

City of Westminster
Parks, Recreation, and Libraries Department
Forestry Section

Emerald Ash Borer Action Plan

Updated 5/5/14

Goals

- a) To prepare the City for the potential impacts of an EAB infestation
- b) To preserve as many healthy, well-located City-maintained ash trees as possible
- c) To inform, educate, and assist private tree owners

Monitor ash populations for EAB

- a) Inventory City-owned ash populations, assigning a preservation priority number. Preservation priority will be based on the location, condition, and size of tree.
Summer 2014
 - 1) Location - High priority will be given to trees located at City facilities, street medians, tree pits, and memorial trees. Park and street rights-of-way locations receive a second priority. Trees on non-irrigated sites and poor site locations are not candidates for preservation.
 - 2) Condition – High priority will be given to trees in good condition and second priority to trees in fair condition. Trees in poor condition are not candidates for preservation.
 - 3) Size – High priority will be given to trees greater than 6” and less than 24” diameter. Trees from 4-6” and over 24” diameter receive second priority. Trees in the 2-3” diameter class are candidates for removal and replacement.
- b) Use current methods of detection
 - 1) Pheromone (large purple) Traps from USDA APHIS **Summer 2014**
 - 2) Trap trees; place informational signage and publicize **Summer 2014**
 - 3) Branch sampling when pruning/removing City-owned ash trees **On-going**
 - 4) Conduct branch sampling delimitation studies with CO Dept. of Ag **Fall/Winter 2014**
 - 5) Inspect private trees as requested by owner **On-going**

Insecticide Treatment Options

- a) Preventive treatments of TREE-age, emamectin benzoate, as a trunk-injected insecticide on trees larger than 6" dbh. TREE-age is effective for 3 years and trees will be placed on a 3-year treatment cycle. Treatments on City-owned ash trees will be done by Forestry Section staff. **Begin Spring 2014 on trees previously treated for lilac-ash borer**
- b) Imidacloprid trunk spray products will be used on an annual basis by Forestry Section staff on City-owned ash trees in the size class of 4-6" dbh. **Begin Spring 2014 on trees previously treated for lilac-ash borer**

Ash Tree Removals

- a) Remove City-owned ash trees that are unhealthy or in poor locations by Forestry Section staff during the normal pruning rotation before the EAB infestation arrives. **On-going**
- b) Remove dead City-owned ash trees by Forestry Section staff as needed after the EAB infestation is present.
- c) Remove dead City-owned ash trees in natural areas (along streams and canals) by Forestry Section staff as the trees become hazards.

Replacement Plantings

- a) Discourage planting of ash trees. The Forestry Section has not planted ash trees for several years.
- b) Promote diversity of tree species when planting.
- c) Plant trees in existing empty planting spaces. **On-going**
- d) Plant trees under existing ash trees to become established before the ash trees are removed.

Community Education and Programs

- a) Educate and inform the public through the website and other forms of media. **On-going**
- b) Promote replacement plantings through the ReLeaf Westminster Tree Rebate Program and PRL Advisory Board grants to HOAs. **On-going**
- c) Promote preventive insecticide treatments through PRL Advisory Board grants to HOAs. Create a Save Our Ash Rebate Program for homeowners that preventively treat their ash trees. **New Programs Summer 2014**

Code Enforcement

- a) Streamline process for sending removal notices.

Wood Waste

- a) Research providing firewood to Standley Lake campers from Forestry Section tree removals and City Limb Recycling Program. **Summer 2014**
- b) Research ways for local sawmills to utilize logs from Forestry Section tree removals and City Limb Recycling Program.
- c) Research uses for excess grindings from City Limb Recycling Program.