

## EAB ADVISORY NOTICE

Emerald ash borer (EAB) is an exotic insect whose native range includes eastern Russia, northern China, Japan and Korea. First detected in the US in Detroit, Michigan in 2002, EAB has spread across most of the eastern US and west into Kansas and Colorado. The closest detection to Wyoming was confirmed in Boulder County, Colorado in September 2013.

**EAB has not been detected in Wyoming.**



EAB is largely thought to have gained access to the US via solid-wood packing material or crates comprised of ash wood. EAB larvae kill any species of ash (mostly green ash, *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) by chewing on the inner bark and building serpentine tunnels in the xylem. Trees ranging from one to greater than 50 inches in diameter have been attacked and killed by EAB.

Green ash is native in Sheridan, Campbell, Weston, Crook, Johnson, Natrona, Converse, Niobrara, Goshen, and Platte Counties. Ash is common in riparian areas such as the Platte River. There are stands of green ash mixed with ponderosa pine, bur oak, and cottonwood in Crook County. Although the composition of ash genera in Wyoming is stark compared to EAB established states such as Michigan, there are substantial ash in many community parks, cemeteries, and greenways. Green ash comprises 20% to 40% of community-tree inventories statewide and is one of the four most common trees within community boundaries along with Siberian elm, blue spruce, and cottonwood.

Although Wyoming's ash trees have little, if any, host resistance to EAB, **insecticide treatments and removals in anticipation of EAB are not recommended at this time.** Prior to positive detection, landowners and municipalities are encouraged to check for signs and symptoms of EAB (<http://emeraldashborer.info>) and to promote a diversity of tree species in future plantings.

Wyoming's long geographical distances between communities thus long distances between populations of green ash would make EAB adult flight (if ever established) as a vector of spread to new areas very difficult. The most likely vectors of EAB are firewood and raw ash-log transport and to a lesser degree nursery stock. The best thing to do is **DON'T MOVE FIREWOOD.** Residents living where EAB is established are disallowed to transport ash outside of EAB quarantined areas. Wyoming residents are encouraged to only purchase firewood from local sources or cut firewood from a local forest.

View Wyoming's Emerald Ash Borer Response Plan at [www.wsfed.wyo.gov](http://www.wsfed.wyo.gov).