



Jackson County to be Quarantined for EAB

Release Date: 8/18/15

Contact: Donna Gilson

608-224-5130, donna.gilson@wi.gov

Bill Cosh, Communications Director

608-224-5020, william2.cosh@wisconsin.gov

MADISON – Jackson County will be quarantined for emerald ash borer, following detection and confirmation of an infestation in the city of Black River Falls.

Jackson County becomes the 39th Wisconsin county to come under quarantine in an effort to slow the spread of the non-native tree-killing beetle.

Department of Natural Resources staff collected four EAB larvae Aug. 6 from an ash tree at the DNR Service Center in Black River Falls. Three ash trees on the property showed signs of infestation. Trees on nearby properties were also symptomatic. The Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection submitted the samples to the U.S. Department of Agriculture for official confirmation, which came on Aug. 12.

Quarantines prohibit ash wood products and hardwood firewood from being moved to areas that are not quarantined. For businesses handling wood products that could carry EAB, this means that they must work with DATCP to assure that they are not transporting the pest to non-quarantine counties. For private citizens, a quarantine means that they may not take firewood from these counties to non-quarantine counties.

"Moving firewood has caused many or most EAB infestations," says Brian Kuhn, Plant Industry Bureau Director in the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. "Even though we have detected EAB in more than half of our Wisconsin counties, in most of those counties, we still have only small, isolated infestations. That's why we strongly discourage moving firewood even within quarantine areas. You could be carrying EAB to a part of your county that would otherwise remain free of EAB for several years."

Kuhn notes that other forest pests and diseases also move easily and invisibly from one location to another under the bark of firewood.

DATCP recommends that property owners who have ash trees in quarantine counties:

- Keep a close watch for possible signs of EAB infestation: Thinning canopy, D-shaped holes in the bark, cracked bark, branches sprouting low on the trunk, and woodpeckers pulling at bark.
- Consider preventive treatments if your property is within 15 miles of a known infestation.
- Consider planting different species of trees that are not susceptible to EAB.
- Call a professional arborist, and visit emeraldashborer.wi.gov for detailed information.

Emerald ash borer is native to China and probably entered the United States on packing material, showing up first in Michigan in 2002. It was first found in Wisconsin in 2008 in Ozaukee County.

Other quarantined Wisconsin counties are Adams, Brown, Buffalo, Calumet, Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Door, Douglas, Fond du Lac, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Juneau, Kenosha, Kewaunee, La Crosse, Lafayette, Manitowoc, Marquette, Milwaukee, Monroe, Oneida, Outagamie, Ozaukee, Racine, Richmond, Rock, Sauk, Sheboygan, Trempealeau, Vernon, Walworth, Washington, Waukesha and Winnebago.

-more-

EAB ADD ONE

EAB adults lay eggs on the bark of ash trees in mid- to late summer. When the eggs hatch a week or two later, the larvae burrow under the bark for the winter and feed, forming the characteristic S-shaped tunnels and destroying the tree's ability to take up nutrients and water. The following summer, the adults emerge through D-shaped holes in the bark.

The Wisconsin Emerald Ash Borer Program includes DATCP; DNR; UW-Madison; UW-Extension; USDA Forest Service and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

###

For more DATCP news, find us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).