

# Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan

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## Purpose

By implementing the provisions of this management plan, the City is endeavoring to mitigate the disruption of its urban forest caused by the pending infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Taking a proactive approach to this pest will enable the City to address public needs in an efficient and effective manner. The City promotes and supports the position of preserving and protecting the urban forest within the City of Troy.

The City will endeavor to distribute the costs associated with a massive tree death associated with the EAB, should it occur, over a manageable time period. This will lessen the social and economic impact on the quality of life in our community.

This Plan applies to all parks, municipally owned properties, rights-of-way and easements within the City of Troy, Ohio where Ash trees are present.

## Administration

The Park Department, through the City Forester, shall be responsible for implementing this Plan.

## Communications

The Mayor, Service and Safety Director, Board of Park Commissioners and Department Heads shall receive periodic updates. All media relations shall be handled by the office of the Director of Public Service and Safety.

## Ash Tree Removal

The Park Department, through the City Forester, shall conduct an inventory of all Ash trees growing in parks, municipal properties, rights-of-way and easements. Data will be collected including the location, size, and condition of each tree. An inventory shall be repeated, not less than annually, to inspect for any EAB infestation. Ash trees, when infested by the EAB shall immediately be removed by the City.

## Wood Disposal

The City will continue to offer excess wood to its residents at no charge. Literature will be made available to residents regarding the proper movement of firewood within Miami County due to Ohio's EAB quarantine and regulations. Infested ash

wood involved with this program that is moved or disposed of by the City shall follow regulations for handling regulated materials, set forth by the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA)\*.

### Tree Replacement

As funding permits, Ash trees removed due to this program shall be replaced with a non-host species that will enhance the planting site. Trees will be planted in accordance with the Arboricultural Specifications and Standards of Practice.

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### Deferred Work

When financial, staffing and equipment resources are focused on the EAB Management Plan, regular tree trimming, removals and planting may be postponed or delayed.

### Private Ash Trees

When Ash trees on private property are infested by the EAB, the City may consult with private property owners to recommend an appropriate course of action. Neglected trees on private property affected by the EAB are deemed hazardous, and shall be managed according to the City Tree Ordinance.

### Education

A training session for City staff, residents and contractors will be held to discuss the pending infestation and provide Ash and EAB identification tips.