

### COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN SUGGESTIONS:

- Create teams to handle each area of concern.
  - Education team: Disperses information to public.
  - Implementation team: Implements plan steps.
  - Enforcement team: Enforces ordinances and regulations.
- Create a checklist for steps to take immediately after infestation.
  - Notifications: Federal, State, and municipal agencies.
  - Launch teams
- Disposal of ash materials
  - Multiple community agreements
  - Have contracts with industry set in place before infestation occurs.
- You'll need to make a decision on how you're going to handle an infestation; what, if any, cost-share you're going to offer your community members.
- You'll need to change/alter your ordinances to enable you to enforce state and local regulations and quarantines put in place.
- Follow all South Dakota laws and regulations as well as any federal quarantines in place.



For more information contact the South Dakota  
Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry

#### Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry Field Offices:

Hot Springs	605.745.5820
Lead	605.584.2300
Mitchell	605.995.8189
Rapid City	■
Sioux Falls	605.362.2830
Watertown	605.882.5367
Pierre	605.773.3623

SD Department of Agriculture  
Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry  
523 E. Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501  
Email: [SDRCF@state.sd.us](mailto:SDRCF@state.sd.us)  
[sdda.sd.gov/conservation-forestry](http://sdda.sd.gov/conservation-forestry)



In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex age or disability. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs. To file a complaint of discrimination: write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. This publication made possible through a grant from the USDA Forest Service.

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

## EMERALD ASH BORER COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN



Division of Resource Conservation  
and Forestry

# EAB: AN INVASIVE EXOTIC INSECT

## GREAT PLAINS INITIATIVE

Since the emerald ash borer (EAB) started making its way westward, South Dakota and other surrounding states have been working to prepare for the arrival of EAB. Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota joined together to create the Great Plains Tree and Forest Invasives Initiative. This is a multi-state cooperative effort for education, mitigation, and utilization.

## MITIGATION

There are things that you can do on the community level to prepare your community for the arrival of EAB.

1. Begin by taking inventory of all ash trees within your community. This will allow you to develop budget needs for labor and equipment, should large-scale ash tree removals become necessary.
2. Work with local tree care professionals, and public works officials as the first line of EAB detection.
3. Establish a formal plan to record and report inventory reduction (removals) and reforestation activities.
4. Develop a communication action plan before the arrival of EAB. This will aid your community in the event of an EAB infestation.
5. Increase tree diversity by providing alternative tree species lists and discouraging the planting of ash.

## IDENTIFICATION



The adults are slender, green metallic beetles about 1/2 inch long. The adult lays eggs on the trunks of ash trees in the summer months. In the fall, the eggs

hatch and become larvae that bore into the tree, feasting on the tree's cambium layer, thereby cutting off the tree's nutrient supply which ultimately causes the tree's decline.



## ESTABLISHMENT

EAB is difficult to detect when it first infests a tree. The tree can host EAB for 3-5 years before symptoms become noticeable to anyone, including trained professionals. Unfortunately, the population of EAB grows exponentially with each passing year, making early detection key to possible control.



Green ash tree showing decline from EAB infestation.

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND AN INFESTED TREE

Any suspected infested trees should be brought to the attention of your local forester. They may need to inspect the tree to determine if it is infested with the beetles. In many instances the tree may be dying from other problems or insects.

## THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

- EAB larvae are able to survive the machining of wood into pallets, being bucked up for firewood, and even chipped up. Standards now indicate that ash wood infested with EAB needs to be chipped into 1 inch square chips; anything larger and EAB larvae survive and emerge once fully mature.
- EAB only attacks the ash trees (*Fraxinus* spp.). Mountain ash is not a true ash and therefore safe from EAB.
- Control measures for EAB, such as chemical applications and removals, are not recommended until EAB is found in the county you live in. If you have any questions about control measures, contact your local forester.



## SIGNS & SYMPTOMS OF EAB

1. D-shaped exit holes
2. Crown dieback
3. Bark cracks & splitting
4. Water sprouts/suckering
5. Serpentine galleries
6. Excessive woodpecker activity

