Ash Tree Identification and Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Symptom Checklist

Ash Tree ID

EAB attacks only members of the *Fraxinus* genus. Ash trees can be identified by looking at their foliage and bark. White ash (*Fraxinus americana*) and Green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) are the common species found in Illinois. Mountain Ash is not a true ash and therefore is not threatened by EAB.

**Leaves** – oppositely arranged on twig, pinnately compound (several leaflets make up a leaf), and has 5 to 9 dark green leaflets.

**Leaflets** – either no stalk or very short stalks attached to the leaf stem; smooth or sometimes finely serrated (saw-toothed) on the upper half.

**Fall Color** – White ash – red and purple; Green ash – yellow and orange

**Bark** – young bark is usually flaky; light-gray to gray-brown, interlacing ridges and deep furrows forming diamond-shaped areas.

For ID assistance visit UIPLANT at [http://wp.nres.uiuc.edu/plant/?g=Fraxinus](http://wp.nres.uiuc.edu/plant/?g=Fraxinus)

Check for Symptoms

After you have determined you have an ash tree, check for the following symptoms:

1. Have you or your neighbors purchased or received firewood, landscape trees, logs, timbers of branches from Michigan since 2002, Ohio since 2003, or Indiana since 2003?
2. Distinct, D-shaped exit holes in the bark. Small, about the size of a BB.
3. Serpentine-shaped (snake-like) tunnels under the bark on the surface of the wood
4. Young sprout growth clustered at the base of the tree
5. Unusual activity by woodpeckers
6. Die back on top third of tree
7. Vertical splits in the bark

If you answered ‘yes’ to question #1 and your ash tree has two or more symptoms see list of contacts below.

If you answered ‘no’ to question #1, but your ash tree has four of the symptoms (especially #2-4) see list of contacts below.

Contact for assistance: You may be asked to submit samples and/or pictures.

- Call the national EAB hotline #866-EAB-4512
- Contact Illinois Dept of Agriculture #800-641-3934
- Take digital photos of tree and the symptoms it is expressing, email with your contact information to [AGR.EAB@illinois.gov](mailto:AGR.EAB@illinois.gov)
- Local University of Illinois Extension. To locate call #217-333-5900 or go to [http://web.extension.illinois.edu/state/index.html](http://web.extension.illinois.edu/state/index.html) and click on find an office.
- Certified arborist – to locate one in your area call #217-355-9411 or go to [www.isa-arbor.com/Arborist/findarborist.aspx](http://www.isa-arbor.com/Arborist/findarborist.aspx)
- Juliann Heminghouse, Illinois Department of Agriculture, EAB outreach Coordinator, #217-785-5575, Juliann.Heminghouse@Illinois.gov

Due to the volume of contacts site visits will not be conducted by University of Illinois Extension.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Distinct D-shaped exit holes in the bark. Small about the size of a BB</strong></th>
<th><img src="https://example.com/image1.jpg" alt="Image" /></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Serpentine-shaped (snake-like) tunnels under the bark on the surface of the wood</strong></td>
<td><img src="https://example.com/image2.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
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<td><strong>Die back on top third of tree</strong></td>
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