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Emerald Ash Borer Homeowners Checklist

First discovered in 2002 in Windsor, Ontario and in parts of southeast Michigan, the invasive Asian beetle known as the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has succeeded in killing literally millions of North American Ash trees over the past 12 years. If you live in any of the 22 states or two Canadian provinces where EAB infestations are currently known to be present—and assuming you have ash trees on your property—you should be aware of the accepted best practices for EAB prevention and protection. We hope you'll find this EAB Homeowners Checklist useful.

It's possible to transport Emerald Ash Borers without even knowing it, although there are a number of ways to keep that from happening.

- ✓ To start with, keep your firewood as local as you can. The generally agreed upon advice is to "burn it where you buy it" instead of transporting firewood across state or county lines.
- ✓ In some cases larval beetles can survive for more than a year inside the wood of a cut down tree, and will emerge as mature beetles to infest other trees. Remember to always keep your wood in a central location, far from any ash trees.
- ✓ Burning your firewood reasonably close to the pile is a step in the protective direction.
- ✓ Burning the last of your firewood prior to spring is a good way to prevent any beetles from emerging and infesting your trees.
- ✓ It's always best to treat ash trees with insecticide while they're relatively healthy. Still, it's crucial to apply the insecticide at the proper time and rate. If you don't plan to consult with a pesticide expert, take great care in your research.
- ✓ Properly protecting your ash trees from EAB infestation generally requires a years-long investment of time and money. Is it worth the cost? That depends. To download a Decision Guide, view the "Information for Homeowners" tab at www.emeraldashborer.info.
- ✓ If your property is within 15 miles of a known EAB infestation, there's a very good chance that your ash trees are also at risk. Convincing your community to take action is a crucial step; visit Purdue University's "Neighbors Against Bad Bugs" website for tips and suggestions: www.eabindiana.info.

For an accurate diagnosis, Peter Benz, an ISA Certified Arborist and a licensed pesticide applicator, will come to your property to inspect your trees and propose a customized treatment plan.