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EAB IN ILLINOIS

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), also known as the Green Menace, has taken up residence in Illinois. Found, so far, only in Kane and northern Cook counties, the exotic beetle is wreaking havoc on all species of ash trees in North America. Nearly 20 million ash trees in Michigan, Ohio, Ontario, Maryland and Indiana have fallen victim to this deadly pest.

No longer than the width of a penny and no wider than the width of a stir straw, EAB can easily fly 1/2 mile or more during its flight season and is difficult to identify until it has already done its damage.

A subdivision in Kane County was first to identify EAB infested ash trees in June 2006, and a trail of others were soon to follow.

The Illinois Department of Agriculture was quick to respond with a Nuisance Declaration and the issuance of restrictive quarantines. A Science

and Management Advisory board was formed to advise IDA in its management strategy, with subsidiary committees to address specific issues such as wood utilization and reforestation. Additionally, IDA immediately began a destructive bark peeling survey in and around the first confirmed and subsequent sites and quickly discovered that EAB has been here for quite some time. The survey was funded in part through an emergency grant secured from the USDA limited specifically for EAB detection, control/eradication and outreach in Illinois.

In March 2007, IDA officials began an EAB Population Reduction Strategy, whereby IDA assumed the cost of tree removal for EAB infested ash trees within a half mile of a USDA confirmed EAB site. This program was offered through the end of April before the 2007 EAB flight season began.

For more information, an EAB specific website has been assigned to address the many issues related to EAB in Illinois at :

www.ILLINOISEAB.com



2006 SURVEY

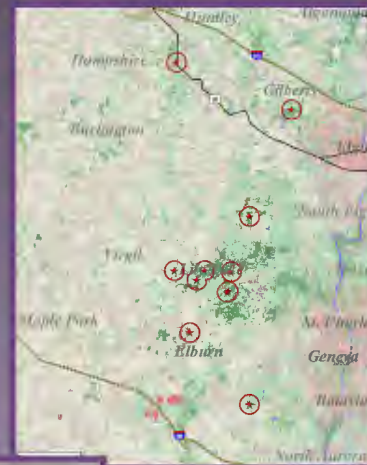
The Illinois Department of Agriculture began survey work last summer to determine the extent of the EAB infestation in Illinois. By December 2006, IDA staff and tree removal contractor Davey Tree, surveyed and bark stripped

- 320 trees within Kane County
- 500 trees within
 - ⇒ Northern Cook county (10 townships)
 - ⇒ Southern Lake County (four townships)
 - ⇒ DuPage County (one township)

The results proved EAB had infested:

- Ten sites in Kane County:
 - ⇒ Six in Campton Township
 - ⇒ One in Blackberry Township

- ⇒ One in Elgin Township
- ⇒ One in Hampshire Township
- ⇒ One in Plato Township
- Five sites in Northern Cook County:
 - ⇒ One in Evanston
 - ⇒ Three in Wilmette
 - ⇒ One in Winnetka



↑ There are 10 USDA confirmed EAB infested sites in Kane County.

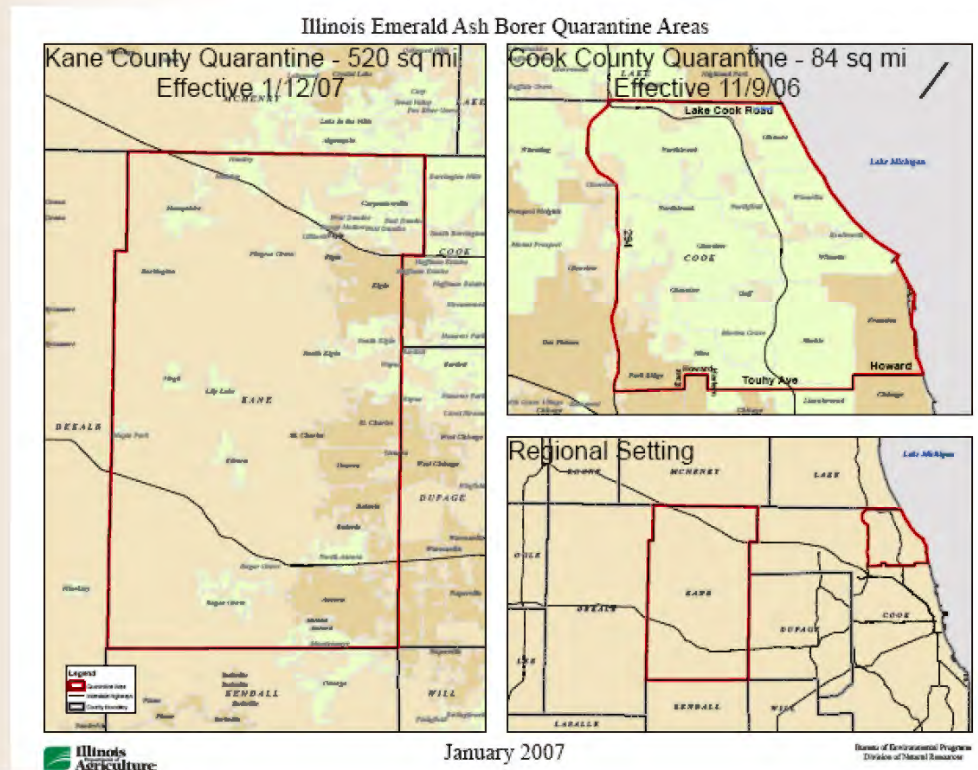
← There are 5 USDA confirmed EAB infested sites in northern Cook County.

EAB QUARANTINE ZONES

- All of Illinois is quarantined by the USDA covering all inter-state activity related to Ash products and firewood. Items can be moved intra-state, but cannot be moved across state borders.
- More restrictive state quarantines have been set within Kane and northern Cook counties. No regulated articles can pass the interior state quarantine borders established by the Illinois Department of Agriculture shown below.

Regulated articles include:

- The emerald ash borer in any living stage of development
- Ash trees of any size ~ Ash limbs and branches ~ Any cut, non-coniferous firewood
- Bark and wood chips larger than one inch from ash trees ~ Ash logs and lumber with either the bark or the outer one inch of sapwood, or both, attached
- Any item made from or containing the wood of the ash tree that is capable of spreading the emerald ash borer
- Any other article, product or means of conveyance determined by the Illinois Department of Agriculture to present a risk of spreading the beetle infestation



EAB Population Reduction Strategy

The EAB Population Reduction Strategy program offered in March by the Illinois Department of Agriculture is intended to be a positive step in reducing the population of EAB released during this year's flight season. As of April 16, we have approximately 247 trees in Kane and Cook counties eligible in the EAB reduction zones and have authorization and release forms signed for their removal.

In addition, Cook County villages of Wilmette and Evanston continue to remove IDA confirmed EAB public trees following the IDA EAB reduction strategy guidelines.



ILLINOIS EAB SURVEY STRATEGY FOR 2007

Beginning this May, through next winter, the Illinois Department of Agriculture will continue a destructive (bark peeling) survey in the northern 34 counties in Illinois. Funding for this project is provided through a cooperative agreement with the USDA which specifically details that funding can only be used for EAB detection, control/eradication and outreach in Illinois. The survey area is (see map on back page) the counties that run along and north of Interstate 74 to the Wisconsin state line and east to west from the Indiana state line to the Mississippi River. On average, one ash tree per every 4 square miles will be surveyed.

The first step in this process, is to meet and communicate with cooperators and determine what legal authorities exist for right-of-access to ash trees for use in survey activities. Primarily trees for destruction survey sampling will be located in areas of easy and clear right-of-way access for survey personnel.

In addition to the right-of-access authorities of the IDA, other cooperators who may agree to provide access may include, IDNR, IDOT, County and Township boards and road commissioners, municipalities, conservation districts, land managers, public parks, forest preserve districts, etc.

If survey work is to be conducted systematically in an area, the Department will contact local law enforcement about the anticipated survey. This will allow them to provide the public with accurate information and will increase safety for the survey crew. It is also advantageous to notify local University of Illinois Extension offices so they can be prepared with current info to provide the public.

GPS coordinates of every tree surveyed and sampled will be recorded. The data (NAD83) will be sent regularly to EAB program Management in a format that allows for data transfer, program mapping, and program data analysis.

The ash trees selected for sampling should preferably be 4 to 8 inch DBH. Preferably these trees will be located along public rights-of-way and will be easily accessible. A grid system of 1 tree for every 4 square miles is desired for the survey. Some high risk targets are: recently landscaped parks and subdivisions, firewood production sites, campgrounds, parks, sawmills, nurseries, power line rights-of-way, free-ways, rail lines, river trails, etc.



IDA survey staff will initially identify and locate desired survey trees, record their GPS coordinates and attempt to locate a centralized site to do all peeling when in a general area. The IDA will likely work with a contractor who will remove identified trees and deliver the samples to the bark peeling location. Each day the contractor will process to a deregulated state all peeled trees and work debris that was completed that day. Priority Zone 1 will be surveyed first by IDA staff. Additionally, the University of Illinois/ Natural History Survey will be conducting a high-risk trap-tree survey in the lower 2/3 of the state.



DID YOU KNOW?

- ◆ The Emerald Ash Borer known as EAB, in its adult stages is no longer than a penny and no wider than the width of a stir-straw.
- ◆ The EAB can fly up to a 1/2 mile during flight season.
- ◆ Flight season is during the summer months between the Memorial and Labor day holidays.
- ◆ The EAB larvae bores into the trunks of ash trees and feasts on the trees trunk as the larvae matures. This process cuts off the trees ability to transport nutrients thereby causing its eminent demise.
- ◆ EAB's natural spread is devastating enough, but it is the artificial spread due to humans carelessly moving infested wood like firewood that has exacerbated the situation and has caused the spread to increase exponentially.

Illinois Department of Agriculture officials estimate there are 130 million ash trees in Illinois alone, and all are at risk. It is virtually impossible to stop EAB in the absence of a natural predator, but it is possible to slow the spread by artificial means. What that means is, the bug doesn't need any help to get to its next destination, so as citizens, we need to be vigilant and careful not to move possibly-infested wood, like firewood. **Don't move firewood, buy it locally.**

Please don't move firewood—Buy it locally.



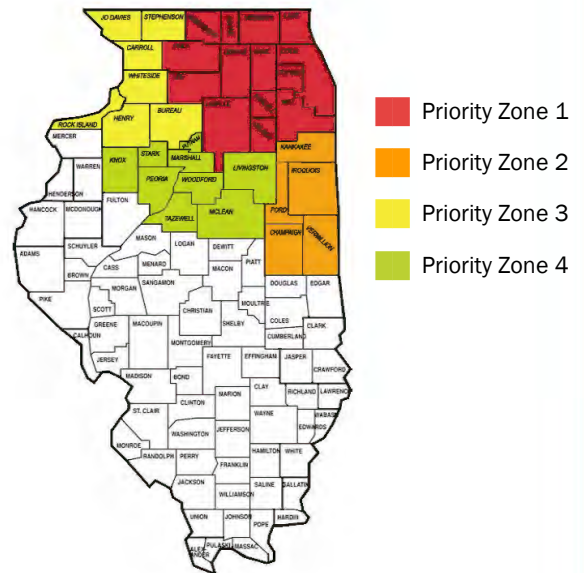
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PRIORITY REGIONS FOR SURVEY WORK

This year, Illinois Department of Agriculture EAB staff will be out surveying trees looking for the Emerald Ash Borer. This survey will consist of bark peeling to determine if the EAB larvae is present. This method is the surest way to identify EAB in a specific area. IDA staff will begin their survey work in the following counties which are prioritized into four sections in the northern third of the state.

- ⇒ Priority Zone 1— NE Illinois (Lake 112 trees, Cook*** 100 trees plus City of Chicago efforts, Will 209 trees, DuPage 83 trees, McHenry 151 trees, Kane*** limited # of trees away from already known infested areas, (***) Federal dollar are not allowed for survey work in existing regulated areas.) Kendall 80 trees, Grundy 105 trees, LaSalle 283 trees, DeKalb 158 trees, Boone 70 trees, Winnebago 128 trees, Ogle 189 trees, and Lee 181 trees).
- ⇒ Priority Zone 2 — E Illinois (Kankakee 166 trees, Iroquois 279 trees, Vermillion 225 trees, Champaign 249 trees, Ford 121 trees).
- ⇒ Priority Zone 3 — NW Illinois (Stephenson 141 trees, Jo Daviess 150 trees, Carroll 111 trees, Whiteside 171 trees, Bureau 217 trees, Henry 206 trees, Rock Island 106 trees).
- ⇒ Priority Zone 4 — NC Illinois (Putnam 40 trees, Marshall 96 trees, Stark 72 trees, Knox 179 trees, Peoria 155 trees, Woodford 132 trees, Tazewell 162 trees, McLean 296 trees, Livingston 261 trees).
- ⇒ This past year and winter 320 trees Kane County, and approximately 500 trees in N. Cook/S. Lake counties were survey during the



fall and winter.

Total number of trees to be surveyed in 2007 will be very near 5,200.