



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: More than 998 million ash trees exist in the forests of the great State of Minnesota, enhancing the air and water quality, natural landscapes, recreational destinations, wildlife habitats, property values, and local economies; and
- WHEREAS: An average of 15 percent of urban street trees in Minnesota are ash, helping residents reduce heating and cooling costs, reducing air pollution and storm water runoff, and making towns and cities some of the most beautiful in the country; and
- WHEREAS: Increasing public awareness and understanding of the emerald ash borer (EAB), a destructive, exotic beetle, benefits the State of Minnesota by curtailing the artificial spread of the beetle through the movement of firewood; and
- WHEREAS: Efforts undertaken in Minnesota and other states, in partnership with private and nonprofit organizations, universities, and local, state and federal agencies, are helping to protect the billions of ash trees in the United States; and
- WHEREAS: Employing a cooperative spirit and encouraging environmental stewardship throughout the infested states through partnerships ultimately reduces the risk to the nation's ash resources; and
- WHEREAS: It is the desired goal of the State of Minnesota that citizens and visitors alike increase their understanding and awareness of EAB and its environmental, ecological, and economic impact on Minnesota, the Great Lakes region, and the nation; and
- WHEREAS: Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week is an opportunity for the government to join forces with schools, businesses, industry, environmental groups, community organizations, tourists, and citizens to take action against the spread and introduction of EAB.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of May 22-28, 2011 as:

EMERALD ASH BORER AWARENESS WEEK

in the State of Minnesota, and urge all our citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 3rd day of May.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE