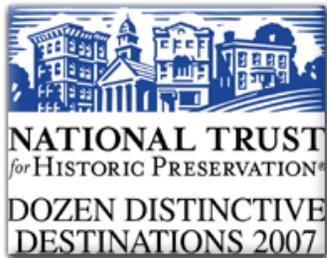




### Ash Tree Identification

- Branches and buds are directly across from each other and not staggered.
- Leaves are compound and composed of 5-11 leaflets. The edge of the leaflets may be smooth or toothed.
- On mature trees the bark is tight with a distinct pattern of diamond-shaped ridges. On young trees, bark is relatively smooth.
- When present on trees, seeds are dry, oar-shaped samaras. They usually occur in clusters and typically hang on the tree until late fall, early winter.



Woodstock is proud to have been recognized as a 2007 Distinctive Destination by the National Trust for Historic Preservation

## Protecting trees from EAB Infestation

There are chemical treatments available to protect ash trees from EAB, but they must be applied every year and may not be 100 percent effective. Information is available at [www.IllinoisEAB.com](http://www.IllinoisEAB.com) website under “treatments”.

### *How can I help stop the spread of the EAB?*

Do not move firewood. Purchase or cut all firewood from the same general location where you plan to use it. When camping or at a cabin, do not take any leftover firewood home with you.

Properly dispose of ash wood products. Even after a tree has been removed, EAB larvae can survive in a felled tree for some period of time. When an infested tree is being removed, wood must be chipped to a size smaller than 1 inch. **Ash tree removals will only be permitted between September 1 and April 30— the period when the adults are not in flight.** Ash tree removals may only be performed by a contractor who has signed a State of Illinois Compliance Agreement pledging to comply with all the provisions of the EAB quarantine.

### *What else can I do?*

Educate yourself on how to recognize signs and symptoms of EAB. Information may be found at [www.IllinoisEAB.com](http://www.IllinoisEAB.com). You may also report possible sightings of EAB by calling the USDA Emerald Ash Borer Hotline toll-free @ 1-866-322-4512.

Nine in a series of brochures as part of the “Being a Good Neighbor” program designed to inform and educate the residents of Woodstock, Illinois.

02/2009



City of  
Woodstock

# 9 Emerald Ash Borer

Help Yourself/Help Your Neighbor




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## Being a Good Neighbor

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Department of Public Works  
326 Washington Street  
Woodstock, Illinois 60098  
(815) 338-6118  
[pwdept@woodstockil.gov](mailto:pwdept@woodstockil.gov)

## What is an Emerald Ash Borer?

*The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an invasive-species, wood boring beetle, metallic green in color, is native to China and eastern Asia, that infests and kills North American ash species including green, white, black and blue ash.*

*The EAB is thought to have arrived in North America hidden in firewood or wood packing materials commonly used to ship consumer and other goods. Adult EAB's are roughly 3/8 to 5/8 inch long, bullet shaped, and may be present from mid-May through early September but are most common in June and July. The adult beetles nibble on ash foliage but cause little damage. Damage is caused by the larvae, which feed just below the bark disrupting the trees ability to transport water and nutrients. Adults lay their eggs inside bark cracks and crevices from early June to late July.*



## How can I tell if my ash tree is infested?

The canopy of infested trees begins to thin above infested portions of the trunk and major branches because the borer destroys the water and nutrient conducting tissues under the bark. Heavily infested trees exhibit canopy die-back usually starting at the top of the tree. One-third to one-half of the branches may die in one year. Most of the canopy will be dead within two years of when symptoms are first observed. Sometimes ash trees push out sprouts from the trunk after the upper portions of the tree dies. Although difficult to see, the adult beetles leave a “D”-shaped exit hole in the bark, roughly 1/8 inch in diameter, when they emerge in the month of June. **Woodpeckers like EAB larvae; heavy woodpecker damage on ash trees may be a sign of infestation.** Many of these symptoms are difficult to detect and may be associated with problems other than EAB, so concerned residents should contact the Department of Public Works or the Illinois Department of Agriculture at 1-800-641-3934 for confirmation. Upon request, the City’s arborist will perform an inspection of a private ash tree (within the City limits) that is suspected of being infested by the EAB in order to confirm its presence.

## What if an infested tree is on Publicly Owned property?

Any ash tree located on public property which includes but is not limited to, public right-of-way, parks, open spaces, and municipal facilities that show signs of infestation, decline, death, or are structurally compromised, will be scheduled for timely removal. As these trees are being removed, they will be inspected for the presence of EAB. The management of an ash tree on public property that has been positively identified as being infested with EAB shall include:

- Removal and destruction of infested ash trees will be performed in compliance with imposed regulations. Removal may be performed by a contractor who has signed a State of Illinois Compliance Agreement or a qualified representative of the Department of Public Works.
- Written notification of the infestation to all neighboring property owners.

## What if an infested tree is on private property?

Any ash tree located on property not owned by the City that shows a symptom of infestation, decline, death, or is structurally compromised, should be scheduled for timely removal by the property owner. Once an ash tree infestation has been identified, the City will take the following steps:

- Notice will be sent to the owner of the parcel informing them of a positive identification of the EAB with information about proper removal, destruction, and handling requirements as specified by the IL Department of Agriculture.
- Written notification of the infestation to all neighboring property owners.