



Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Plant Protection and
Quarantine

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Dear City Forestry Manager or Arborist,

As you may be aware, emerald ash borer (EAB) was discovered in Boulder, Colorado, in the fall of 2013. Since then, the Cooperative Emerald Ash Borer Response Team has worked to delimit the infestation in Boulder, CO. We would now like to broaden the scope of our survey to ensure we understand the extent of EAB presence throughout the state. To ensure a thorough search for this pest within Colorado, we are asking for your participation in surveying your community for emerald ash borer. Colorado was the first state in the U.S. to systematically implement the branch sampling technique developed by Krista Ryall at the Canadian Forest Service. We invite you to participate using this survey technique in an effort to identify any existing populations of EAB throughout our state.

We have developed a packet of information which provides the instructions for implementing the branch sampling technique. This involves taking tree branch samples from identified ash trees, cataloging their locations, and peeling those branches in search of EAB larvae or pupae before flight season April 1st. We have developed a data collection sheet to ensure we are all reporting the same basic information throughout the communities. The Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has created one square mile grid maps that are available upon request for individual cities. These grids can be used to identify the trees sampled, mapping locations for a visual display of areas surveyed as well as results, throughout the state.

The Cooperative EAB Response Team would like to utilize your local knowledge and expertise in conducting the survey while serving as a collection center for the data so we can share with others who are participating and report results to the larger community. This branch sampling survey is in addition to trapping efforts which occur during the flight season. Research trials to test new trapping techniques did occur in Boulder this summer. Results will be evaluated over winter and any new trapping opportunities will be shared when available in the future. In addition, biocontrol agents are being released in Boulder this fall and are expected to continue next spring in an effort to establish parasitic wasps that will parasitize emerald ash borer, reducing their population for long term management.

We ask that you please consider participating in this voluntary survey in whatever capacity your resources allow. The Cooperative EAB Response Team would like to receive your data on the first of every month so as to compile and share among the communities to provide transparent information throughout our larger community. Please contact us with any questions and to indicate your willingness to participate.

With Appreciation,

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