

# INDIANA

## Indiana gets \$100k tree-planting grant from feds

<http://wfla.com/2014/11/14/indiana-gets-100k-tree-planting-grant-from-feds-2/>

### WFLA File Photo

By Associated Press (IN), November 14, 2014, 2:03 pm

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INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Some Indiana cities and towns hit by emerald ash borer infestations can apply for a share of a federal grant earmarked for tree-planting projects.



The Indiana Department of Natural Resources says the \$100,000 grant from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative will go to communities in the Great Lakes watershed that have lost ash trees to ash borer infestations.

That money will pay for tree-plantings intended to reduce flooding and storm water overflows that cause raw sewage to enter rivers and streams.

Carrie Tauscher of the DNR says a single young tree can intercept around 400 gallons of storm water in its first year after planting. She hopes to begin accepting applications for grant money from eligible communities in late winter or spring.

# IOWA

## Emerald Ash Borer threatens Ash trees in Iowa, ISU campus

[http://www.iowastatedaily.com/news/academics/article\\_287ae8d2-6a97-11e4-89ed-9f1b8861a3ad.html](http://www.iowastatedaily.com/news/academics/article_287ae8d2-6a97-11e4-89ed-9f1b8861a3ad.html)

**Ash Tree (Ash Borer).** Courtesy of Rhonda Martin. The purple foliage is from the Autumn Purple Ash tree. The ash trees on campus are being removed as a precaution against the Emerald Ash Borer. The borer lays its eggs in ash trees, and the ash trees are eaten by the larvae after they hatch.

By Jace Dostal Iowa State Daily, Thursday, November 13, 2014 12:00 am

The emerald ash borer, an ash tree-attacking beetle, is invading the country.

“This insect is now found from Boulder, Colorado to New Hampshire and from Saint Paul, Minnesota to Georgia,” said Donald Lewis, Iowa State entomologist.

The beetle, believed to have traveled to the U.S. on boats from China in the 1990s, lays its eggs on the ash tree bark. When the larvae hatch, they bore into the tree and feed between the bark and the wood, the growing point of the tree. As the larvae eat, they begin to make tunnels in the tree, eventually killing it.

An emerald ash borer has already been spotted in Story County and in 12 other counties in Iowa. If actions are not taken to stop the beetles from spreading, the future that Lewis foresees may be here sooner than we think.



“One [larva] would not be a big problem,” Lewis said, “but in subsequent years and in multiple attacks by the species, the tree will become girdled, because the growing point of the tree has been killed by the feeding action of the larvae.”

According to Lewis, the whole process can take between three and five years to complete. In the United States, the beetle was first discovered in Detroit, said Mark Shour, Iowa State Entomologist.

“There is a lot of trading that goes on in Detroit,” Shour said, “That era when [the beetle] was introduced, people were using firewood or moving nursery stock to different parts of the country. That’s how the biggest spread happened.”

It is not always easy to tell if a tree has been infected. The borer infects the tree from the top down, and according to Lewis, by the time the infection is noticeable it may be too late to save the tree. Even the best methods of detecting the beetles only work 50 percent of the time, Shour said.

"If you were to walk into a room wearing a strong cologne, I could have picked it up quickly, but if it was a huge room and I was on the opposite side it takes a while for the odor to get there. It's the same way with the beetle. Once it is found in the city, most of the time it has been there three to five years," Shour said.

One way of stopping the spread of the beetle is by controlling the amount of ash trees that are planted. "One of the unfortunate facts is that ash has been very popular. There are communities and golf courses that can be 70 percent or more ash tree," Lewis said.

Iowa State has already started reducing the amount of ash trees they have on campus. For the past five years, ash trees have been replaced by trees that the borers are not attracted to.

"Five years ago, 20 percent of the trees on campus were ash varieties. Now we are down to eight percent," said Rhonda Martin, landscape architect with facilities planning and management. Martin said that they are not going to remove every ash tree on campus. They will save some for teaching purposes, but it's not cost effective to save all of them.

"If you have a good, healthy tree that is important to you, no one can make you take it down. No one is insisting that you take it down," Lewis said. "But if you have a tree that is struggling, it isn't growing well, it's in the wrong place, you can go ahead and take that tree out and replace it with something else."

When a tree is removed on campus, at least one other tree is put in its place. Last year 300 ash trees were removed, while 417 other trees were planted, Martin said. If they had not removed the trees, Martin thinks that the problem would have been too hard to handle.

"Aesthetically we want to always have a beautiful campus; we're an award winning campus," Martin said. "We don't want to lose 900 trees in two years. We are slowly removing and replacing so that you're not going to notice the loss of those ash trees."

It is believed that one reason the beetle population has spread so quickly is due to the movement of firewood across state boundaries, Lewis said. The beetles, unbeknownst to the transporters, hide in the piles of firewood, and when they arrive to a new location, they begin to infest healthy ash trees.

"It is probably inevitable that the spread continues," Shour said. "Unfortunately people are not heeding our requests to not move firewood, and so the emerald ash borer is going to continue to move." Shour said they are trying to get the word out about the beetle, but not everyone listens.

"The reality is, as you drive through Ohio, Michigan and Indiana, you can see dead ash trees, and it's likely to be our future as well, but we don't know when," Lewis said.

# MICHIGAN

## New trees of all types to replace damaged ashes

[http://www.record-eagle.com/news/local\\_news/new-trees-of-all-types-to-replace-damaged-ashes/article\\_f7ebf331-6122-59eb-93fc-a66efac19b75.html](http://www.record-eagle.com/news/local_news/new-trees-of-all-types-to-replace-damaged-ashes/article_f7ebf331-6122-59eb-93fc-a66efac19b75.html)

By IAN K. KULLGREN for the Record-Eagle (MI), Saturday, November 15, 2014 12:18 pm

LANSING — The Department of Natural Resources awarded \$90,000 to help cities regrow urban forests damaged by the emerald ash borer plague.

Twenty-one cities and environmental groups will receive between \$800 and \$20,000 each to replace trees and fund environmental education programs.

Groups in Wayne County received \$10,000 to plant trees in Livonia and repair nature trails in Detroit. Among the other recipients are Traverse City, Cadillac, Big Rapids, Holland and Three Rivers.

Lauren Vaughn, Traverse City's parks and recreation superintendent, said the city will receive \$3,600 from the grant, which will pay for about 40 trees. He said city crews plan to replace about 80 trees this spring, and not all died from the emerald ash borer.

"A few will go into the parks, but the majority will be on the city right-of-ways along the streets," he said.

Vaughn said the city has received enough grant money in the last three years to plant 160 new trees. Emerald ash borers have killed 50 million trees in the Great Lakes region during the past 12 years, according to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Natural resources officials say they hope to prevent future tree losses by encouraging communities to plant a diverse crop of trees.

# Ann Arbor hiring private contractors for \$368K to catch up on tree maintenance

[http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2014/11/ann\\_arbor\\_hiring\\_private\\_contr.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2014/11/ann_arbor_hiring_private_contr.html)

Ryan Stanton MLive.com (MI), November 18, 2014 at 7:17 AM

The city of Ann Arbor is hiring two private contractors as it looks to catch up on tree removal, tree pruning and stump removal needed along city streets.

The City Council voted unanimously Monday night to approve a \$192,160 contract with Guardian Tree Experts and a \$175,875 contract with the Asplundh Tree Expert Co. The tree removal activities under both contracts focus on the highest-priority trees, those listed as priority 1 or 2 removals in the city's tree inventory.

Tree pruning activities will focus on removing large, dead, broken, hanging or diseased limbs for trees listed as priority 1 for pruning in the tree inventory.

The city has a backlog of 815 priority 1 and 2 tree removals. It's expected Guardian will tackle 253 and Asplundh will tackle 255, leaving a backlog of 307.

The Asplundh Tree Expert Co. will be working in areas 1 and 4, while Guardian Tree Experts will be working in Areas 2 and 3.

City of Ann Arbor

The city also has a backlog of about 1,000 trees that are considered priority 1 for pruning. Guardian will tackle 86 and Asplundh will tackle 82, leaving a backlog of 832.

The city also has a backlog of 2,205 stumps that need to be removed. Guardian will tackle 79 and Asplundh will tackle 255, leaving a backlog of 1,871.

The work is to be completed by May 31.

In addition to helping to address the tree maintenance backlog, the work to be completed moves the city toward implementing recommendation No. 1 of the city's new Urban and Community Forest Management Plan, which is to implement a proactive routine maintenance program, said Kerry Gray, head of the forestry department.

Gray's memo to council notes the work also furthers the "healthy ecosystem" and "sustainable systems" goals of the city's Sustainability Framework.

The city has about 6,900 trees in mowed areas in parks and more than 41,000 trees along city streets that it's responsible for maintaining, and it's putting an extra \$1 million into doing that this year after falling behind on tree maintenance.



Ann Arbor is known for its tree-lined neighborhood streets, but city officials acknowledge the city has gotten behind on basic maintenance of street trees. (File photo | The Ann Arbor News)

# Wood debris fire put out after burning for 4 days

<http://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/oakland/2014/11/15/wood-pile-fire-milford-township/19100465/>

**Milford firefighters, along with mutual aid from other communities, worked for three days to put out a fire at Your Way Property Services in Milford Township. (Photo: Laura Colvin/Michigan.com )**

Associated Press (MI), 5:59 p.m. EST November 15, 2014

MILFORD TOWNSHIP – It took four days, but firefighters finally extinguished a wood debris fire the size of a football field at an industrial property in Milford Township, an official said Saturday.

Crews from six area departments and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources battled the blaze, finally putting it out 10:30 p.m. Friday, township supervisor Donald Green told The Associated Press.

The nearest fire hydrant was more than a mile away, The Detroit Free Press reported. "We had 17 tanker trucks, pumpers and aerial," Green said. "We put a lot of water on it."



A landscaping company had been collecting the tree branches, stumps and wood construction debris and was planning to turn it into mulch. DNR crews used bulldozers to lift the wood waste from the ground so firefighters could spray water to smother the flames at the very bottom of the pile, Green said.

**Giant woodpile in Milford ablaze since Tuesday**

Firefighters first responded to the fire Tuesday. Milford Township crews struggled to extinguish the fire because of the large area involved and the types of materials burning, officials said in a release. Nearby fire departments and the DNR forest fire crew were called in to help Friday, Green said.

No injuries were reported.

Green said the cause of the fire is under investigation.

# MINNESOTA

## Public meeting Monday at Mayo Civic Center to answer questions about emerald ash borer

<http://www.kttc.com/story/27403373/2014/11/17/public-meeting-monday-at-mayo-civic-center-to-answer-questions-about-emerald-ash-borer>

By Taj Simmons KTTT, Nov 17, 2014 11:32 PM EST

ROCHESTER, Minn. -- People living in Olmsted County got to learn more on Monday about an invasive pest that's killing area ash trees.

A public meeting organized by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture about the Emerald Ash Borer was held Monday night at Mayo Civic Center.

The emerald ash borer is a strong concern for Minnesota, as the state has the largest population of ash trees in the United States.

"Our trees have no means to defend themselves against it," said Mark Abrahamson of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.



An infestation of the small, tree-killing bug was discovered earlier this year in Olmsted County near the interchange of I-90 and U.S. 63. Since then, other infestations have been discovered nearby as well, prompting an emergency quarantine. Olmsted County is one of five Minnesota counties under ash quarantine along with Ramsey, Hennepin, Winona, and Houston counties.

"What happens is that the population of Emerald Ash Borers can build up without being noticed so that you have a lot of trees being killed in a short amount of time," said Abrahamson.

At Monday night's meeting, the public learned about local plans to deal with the ash borer, and how to keep it from spreading. Since the plans involve either the usage of pesticides or complete removal of infested trees, there will be some ash casualties along the way.

"I was hoping to hear better news, but unfortunately there is no better news," said Rochester resident Scott Moon. "It is going to eventually take out the trees if you do not protect them."

Although Emerald Ash Borers are not active until May, the Department of Agriculture says the ash quarantine remains in full effect. This means that untreated ash trees may not be moved out of Olmsted County for any reason, including for firewood.

# State ag officials to discuss emerald ash borer in Rochester

<http://www.mprnews.org/story/2014/11/17/emerald-ash-borer-meeting>

Elizabeth Baier MN Public Radio, Nov 17, 2014

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture will meet with Rochester area residents Monday night to discuss the spread of emerald ash borer in Olmsted County. State officials have confirmed two emerald ash borer infestations in Olmsted County since August.

Minnesota Department of Agriculture entomologist Mark Abrahamson says the recent discoveries have been significant in size, which likely means there are other pockets of infested trees in the area.

"They've been there for a number of years, maybe four or five years," Abrahamson said. "And from what we've learned at other places that we've been working, that means there are other pockets of infested trees, certainly, in the area."

Olmsted County is one of five counties — Ramsey, Hennepin, Winona, Houston — that have been put under quarantine to limit the movement of ash trees, limbs and firewood out of the county.

"It is going to spread over time, there's no question about it," Abrahamson said. "And so, right from the start, we've understood that, and what we're trying to do is delay it as long as possible."

Minnesota is home to more than one billion ash trees, more than any other state in the country. Emerald ash borers have killed millions of trees in more than a dozen states.

If you go: Emerald Ash Borer informational meeting • 5 p.m., Monday (Nov. 17)

- Mayo Civic Center (Elliott Suite), Rochester
- More information

# Public meeting Monday at Mayo Civic Center to answer questions about emerald ash borer

<http://www.kttc.com/story/27403373/public-meeting-monday-at-mayo-civic-center-to-answer-questions-about-emerald-ash-borer>

KTTC, Nov 17, 2014 9:46 AM EST

ROCHESTER, Minn. -- There's a chance for people living in Olmsted County to learn more about an invasive pest that's killing area ash trees.

A public meeting about the emerald ash borer is planned for Monday at 5 p.m. at Mayo Civic Center.

An infestation of the small, tree-killing bug was discovered earlier this year near the interchange of I-90 and U.S. 63. Since then, other infestations have been discovered nearby as well -- prompting an emergency quarantine.

At Monday night's meeting, the public can learn about local plans to deal with the ash borer, and how to keep it from spreading.

# WISCONSIN

## Northwoods Continues to Prep for EAB Spread

<http://wxpr.org/post/northwoods-continues-prep-eab-spread>

**Thirty eight counties, including Oneida, are under firewood quarantine because of the emerald ash borer. Credit USDA**

By NATALIE JABLONSKI WXPR (WI), 8:19 PM MON NOVEMBER 17, 2014

Forestry experts were on hand in Rhinelander last night to answer questions from the public about the emerald ash borer.

Though Oneida County has a relatively low abundance of ash trees, DNR Urban Forestry Coordinator Don Kissinger says the greatest impact will be in cities, where ash trees are some of the most popular to line streets and backyards.



“There’s more trees out there than people think. And ash trees in cityscapes are probably the number two tree behind maple, as far as numbers of trees. In Rhinelander here, we have a little over two hundred street trees that are ash.”

And Kissinger says there are probably four times that many on private property within city limits. Though not affordable on a forest-wide scale, insecticide treatments are available for individual trees. The city of Rhinelander has said it plans to treat many of its healthier ash trees. DNR Forest Health Specialist Linda Williams says the borer’s spread is inevitable, but it is possible to slow things down.

“When emerald ash borer arrives in an area, it’s often variable as to how its impacts show up, based on how much ash is in an area, whether it shows up in a forested or urban area, and whether the folks whose property it’s on actually take some action against it.”

Williams says the spread of the borer may not be as dramatic throughout Oneida County because of the low numbers of ash trees in the region.

She says black ash swamps will be noticeable losses, since those are densely populated with clusters of ash trees.

So far only a single beetle has been found in a trap at James Williams Middle School, but the county is under quarantine and it’s illegal to move hardwood firewood outside county lines.

Landowners should check their ash trees for characteristic D-shaped holes in the bark left by the borer, as well as signs of woodpecker damage and S-shaped tunnels beneath the bark.