

Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan For the City of Sandusky

Plan Purpose:

By implementing the provisions in this management plan, the City will take a proactive role and attempt to spread the cost over five to six years. More than four hundred dead or dying ash trees at one time could be a liability problem if Ash trees are not removed. The loss of every tree on entire streets in some neighborhoods could have devastating effects on home values and quality of life in those areas. We can remove and replant those areas to lessen the impact as much as possible.

Administration of Plan:

The Superintendent of Horticultural Services and Forestry Crew, through the Parks and Recreation & Horticultural Services Department, will be responsible for implementing and follow up on the provisions of this plan.

Communications:

The city manager, assistant city manager, city commission, tree commission and department heads will receive periodic updates through normal channels. All media relations will follow normal municipal protocol.

Ash Tree Removal:

The city forester and state urban forester (Emerald Ash Specialist) will conduct an ash tree inventory of all ash trees growing in city parks, rights-of-way, and on city grounds. Data will be collected as to the location size, size and condition of each tree. An estimated budget and time frame will be generated from the information gathered. The city will systematically remove all of its ash trees. Tree removal will be prioritized with hazard trees and those in poor condition to be removed first. We will then assess neighborhoods and streets lined with ash trees and schedule removals to lessen the negative environmental and aesthetic impact. Utility contractors will be encouraged to remove all ash trees within their easements. An ash tree database will be created to, updated, and used to prioritize and record the removal, treatment, or status of each tree.

Before trees are removed each resident will be informed in writing by forestry division.

Wood Disposal:

Forestry Division will not dispose of any wood outside quarantine area except at approved sites. The division will continue to offer firewood to its residents at no charge. Anyone accepting wood will be notified of the quarantine area. Wood should be used as firewood for that property and should not be moved, sold or transported outside of quarantine area.

Canopy Replacement:

As budget permits, all removed ash trees will be replaced with non-host species that will enhance the planting site, are appropriate for the planting site and add diversity. Trees will be planted in accordance with the Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association /Ohio Division of Forestry Tree Planting Specifications be in the 1 ½ to 2 ½ “ caliper range. Plantings will be budget based and prioritized by canopy cover goals as identified by the Superintendent of Horticultural with recommendations from the Sandusky City Tree Commission. No plantings will be made that cannot be adequately maintained. All new plantings will conform to the “10-20-30” tree Species diversity rule.

Postponed Work:

While financial, staffing, and equipment resources are focused on EAB Management Plan some usual services will be postponed or delayed. Trimming and removal requests will be prioritized only hazardous or emergency situations will be expedited. While executing the plan.

Private Ash Trees:

We strongly recommend that private owners remove ash trees on their property. We will not order any private property owner to remove their ash trees unless it becomes infected. **Once infected Ordinance 917.14 Public Nuisance & 917.15 Abatement of Nuisance will be in affect.**

917.14 Public Nuisance:

The Superintendent shall have the right to declare any tree or shrub growing upon private property which is:

- (a) Interfering with the use of any public area,
- (b) Infected with an infectious plant disease, or
- (c) Endangering the life, health or safety of persons or person or property, as a public nuisance.

914.15 Abatement of Nuisance:

If the Superintendent determines, with reasonable certainty upon inspection or examination, that any nuisance tree or shrub, as herein defined, exists in or upon any private premises, he shall notify, in writing, the owner or tenant having charge of such premises. Within thirty days after the issuance of such notice, the person shall cause treatment, trimming, or removal and destruction of the nuisance tree as directed in the written notice. No damages shall be awarded the owner or tenant. Having charge of such premises. Should the owner or tenant or neglect to comply with the terms of the written notice within thirty days after receiving it, the Superintendent shall cause the removal, treatment or trimming of the nuisance tree. The expense thereof shall be assessed as a lien against the property for collection as other taxes.

Barnes Nursery will sell any one with a confirmed ash tree a non-host species at whole sale price once ash has been removed.

Projected Budget Cost City:

Year	# removals	Man hr./ cost	#trees to replaced	Man hr. /cost for Planting	Cost To Purchase Replacement Trees	Total cost	Budget Impact
2006	100	768 /\$12,764.16	100	320/\$5318.40	\$10,000 Grant	\$28082.56	0
2007	70	532/\$13,019.44	65	208/3526.10	\$7800	\$24,345.00	\$7800
2008	70	532/\$13,279.83	65	208/\$3596.62	\$7800	\$24,676.44	\$7800
2009	70	532/\$13,545.42	65	208/\$3668.55	\$7800	\$25,013.97	\$7800
2010	70	532/\$13,816.33	65	208/\$3741.92	\$7800	\$25,358.25	\$7800
2011	70	532/\$14,092.66	65	208/\$3816.76	\$7800	\$25709.42	\$7800
Total	450	3428/\$80,517.84	425	1360/\$23668.35	\$49,000.00	\$153,185.64	\$39,000

Contact List:

For any questions please call city forester Mike Pisarsky (419) 627- 5884

Other Information 1-888-Ohio-EAB

Web sites Available www.ohioagriculture.gov/eab
www.ashalert.osu.edu