

emerald ash borer

factsheet

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a highly destructive invasive insect that attacks and kills all species of Ash trees native to North America. EAB has been declared an invasive alien species by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and is therefore subject to quarantine.

Introduced from Asia in the early 1990s, but not discovered in the Detroit and Windsor areas until 2002, it is believed that the insect was brought to North America unintentionally via wooden packing crates. In 2008 the CFIA confirmed the presence of EAB in Mississauga. EAB has been confirmed across southwestern Ontario and has been identified as far east as Montreal. A large section of southwestern Ontario is now under quarantine with the movement of Ash wood products outside of the quarantine area prohibited.




Impact on Ash Trees

Before an Ash tree shows outward signs of decline, EAB has already impacted the health of the tree. EAB in its larval stage cuts off the tree's nutrient transport system and the impact to the inner bark will lead to the eventual decline of the tree.

What can be done to protect trees?

The City of Mississauga encourages residents to continually inspect their Ash trees and contact a certified arborist if you suspect EAB on your property. A certified arborist will provide information on suspected or infected Ash trees, available treatment options and removal options if required.

Signs of Emerald Ash Borer

	Characteristics
<p>Identifying features</p>  <p><small>UGA9000019</small></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Metallic green in color ▪ 5 mm in length ▪ Narrow and elongated body with a flat head <p>Photo Source: David Cappaert, Michigan State University, Bugwood.org</p>
<p>D-shaped exit holes</p>  <p><small>UGA1439002</small></p>	<p>If adult EAB have already emerged, you will find distinctive D-shaped exit holes at the time of inspection.</p> <p>Photo Source: David R. McKay, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org</p>
<p>Epicormic shooting/suckering</p>  <p><small>UGA1439003</small></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Abnormal shoot growth on the trunk and limbs. ▪ Evident throughout the summer months. <p>Photo Source: Edward Czerwinski, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Bugwood.org</p>

Bark damage



Vertical cracking of the bark is present when the tree begins to show outward signs of decline.

Photo Credit: Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Forestry Archive, Bugwood.org

Crown dieback



Evidence of crown dieback is evident in the form of leaf loss or leaf discoloration.

Photo Credit: Eric R. Day, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Bugwood.org

S-shaped galleries



In dead or dying Ash trees, evidence of s-shaped galleries are visible when the bark is removed.

Photo Credit: Sarah Jane Miller, City of Mississauga