

Wisconsin Emerald Ash Borer Program Strategies – 2012*

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Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
University of Wisconsin – Extension
University of Wisconsin – Madison
USDA – APHIS
USDA – USFS

This document serves to summarize statewide program strategies, identify priorities, guide work planning, document planned program activities and inform interested parties (*e.g.* media, partners, stakeholders). Activities and strategies included in this document are high priority items for the Wisconsin Cooperative EAB Program in 2012.

The Cooperative EAB Program highlights three new strategies incorporated into this document:

1. DNR Forest Health will implement operational bio-control releases in the southwestern WI population of EAB.
2. DATCP and DNR will jointly facilitate the promotion of certified firewood using existing DATCP marketing services and experience of the public with certified wood offered for sale at state campgrounds.
3. Start development of a First Detector program to contribute to detection of EAB in coming years.

EAB Program Goals – 2012

- Maintain a statewide detection program, prioritizing efforts in areas considered high risk for introduction of EAB.
- Reduce the impact and spread of EAB in infested areas.
- Pursue funding and partnerships to facilitate response activities.
- Provide outreach and education on prevention, preparedness and response options.

These goals will be pursued on a statewide basis through strategic planning and the implementation of actions in the following seven program areas:

1. EAB and Ash Management
2. Survey
3. Regulation
4. Communication & Outreach
5. Utilization & Material Management
6. Funding
7. Research

EAB and Ash Management:

- DNR Forest Health will implement operational bio-control releases in the southwestern WI population of EAB.

Survey:

- Maintain a Federally-funded risk-based trapping program to detect new populations. DATCP/DNR will focus on areas at risk for introduction and where EAB will have a substantial impact.
- Implement a new US Forest Service EAB grid trapping model in the north. This is experimental and currently focuses on gathering data to validate the model.
- Maintain EAB Hotline and incorporate the development of a First Detector program with partner agencies to train concerned citizens to report insect and disease problems.

Regulation:

- Provide guidance to affected businesses that clarifies quarantine regulations and assists with compliance.
- Promote certified firewood.
- DATCP and DNR will coordinate regulatory work and State EAB quarantine enforcement issues following the provisions of NR 40.
- After USDA-APHIS drops the interstate boundaries for the Federal EAB quarantine, DATCP will use current EAB external quarantine authority to prevent the importation of regulated material.

Communication and Outreach:

- Use communication and education tools to facilitate connections between markets and suppliers. This will help increase existing and encourage new wood utilization business opportunities.
- Improve outreach to firewood dealers and promote the use of DATCP's "Something Special" and "Savor Wisconsin" programs to enhance certified firewood marketing.
- Educate visitors at state campgrounds that provide wood from certified vendors about the benefits of using firewood treated to kill insects and diseases..
- Use information gathered in camper surveys to improve and target education efforts.

Utilization and Material Management:

- Use information gathered in survey of campers to determine actions needed to remove impediments to the public using local or certified firewood.

Funding:

- Continue to pursue funding from USDA-APHIS, US Forest Service, the State of Wisconsin and from other sources such as the Farm Bill, for trapping and monitoring of EAB, readiness planning, management, reforestation, site restoration and other EAB mitigation efforts.
- Advocate for federal funding for accelerated research on detection and survey tools, management and control options.

Research:

- Continue to survey campers at state properties on firewood transport, motivation and barriers to changing behavior.
- Survey campers at state properties with respect to their experience with certified firewood.