

# Emerald Ash Borer



The emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) is a destructive wood-boring pest of ash trees (*Fraxinus* spp.). Native to China, Mongolia, North Korea, South Korea, Japan, Taiwan, and the Russian Far East, the emerald ash borer beetle (EAB) was unknown in North America until its discovery in southeast Michigan in 2002. Today, EAB infestations have been detected in 35 states and the District of Columbia; Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South

Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. APHIS works with State cooperators to detect, control and prevent the human-assisted spread of the pest in order to safeguard America's ash trees. More information about the EAB Program can be found in the documents below.

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APHIS is changing its approach to fight the EAB infestation that has spread through much of the United States. On December 15, the Agency published a final rule that removes the federal domestic EAB quarantine regulations. APHIS has been transparent about the challenges associated with controlling EAB and that the domestic quarantine has not proven effective in stopping its spread. The Agency has worked to identify more effective and less intrusive methods and will direct available resources toward non-regulatory options for management and containment of the pest, such as rearing and releasing biological control agents. Removing the quarantine regulations ends APHIS' domestic regulatory activities, which includes actions such as issuing permits, certificates and compliance agreements, making site visits, and conducting investigations of suspected violations.

The final rule and the response to the comments APHIS received are available in the Federal Register and the rule became effective on January 14, 2021. Documents may be viewed online at <https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=APHIS-2017-0056>.

**USDA**

## The Emerald Ash Borer

### EAB in the United States

The emerald ash borer—known as EAB—is an invasive insect from Asia that is killing ash trees in North America.

EAB was first found in the United States in southeast Michigan in 2002. USDA estimates that EAB had been here since the 1990s based on the size of the infestation. It probably arrived hidden in wood packing material used to ship consumer goods.

**The Emerald Ash Borer Story Map, by USDA APHIS**

An interactive story map of the USDA's history of combating the infestation and the continuing efforts to protect ash trees in the U.S.

- [USDA APHIS Emerald Ash Borer Story Map](#)

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## Program Information

### Pest Identification

- [Image Gallery](#)

### Pest Management

- [Questions and Answers: Changes in the Approach](#)
- [Online Reporting Form](#)
- [Environmental Document](#)
- [Program Manual](#) (2020)
- [Biological Control Release and Recovery Guidelines](#) (2.87 Mb)
- [Operation Biocontrol](#)
- [Questions and Answers: Biological Control for Emerald Ash Borer](#)
- [Emerald Ash Borer Trapping Guidelines](#)
  - [Integrated Plant Health Information System](#) (IPHIS)
  - [Trapping Protocols](#)
  - [Trapping Materials List](#)
  - [Pre-Survey Data Spreadsheet](#)
  - [Survey Data Spreadsheet](#)
  - [Purple Trap Instructional Video](#) (windows media video). For a free DVD copy, please call 1-866-322-4512
- [Online Resources](#)

### Program Publications

- [What is the Emerald Ash Borer](#)
- [How to sign up to receive the EAB Program Report](#)

### Maps

- [Ash Range Map](#)
- [Biocontrol Release Map](#)
- [Emerald Ash Borer Known Infested Counties](#)
- New County Detection Map
  - [2021](#) | [2020](#) | [2019](#) | [2018](#) | [2017](#) | [2016](#) | [2015](#) | [2014](#) | [2013](#) | [2012](#)

### Research

- [Proceedings from forums](#)

### Videos

- [Debarking Ash Tree Logs to Look for Emerald Ash Borer](#)

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