

*The Town of Blackfalds is joining the rest of the Province in an effort to keep Emeralds Ash Borer out of Alberta. With everyone's help and education we can keep our Elm trees alive and well.*

## What is Emerald Ash Borer?

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) (*Agrilus planipennis*) is a highly destructive insect pest of ash trees. Native to eastern Asia, this pest was first discovered in Canada and the U.S. in 2002. The EAB has killed millions of ash trees in Southwestern Ontario, Michigan and surrounding states, and poses a major economic and environmental threat to urban and forested areas in both countries. The EAB attacks and kills all species of ash (except Mountain ash which is not a true ash).

## Hosts:

All Ash plants – *Fraxinus* spp.  
Primarily

## Recognizing the Damage

Signs of tree decline includes:

- Thinning crown
- Diminished leaf density
- Evidence of adult beetle feeding on leaves
- Long shoots growing from trunk or branches
- Vertical cracks in trunk
- Small D-shaped emergence holes
- S-shaped tunnelers under bark filled with fine sawdust

## Why should we manage Emerald Ash Borer?

This pest is relentless. The Emerald Ash borer (EAB) is a highly destructive invasive beetle which attacks and kills all species of ash. The emerald ash borer has already killed millions of trees in North America, excluding Saskatchewan and Alberta, so far.

To help prevent the spread of EAB, the movement of ash logs and firewood out of regulated areas is restricted. Don't Move Firewood. Report any detection outside of regulated areas to one of the CFIA's offices.

## Insect Life Cycle/Physical Characteristics

Adult beetles are metallic blue-green, narrow, hairless, elongate, 8.5 to 14.0 mm long and 3.1 to 3.4 mm wide. The head is flat and the vertex is shield-shaped. The eyes are bronze or black and kidney shaped.

Mature larvae are 26 to 32 mm long and creamy white. The body is flat and broad shaped. The posterior ends of some segments are bell-shaped.

## Controls

***Burn infected wood. Don't transport fire wood.***

Moving wood from a regulated area is subject to fines. Under the authority of the Plant Protection Act, restrictions are put in place to prevent movement of materials that may spread federally regulated pests such as the EAB. The methods used do not necessarily relate to the volume involved.

There are two types of penalties that can be issued for those who violate the Plant Protection Act:

- Immediate penalties of up to \$15,000 may be issued. Administrative Monetary Penalties (or AMPs) are basically tickets used to encourage compliance and deter repeated offences. They can be issued to individuals or businesses under the Agriculture and Agri-Food Administrative Monetary Penalties Act.
- A penalty of up to \$250,000 and/or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years. This involves a prosecution, where the individual or business is charged with an offence under the Act. Prosecution under the Act is usually used to penalize repeated non-compliance or for serious violations.

For more information about Emerald Ash Borer, please visit [www.inspection.gc.ca](http://www.inspection.gc.ca) go to plants > plant pests/invasive species > insects > Emerald Ash Borer

