

NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION



**Volunteer Emerald Ash Borer Survey Form**

**Dear Citizen Volunteer:**

Thank you for choosing to participate in this survey of your ash trees! The public has been our greatest ally in detecting new infestations of invasive insects, so the information you provide us is critical in slowing the spread of emerald ash borer (EAB). It is recommended that you print this form and bring it with you while you are surveying for EAB.

***Before you start:***

- Read the NYSDEC [Emerald Ash Borer Early Detection brochure](#) for background information, ash tree identification tips, and signs and symptoms of EAB. To order a free hard copy (or copies) of this brochure, please call 518-402-9430.
- **Some items that may be helpful:**
  - Emerald Ash Borer Early Detection brochure
  - Binoculars
  - Plastic bags or container (for collecting larvae or adult beetles)
  - Pen or pencil
  - Clipboard
  - Camera
  - GPS
  - Snack
  - Water
- **Some guidelines for a successful survey:**
  - Please take pictures of any possible EAB signs or symptoms.
  - Record all surveys even if no evidence of EAB is observed.
  - **BE SAFE. DO NOT** survey in hazardous conditions. **ALWAYS** check the weather before you survey.
  - **DO** be sure that the trees you are surveying are on public land or property that you have permission to use.



**NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

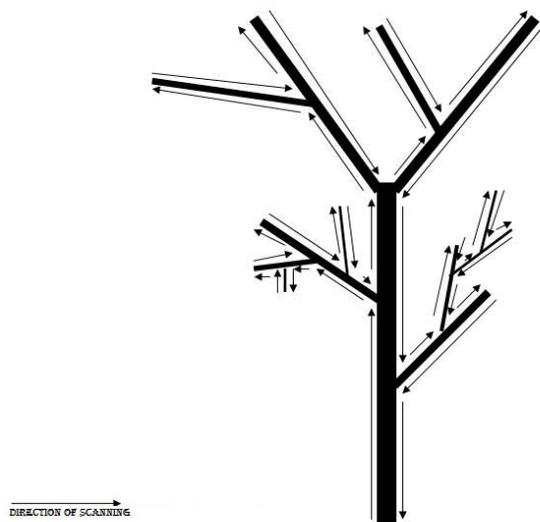
- 4) Look for signs and symptoms of EAB damage (start with ash trees that have poor overall health). Without binoculars observe the lower trunk and low branches. Are there any EAB signs listed below that can be observed? Refer to the EAB Early Detection brochure for pictures of signs and symptoms, and use the table on the next page to check off the symptoms you observe.
- **Crown thinning** – tree branches dying from the top down.
  - **Woodpecker damage** – on the tree’s trunk and branches.
  - **Small D-shaped holes** – (1/8 inch) indicating adult EAB exit sites (flat on one side, but can be oriented in any direction).
  - **S-shaped or serpentine tunnels** – just under the bark, sometimes with larvae in them. After heavy larval tunneling vertical **splits in the bark** can occur. This can sometimes reveal the tunnels under the bark.
  - **Leafy sprouts** growing from the base of the tree (also known as trunk sprouts).
  - **Adult EAB** – metallic green, ½ inch long beetles about 1/8 inch wide.
  - **EAB larva** – white, inch-long “worms” with distinct bell-shaped segments.
- 5) If possible, take pictures of any EAB signs and symptoms you observe. Please electronically attach them in an email along with this form, or include printed copies if you choose to mail the form.

	Location of tree (nearest address, GPS coordinates, description, etc.)	Tree Health	EAB Signs and Symptoms Observed					No Observed Signs or Symptoms
		Crown Thinning or Branch Dieback	Woodpecker Activity	D-Shaped Exit Holes	Serpentine Galleries	Vertical Bark Splits	Trunk Sprouts	
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								
11								
12								
13								
14								

Please use extra paper if needed.

6) Samples collected. If adult insects or larvae that you suspect to be EAB are collected, please record the information about that tree here. Record enough information so that you can locate that tree again for further inspection. Any samples collected should be placed in a hard container (example: emptied pill bottle). Please mail this form and the sample to: **EAB Sample, NYSDEC Division of Lands and Forests, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4250.**

- If you wish to further survey using binoculars here are some tips that will help you effectively locate any EAB signs or symptoms (specifically D-shaped exit holes, woodpecker activity, or vertical bark splits with larval tunnels underneath). **See graphic below**
  - Start at the bottom of the trunk and work your way up to the base of the first branch on the left side of the tree. Follow the left most branch to the end with binoculars.
  - Work your way observing back down the branch until you get to the base at the trunk.
  - Continue scanning up the trunk until the next branch on the left and repeat. Continue this pattern until you return to the base of the tree. Observe the entire tree working from left to right methodically.
  - Move  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the way around the tree and repeat the above steps continuing until the entire tree has been inspected.
  - For very large trees divide the tree into 6 or 8 sections, moving  $\frac{1}{6}$  or  $\frac{1}{8}$  of the way around the tree observing each section thoroughly.



Completed surveys should be mailed to:  
EAB Volunteer  
NYSDEC Division of Lands and Forests  
625 Broadway  
Albany NY 12233-4250

Or emailed to:  
firewood@gw.dec.state.ny.us