

From: Moore, Julie
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 2:33 PM
To: ANR <ANR@vermont.gov>
Subject: emerald ash borer

Good afternoon, all.

I am writing to let you know that Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been officially detected in Vermont. Although a discouraging development, FPR has been preparing for this inevitability. The press release (below) will be issued later today. We are taking this infestation seriously and will do everything possible to protect Vermont's important forest resources for the ecological, social and economic benefits they provide

If and as opportunities present, State Forester Steve Sinclair suggests the following early messages be used in speaking with the public. Please direct landowners or members of the public who are seeking additional information or would like to report a suspected infestation to vtinvasives.org.

1. EAB is new to VT and has potential to kill all ash species. EAB moves fast, is hard to detect, and will not be eradicated. 5% of Vermont's trees are ash.
2. **Don't panic.** Although a destructive non-native pest, individual trees often live several years after they are first infested by EAB. The insects are currently in the larval stage, within the cambium and outer sapwood, and are not expected to emerge until sometime in May - we have time.
3. Remind everyone to **'DON'T MOVE FIREWOOD.'**
4. The public plays a critical role in early detection and slowing the spread. Encourage them to learn the signs and symptoms and report potential sightings at VTinvasives.org.
5. The 'D' shaped exit holes are very hard to see and often in the upper crown of the tree. The first symptom observed is often 'blonding,' where the outer bark has flaked off the tree during the feeding activity of woodpeckers looking for EAB larvae.
6. For information about managing ash in woodlots and UVA plans, forest landowners should contact their county forester. We are working to come up with communication strategies.
7. VT has been preparing; working with our partners from the Agency of Agriculture, UVM Extension, and USDA APHIS and USFS, we are implementing our EAB Action Plan to delineate the extent of the infestation and determine appropriate regulatory controls.

Julia S. Moore, P.E., Secretary
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Respect. Protect. Enjoy.