

State of Illinois
Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor

Department of Agriculture
Charles Hartke, Director



EAB NEWS

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DNR STAYING VIGILANT AT STATE PARKS

IDNR Continues Ban on Firewood from Emerald Ash Borer Quarantine Areas Encourages On-Site Purchase of Firewood, Alternative Fuels, "Bring-It and Burn-It"

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) has implemented an emergency regulation that **prohibits** bringing to or using at IDNR sites, firewood from any area where a quarantine has been imposed due to the discovery of the emerald ash borer (EAB). The regulation is intended to help prevent the spread of the emerald ash borer, particularly to any state park, fish and wildlife area, conservation area, recreation area, natural area or other property owned or managed by the IDNR.

The regulation, put in place last summer when EAB was confirmed in Illinois, also bans the sale or distribution of firewood at IDNR sites unless authorized in writing by IDNR. Many state parks offer firewood for purchase through local vendors and concessionaires. Through these agreements, IDNR will be able to monitor and control the source of firewood. Visitors may be asked to forfeit firewood by site or campground personnel if it has been brought to state sites from EAB quarantine areas.

"Our message to campers, picnickers and other visitors to our state parks is clear – do not bring firewood to our parks if you know the wood is from an area under quarantine due to emerald ash borer," said IDNR Acting Director Sam Flood. "Whether you're coming to a state campground or having a family gathering at a park shelter, make sure you buy or bring only firewood that is well-seasoned and can be totally burned during your visit. With firewood, if you bring it, we want you to burn it before you leave the site. Consider using alternatives like charcoal and pre-fabricated logs that are available at retail outlets."

Transporting firewood is one way the emerald ash borer can be spread from areas with infested trees. Quarantines are imposed to prevent infested ash firewood, logs or nursery trees from being transported and starting new infestations.

There are two quarantined areas established by the Illinois Department of Agriculture; one surrounding Kane County and one in northern Cook County. Movement of ash trees and ash materials out of the quarantined areas is prohibited to control the spread of the invasive pest. IDOA also is conducting a tree

survey of an EAB infestation in the northern 35 counties of the state. Areas of Michigan, Indiana, Maryland and Ohio are under quarantine for EAB as well.

"Prevention is the only way to contain the spread of the emerald ash borer because no treatments currently exist to cure infested trees," Agriculture Director Chuck Hartke said. "The insect can fly only short distances on its own, so limiting the movement of firewood and other potentially-infested wood products is the single most important step we can take to prevent the introduction of the pest to new areas and protect our state's ash trees."

In addition to the ban on firewood from quarantine areas being brought to or used at state sites, IDNR is participating in an expansion of the search for EAB through stepped up monitoring for the beetle at state sites throughout northern and central Illinois.

Citizens can also help in detecting EAB. The presence of the bug is difficult to detect in newly-infested trees. Watch for beetles of a metallic-green color about half the diameter of a penny on or near ash trees that are showing signs of disease or stress. Signs of the beetles in ash trees also include D-shaped holes in the bark of the trunk or branches and shoots growing from the base of the tree. Those who suspect EAB should contact their local county Cooperative Extension Service office.

IDNR Emergency Rule Regarding Firewood at State Sites:

Amendment to 17 Ill. Adm. Code 110: Public Use of State Parks and Other Properties of the Department of Natural Resources

"It shall be unlawful:
For any person to bring or possess on Department of Natural Resources properties firewood from any geographical area where wood exportation has been prohibited by either State or federal quarantine; or to sell or distribute firewood on Department properties without prior written agreement with the Department pursuant to 17 Ill. Adm. Code 150 – Regulations for the Letting of Concessions, Farm Leases, Sale of Buildings and Facilities, and Demolitions. Department staff may confiscate any firewood brought onto Department properties found to be in violation of this Part."

USDA Considers Release of Parasitoids

In May the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that an environmental assessment was available for comment regarding the proposed release of three parasitoids for the biological control of the emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*). Although the comment period has closed (June 22, 2007), the environmental assessment is accessible for review on the Federal Register, Document ID: APHIS 2007-0060.



← *Spathius agrili*
female ovipositing

→
Spathius agrili
larvae



Photos by:
Dr. Yang Zhong-qi,
Chinese Academy of Forestry

IDA Finds Another Infestation Within Quarantined Area

Department staff visited the Batavia Industrial Park, located in southeastern Kane County in Batavia, Illinois on Thursday, June 14 and confirmed an infestation of Emerald Ash Borer. The infestation seems to be somewhat mature with many trees exhibiting numerous exit holes. Most of the trees are less than 16 inches DBH and are readily accessible. Department staff conducted a delimiting survey the following day to attempt to determine the extent of the infestation. EAB Program Manager Mark Cinnamon met with Batavia representatives to map out a strategy regarding whether the infested trees can or should be removed at this time or whether they should be allowed to stand until after the EAB adult flight season ends in early September. Since flight season is just beginning and the trees are readily accessible, tree removal to eliminate much of the EAB population in the area might still be an option depending on the extent of the infestation and how quickly authorities could mobilize tree removal and grinding operations. The infestation was discovered by an arborist employed by an area tree services company. Since the find is located within the currently quarantined area, no quarantine adjustment is necessary at this time. Additionally, since the find is located in Kane County and not a "new" county, no confirmation by the USDA is necessary.



IDA Continues Progress with EAB Survey Work

The Illinois Department of Agriculture's Destruction survey is proceeding well. Bark peeling in Kendall County has been completed and we are pleased to report that all larvae submitted thus far have been EAB negative.

be working in DuPage, Lake, Grundy and McHenry counties and expect to have ash trees located in each county for their survey by mid July. Suburban Cook County will then follow.

Officials with IDA notify county and Tree City USA officials prior to entry in regards to locating ash trees for the survey. Throughout June and into July, IDA staff will

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	⇒ 105					McLean	296
LaSalle	263					Livingston	261
/ DeKalb	158						
Boone							
Winnebago	126						
Ogle	169						
Lee	181						



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



**Minimize
the
Spread,
Don't
Move
Firewood**

Metallic Green Beetles — Which is which?

IDA has received many calls about that little green metallic beetle on the right, thinking it is that deadly little green metallic beetle on the left. The one on the right is actually a Six-spotted Green Tiger Beetle; an insect commonly confused with the emerald ash borer.

Tiger beetles are predators of insects, spiders, and other small animals.

They are commonly found sitting on sidewalks and other open areas. The six-spotted green tiger beetle is about one-half inch long and bright metallic green with small white spots on the wing covers. They actively fly in sunny conditions, always facing anyone nearby. Their light-colored larvae have large dark heads with huge

jaws. The larvae lurk in holes in the soil, waiting for insects and other prey to pass by.

Courtesy of Dr. Phil Nixon, Entomologist
University of Illinois Natural History Survey



↑ Emerald Ash Borer—Deadly to Ash Trees



↑ Six-spotted Green Tiger Beetle—
Harmless to Ash trees.



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What to look for:

Common borers will leave

round exit holes,
but EAB emerges
from very small
D-Shaped Exit
Holes.