



EAB NEWS

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EAB NEWS ~
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Two New Finds Prompt 18 County Quarantine Expansion in NE Illinois

The Illinois Department of Agriculture has expanded its emerald ash borer quarantine to include all or portions of the 18 northeastern-most counties of Illinois. Additionally, adjustments were made to the quarantine to affect movement of regulated articles during the EAB flight season.

The most recent detections of the tree-killing beetle in LaSalle and DuPage counties, each a considerable distance outside the present quarantine boundaries, prompted the expansion. The detections were made in the cloverleaf encircling Interstate 80 and Illinois Rt. 251 in Peru and at Concord Green Shopping Center in Glendale Heights.

"These latest EAB finds necessitate a considerable adjustment of the EAB quarantine boundaries as well as some additional requirements for movement of material within the quarantined area," Agriculture Director Chuck Hartke said. "It is not our intent to overburden communities and residents, but we must attempt to limit the artificial spread of this devastating pest. These new boundaries reflect the regional nature of landscape waste management in the greater Chicago metropolitan area that has been in place for over a decade, and acknowledges the fact that the Emerald Ash Borer has probably been present here for five or more years."

The other adjustment to the quarantine helps prevent the artificial spread of the pest during material transport within the quarantined area.

"When regulated articles are being hauled to and from waste management facilities during the EAB flight season, there is a potential for contamination of 'healthy areas' within the quarantine zone," Warren Goetsch, bureau chief of Environmental Programs, said. "The adjustment requires waste haulers to cover the regulated material from an infested area during transport through EAB flight season, which is from June through August, to curb this threat."

Additionally, the quarantine prohibits the removal of the following items from regulated areas:

- 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 from ash trees 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.

Anyone convicted of moving prohibited items from the quarantine area without prior certification by an Illinois Department of Agriculture nursery inspector may be fined up to \$500.

How the emerald ash borer arrived in Illinois is unknown, but the department suspects it may have been transported here in contaminated firewood. To avoid the accidental introduction of the beetle to new areas, the department encourages Illinoisans to purchase only locally-grown nursery stock and locally-cut firewood. Anyone who suspects a tree has been infested is urged to contact their county Extension office or their village forester for a consultation.



EAB discovered in LaSalle and DuPage Counties

Department staff discovered the menacing green beetle just north of Peru at the intersection of Interstate 80 and Route 251, Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) was confirmed in LaSalle County on July 11, 2007.

A couple of days later, a department nursery inspector made a discovery of EAB's presence in DuPage County when he noticed distressed ash trees at the Concord Green shopping Center in Glendale Heights. Larvae were collected from the trees and confirmation with USDA's Plant Health Inspection Service was made on July 13.

Department staff made the discovery in Peru while identifying ash trees for removal later this year as part of a survey to determine the extent of the beetle infestation in Illinois. The alert workers noticed distressed ash trees located inside the cloverleaf off-ramps at the intersection and stopped to investigate. Larvae were collected from the trees and submitted to the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), which confirmed the specimens as EAB larvae.

"Our staff now is surveying ash trees in the surrounding area to define the size of the infestation," Agriculture Director Chuck Hartke said. "We've also made adjustments to an existing quarantine as a result of this new find to limit the artificial spread of this destructive pest."

The emerald ash borer is a small, metallic-green beetle native to Asia. Its larvae burrow into the bark of ash trees, causing the trees to starve and eventually die. While the beetle does not pose any direct risk to public health, it does threaten the tree population. Since the emerald ash borer was first confirmed in the Midwest in the summer of 2002, 25 million ash trees in North America have died or are dying as a result of EAB.

The first beetle detection in Illinois occurred last June in a rural Kane County subdivision west of St. Charles. Subsequent finds were made in the northern Cook County communities of Wilmette, Evanston, Winnetka and, Skokie.

"Our strategy has three components," Hartke added. "The first is a quarantine to stop the movement of ash wood and ash nursery products out of infested areas. The second involves the removal of infested trees to reduce the population of the ash borer and minimize its potential spread while the third, a comprehensive survey of ash trees in northeastern Illinois to determine the exact extent of the infestation, is completed."

Areas under quarantine include all of Kane County and parts of northern Cook, western DuPage, northern Kendall and eastern DeKalb counties. More than 400 infested trees were removed this spring at no expense to homeowners as part of the population reduction strategy. An additional 1,000 trees in the region have been surveyed.

The emerald ash borer is difficult to detect, especially in newly-infested trees. Citizens should watch for metallic-green beetles about half the diameter of a penny on or near ash trees that are showing signs of disease or stress. Other signs of infestation in ash trees include D-shaped holes in the bark of the trunk or branches and shoots growing from its base. Anyone who suspects a tree has been infested is urged to contact their county Extension office.

EAB Compliance

Tree trimming and removal contractors/vendors and public works officials in the EAB quarantine area, each must sign a compliance agreement and mail to IDA before continuing with tree removal. Compliance agreements can be found on IDA's website at: www.IllinoisEAB.com

The direct link to the agreement is: <http://>

www.agr.state.il.us/eab/data/200704132591.pdf

IDA will issue an agreement number, post it on our website and mail back a copy. Anyone looking for a vendor to remove trees will be encouraged to check the IDA website for a list of compliant companies. That list can be found here: <http://www.agr.state.il.us/eab/?pg=6>

EAB Survey Crew Members Needed

Plant and Pesticide Specialist Position open in DeKalb. For job description go to: <http://www.agr.state.il.us/eab/data/200704251691.pdf>

HOW TO APPLY: An applicant must submit a Bid Form, a copy of a CMS-100 Employment Application or CMS-100B Promotional Application,

and a copy of his or her most recent performance evaluation to the Illinois Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Human Resources, State Fairgrounds, P.O. Box 19281, Springfield, IL 62794-9281, (217/782-2172) before the close of business on the final date to apply.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: To es-

ablish eligibility for this position, it is the applicant's responsibility to submit a CMS-100 Employment Application or a CMS-100B Promotional Application to the Department of Central Management Services, Bureau of Personnel, 500 William G. Stratton Building, Springfield, Il 62706, before the close of business on the final date to apply.

IDA Continues Progress with EAB Survey Work

The Illinois Department of Agriculture continues its search for EAB as it surveys trees within Priority Zone 1. As you may already know, EAB is extremely difficult to detect in its early stages of infestation, and therefore our staff have learned to go on hunches. Those hunches have led them to the most recent finds in LaSalle and DuPage counties.

So far, staff have surveyed and bark stripped trees in Kane and Kendall counties, and have completed survey tree selection work in Lake, Will, DuPage, Grundy, DeKalb, and Winnebago counties. IDA staff is still locat-

ing survey trees in LaSalle and Lee counties.

Recent detects in the outer portion of Priority Zone 1, have delayed survey efforts in southern Cook and McHenry counties, but officials expect to reach those areas soon.

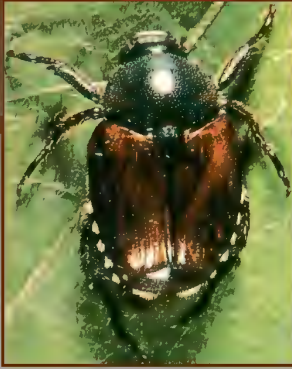
It is expected that IDA will locate all of Priority Zone 1 trees by mid September. At which time IDA plans to resume bark stripping efforts. It is hoped that survey work for all four Priority Zones will be completed before May 1 of 2008.

Priority Zone 1		Priority Zone 2		Priority Zone 3		Priority Zone 4	
County	Trees	County	Trees	County	Trees	County	Trees
/ Lake	112	Kankakee	166	Stephenson	141	Putnam	40
◇ Cook	100	Iroquois	279	Jo Davies	150	Marshall	96
/ Will	209	Vermillion	225	Carroll	111	Stark	72
/ DuPage	83	Champaign	249	Whiteside	171	Knox	179
◇ McHenry	151	Ford	121	Bureau	217	Peoria	155
√ Kane	Limited			Henry	206	Woodford	132
√ Kendall	90			Rock Island	106	Tazewell	162
/ Grundy	10					McLean	296
⇒ LaSalle	263					Livingston	261
/ DeKalb	158						
Boone							
/ Winnebago	126						
Ogle	169						
⇒ Lee	181						



- √ Completed Survey & bark stripping.
- / Completed survey—bark stripping to begin in Fall.
- ⇒ Working in
- ◇ Headed to Next

Asian Beetles — Which is which?



IDA has received quite a few calls about this pesky Japanese Beetle on the left, again, mistaking it for the Emerald Ash Borer, shown bottom right .

Japanese beetles are major pests feeding on the leaves of many trees,

↑ Japanese Beetle - NOT EAB. shrubs, and other plants. Japanese beetle adults range from three-eighths to one-half inch long. They are stocky beetles with a metallic green base color and copper wing covers. The larvae are one of the white grubs that commonly attack the roots of turf grasses. Full grown larvae are

white, C-shaped, and up to one inch long.

The Emerald Ash Borer, however, may nibble on ash leaves, but it is most destructive during its larval stage when boring into the trunks and limbs of ash trees as it matures and ultimately cutting off the nutrient supply to the tree and thereby causing the tree to die.



↑ Emerald Ash Borer—Deadly to Ash Trees

If you suspect EAB, please contact your city forester or local arborist or take digital photographs of the tree and the symptoms it is expressing and email them with contact info to: AGR.EAB@Illinois.gov



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Don't move firewood!
(Spread the message,
not the bug!)