

# THE EMERALD ASH BORER

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been confirmed in the City of North Mankato. Infested trees were discovered by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) and City staff as part of a routine tree inspection.



## WHAT IS IT?

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an exotic beetle that is metallic green, about 1/2 inch long and attacks and kills ash trees. The larvae feed on the inner bark of these trees, destroying the tree's ability to transport water and nutrients and killing the tree altogether.

## WHAT SHOULD NORTH MANKATO RESIDENTS DO?

- Homeowners with ash trees on their property have 2 options. First, determine if your ash tree is worth saving.
  - If your tree is new, in good health, and is a high quality tree, you will need to work with a certified arborist to treat the tree every 2-3 years for the remainder of its life.
  - If the tree is old, a nuisance, or in poor condition, you will need to work with a professional to cut it down. Consider planting a tree or two to replace trees you remove.
  - *More resources for homeowners with ash trees are available on our website: [www.northmankato.com/eab](http://www.northmankato.com/eab)*
- Look for woodpeckers around ash trees (they like to feed on EAB larvae).
- Watch for bark cracks in ash trees. EAB larvae tunneling beneath the bark can cause the bark to split open.
- Look for S-shaped galleries under the bark and for small, D-shaped exit holes in the crown of the tree.
- Dispose of ash tree debris at the North Mankato Compost Site located at 600 Webster Ave.
- Don't import or move firewood unless it's MDA Certified.
- If you believe your tree shows signs of infestation, contact the North Mankato Parks Department at 507-625-4141.

