Managing Emerald Ash Borer: Decision Guide

Begin with an inventory of your ash trees

- How many?
- Where are they?

Are some worth saving?

- Valuable to landscape or owner?
- Healthy and few signs of EAB?
- Located in the right site?

Do you want to save your ash trees from EAB?

Yes.

Ash trees may be killed and will need to be cut down.

No.

A Tree Care Professional

- Get at least two estimates
- Hire a certified licensed professional
- Ask for references and insurance

To find one in your area visit: www.treesaregood.org

Team up with your neighbors and seek discounts for managing all your trees at once!

Hire a Tree Care Professional

I don’t know.

A professional can help.

Save money. Have unwanted ash removed before they die.

Ensure that drenches are applied to bare soil within 1 ft. of the trunk.

Do you want to save your ash trees from EAB?

Yes.

You will need professional insecticide treatment.

No.

Are they greater than 15 in. DBH?

Yes.

Homeowners can treat trees themselves.

Consider using a soil drench containing imidacloprid. Treat trees between May 1st and June 15th. Always follow all insecticide label directions.

No.

Determine how big your trees are. Get DBH.

Measure the distance around the trunk (at 4.5 ft. above the ground) and divide it by three to get Diameter at Breast Height.

Protect your urban forest. Act Now. Save Trees. Save $!
Managing Emerald Ash Borer: Decision Guide

Which trees can be saved?

**Trees CAN be saved if they are:**

- Healthy and vigorously growing, with more than half their leaves.
- Enhancing the landscape.
- Valuable to the owner.
- Showing only few outward signs of EAB infestation.

**Trees should NOT be saved if they are:**

- Unhealthy, with dead branches and more than half of their leaves missing.
- Planted in poor sites or are not important to the landscape.
- Showing many outward signs of EAB or other insect infestation, such as woodpecker damage, bark splits, and water sprouts at the tree base.

What are the treatment options?

**Homeowners can protect healthy ash trees:**

- With a trunk less than 15 in. Diameter at Breast Height (see reverse for DBH measurement).
- With over the counter soil drench products. One option are products containing 1.47% imidacloprid. These products are most effective when applied between May 1st and June 15th.

Disclaimer: Over the counter formulations are not as strong as professional formulations and are not advised to be used on trees with a DBH of greater than 15 inches.

**Professionals can protect ash trees:**

- With a trunk greater than 15 in. DBH.
- Later in the year, using specialized equipment to apply insecticides that contain imidacloprid, dinotefuran, azadirachtin or emamectin benzoate.

On the web: de.gov/ashtrees

Which new trees should be planted?

The tree species you choose should match conditions at the site. Always try to plant the “right tree in the right place”. Consult your local nursery professional for tips and for more guidance on selecting the right tree, visit:

delawaretrees.com/recommended-trees
www.arborday.org/trees/righttreeandplace

Contact your city forester about local ordinances before performing any tree work!

This valuable resource guide was developed by Annemarie M. Nagle and Cliff Sadof of Purdue University and Indiana’s Dept. of Natural Resources.