggs, placing eggs singly in bark crevices or under bark flaps on trunk or branches



EAB eggs and "nested bells" larvae





When to look for emerging EAB adults

450-500 GDD

100

200

300

400

500

600

Growing Degree Days (base 50) Mar 15 - May 7, 2012 Northeast Regional Climate Center

Flowering Black Locust



Beetle larva feed in the phloem (inner bark – the "pipeline") and the cambium (the growing part of the trunk between the phloem and sapwood), effectively girdling the tree





Edward Czerwinski, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Bugwood.org



Larval feeding ends in fall. Pupation takes place late spring





Signs of EAB

- "D" shaped exit hole
- "S" shaped galleries under the bark

David R. McKay, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org

David Cappaert, Michigan State University, Bugwood.org

Hello Emerald Ash Borer...

Goodbye Ash Trees



EAB infestations have been detected in 35 states and the District of Columbia;

Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, lowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina,

Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin

What do ash trees look like?



Herbarium

Cofrin Center for Biodiversity UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN-GREEN BAY

White ash

Green ash

Black ash





Pinnately compound leaf and samaras



Ash tree (*Fraxinus spp*) ID – opposite branching & bark



Branches are located opposite each other on a limb (Photo by Michigan State University)



Mountain Ash (Sorbus spp) – not affected by EAB



Photos courtesy of University of Maine

Symptoms of EAB

- Dieback in the canopy
- Excessive woodpecker activity
- Suckering from the base and stem (epicormic shoots)



James W. Smith, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org



60-70% thinning of canopy

10% thinning of canopy



Vertical splits – dead bark over infested wood; and "Wood Pecks"



Effects of EAB As the Emerald Ash Borer gets established, ash trees will begin to die



Commonly mistaken for EAB - Sixspotted tiger beetle – a good guy!



What's the Issue?

- 1 in 14 trees in New York is an ash tree
- Thousands of ash line our trees, shade our parks and fill our public spaces
- Thousands more dot our home landscapes
- Millions can be found in our woodlots and along our rivers and streams

EAB puts all of these trees in danger!

What are the Concerns?

- Ash trees break down quickly once they die, potentially dropping large limbs in public areas or on personal property
- These trees become "hazard trees"
- Trees are costly to treat and remove



Once an infestation is confirmed, nearly all ash trees in the surrounding area are doomed to die, according to Ginger Nickerson, the forest pest education coordinator at the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry program.

Proactively taking down healthy ash trees is safer — and less expensive — than waiting for the beetle to do its damage, she said. Ash trees generally are very brittle when they die, and that's even truer when the borer kills them.

"They will come apart in very unpredictable and sudden ways," Nickerson said. "And the tree just shatters."

Green Mountain Power—line item charge for removal of ash trees along their right-of-way

Community Cost Examples

Deforest, Wisconsin: population 8,500

455 ash trees in urban forest (13% of total)
 – 330 are under 6" in diameter, decreasing the removal cost (average \$700-\$800 per tree)

 Village estimated removal cost: \$75,000-\$100,000

Village of DeForest web site: http://www.vi.deforest.wi.us/

Monitoring & Detection of EAB

Purple prism monitoring traps



Cerceris fumipennis biosurveillance



More than 40% of EAB discoveries come from individuals reporting the insect!



DEC & US Forest Service Staff found EAB larvae in "detection trees"



"Detection Trees" & SLAM

• "Detection Trees" are made by girdling the tree

• Girdled trees produce extra chemical volatiles that attract female EAB to lay eggs in the bark

 These trees are cut down & sampled for larvae the following winter

•All part of SLAM (SLowAshMortality) initiative

•DEC's SLAM significantly delays loss of ash trees & subsequent costs to communities for their removal and replacement

Other "help" on hand



Firewood – primary means of spread!

DON'T MOVE FIREWOOD

Our forests are threatened by nonnative insects that can kill large numbers of trees, Three recently introduced insects-emerald ash borer, Asian longhorned beetle, and Sirex woodwasp-are wood-infesting species that can be transported long distances in firewood. Once transported into new areas, these insects can become established and kill local trees. We must STOP THE SPREAD of these insects and protect our forests and trees.

How you can help

- Leave firewood at home—do not transport it to campgrounds or parks.
 Use firewood from local sources.
- · If you have moved firewood, burn all of it before leaving your campsite.



ELP STOP INVASIVE PESTS



The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Insecticidal Controls?

Several types of insecticide applications can control emerald ash borer.

Emerald ash borer insecticides move systemically in plants and are typically applied as either soil drenches, trunk sprays or direct injections into the trunk, depending on product.

Insecticides can prevent new injuries by emerald ash borer and if damage to the tree caused by the insect is not too advanced, trees may recover when insecticides are used.

SLAM—Slow Ash Mortality



PLEASE DON'T MOVE FIREWOOD!

For more information:

http://www.nyis.info/ Or call DEC's Emerald Ash Hotline at: 1-866-640-0652