

Emerald Ash Borer Update January 2011

What is the Emerald Ash Borer?

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an exotic beetle that was imported accidentally into the United States on packing material that originated in Asia. EAB larvae feed on the inner bark of ash trees, disrupting the tree's ability to transport water and nutrients. The EAB has already killed tens of millions of trees in the states where it has been detected. . EAB prefer large lots of ash trees to infest. The EAB kills ash trees (*Fraxinus* sp.) exclusively. EAB spread 6 to 10 times faster with the help from people moving ash tree products like firewood, nursery stock, and logs for lumber.

Where is the Emerald Ash Borer and has it been detected near the Village of Hilton?

The EAB has not been found in or around the village of Hilton, it has been discovered near the Village of Scottsville and in the Town of Chili. Federal and state agencies (DEC) has set up traps in ash trees throughout the County that can detect the EAB. Other than New York, the beetle has been detected in 12 other states including Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. And parts of Canada

What is the Village of Hilton doing now for EAB?

The Village of Hilton has a well maintained and updated street tree inventory so we can identify our ash tree population. We currently have 109 (5%) young ash trees ranging from 12" to 2" in diameter in very good condition. We do not have ash trees that are a liability or in fair to poor condition. We will continue to monitor our ash tree population and inspect for infestation. Continue our tree management practices in an efficient and cost effective manner. There is Quarantine on the movement of ash tree products such as firewood, nursery stock and log lumber outside the quarantine boundaries without proper treatments for EAB in New York State (see attached).

Recommendations for the Village of Hilton on EAB

Continue to educate our staff The Village Board and the public. Maintain our Street tree inventory and tree management plan. Look for cost effective solutions to EAB or any invasive species. Keep our trees in good health. When there is an EAB infestation report it to the NYSDEC.

Removal of an infested ash tree and replanting with another species done by the DPW has a cost of "between" \$200 to \$600 depending on the size of the tree and location. The EAB larva will be killed when the wood is chipped to 1" chips or burned both of which we do. This is recommended.

The pesticide treatments are recommended only for ash trees of historical or very sentimental value. Treatments have a cost of \$8 to \$15 per diameter inch every other year per tree as long as the threat remains.

The information and education

The information on EAB is vast with federal and multi state agencies. For more information check the web resource page attached.

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov>

<http://www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp/eab>

<http://www.emeraldashborer.info>