



BOREERBITE

MISSOURI EAB PROGRAM E-NEWSLETTER

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MISSOURI LAUNCHES EAB PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the Missouri Emerald Ash Borer e-newsletter. This publication will provide timely and consistent information on the emerald ash borer (EAB) and its impact in

Missouri. The e-newsletter will be distributed via e-mail and posted on the Missouri EAB portal (eab.missouri.edu) on a quarterly basis. Please submit comments or newsletter story ideas to joanie.straub@mdc.mo.gov.

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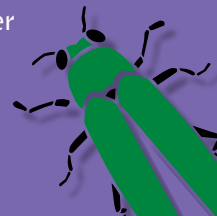


Is Your Firewood Harboring A Killer?

No one knows for certain how or when the emerald ash borer came into Missouri, though it's believed the insect hitch-hiked its way into the state in a load of firewood carried by a traveler from a state to the east. When camping, don't spread pests.

- **Leave firewood at home.**
- **Use only local sources of firewood.**
- **If you brought firewood, burn it.**

Everyone can take steps to slow the spread of emerald ash borer (EAB) and other pests and diseases to Missouri state parks, woods and other forested and urban areas.



MISSOURI EAB AWARENESS WEEK

MAY 23 – 29, 2010

May 23–29 is EAB Awareness Week. The goal is to highlight the threat of the emerald ash borer to Missouri's urban and forest trees, the environmental and economic impact of this exotic pest and what citizens can do to help slow the spread.


Events planned for EAB Awareness Week include a governor's proclamation, tree identification workshops hosted throughout the state by the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) forestry employees, an educational display at the St. Louis Arch and informational booths at the various MDC nature centers.

As prime outdoor season gets underway during Memorial Day weekend,

we want to remind Missourians they play a crucial role in limiting the spread of EAB by not moving firewood. EAB larvae can survive and emerge from untreated firewood for up to two years. Campers who transport untreated firewood risk spreading the emerald ash borer and other forest pests and diseases. Even moving firewood from one campground to another in the same neighborhood can spread destructive tree parasites and diseases.

Additionally, we need Missourians to keep an eye on their ash trees for signs of EAB infestations. Landowners are the first defense to help locate new and undetected populations in the state.



 Throughout the state, 15 billboards have gone up reminding Missourians to not move firewood. The billboards are part of a larger summer campaign that includes radio ads to raise awareness of EAB and how citizens can help slow the spread.



Army Corps Works to Prevent Widespread EAB Infestation

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) busily spent the winter months of 2009/2010 working to remove ash trees from a 1,400-acre area surrounding the campground at Greenville Recreation Area in Wayne County, ground zero in Missouri's battle against the emerald ash borer. With the help of funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA),



Wayne County, Missouri

contract loggers and heavy equipment operators cut down ash trees in the area. The cut logs were gathered into piles

USACE staff burned the piles to reduce the amount of larvae entering the system this year. To date, more than 1,000 ash trees have been burned.

The EAB was discovered in the Greenville area in July 2008. Since that time, the Missouri departments of Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources have joined forces with the USACE and the USDA to slow the spread of EAB in Missouri.



Steve Lawson of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers burns ash logs gathered from the Greenville Recreation Area in an effort to slow the spread of the emerald ash borer.



The larvae of the emerald ash borer beetle tunnels under the bark of the ash tree creating S-shaped galleries in their path. The galleries destroy the phloem layer, or vascular system, killing the tree. Since they first appeared in Michigan in 2002, emerald ash borers are responsible for the deaths of more than 50 - 100 million ash trees in 14 states.

WHAT'S THAT PURPLE THING HANGING IN THE TREE?

Is it a kite? A birdhouse? A holiday decoration gone astray? No! It's a trap set to catch the emerald ash borer (EAB). During the months of March and April, the Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA) placed "purple sticky traps" throughout the state as part of their ongoing effort to find infestations and track the spread of the tree-killing EAB.

Approximately 400 of these traps were placed in state parks, conservation areas, national wildlife refuges, U.S. Forest Service campgrounds, National Park Service areas, mulch sites, city parks and other private or public areas. Another 800 of the sticky traps were hung in and around the campground at Greenville Recreation Area in Wayne County by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) division.



Robert Phillips, a Missouri Department of Agriculture plant protection specialist based in Jackson, prepares to lift an emerald ash borer detection trap into a tree at the Greenville Campground near Lake Wappapello.

"...in scientific studies, beetles were attracted to the color purple."

"Scientists have been working to develop survey tools to help search for emerald ash borer since the beetle was first identified in Michigan in 2002," said Doug LeDoux, Missouri Department of Agriculture Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) state coordinator. "This survey device

represents the very latest tool that we have available in the battle against EAB."

The purple traps are placed in ash trees by hooks, out of the reach of pedestrians or passers-by. The three-sided traps are approximately 2-feet tall and 1 1/2-foot wide. Each trap is coated with a sticky substance that will ensnare the adult beetle. A Manuka oil lure will also be hung within each trap, to help draw nearby beetles to the tree.

The lure is similar to the chemical compounds ash trees release when they are stressed. The combination appears to be appealing to the emerald ash borer. The traps are purple because in scientific studies, beetles were attracted to the color purple.

"Missouri has one known infestation of EAB in Wayne County," said Collin Wamsley,

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WHAT'S THAT PURPLE THING HANGING IN THE TREE?

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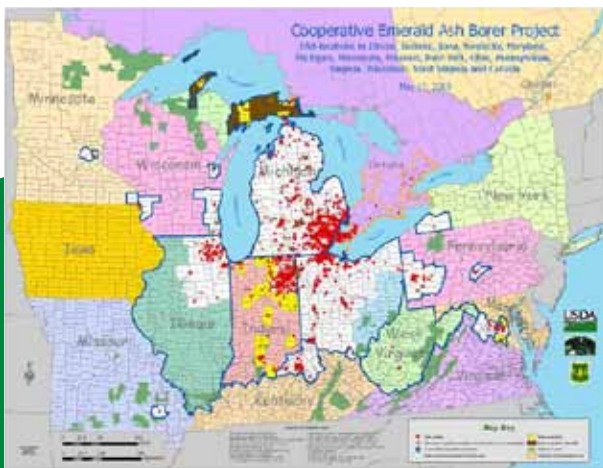
state entomologist with the Missouri Department of Agriculture. "We're just coming into our third year of knowing about our infestation. The traps we've deployed will help us get a better idea of the size of the infestation we know about and, possibly lead us to other areas in the state where the ash borer has arrived."

The traps are deployed from south to north Missouri by survey workers before the area reaches 450 degree days (mid-late April in the south), the point at which adult beetle emergence begins. The traps are taken down, examined and re-baited after approximately 60 days and then are removed after the area reaches 1,500 degree days (mid- to late July).

Each trap is then examined for EAB and any suspect beetles are removed and identified. If any new sites are located, additional trapping will be done to determine the extent of the new infestation and treatments to mitigate the threat will be carried out.

Occasionally high winds or other weather events cause the traps to fall. If you notice a fallen or dislodged trap, please notify the Missouri Department of Agriculture at 866-322-4512.

This purple trap survey for EAB is part of a nationwide effort sponsored by the USDA to find and track infestations of the pest. Nearly 67,000 traps will be put up across 49 states.



This map depicts known EAB locations in North America. The red dots represent areas with positive EAB infestations. Anything outlined in blue is under a federal quarantine, which means the interstate (between states) movement of EAB host wood and wood products - nursery stock, green lumber, waste, compost, chips of ash species and firewood of all hardwood species - is regulated.

The first confirmed case of EAB in Iowa was reported on May 14, 2010. EAB was found along the Mississippi River two miles south of the Minnesota border in Allamakee County, IA. The land is owned and managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Four EAB larvae were found in one ash tree by members of Iowa's EAB team during a survey of the area following the recent announcement that the beetle had been found just across the Minnesota border. An infestation in nearby Victory, Wisconsin was discovered in 2009.

A quarantine prohibiting the movement of firewood, ash nursery stock, ash timber, or any other article that could further spread EAB is pending from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. A federal quarantine would follow the state quarantine.



MISSOURI EMERALD ASH BORER PROGRAM

Missouri Department of Agriculture, Missouri Department of Conservation, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, University of Missouri Extension, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture APHIS PPQ, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers