

## Tree Replacement

- The key to preventing the spread of any plant disease or pest is to diversify the plants in the landscape.
- Heavy planting of a single type of tree can lead to larger infestations that move quickly through the landscape.
- The CCFPD has budgeted for replacement of all ash trees that will be removed due to the Emerald Ash Borer. Replacement trees will be of those species native to Illinois.



Ash tree seed

Picture courtesy of [www.ohiodnr.com](http://www.ohiodnr.com)

To keep up to date on the spread and prevention of EAB visit [www.illinoiseab.com](http://www.illinoiseab.com)

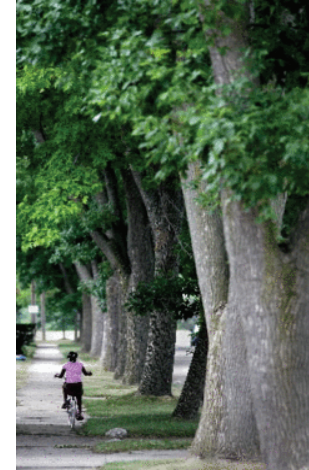


Cover Photo: Lisa Dejong/The Plain Dealer A girl rides in the shade of ash trees along Cleveland's Guardian Boulevard.

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## *Preventive Measures for the Emerald Ash Borer*



*What the CCFPD is doing to prevent the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer and make your preserves safer*



# The Emerald Ash Borer and the CCFPD



The compound leaf of an ash tree  
Picture courtesy of the Morton Arboretum

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), an Asian beetle species, is making its way toward Champaign County. This invasive pest was first

identified in Michigan in 2002, and by 2006, was established in Kane County, Illinois. It has quickly become one of the most destructive pests in the United States, killing more than 30 million ash trees. The insects quickly bore in to relatively healthy ash trees killing them from the top down. Removal of dead trees and prevention of the spread of EAB has cost millions of dollars in the Midwest.

## There are Preventive Measures

In order to slow the spread of the EAB, the Champaign County Forest Preserve District has been monitoring ash trees at all of its preserves since 2002. We have carefully assessed trees in the preserves in order to proactively manage for the EAB and other ash diseases. We will not be removing all ash trees from the preserves. Champaign County has not been quarantined, so there is no demand for complete removal of ash species at this time. We will be treating several select ash trees with a preventive insecticide. This will be a multi-year process. We will also be removing a number of ash trees that are diseased or in decline for other reasons. Being proactive will better prepare us for an infestation.



Emerald Ash Borer Adult.  
Photo courtesy of [www.toronto.ca](http://www.toronto.ca)

## Why Use Preventive Removal?

- Green and white ash have been heavily planted for decades in the preserves because they are native, fast-growing, large trees that do well in adverse conditions.
- Removal of trees decreases feeding and reproductive areas for the EAB. This will slow the movement and reduce the population size of the EAB.
- The safety of visitors and the protection of infrastructure at the preserves are priorities. Ash trees are brittle and become increasingly hazardous for arborists to remove after their death. Preemptive removal reduces the potential for damage caused by dead or declining ash trees.
- Removal of trees prior to their death allows us to use the wood in productive manners such as mulching, firewood at our campgrounds, and sawmilling.
- There is a cost savings to being proactive with tree removal. Once an area is quarantined there are time-consuming and expensive handling requirements, so removal before quarantine is a better financial option.