

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a metallic green beetle currently known to be responsible for the death or decline of more than 20 million Ash trees throughout the Midwest.

Native to Asia, it is believed the beetle migrated to North America hidden in wood packing materials used to ship consumer goods. Although no one can say exactly when the EAB arrived, the scientific community believes the beetle went undetected for up to 12 years in parts of Michigan before it was officially identified in the summer of 2002.

An average adult EAB measures only 1/2 inch in length and 1/8 inch in width. No bigger than a penny, their infestation is always fatal. Larvae bore through an Ash tree's inner bark, creating winding S-shaped galleries that disrupt a tree's flow of water and nutrients. Crown dieback occurs, eventually leading to the tree's death.

Although the EAB has not been detected in Alsip, it has been identified in Cook County. In order to reduce the EAB's threat to our community, the Alsip Public Works asks its residents for their cooperation:

- **Don't Transport Firewood.** You can unknowingly contribute to the spread of the EAB if you move firewood. Once transported into new areas, the EBA can become established and kill local trees. Purchase or cut firewood in the local area where you will be burning it.
- **Avoid Planting Ash Trees.** Alsip has removed Ash trees from its accepted list of parkway trees. The planting of new Ash trees on private property is ***highly discouraged***.
- **Visually Inspect Ash Trees.** The Alsip Public Works would like village residents to become involved with the early detection of the EAB by inspecting Ash trees on their property. The following information can be used to identify Ash trees on your property. ([Click Here](#))
- **Spread the Word.** Talk to your neighbors, friends, and coworkers about the EAB's threat. Public awareness and education is an ongoing process.

If you believe your tree displays signs of EAB infestation, immediately contact the Alsip Public Works at 708-385-6902 ext. 364.

Visit the following sites for more information on the emerald ash borer beetle:

www.emeraldashborer.info

www.agr.state.il.us/eab

www.mortonarb.org