

Northeast Wisconsin Forest Pest Update – 8/14/08

Special edition – EAB Found in Wisconsin!

Topics include:

- EAB Identified in Wisconsin
- Second Location Identified in Wisconsin
- Four-County Quarantine Established
- How quickly will things begin to happen?
- Press Release Information available
- Wisconsin's EAB Response Plan
- How big is the infestation?
- Firewood Affected by the Quarantine
- Insecticide Treatments for Individual Trees
- Don't be taken advantage of!
- Reporting EAB
- EAB News From Other States
- EAB in the US

EAB Identified in Wisconsin - On Friday, August 1, specimens taken from a wooded residential lot near the village of Newburg in Ozaukee County were positively identified as emerald ash borer.



That same day, three adult beetles were collected from a purple EAB sticky trap in Fireman's Park in Newburg. These specimens were later confirmed to be EAB as well. Unfortunately, this park is in Washington County, meaning that EAB has now been detected in two Wisconsin counties. Pictures of the first find are shown. (The firewood pile beneath the dead trees in the photo at left is probably not the source of EAB introduction due

to the likely age of the infestation.)



D-shaped exit hole from WI site



S-shaped Galleries from WI site

Second Location Identified in Wisconsin - Less than a week later on August 7, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) declared a quarantine for all of Ozaukee, Washington, Fond du Lac, and Sheboygan Counties. The size of the infestation is currently unknown, so FdL and Sheboygan Counties were also included because of their proximity to the known infested area. A map of the EAB detections and quarantined counties is available from: <http://www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov/pdf/WIEABQuarantine.pdf>

Four-County Quarantine Established - The quarantine restricts the movement of hardwood firewood, ash nursery stock, ash logs, and any other ash products that could transport EAB from leaving the quarantined counties. This quarantine affects logging operations, since it prohibits the movement of logs out of the four county quarantined area unless treated to prevent EAB spread. DNR Forest Health staff are already receiving calls from foresters who are asking questions about the quarantine restrictions. We anticipate more detailed information from DATCP regarding log and firewood movement in the near future. In addition, DNR will be revising its management guidelines for landowners now that EAB has been found.



How quickly will things begin to happen? - EAB adults have just completed their emergence from infested material and will not emerge again until spring of 2009. The potential for natural spread of the infestation is now greatly decreased. We now have time to gather information needed to make the best management decision. There is no need to rush to remove and destroy infested material. It is critical that DATCP and APHIS implement a quarantine to prohibit the movement of infested materials. Movement of infested material (firewood, logs with bark, etc.) becomes the focus for limiting the spread and quarantine is a regulatory tool used by DATCP. Likewise educational efforts will be greatly emphasized to prevent further spread and inform affected publics of management tools

Press Release Information Available - Representatives of DNR and DATCP met with local government officials on Monday, August 11 to discuss the current EAB situation and state agency plans for the next few months. An information session for the general public will be held on Tuesday, August 19 in West Bend. More information on the EAB discoveries and subsequent quarantine can be found on the official press releases available on the DATCP website:
http://datcp.state.wi.us/press_release/result.jsp?prid=2199
http://datcp.state.wi.us/press_release/result.jsp?prid=2200

Wisconsin's EAB Response Plan - The State's EAB response plan was recently updated and is available at: <http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/environment/insects/emerald-ash-borer/pdf/2008WIEABResponsePlan.pdf>

How big is the infestation? - Surveys to determine the extent and age of the infestation will be conducted. An aerial survey of the local area has already been completed, and identified areas with dead and dying trees that will be ground-checked. Additional visual surveys will also be conducted. In addition, there are purple sticky traps and girdled detection trees that will be examined for the presence of EAB. The purple sticky traps have been placed on a 1.5 mile grid throughout southeast Wisconsin and also at high-risk sites elsewhere in the state. Detection trees along highway right-of-ways and in the nearby State Parks will also be peeled this fall.

Firewood Affected by the Quarantine - Due to the DATCP quarantine restrictions, firewood purchased, stored, or harvested in, or that has in any way entered Ozaukee, Washington, Sheboygan, or Fond du Lac counties (even if just driving through) cannot leave these counties. Moving firewood from these counties, or through these counties, to a state park or forest outside of these counties is not permitted, even if the park or forest is within 50 miles. Firewood found to be violating this quarantine will be confiscated at the park or forest and DATCP will be notified. A printable sign outlining the quarantine rules is available at <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fh/pdf/FirewoodQuarantineWI.pdf>

These restrictions are in addition to the existing DNR firewood rules, which state that firewood entering a state park or forest must have been from Wisconsin and originate from within 50 miles of that property.

Insecticide Treatments for Individual Trees - Now that EAB has been found in Wisconsin, homeowners may wonder if they should start treating their yard trees even if they live far away from the known infestation. This news release from Chris Williamson, a UW-Madison Entomology Professor, should answer most questions about treatment of yard trees: <http://www.news.wisc.edu/15472>. His current recommendation is that it's not worth treating trees if you live more than 10-12 miles from a known infestation.

Don't be taken advantage of! - Now that EAB has been found in Wisconsin, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection is warning the public that unscrupulous businesses may be taking advantage of the EAB discovery. The DATCP news release can be found at: http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/press_release/result.jsp?prid=2202.

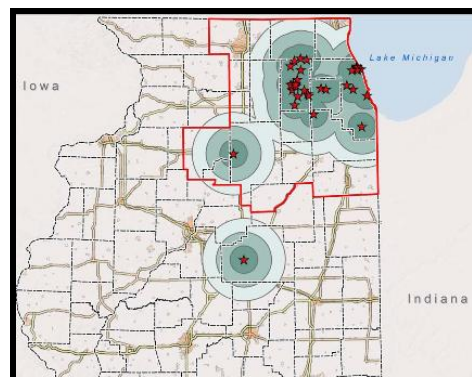
Reporting EAB - Suspect EAB infestations can be reported to the Dept. of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection by calling **1-800-462-2803**. DATCP and/or DNR staff will visit symptomatic sites.

EAB News From Other States - Since July's pest update there have been a number of significant EAB finds in other states and in Ontario. The most relevant to Wisconsin is a find in Houghton County, Michigan, in the western Upper Peninsula. A homeowner in Laurium, MI reported symptoms of EAB in and around an abandoned cemetery. Life stages of EAB were confirmed from the site. Laurium is on the Keweenaw Peninsula about 10 miles northeast of the city of Houghton.

Other finds: Bloomington in central Illinois (map of Illinois infestations at right)

Lake Wappapello in southeast Missouri (first EAB find for MO)

Ottawa, Ontario



EAB in the US - a map showing all known EAB infestations as of August 8 is available from: <http://www.dnr.wi.gov/Forestry/FH/pdf/EABdistribution.pdf>

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