

## SHADE TREE DEPARTMENT NEWSFLASH

TOWNSHIP OF EAST BRUNSWICK

AUGUST 2017

*The emerald ash borer is an invasive pest introduced from Asia that attacks ash trees. First discovered near Detroit in 2002 and has since spread to 18 states, including Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey neighbors, threatening to eventually spread across the U.S. and Canada.*

### DAMAGE

The emerald ash borer larvae feed on the inner bark and lock the movement of water and nutrients, essentially girdling the tree. This insect often infests the upper branches of the tree first and may affect branches as small as 1" in diameter. It takes 2-4 years for infested trees to die, but mortality is imminent.

### SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

Often the first sign that an ash tree is infected is woodpecker damage to live trees. When feeding on emerald ash borer, woodpeckers scrape off outer bark, leaving smooth, light colored patches. You can often see S-shaped galleries weaving back and forth on the surface of the wood. The beetles leave 1/8" D-shaped exit holes. Between June and August, you may see the 1/2" long metallic green adult beetles which have a purple abdomen under the wing covers.

### DETECTION

To confirm the absence or presence of these insects, the East Brunswick Shade Tree Department will be placing traps across the township to ensure our readiness for action, if needed.

As a homeowner, monitor your ash trees for the emerald ash borer so you will know when the risk of mortality becomes urgent. Look out for dying branches at the top of the tree, new sprouts forming from the base of the tree, woodpecker damage, galleries under the bark, d-shaped holes and green adult beetles.



### HELPFUL LINKS

EB Recreation & Parks –  
[www.eastbrunswick.org/recreation](http://www.eastbrunswick.org/recreation)

Multi-agency EAB Web Site –  
[www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info)

USDA Forest Service –  
[www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp/eab/](http://www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp/eab/)

ASDA Animal & Plant Health  
Inspection Service –  
[www.aphis.usda.gov/plant\\_health/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/)