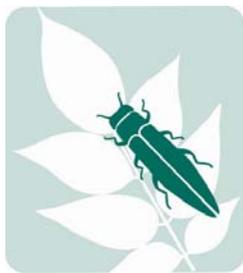


Wisconsin Emerald Ash Borer Response Activities & Program Strategies – 2010*



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Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
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USDA – APHIS
USDA - USFS

This document serves to summarize incident response activities and statewide program strategies, identify priorities, guide work planning, document planned program activities and inform interested parties (media, partners, stakeholders). Activities and strategies included in this document are deemed high priority items for the Wisconsin Cooperative EAB Program in 2010.

EAB Program Goals – 2010

- Maintain a statewide detection program, prioritizing efforts in areas considered high risk for introduction of EAB.
- Continue delimitation survey; using results to focus response activities.
- 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 in EAB incident areas** and on a statewide basis through strategic planning and the implementation of actions in the following seven program areas:

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

Incident Area Response Activities

EAB & Ash Management

- Employ the Wisconsin EAB Response Plan's modified ICS structure to meet immediate response needs.
 - Locally based EAB Response Units will form and will plan and implement the following activities following a positive detection of EAB: survey, regulation, outreach and management.
 - The statewide EAB Operations Group will provide coordination, support and resources to these units.
- Encourage voluntary removal and utilization or destruction of infested trees, following standards for destroying all life stages of EAB.
- Encourage the use of the DNR's Urban Ash Management Guidelines.
- Continue work with municipal partners to encourage sound EAB management in communities.

Survey

- Provide a safe work environment and appropriate level of training for all staff.
- Conduct visual survey during January and February in Green Bay, Franklin, Oak Creek and Kenosha. All ash trees within a three-mile radius of known detection points will be intensively surveyed to determine the size and scope of infestation. Suspect trees will be peeled as needed.
- Conduct visual survey during January and February in Newburg and Victory. Known infestation perimeters will be monitored for signs of infestation expansion. Suspect trees will be peeled as needed.
- Conduct delimit trapping around the 2009 EAB detections in Green Bay, Oak Creek, Franklin and Kenosha to determine the extent of the existing population and detect new populations.
- Conduct trapping in and near the EAB detections in Victory and Newburg to continue gaining information to aid management of the ash resource in these areas.
- Continue to work with municipal partners in affected urban areas on all aspects of EAB survey.
- Conduct dendrochronology analysis of new infestations when and where necessary.

Regulation

- Meet with industries and communities in quarantined counties to educate them on the quarantine regulations.
- Work with regulated industries (originator, transporter, processor) to provide compliance agreements for the movement of regulated material.
- DATCP and DNR will coordinate regulatory work and State EAB quarantine enforcement issues following the provisions of the newly published NR 40 rule on invasive species.

Communication and Outreach

- Provide support and consultation regarding EAB and Ash Management activities.
- Communicate quarantine restrictions.
- Facilitate informational meetings.
- Implement communication strategies to raise awareness of EAB and management strategies.

Utilization and Material Management

- Encourage creation of disposal/utilization sites to facilitate proper treatment of affected ash.
- Provide wood waste disposal guidance to landowners, homeowners, communities and tree-care professionals for proper and safe disposal of ash material.
- Create a dependable flow of raw products to processing industries and provide guidance to local units of government on wood yard specifications and utilization options.
- Support development of value-added products and businesses utilizing ash materials to help build markets.
- Expand wood utilization options through networking groups including Resource Conservation and Development Councils.

Funding

- Pursue funding for response activities through USDA FS competitive grant proposal process and through suppression program.
- Pursue other sources of funding (federal infrastructure, farm bill) to support incident response.

Research

- Encourage and support research in the incident areas.
- Explore the use of *Cerceris fumipennis* as a delimit survey tool.

Statewide Activities

EAB and Ash Management

- Encourage landowners and managers to continue to follow sustainable forest management practices and use DNR guidance for reducing the impact of EAB on the forest resource.
- Encourage the use of the DNR's Urban Ash Management Guidelines.
- Support development of community EAB readiness plans and tree inventories through the DNR urban forestry grant program.
- The State EAB Operations Group will work with and support the EAB Science Panel's efforts on developing operational bio-control initiatives for the State.

Survey

- Provide a safe work environment and appropriate level of training for all staff.
- Maintain a risk-based trapping program to detect new populations. Focus on areas at risk for introduction and high impact of EAB.
 - Closely monitor State borders near neighboring states with close-proximity EAB infestations.
- Maintain EAB Hotline and email report system to follow-up with field examinations as needed.
- Continue to build municipal and other locally based partnerships to expand the number of individuals looking for EAB.

Regulation

- Establishment of new quarantine zones as warranted.
- Work with regulated industries (originator, transporter, processor) to provide compliance agreements for the movement of regulated material.
- Provide guidance to affected businesses that clarifies quarantine regulations.
- Encourage participation in DATCP firewood certification program.
- DATCP and DNR will coordinate regulatory work and State EAB quarantine enforcement issues following the provisions of the newly published NR 40 rule on invasive species.
- Continue to enforce DNR firewood rule on DNR-managed properties.
- Support, promote and follow federal and local partner agencies firewood regulations.

Communication and Outreach

- Update and enhance a public EAB website.
- Develop an inter-agency website to increase efficiency of sharing documents and information among staff.
- Support and promote core EAB messages and recommendations (prevention, preparedness, response).
- Provide the means to share local municipal EAB management strategies with communities not yet affected by the insect.
- Respond to new communication needs as identified.
- UW-Extension facilitated training on EAB for Master Gardeners.

Utilization and Material Management

- The Wisconsin Wood Utilization Group will work with local units of government, state and federal partners including Resource Conservation and Development staff to facilitate development of markets for wood utilization.
- Create a dependable flow of raw products to processing industries and provide guidance to local units of government on wood yard specifications and utilization options.
- Facilitate model methods for local governments and businesses to properly manage, treat and utilize infested wood.
- Provide template on ash utilization methods and/or markets to DNR Urban Forestry Coordinators.

Funding

- Continue to pursue funding from USDA APHIS and Forest Service, 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 support UW-Madison research project through potential use of a multi-temporal Land Sat photography to map ash in rural forests.
- Engage research partners to conduct bio-control research in WI.
- Continue *Cerceris* detection and biosurveillance and pursue the use of mobile nests for EAB detection.

*Supplement to the Wisconsin EAB Response Plan, July 2008

**Incident areas include all known points of EAB detection and/or infestation in the State