



EMERALD ASH BORER EARLY ALERT

September 29, 2004

We need your help in the early detection of the emerald ash borer on the Chequamegon -Nicolet National Forest. Because you hold a firewood permit or are a forest visitor, we ask that you be on the look out for early signs of the presence of this insect.

The emerald ash borer is an exotic pest, native to Asia, currently threatening ash trees (including white, green and black ash) in the Great Lakes region. The emerald ash borer belongs to a group of insects known as metallic wood-boring beetles. Since its discovery in southeastern Michigan during 2002, it has spread northward to Emmet County just south of the Mackinaw Bridge. In addition, isolated infestations have been reported in Ohio, Indiana, Maryland and Windsor, Ontario. To date, **NO** confirmed sightings have been reported in the State of Wisconsin.

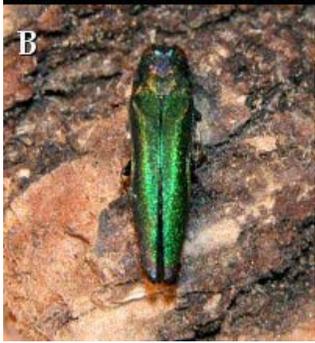
Transmission of this pest is accelerated by the inadvertent transportation of larvae in logs, firewood and nursery stock.

Ash trees are quite abundant in Wisconsin, with estimates as high as 628 million trees total, and are commonly found in both urban and forest settings. Ash is a component of three forest types in Wisconsin including 1) Elm /Ash /Cottonwood, 2) Northern Hardwood and 3) Oak /Hickory. An ash tree is most easily identified by its opposite branching pattern (two branches come off the main stem, one on each side and opposite each other) and compound leaves with 5-11 leaflets. Leaflets are moderately toothed and may be stalked or sessile.

If you come across a potential infestation or have questions, please contact: Mark Theisen, Forest Silviculturalist, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest at 715-362-1346.

For more information on the emerald ash borer, you may call or visit your local Forest Service office or visit the State Of Wisconsin's emerald ash borer website listed below. Thank you for your help.

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/Forestry/FH/Ash/index.html#1>

<p>A</p> 	<p>C</p> 	 <p>D</p>
<p>B</p> 	<p>The adult emerald ash borer, pictured in diagrams A and B, is bright metallic green in color, about 1/2 inch long and 1/16 inch wide.</p> <p>Emerald ash borer larva shown in diagram C, typically leave D-shaped exit holes on the branches and trunk of the ash trees.</p> <p>An ash tree leaf is pictured in diagram D to the right. Identification may be difficult during leaf-off season. Black ash trees lose their leaves very early in the fall.</p>	