



City of Dallas

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Environmental and Sustainability

June 6, 2022

Urban Forest Task Force

Presentation Overview



- Status Update
- Emerald Ash Borer Identification
- Ash Tree Identification
- Action Plan
- Next Steps



Status Update



- Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS) notified the City of confirmed presence of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) within Dallas city limits and western Dallas County
- City Council notified May 19th of confirmation
- TFS, Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) and the City initiated respective EAB Action Plans



Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)



The emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) is a destructive, non-native, wood-boring, pest of ash trees (*Fraxinus* spp.). Native to Asia, the emerald ash borer beetle (EAB) was unknown in North America until its discovery in southeast Michigan in 2002. All native ash species are susceptible to attack. Ash trees with low population densities of EAB often have few or no external symptoms of infestation. EAB is a significant threat to urban, suburban, and rural forests as it kills both stressed and healthy ash trees. EAB is very aggressive and ash trees may die within two or three years after they become infested.





Ash Tree Identification

- Ash trees represent approximately 5% of the DFW Metroplex, according to TFS
- As a preservation strategy, treatment of ash trees will be considered when:
 - 24" or larger in diameter and in good condition or a grove of good condition ash
 - Removals will occur when infestation is present or condition of the tree poses a public safety risk



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I think I have an Ash Tree, now what?



- Contact an ISA Certified Arborist for an inspection of a tree

Contact information to locate these services can be found at the International Society of Arboriculture's Trees Are Good website, www.treesaregood.org, and can be searched by state, city or postal code

- Based on recommendations, options available may include:
 1. Treat the tree. A prescribed injection of Emamectin Benzoate (EB) can be applied by a licensed TDA Commercial Applicator, or other recommended product. These products work to neutralize feeding larvae and/or adult beetles and provides protection that may require additional treatment after 2 years.
 2. Remove and replace the tree. If the tree is in advanced stages of decline, treatment may not be a practical solution. In this option, the host source is removed, and the spread of EAB slows in the local area.
- Trees provide an abundance of benefits to the local ecosystem and community. If a tree is removed, replacement is strongly recommended. An ISA Certified Arborist can recommend a well-suited native replacement or residents can research replacements at:

<http://texastreeid.tamu.edu/content/listOfTrees/>





EAB Action Plan

- To date, TFS and TDA have:
 - ✓ Implemented quarantine for Dallas County:
 - No untreated wood, wood debris or firewood can be moved outside the quarantined area(s) without treatment
 - ✓ Provided ongoing EAB trap monitoring for over 20 locations in Dallas County
 - ✓ Continued to provide technical assistance and participate in agency technical meetings

NEWSROOM: TREE-KILLING INSECT CONFIRMED IN DALLAS COUNTY

May 19, 2022

Tree-killing insect confirmed in Dallas County

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — The presence of the invasive emerald ash borer (EAB) was confirmed this week in Dallas County. Dallas County will be added to the list of Texas jurisdictions under quarantine by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). TDA quarantines are designed to slow the spread of the insect by limiting the transportation of ash wood, wood waste and hardwood firewood.

On May 12, Texas A&M Forest Service collected an adult beetle specimen in the Carrollton/Coppell area and tentatively identified it as being EAB. The beetle was collected in an EAB trap that is part of a state monitoring program run by Texas A&M Forest Service each year.

"EAB is a destructive, non-native wood-boring pest of ash trees," said Allen Smith, Texas A&M Forest Service Regional Forest Health Coordinator. "Since 2018, we have deployed nearly 500 traps across Central, East and North Texas annually watching for the insect's presence and movement."

The specimen was sent to the USDA Department Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) national lab for confirmation and tested positive as EAB.

The aggressive pest is a significant threat to urban, suburban and rural forests," said Smith. "Both healthy and unhealthy ash trees are susceptible to EAB attack and may die within two or three years after becoming infested. Ash trees have no natural resistance to the exotic insect. Without proper proactive measures, mortality can be 100 percent in heavily infested areas, so early detection could improve our chances to manage for the pest."

Native to Asia, forest health experts have been monitoring EAB movement across the United States since 2002. It has spread to more than half of the states in America, killing millions of ash trees. The beetle was first detected in Texas in 2016 in Harrison County in northeast Texas. Since then, EAB has been positively confirmed in Bowie, Cass, Dallas, Denton, Marion, Parker and Tarrant Counties.

After the initial specimen was collected, additional adult beetles were also trapped in central and southern areas of Dallas County.

Once the presence of EAB is confirmed in a county, TDA assumes regulatory responsibility which includes the establishment of quarantines. The state's mandatory quarantine by TDA, restricts movement of any woody ash material exiting the county or quarantined area.

"Because EAB is transported unintentionally on firewood and wood products, the quarantine helps slow the beetle's spread by restricting the movement of wood in and out of affected areas," said Smith.

Texas A&M Forest Service urban tree canopy inventories estimate that ash trees comprise approximately five percent of the Dallas/Fort Worth urban forest and approximately one percent of the standing inventory forests in East Texas.

"There is no known stop to this epidemic," said Smith. "But we can help communities minimize loss, diversify their tree species and contribute to the health and resiliency of their urban forests."

Texas A&M Forest Service works with communities on state quarantines of the movement of wood into and out of impacted areas. There are resources available to help affected communities identify signs of EAB infestation and can assist in making decisions about preventative measures they can take and how to handle tree management and removal.

For more information on EAB in Texas, please visit <http://texasforests.tamu.edu/eab/>.

EAB photos and resources can be viewed and accessed at <http://ow.ly/LJ30lbBxz>.

For information from TDA on EAB quarantine, visit [https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext_ViewTAC?tac_view=5&ti=4&pt=1&ch=19&sch=Z&ri=Y](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext_ViewTAC?tac_view=5&ti=4&pt=1&ch=19&sch=Z&ri=Y) or <https://texasagriculture.gov/Regulatory/Programs/PlantQuality/PestandDiseaseAlerts/EmeraldAshBorer.aspx>.

To report emerald ash borer, please call 1-866-322-4512.

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Texas A&M Forest Service Contacts:

Mike Sills, Urban Forester, 972-695-3055, msills@tfs.tamu.edu

Allen Smith, Regional Forest Health Coordinator, 903-297-5094, lasmith@tfs.tamu.edu

Communications Office, 979-458-6606, newsmedia@tfs.tamu.edu





EAB Action Plan

To date, the City has initiated the EAB Action Plan to manage, respond to, and provide coordination of EAB efforts within the city limits:

- ✓ Determine infestation boundaries with TFS
- ✓ Initiate marketing, education and outreach activities in cooperation with TFS and TDA
- ✓ Update EAB Action Plan to include quarantine requirements

WHAT IS THE EMERALD ASH BORER (EAB)?



The emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) is a destructive non-native wood-boring pest of ash trees. Native to Asia, the emerald ash borer beetle (EAB) was unknown in North America until its discovery in southeast Michigan in 2002. All native ash species are susceptible to attack.

Ash trees with low population densities of EAB often have few or no external symptoms of infestation. EAB is a significant threat to urban, suburban, and rural forests as it kills both stressed and healthy trees.

WHAT DO I DO IF I SEE AN EAB?

1. Do you know what kind of tree you have? Visit the Trees of Texas website to help you identify your tree: texastreeid.tamu.edu/index.aspx
2. Have there been reports of the beetle nearby? The biggest signs of a beetle nearby are:
 - Dead branches near the top of a tree
 - Leafy shoots sprouting from the trunk
 - Bark splitting exposing larval galleries
3. Call a professional certified forester to verify the presence of an EAB, then discuss ALL of your options!

Finally, if removal is needed, plant a new Tree! Check out the Dallas Forestry website for alternate trees and more tree information.

PHONE: 214-670-3111

EMAIL: CODForestry@dallascityhall.com

WEBSITE: dallascityhall.com/projects/forestry/Pages/home.aspx



Forestry



EAB Action Plan



- Action and response activities
 - ✓ Focused marketing, outreach and education efforts, in cooperation with TFS, TDA and partners/stakeholders
 - Forestry website
 - Media releases, social media, and public outreach to community groups, neighborhood associations and park partners
 - Ongoing staff and public presentations
 - Staff training
 - Arborist School
 - Community Forester Academy



EAB Action Plan



- ✓ Begin the assessment of ash trees throughout the City:
 - Condition and specific location of significant ash trees and ash groves
 - 24" and larger, in good condition
 - Grove of good condition, diverse ash
 - Removal of infected ash or pose a public safety issue
- ✓ Contract for treatment and removals
 - Initial FY22 and FY23 cost estimate - \$470,000
 - Does not include any associated landfill charges
 - Concurrent with assessment
 - Present agenda item to establish multi-year fund for FY22 and FY23 in June, potentially August





EAB Action Plan

- ✓ Initiate amendments to City Code, Article X
 - Summer 2022: ZOAC and CPC
 - Late Summer 2022 to Early Fall 2022: City Council consideration
 - Necessary to address protected status and removals, as needed for infestation
- Plan and implement containment actions:
 - Consider debris treatment and off-site mulching for public and private entities
 - Determine location and any appropriate zoning or certificate of occupancy needs



Next Steps

- Continue working with TFS and TDA to monitor EAB populations
- Increase marketing, awareness and education for staff and public
- Initiate treatment of significant ash trees
- Perform limited removal of ash
 - Infected ash or poses a public safety issue



Next Steps



- Present amendments to Article X for consideration
- Present funding agenda item for consideration
- Finalize plans for containment site for City and public disposal
- Continue tree plantings to increase diversity and replace lost tree canopy





Appendix – Marketing and Outreach Material

WHAT IS THE EMERALD ASH BORER (EAB)?



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Forestry

¿QUÉ ES EL BARRENADOR ESMERALDA DEL FRESNO (BEF)?



El barrenador esmeralda del fresno (*Agrilus planipennis*) es una plaga destructiva no autóctona que perfora la madera de los fresnos. Originario de Asia, el barrenador esmeralda del fresno (BEF) era desconocido en Norteamérica hasta su descubrimiento en el sureste de Michigan en 2002. Todas las especies nativas de fresnos son susceptibles de ser atacadas.

Los fresnos con bajas densidades de población del BEF suelen presentar pocos o ningún síntoma externo de infestación. El BEF es una amenaza importante para los bosques urbanos, suburbanos y rurales, ya que mata tanto a los árboles estresados como a los sanos.

¿QUÉ HAGO SI VEO UN BEF?

1. ¿Sabe qué tipo de árbol tiene? Visite el sitio web Trees of Texas para ayudarlo a identificar su árbol: texastreeid.tamu.edu/index.aspx
2. ¿Ha habido informes sobre el escarabajo en las cercanías? Los mayores signos de un escarabajo cerca son:
 - Ramas muertas cerca de la copa de un árbol
 - Brotes de hojas que brotan del tronco
 - Corteza partida que expone galerías de larvas
3. ¡Llame a un silvicultor profesional certificado para que verifique la presencia de un BEF y, a continuación, analice TODAS sus opciones!

Finalmente, si es necesaria la eliminación, ¡plante un nuevo árbol! Consulte el sitio web de Dallas Forestry para obtener árboles alternativos y más información sobre árboles.

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Forestry





Appendix – Marketing and Outreach Material

CITY OF DALLAS FORESTRY
BIG DALLAS, BIG TREES

HAVE A QUESTION? WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

PHONE:
214-670-3111

EMAIL:
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WEBSITE:
dallascityhall.com/projects/forestry



SILVICULTURA DE LA CIUDAD DE DALLAS
GRAN DALLAS, GRANDES ÁRBOLES

¿TIENES UNA PREGUNTA? ¡ESTAMOS AQUÍ PARA AYUDARTE!

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Appendix – Marketing and Outreach Material

SILVICULTURA DE LA CIUDAD DE DALLAS DICE ¡LAS RAÍCES DE DALLAS SON PROFUNDAS!

HECHO:

La Ciudad de Dallas tiene un vasto bosque urbano, que incluye el Great Trinity Forest, de aproximadamente 6,000 acres.

Silvicultura de la Ciudad de Dallas ha lanzado un nuevo sitio web que contiene información sobre los bosques urbanos de Dallas y el barrenador esmeralda del fresno (BEF).

LO QUE HACEMOS:

El personal de la Alcaldía trabaja en el mantenimiento de los árboles existentes, en la plantación de nuevos árboles y en proporcionar árboles a los residentes para que los planten en sus patios o a lo largo de sus calles.

NUESTRO OBJETIVO:

Mejorar la salud y el bienestar de todos los residentes de Dallas.

¡ÚNASE A NOSOTROS EN ESTE VIAJE PARA ENRIQUECER NUESTRO BOSQUE URBANO!

PARA SABER MÁS SOBRE LA SILVICULTURA DE LA CIUDAD DE DALLAS, VISITE:
dallascityhall.com/projects/forestry/Pages/home.aspx

CITY OF DALLAS FORESTRY SAYS DALLAS ROOTS RUN DEEP!



FACT:

The City of Dallas has a vast urban forest, including the approximately 6,000-acre Great Trinity Forest.

City of Dallas Forestry has launched a new website that houses information on Dallas' urban forests, and the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB).

WHAT WE DO:

City staff work to maintain existing trees, plants new trees and provide trees to residents to plant in their yards or along their street.

OUR GOAL:

To improve the health and well-being of all Dallas residents.

JOIN US ON THIS JOURNEY OF ENRICING OUR URBAN FOREST!

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CITY OF DALLAS FORESTRY VISIT:
dallascityhall.com/projects/forestry/Pages/home.aspx





Appendix – Marketing and Outreach Material

LAS RAÍCES DE DALLAS SON PROFUNDAS ¡POR TODA LA CIUDAD!

SERVICIOS DE LA CIUDAD DE PLANIFICACIÓN DE ÁRBOLES QUE OFRECEMOS:

- Programa de Reforestación de Dallas
- Branching Out Dallas
 - Parques y Recreación elige un mínimo de doce parques al año para plantar nuevos árboles.
- Branch Out Dallas
 - Anualmente proporciona un árbol gratuito a los propietarios de viviendas de Dallas para que lo planten en el patio delantero, trasero o lateral.

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DALLAS ROOTS RUN DEEP ALL THROUGH THE CITY!

TREE PLANTING PROGRAMS OFFERED IN THE CITY:

- Dallas Reforestation Program
- Branching Out Dallas
 - Park and Recreation chooses a minimum of twelve parks per year to plant new trees.
- Branch Out Dallas
 - Annually provides a free tree to Dallas homeowners to be planted in the front, back or side yards.

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Appendix – Related Links



- City Forestry:
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- Texas A&M Forest Service:
tfsweb.tamu.edu/EAB/
- Texas Department of Agriculture:
www.texasagriculture.gov/RegulatoryPrograms/PlantQuality/PestandDiseaseAlerts/EmeraldAshBorer.aspx
- Find an arborist: www.treesaregood.org



Questions?



Urban Forest Task Force-Technical Team
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