



## Six Ways Your Community Can Minimize the Impact of Emerald Ash Borer

- 1 INFORM and TRAIN:** Provide educational information to your community members. Human assisted movement of firewood is the leading cause of the accidental introduction of emerald ash borer (EAB). Does your community know about firewood restrictions? Consider the following strategies:
  - a) Have an EAB informational page on your website, or feature a short article in your local newsletter, especially during winter and summer months. Contact the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) for samples.
  - b) Distribute informational materials during community events or at your local community center. Contact the MDA for available outreach materials.
  - c) Get community members trained. Encourage community members to sign up and become a Forest Pest First Detector to increase the number of active citizens scouting for EAB and other emerging pests in your community. For details, visit the [First Detector Registration webpage](#).
  - d) Become a PlayCleanGo partner. PlayCleanGo is a program designed to provide outdoor recreationists with a clear call to action to become aware, attentive, and accountable for stopping the spread of invasive plants and animals. For details, visit [PlayCleanGo's website](#).
- 2 STAY CONNECTED:** Sign up for the MDA's monthly [Plant Pest Insider e-newsletter](#), featuring updates on invasive species science and regulatory efforts including new and emerging plant pests.
- 3 EAB WINTER VISUAL SCOUTING:** During the winter months, the MDA recommends neighborhoods and communities look at their ash trees for signs and symptoms of EAB infestation. Look high at the midsection of your ash tree for the following: bark splits, woodpecker damage, and loose bark with visible "S" shaped tunneling. Using binoculars may help with recognizing these symptoms, which are signs that your ash tree may be infested with EAB. Download [Does My Tree Have EAB?](#).
- 4 REPORT SIGHTINGS:** The best way to reduce the spread is to report sightings of EAB-infested trees. If your community suspects EAB, note the exact location, take photos if possible, and contact MDA's "Arrest the Pest" by phone at 888-545-6684 or email at [Arrest.The.Pest@state.mn.us](mailto:Arrest.The.Pest@state.mn.us).
- 5 UPDATE YOUR TREE ORDINANCE:** Removing EAB-infested public and private trees helps keep EAB populations down and slows its spread. Review the [Sample Shade Tree Pest Ordinance](#) document.
- 6 UNDERSTAND FIREWOOD PROGRAMS:** Learn about firewood programs and restrictions on firewood movements. Here are some helpful resources: [Firewood Alert Brochure](#); [MDA Certified Firewood Program webpage](#); [DNR Approved Firewood Program webpage](#).