

## Public meeting on Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Emergency Quarantine for Goodhue County.

6:00 PM, March 21 2017

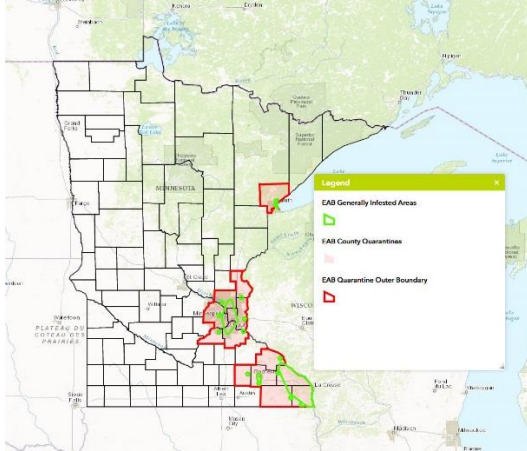
Red Wing Public Library, Foot Room (enter from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Street entrance).

225 East Avenue

Red Wing, MN 55066



Canopy dieback and thinning begin in top one-third of canopy. Photo by: Eric R. Day, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Bugwood.org



Epicormic sprouts growing at the base of an ash tree. Photo by: Joseph O'Brien, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org

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# News Release



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, March 2, 2017**

## **Emerald ash borer discovered in Goodhue County**

*MDA encourages residents to look for signs of EAB*

ST. PAUL, Minn. – The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has placed Goodhue County under an emergency quarantine after emerald ash borer (EAB) was found in the city of Red Wing.

An MDA employee noticed an ash tree with significant woodpecker damage, a tell-tale sign of possible EAB infestation, during a hike over the weekend at Barn Bluff. She took photos of the tree

and noted the location. After further investigation, the MDA found EAB larvae in the tree. Today the USDA officially confirmed the insect to be emerald ash borer.

“Our staff led by example and followed the advice we’ve been giving for years which is, it’s important that people go out into their yards, parks, and natural areas and look for signs of EAB,” said Geir Friisoe, Director of MDA’s Plant Protection Division. “The trees are still bare and the weather is warmer, so this is the perfect time to look for woodpecker damage and other signs of an emerald ash borer infestation.”

There are several things residents should look for when checking for emerald ash borer.

1. **Be sure you’ve identified an ash tree.** This is an important first step since EAB only feeds on ash trees. Ash have opposite branching – meaning branches come off the trunk directly across from each other. On older trees, the bark is in a tight, diamond-shaped pattern. Younger trees have a relatively smooth bark.
2. **Look for woodpecker damage.** Woodpeckers like EAB larvae and woodpecker holes may indicate the presence of EAB.
3. **Check for bark cracks.** EAB larvae tunneling under the bark can cause the bark to split open, revealing the larval (S-shaped) tunnels underneath.
4. **Contact a professional.** If you feel your ash tree may be infested with EAB, contact a tree care professional, your city forester, or the MDA at [arrest.the.pest@state.mn.us](mailto:arrest.the.pest@state.mn.us) or 888-545-6684 (voicemail).

Minnesotans can also help stop the spread of EAB by burning firewood where you buy it and don’t transport it. Look for wood that is MDA certified as heat-treated to ensure it is pest-free.

Because this is the first time EAB has been identified in Goodhue County, the MDA is enacting an emergency quarantine to limit the movement of firewood and ash material out of the county. This will reduce the risk of further spreading the tree-killing insect. Currently 14 other Minnesota counties are under quarantine to prevent the spread of the emerald ash borer.

Emerald ash borer larvae kill ash trees by tunneling under the bark and feeding on the part of the tree that moves nutrients up and down the trunk. The invasive insect was first discovered in Minnesota in 2009 and is now found in 30 states.

Minnesota is highly susceptible to the destruction caused by EAB. The state has approximately one billion ash trees, the most of any state in the nation.

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[www.youtube.com/mnagriculture](http://www.youtube.com/mnagriculture) • [www.twitter.com/mnagriculture](http://www.twitter.com/mnagriculture) • [www.facebook.com/mnagriculture](http://www.facebook.com/mnagriculture)  
625 Robert St. N. • St. Paul, MN 55155-2538 • 1-800-967-2474 • [www.mda.state.mn.us](http://www.mda.state.mn.us)

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this information is available in alternative forms of communication upon request by calling 651-201-6000. TTY users can call the Minnesota Relay Service at 711. The MDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

# MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE STATE EMERGENCY QUARANTINE EMERALD ASH BORER

## Section I: Declaration of Emergency Quarantine

**Whereas**, the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, having found that an exotic pest, known as the emerald ash borer, *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire, has been detected in Minnesota and neighboring states and has a limited distribution at this time; and

**Whereas**, the emerald ash borer has been found infesting and killing ash trees, *Fraxinus* spp., in certain counties, cities, and townships; and

**Whereas**, ash trees are a valuable resource for the nursery, landscaping, and timber industries in Minnesota; and

**Whereas**, ash trees represent a significant component of the natural, urban and rural forest environments in Minnesota; and

**Whereas**, the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (“APHIS”) has ordered an interstate commerce quarantine that parallels the emergency quarantine and will parallel this quarantine; and

**Whereas**, APHIS will quarantine less than an entire state of Minnesota only if Minnesota adopts and enforces restrictions on the intrastate movement of regulated articles that are equivalent to those imposed by the APHIS interstate quarantine; and

**Whereas**, this quarantine is consistent with and does not exceed the APHIS quarantine insofar as it affects interstate commerce;

**Now, therefore**, the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture by the authority of Minnesota Statutes Section 18G.06 (2008) declares this quarantine to prevent the further spread of this pest and sets forth: definitions, regulated articles, quarantined areas, conditions of movement, violations and penalties, and special exemptions. This quarantine shall become effective immediately and will remain in effect until withdrawn or superseded.

## Section II: Definitions

“Ash” means all species of the genus *Fraxinus*.

“Certificate” means a document authorized or prepared by the Commissioner or an APHIS employee or designee that affirms, declares, or verifies that movement or use of a regulated article complies with this quarantine, the APHIS quarantine and other legal requirements.

“Commissioner” means the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture or his designee.

“Compliance agreement” means a written agreement between a person and APHIS, and/or the Commissioner to achieve compliance with this quarantine and the APHIS quarantine.

“Emerald Ash Borer” (“EAB”) means the insect known as emerald ash borer, *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire, in any stage of development.

“Firewood” means wood cut to lengths less than four feet long. This includes firewood cut for personal use.

“Inspector” means an employee of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture or other individual authorized to enforce the provisions of this quarantine.

“Limited permit” means a document in which an inspector or a person operating under a compliance agreement affirms that the regulated article does not meet treatment standards is eligible for intrastate movement only to an approved receiving facility and in accordance with specified conditions.

“Log” means tree parts cut into lengths four feet or longer.

“Minnesota” means the State of Minnesota.

“Move” (“moved,” “movement”) means shipped, transported, carried; held or offered for shipment, transport or carriage; received for shipment, transport or carriage; or allowed to be shipped, transported or carried.

“Person” means any individual, firm, association, partnership, corporation, governmental entity, or other legal entity.

“Quarantined Area” means any portion of Minnesota listed in Section IV of this quarantine.

“Regulated Article” means any article listed under Section III of this quarantine.

“Receiving Facility” means any mill, incinerator, mulch site, compost site, or other facility that receives a regulated article.

“State” means the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, or any state, territory, or possession of the United States.

“Transit” (“transiting”) means movement through an area.

### **Section III: Regulated Articles**

Regulated articles are as follows:

(A) The emerald ash borer, *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire, in any stage of development.

(B) All plants and plant parts of the genus *Fraxinus*, including but not limited to:

- i. Logs and green lumber
- ii. Nursery stock, scion wood, and bud wood
- iii. Chips and mulch, either composted or uncomposted
- iv. Stumps, roots, and branches

(C) Firewood of any non-coniferous (hardwood) species

(D) Any article, product, or means of conveyance which the Commissioner determines to present a risk of spread of EAB and the Commissioner has notified the person in possession of that article, product, or means of conveyance, is subject to this quarantine.

(E) Exceptions are:

- i. Ash seeds and leaves that contain no ash twigs, branches, and wood
- ii. Processed lumber that is generally bark free, kiln dried, and with squared edges
- iii. Finished wood products without bark, including furniture, baskets, and baseball bats

## Section IV: Quarantined Areas

### (A) Goodhue County in Minnesota.

(B) The Commissioner may designate additional quarantined areas based upon future confirmation of the presence of the emerald ash borer. Such designations or changes will become effective upon the posting of notification on the [Minnesota Department of Agriculture website](#) and in the printed listing available upon request through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture Plant Protection Division, 625 N. Robert St., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-6684 or 1-888-545-6684. In addition, notification will be made according to the requirements in Minnesota Statutes Section 18G.06, subd. 3(c).

## Section V: Restrictions on Regulated Articles

### (A) Use of Regulated Articles in a Quarantined Area.

1. The use of ash wood material for the manufacture of pallets and wood crating is prohibited in the quarantined areas, unless the wood is treated by methods approved by the Commissioner and takes place under a Compliance Agreement.

### (B) Movement From a Quarantined Area to a Non-Quarantined Area.

1. The sale and/or movement of ash nursery stock out of a quarantined area is prohibited.
2. The movement of regulated articles, except ash nursery stock, from any quarantined area to any non-quarantined area is prohibited, except under conditions a. or b. below.
  - a. The regulated article shall have been treated or subjected to special handling under a Compliance Agreement and a Certificate or Limited Permit must be issued. The point of origin shall be indicated on the bill of lading or other shipping documents. The Certificate or Limited Permit shall be attached to or associated with the regulated articles and shall remain on/with the regulated articles until such articles reach their final destination. The Certificate or Limited Permit shall be given to the recipient at the destination of the shipment and shall be retained with the shipping documents.
  - b. A regulated article may be moved outside of the quarantined area with a Limited Permit to a receiving facility pursuant to a Compliance Agreement approved by the Commissioner or a United States Department of Agriculture designee for processing, utilization, and/or disposal.

### (C) Movement Transiting a Quarantined Area When Regulated Articles Originate From a Non-Quarantined Area.

1. The transit of regulated articles originating from a non-quarantined area, through a quarantined area, to a non-quarantined area is prohibited, except under the following conditions:
  - a. During the period of May 2 through September 30, if the regulated articles are shipped in an enclosed vehicle or completely enclosed by a covering adequate to prevent the infestation of regulated articles by emerald ash borer.
  - b. During the period of May 2 through September 30, uncovered regulated articles may transit without stopping except for refueling or traffic conditions.
  - c. Transit is not regulated during the period October 1 through May 1.

### (D) Movement Within A Quarantined Area.

1. Regulated articles may move within a quarantined area.

### (E) Movement From A Non-Quarantined Area Into A Quarantined Area.

1. Regulated articles may move from a non-quarantined area into a quarantined area. Once an article has entered a quarantined area, it is subject to the same restrictions as an article that originated from the quarantined area.

### (F) Removal Of Regulated Articles From Unauthorized Areas.

1. Any regulated articles moved in violation of this quarantine shall be removed to a permitted area within 24 hours of discovery or shall be subject to destruction under the direction of the Commissioner and at the expense of the owner or owners.

### (G) Documentation.

1. All regulated articles originating from the quarantined area that are moved within Minnesota or that have been moved within Minnesota must be accompanied by certifications and/or shipping documents showing the movement was in accordance with this quarantine. Such documents must be shown to the Commissioner or any APHIS employee when requested.

### **Section VI: Penalties**

(A) Any person violating these quarantine regulations is subject to the civil penalties up to \$7,500.00 per day of violation or misdemeanor penalties set forth in Minnesota Statutes Sections 18J.10 (2011) and may be subject to criminal penalties set forth in Minnesota Statutes Sections 18J.11 (2011).

### **Section VII: Special Exemptions**

(A) The Commissioner may allow, with written approval, the movement of emerald ash borer, in any living stage of development, into or within Minnesota for research purposes.

This Notice and State Emergency Quarantine are effective March 1, 2017

Signed copy on file.  
David J. Frederickson  
Commissioner  
Minnesota Department of Agriculture