

How to Recognize Ash Trees



- Compound leaves (5-11 leaflets per leaf)
- Leaflets 2-5 inches long



- Paddle-shaped seeds
- 1-2 inches long
- Some trees are seedless



Ash twigs occur in pairs on opposite sides of a branch.



Twigs of many other trees occur singly and alternate from side to side.

All insect and damage photos courtesy of:
Bugwood.org
Cover: David Cappaert, Michigan State University
Adult on bark: Ed Czerwinski, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Exit hole: David R. McKay, USDA APHIS PPQ
Tunnels: Ed Czerwinski, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Dieback: Joseph O'Brien, USDA Forest Service
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South Dakota Department of Agriculture
Division of Resource Conservation & Forestry



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Look Out for Me!

Emerald Ash Borer



Has killed millions of ash trees in the United States and Canada

Emerald ash borer (EAB) has caused extensive tree death since its discovery in Michigan in 2002. This notorious killer has been found in several other states as well as Canadian Provinces. Emerald ash borer was first confirmed in South Dakota in 2018 in northern Sioux Falls.

How to Recognize Emerald Ash Borer



- Slender beetle
- Emerald-green
- 1/2 inch long

actual size: 

- D-shaped exit holes in ash bark
- 1/8 inch diameter



- Zig-zag tunnels under ash bark
- Tunnels packed with frass/sawdust

- Dieback beginning at top of ash tree
- Thin crown



- Woodpecker activity in ash trees
- Bark stripping

Emerald Ash Borer Facts

- ✓ Discovered in 2002 killing trees near Detroit, Michigan
- ✓ Native to eastern Asia
- ✓ Kills trees by tunneling beneath the bark
- ✓ Trees usually die within a few years following infestation
- ✓ Easily transported to new areas in infested firewood
- ✓ Threatens to wipe out South Dakota's 1.2 million ash trees
- ✓ Kills all North American species of ash* including green, white, black, and blue ash and their cultivars such as:

Marshall's Seedless	Autumn Purple
Patmore	Autumn Applause
Bergeson	Autumn Blaze
Cimmaron	Fallgold
Summit	True Blue

* Emerald ash borer does not attack mountain-ash or prickly ash, which are not true ash.

Do Not Move This Notorious Killer!

Emerald ash borer is easily transported long distances in infested firewood.



Do not carry firewood when you travel.
Collect or buy firewood at your destination.

If you think you have found the emerald ash borer please contact:

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