



# EMERALD ASH BORER



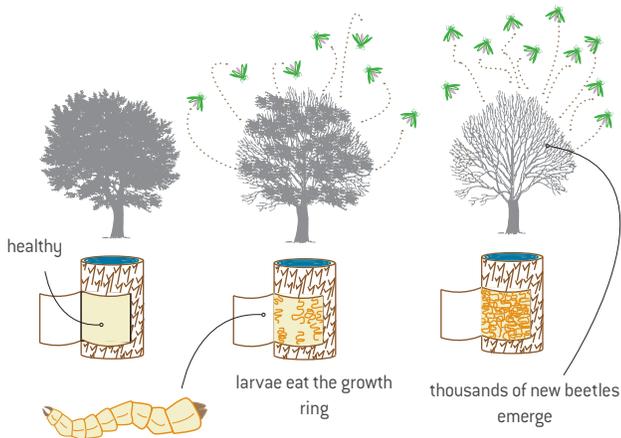
Adult emerald ash borer

## What Is Emerald Ash Borer?

**The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)** is an invasive beetle from Asia. It was first discovered in the United States during the summer of 2002 near Detroit, Michigan. EAB has quickly become one of the most destructive and costly forest insects in urban forest history.

EAB larvae feed on the inner bark of ash trees which disrupts the tree's ability to transport water and nutrients. **Once an ash tree is infested, it has almost zero chance of survival. The only way to protect your tree is with treatment.**

EAB populations can grow exponentially each year because the beetle has few natural predators and our ash trees have limited natural defenses. When EAB is not managed, annual ash tree deaths can quickly overwhelm the resources required to remove dead and dying trees.



A healthy ash tree will transport water through the current year's growth ring. The larvae of the beetles eat the growth rings under the bark. A heavily infested tree can no longer transport water and the top dies. The beetles will move on to the next ash tree.

## Is EAB in My City?

EAB was confirmed in Lakeville in October of 2017. Like most Minnesota cities, Lakeville has an abundance of ash trees growing on public and private property. **A 2017 City tree inventory found more than 2,500 ash trees on city property and approximately 10,000 ash trees on private property (maintained areas only).** It is estimated that over 30 percent of trees in the Twin Cities area are ash trees.

## What Are My Choices If I Have an Ash Tree?

If you have an ash tree, now is the time to decide what to do. Ash trees can be protected or removed. Lakeville is encouraging residents to treat significant, well-placed, healthy private ash trees as part of an EAB injection program.

Considerations for Treatment:

- Tree size greater than 10" in diameter
- Tree is not competing with other trees or infrastructure
- Tree shows no more than 30% of canopy decline if infestation is suspected
- Tree is in good physical condition

**Treating an ash tree is more cost effective than removal and replacement, and maintains the tree benefits and the value of having a mature tree on your property!**

**Treatment**  
LOW Cost  
BIG Gain!

VS.

**Removal**  
HIGH Cost  
BIG Loss!

Protecting your ash tree for 20 years is less than the average cost to remove and replace it.



An EAB-infested tree severely attacked by woodpeckers, who eat the larvae

Credit: Jeffrey Hahn, [www.extension.umn.edu](http://www.extension.umn.edu)

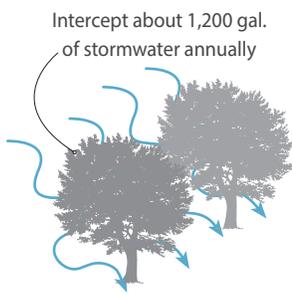


Contact Rainbow Treecare to take advantage of Lakeville's resident discount

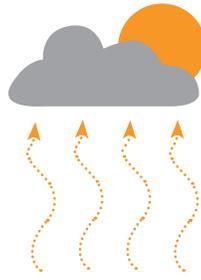
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## What Are the Benefits of My Ash Tree?

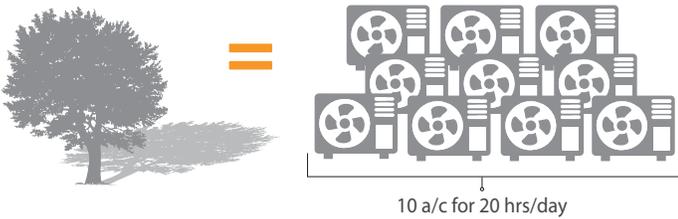
The environmental and economic value of trees is well documented. Mature ash trees provide a significant amount of valuable tree canopy in our community. For example, an average ash tree in Lakeville will:



» **Reduce** storm flooding & keep **pollution** from rivers and lakes.



» **Reduce CO2** in the atmosphere by **600 lbs+** every year.



» **Produce** the cooling effect of **ten** room-size air conditioners operating **twenty** hours a day.



Ash trees are valuable within the community



The value of property can drop along with the beauty of the neighborhood when ash trees are lost.

## What Are the Advantages of Lakeville's Program?

- The City ensured that the contractor meets its high standards for criteria such as staff training, years of experience and number of licensed commercial pesticide applicators on staff.
- You can sign-up for a property visit and consultation with an ISA certified arborist, associate arborist or certified tree inspector from Rainbow Treecare any time of year.
- Ash tree protection is offered at a discounted rate as part of this city partnership.
- In areas with EAB populations, trunk injections have achieved a higher success rate than soil-applied treatments.
- Rainbow Treecare will map all injected trees, allowing the City to track success over time.
- Our entire community benefits from the mature canopy preserved through city and homeowner participation.



Treated

Untreated

To learn more about Lakeville's Emerald Ash Borer Management Program, visit [lakevillemn.gov/667/Emerald-Ash-Borer](http://lakevillemn.gov/667/Emerald-Ash-Borer)



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