



Village of Mount Horeb

Parks and Forestry Department

138 E Main St
Mount Horeb, WI 53572
Phone (608) 437-7190/Fax (608) 437-3190
www.mounthorebwi.info

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

September 23, 2016

CONTACT:

Jeff Gorman
Parks and Forestry Director, Village of Mount Horeb
(608) 437-7190 or jeff.gorman@mounthorebwi.info

Emerald Ash Borer Identified and Confirmed in Town of Springdale and Village of Mount Horeb

On Monday, September 12, an Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) infestation was officially confirmed by the Wisconsin DNR in the Town of Springdale, east of Highway 78 along Highway S. This infestation involving several ash trees is likely 3-5 years old. On September 22, an EAB infestation was also identified and confirmed in a single tree on private property in the Village of Mount Horeb.

EAB was first discovered in Detroit, Michigan in 2002 and in Wisconsin in 2008. According to Mount Horeb's Parks and Forestry Director, Jeff Gorman, the Village of Mount Horeb has not planted any ash trees since 2004. In 2013, the Village adopted an Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan to prepare for the arrival of EAB. Since that time, the Village Parks and Forestry Department staff has removed 49 ash street trees and one ash park tree. In addition, the department has treated 235 street trees and 13 park trees with insecticides to prevent EAB.

Gorman said the Village currently has 297 ash street trees and 34 ash in Village parks. The ash street trees comprise 8.5% of the total street tree population of approximately 3500. This is much better than many communities that are at 30% or more. Gorman said there has been no inventory or assessment of ash trees growing on private property within the Village, but estimates there is several hundred trees.

Property owners in the Village of Mount Horeb and surrounding areas are encouraged to inform themselves about EAB. The Wisconsin Dept. of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) has the most up to date information on EAB and can be found at:

<http://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/eab/>. DATCP recommends that property owners who have ash trees in quarantined counties:

- Keep a close watch on ash trees for signs of possible EAB infestation: Thinning of the canopy, D-shaped holes in the bark, new branches sprouting low on the trunk, cracked bark and woodpecker damage.
- Consider whether to treat or remove your ash trees. Doing nothing will eventually result in a dead tree. Factors to consider include your personal attachment/value of the tree, its' age, size and the number of trees in your yard. Treatment costs vary depending on size of the tree and whether you do the treatments yourself or hire a professional.
- Call a professional arborist for expert advice. It is important to be sure you are working with qualified contractors. Ensure they have appropriate insurance and worker's compensation coverage. We recommend searching for an ISA Certified Arborist: <http://www.isa-arbor.com/findanarborist/arboristsearch.aspx>.

Village residents are reminded that private contractors hired to perform tree removals should remove the brush and wood from the property. They are not allowed to stack the brush at the curb for the Village to pick up.