



America's neighborhoods and forests are under attack. The **Emerald ash borer (EAB)** has destroyed tens of millions of ash trees. Help the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) protect our country's trees—and stop the beetle. **Look for signs of the EAB in your community and report both positive and negative findings at www.BeetleDetectives.com** on behalf of your organization. Then watch your organization rise through the ranks of top beetle detectives.

Identifying the EAB

From May to August, adult EAB emerge from under the bark of ash trees and mate. Females lay their eggs in bark crevices, and the eggs hatch into wormlike larvae. The larvae tunnel under the bark to feed and grow throughout the fall and winter. It is this tunneling and feeding that eventually kills the tree. You should capture the insects you think are EAB, place them in a jar, and freeze them—this will preserve the insect for easy identification. You can also search for signs of infestation.

- *Bright, metallic green*
- *1/2" long, flattened back, bullet-shaped*
- *Purple abdominal segments beneath wing covers*



Learn more about the EAB at www.StoptheBeetle.info.

SIGNS OF INFESTATION



Canopy dieback at the top of the tree



Sprouts growing from the trunk are a telltale sign of a tree under stress.



D-shaped exit holes (1/8" in diameter)



S-shaped galleries made by EAB larvae eventually kill the tree.

IDENTIFYING ASH TREES



Ash trees have compound leaves composed of 5 to 11 leaflets.



Ash trees branches mirror each other (opposite branching).



In older trees, ash bark displays diamond-shaped patterns.



Ash seeds are oar-shaped and can be found in clusters.

Be an ace beetle detective. Start searching today!

Print out this factsheet and use it for reference while you search. Locate at least 10 ash trees on your property or public property near your residence. Carefully examine each tree for signs of EAB infestation. Use the survey card below to record your observations, and then enter your report online at www.BeetleDetectives.com. Here are a few tips for recording your observations and submitting your report:

- *Area searched*—use the nearest cross streets to identify the scope of the location searched.
- *If you detect the beetle or signs, describe the beetle and/or damage (size, shape, and color) and take a photo if possible. You can upload your photos on the online report form at www.BeetleDetectives.com.*
- *If possible, collect a specimen of the insect, place it in a jar, and freeze it—this will preserve the insect for easy identification.*

Observations for EAB

Date(s) of search (dd/mm/yy):

Location of search (street address or closest intersection, city, zip code):

Total number of ash trees examined:

Did you find any signs of EAB? **Yes** **No**

If yes, please describe the beetle and/or damage (size, shape and color):

Did you collect a specimen of an EAB? **Yes** **No**

Did you take a photograph of the insect or damage? **Yes** **No**

If you observe beetles or signs of infestation, immediately contact your USDA State Plant Health Director. Go to www.BeetleDetectives.com to find your State Plant Health Director. Report both positive and negative sightings at www.BeetleDetectives.com to help your organization become a top-ranked beetle detective. Negative sightings indicate that the beetle has not yet been detected in your area.