



# Tree Management Plan

## City of Brentwood, Missouri

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## Acknowledgments

The City of Brentwood's vision to promote and preserve the urban forest and improve the management of public trees was a fundamental inspiration for this project. This vision will ensure canopy continuity, which will reduce stormwater runoff and improve air quality, public health, and aesthetic values.

The City of Brentwood is thankful for the grant funding they received from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) in cooperation with the Missouri Community Forestry Council and the U.S. Forest Service through its Tree Resource Improvement and Maintenance (TRIM) cost-share program. The TRIM grant program is designed to encourage communities to create and support long-term and sustained urban and community forestry programs.

The City also recognizes the support of Mayor Pat Kelly and the City of Brentwood Board of Aldermen.



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## Executive Summary

This plan was developed for the City of Brentwood by Davey Resource Group, a division of The Davey Tree Expert Company, with a focus on addressing short- and long-term maintenance needs for inventoried public trees. Davey Resource Group completed a tree inventory to gain an understanding of the needs of the existing urban forest and to project a recommended maintenance schedule for tree care. Analysis of inventory data was utilized, along with information about the City's existing program and vision for the urban forest, to develop this *Tree Management Plan*. The economic, environmental, and social benefits that trees provide to city are presented, and a strategy for addressing and managing the threat of the emerald ash borer (EAB, *Agrilus planipennis*) in the City's urban forest is also included in the plan.

## State of the Existing Urban Forest

The January and February 2014 inventory included trees, stumps, and planting sites along public street rights-of-way (ROW) and in specified parks and public properties. All City streets, parks and designated public spaces were inventoried. A total of 3,182 sites were recorded during the inventory: 2,658 individual trees, 11 stumps, and 513 planting sites. Analysis of the tree inventory data found:

- The inventoried trees have an approximate value of \$3,182,000.
- The overall condition of the inventoried tree population was rated to be Fair.
- One species, *Liquidambar styraciflua*, (sweetgum), made up such a large percentage of the street ROW (16%) that it threatens biodiversity.
- On the street ROW, *Acer* spp. (maple) was found in abundance (14%), which is nearing a level that creates a concern for the streetscape's biodiversity.
- Overall, the diameter size class distribution of the inventoried tree population trended towards the ideal, with a greater number of young trees than established, maturing, or mature trees.
- Trees provide approximately \$160,000 in annual environmental benefits.
- Energy Savings: \$16,000/year.
- Stormwater Interception: 7,870,000 gallons valued at \$58,800/year.
- Carbon Sequestration: 287 tons valued at \$1,900/year.
- Improved Air Quality: \$5,500/year.
- Improved property value associated with aesthetics: \$77,000.
- Brentwood's inventoried trees have an estimated replacement value of \$2,250,000.

## Tree Maintenance and Planting Needs

Maintenance needs recommended during the inventory include tree and stump removal (4%), pruning (80%), and planting (16%). Trees should be planted to mitigate removals and create canopy.

Trees provide many environmental and economic benefits that justify spending the time and money for planting and maintenance. Reduce tree-related risk and prioritize maintenance by addressing trees with the highest risk first. Moderate and Low Risk trees should be addressed after all Severe and High Risk tree maintenance has been completed.

The inventory noted several Severe and High Risk trees (12% of trees assessed); these trees should be removed or pruned immediately to promote public safety.

<b>Tree Removal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Risk = 46 trees</li> <li>• Moderate Risk = 36 trees</li> <li>• Low Risk = 17 trees</li> </ul>
<b>Pruning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severe Risk = 1 tree</li> <li>• High Risk = 263 trees</li> </ul>
<b>RP Cycle</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of trees in cycle each year = approximately 336</li> </ul>
<b>YTT Cycle</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of trees in cycle each year = at least 213</li> </ul>
<b>Tree Planting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of trees each year = at least 103</li> </ul>

In addition to priority maintenance, Brentwood’s urban forest will benefit greatly from a three-year young tree training cycle and a five-year routine pruning cycle. Based on inventory data, at least 213 young trees should be structurally pruned each year during the young tree training cycle and approximately 336 trees should be cleaned during the routine pruning cycle each year.

In these proactive pruning cycles, young trees receive a training prune every three years and all established trees are visited at least once in five years. Proactive pruning cycles improve the overall health of the tree population, and may eventually reduce program costs. In most cases, pruning cycles will correct defects in trees before they worsen, which will avoid costly problems.

Planting trees is necessary to maintain canopy cover and to replace trees that have been removed or lost to natural mortality or other threats (for example, construction, invasive pests, or impacts from weather events such as storms, wind, ice, snow, flooding, and drought). We recommend planting at least 103 trees of a variety of species each year to offset these losses and maintain canopy and maximum benefits.



**Photograph 1.** This archway of *Quercus* spp. (oak) and *Liquidambar styraciflua* (sweetgum) on Collier Avenue is an example of the positive role of planned urban forest management.

Citywide tree planting should focus on creating canopy in areas that promote economic growth (such as business districts), in parking lots and near buildings with insufficient shade, and where there are gaps in the existing canopy. Trees of varied species should be planted; however, the planting of sweetgum should be limited until the species distribution normalizes. Due to the species distribution and impending threats from EAB, all *Fraxinus* spp. (ash) trees should be temporarily removed from any future planting plans.

### *Urban Forest Program Needs*

Adequate funding will be needed for the City to implement an effective management program that will provide short- and long-term public benefits, to ensure that priority maintenance is performed expediently, and to establish proactive maintenance cycles. The estimated total cost for the first year of this five-year program is \$159,000; this total will decrease by Year Three of the program to approximately \$89,000 per year. High-priority removal and pruning is costly; most of this work is scheduled during the first year of the program, which is why the budget is higher for that year. After this priority work has been completed, the urban forestry program will mostly involve proactive work, which is generally less costly so budgets for later years are projected to be lower.

Supporting proactive management of trees through funding will, over the long term, reduce municipal tree care management costs and possibly the costs to build, manage, and support some City infrastructure.

Brentwood has many opportunities to improve its urban forest. Planned tree planting and a systematic approach to tree maintenance will allow Brentwood to follow a cost-effective, proactive program. Investing in this tree management program will promote public safety, improve tree care efficiency, and increase the economic and environmental benefits the community receives from its trees.

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## Introduction

The City of Brentwood is home to more than 8,000 full-time residents who enjoy the beauty and benefits of their urban forest. The City's forestry program manages trees on public property—along the street ROW, in parks, and in public spaces. For approximately 10 years, Brentwood's Department of Public works has included a staff of three who are dedicated to the urban forestry program.

Funding for the City's urban forestry program comes from the City of Brentwood's general budget. Brentwood conducted an inventory of public trees in 2014. The City has a tree ordinance, maintains a budget of more than \$2 per capita for tree-related expenses, celebrates Arbor Day, and has been a Tree City USA for 25 years.

## Approach to Tree Management

The best approach to managing an urban forest is to develop an organized, proactive program using tools (such as a tree inventory and tree management plan) to set goals and measure progress. These tools can be utilized to establish tree care priorities, generate strategic planting plans, draft cost-effective budgets based on projected needs, and ultimately reduce to a minimum the need for costly, reactive solutions to crises or urgent hazards.

In February 2014, Brentwood worked with Davey Resource Group to inventory trees and develop a Public Tree Management Plan. This plan considers the general condition, diversity, and distribution of the inventoried trees and provides a prioritized system for managing street ROW and park trees. The following tasks were completed:

- Inventory of trees, stumps, and planting sites within the street ROW and trees and stumps in community parks and other public grounds
- Analysis of tree inventory data
- Development of a plan that prioritizes the recommended tree maintenance

This plan is divided into four sections:

- Section 1 (*Tree Inventory Analysis*) summarizes the tree inventory data and presents trends, results, and observations.
- Section 2 (*Benefits of the Urban Forest*) summarizes the economic, environmental, and social benefits that trees provide Brentwood.
- Section 3 (*Tree Management Program*) utilizes the inventory data to develop a prioritized maintenance schedule and projected budget for the implementation of the recommended tree maintenance over a five-year period.
- Section 4 (*Emerald Ash Borer Strategy*) presents proactive maintenance and policy strategies for the prevention and mitigation of an emerald ash borer infestation.

# Section 1: Tree Inventory Analysis

In February 2014, Davey Resource Group arborists assessed and inventoried trees, stumps, and planting sites along the street ROW and trees in parks. A total of 3,182 sites were collected during the inventory: 2,658 trees, 11 stumps, and 513 vacant planting sites. Of the 3,182 sites collected, 86% were collected along the street ROW and the remaining 14% in parks. Figures 1 and 2 provide a detailed breakdown of the number, type, and location of sites inventoried.

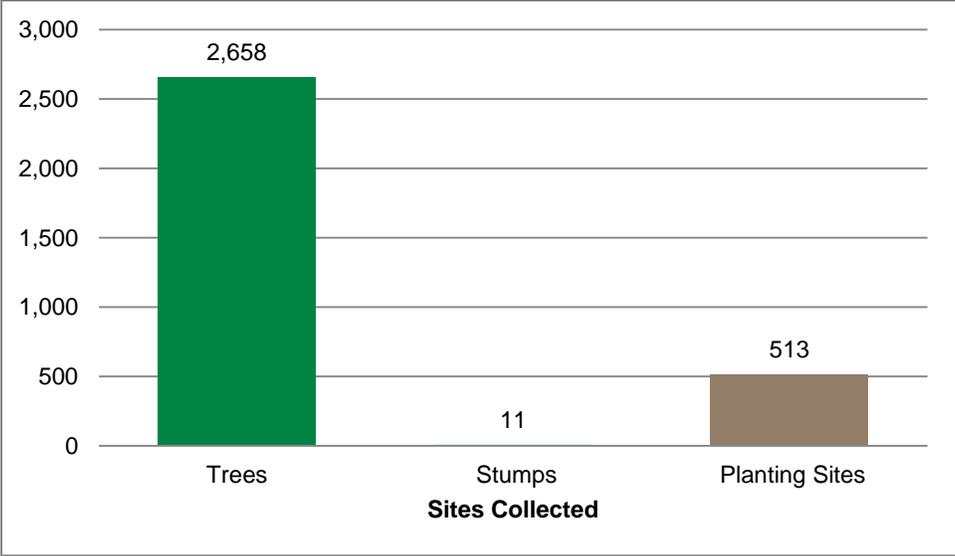


Figure 1. Sites collected during the 2014 Brentwood inventory.

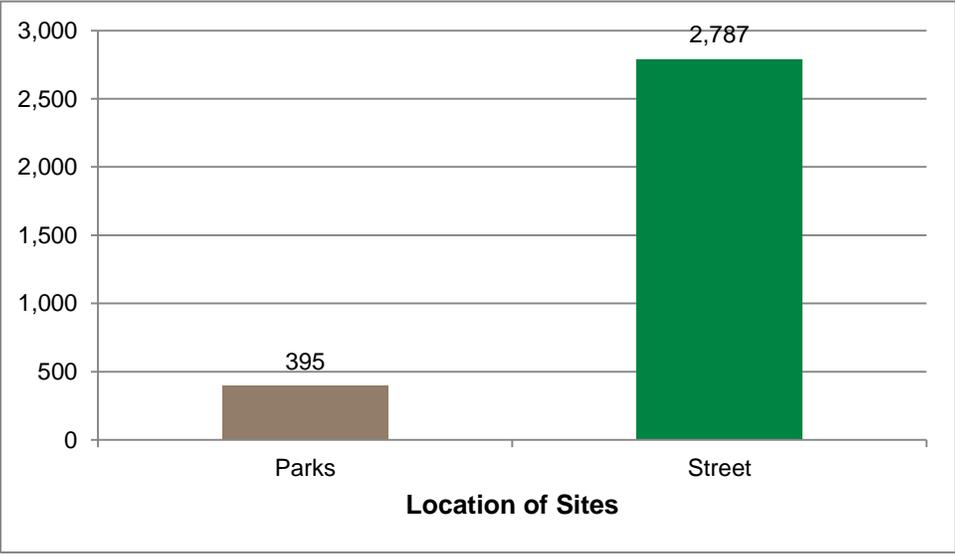


Figure 2. Location of sites collected during the 2014 Brentwood inventory.

## Data Collection Methods

Tree inventory data were collected using a system developed by Davey Resource Group that utilizes a customized ArcPad<sup>®</sup> program loaded onto pen-based field computers equipped with geographic information system (GIS) and global positioning system (GPS) receivers.

The knowledge and professional judgment of Davey Resource Group's arborists ensure the high quality of inventory data.

Data fields are defined in the glossary, and the site location method is provided in Appendix A. At each site, the following data fields were collected:

aboveground utilities	primary maintenance needs
block side	mapping coordinate
clearance requirements	observations
condition	notes
grow space size	risk assessment
grow space type	risk rating
further inspection	species
hardscape damage	stems
location	tree size*
location rating	

\* measured in inches in diameter at 4.5 feet above ground (or DBH)

Primary maintenance is based on *ANSI A300 (Part 1)* (ANSI 2008). Risk assessment and risk rating are based on *Urban Tree Risk Management* (Pokorny et al. 2003)

Tree inventory data will be delivered as i-Tree Streets ESRI<sup>®</sup> shapefile and/or geodatabase, an Access<sup>™</sup> database, and an Excel<sup>™</sup> spreadsheet.

## Project Area

All four Brentwood City wards, five community parks, two bike paths, and the City Hall and Recreation Center grounds were selected by Brentwood for the tree inventory.

## Assessment of Tree Inventory Data

Data analysis and professional judgment are used to make generalizations about the state of the inventoried tree population. Recognizing trends in the data can help guide short- and long-term management planning. In this plan, the following criteria and indicators of the inventoried tree population were assessed:

- *Species diversity*—the variety of species in a specific population; affects the population's ability to sustain threats from invasive pests and diseases; impacts tree maintenance needs and costs, tree planting goals, and canopy continuity.



**Photograph 2. Davey Resource Group's ISA Certified Arborists inventoried trees along street ROW and in community parks to collect information about trees that could be used to assess the state of urban forest.**

- *Diameter size class distribution data*—statistical distribution of a given tree population's trunk-size class; affects the valuation of tree-related benefits as well as the estimation of maintenance needs and costs, planting goals, and canopy continuity; the diameter size class distribution may be used to indicate relative age of a tree population.
- *Condition*—the general health of a tree population; indicates how well trees are performing given their site-specific conditions; general health affects both short- and long-term maintenance needs and costs as well as canopy continuity
- *Street ROW stocking level*—the portion of existing street ROW trees compared to the total number of potential street ROW trees (number of inventoried trees plus the number of potential planting spaces); stocking level can help determine tree planting needs and budgets
- *Other observations*—inventory data analysis that provides insight into past maintenance practices and growing conditions; discusses observations that may affect future management decisions

## Species Diversity

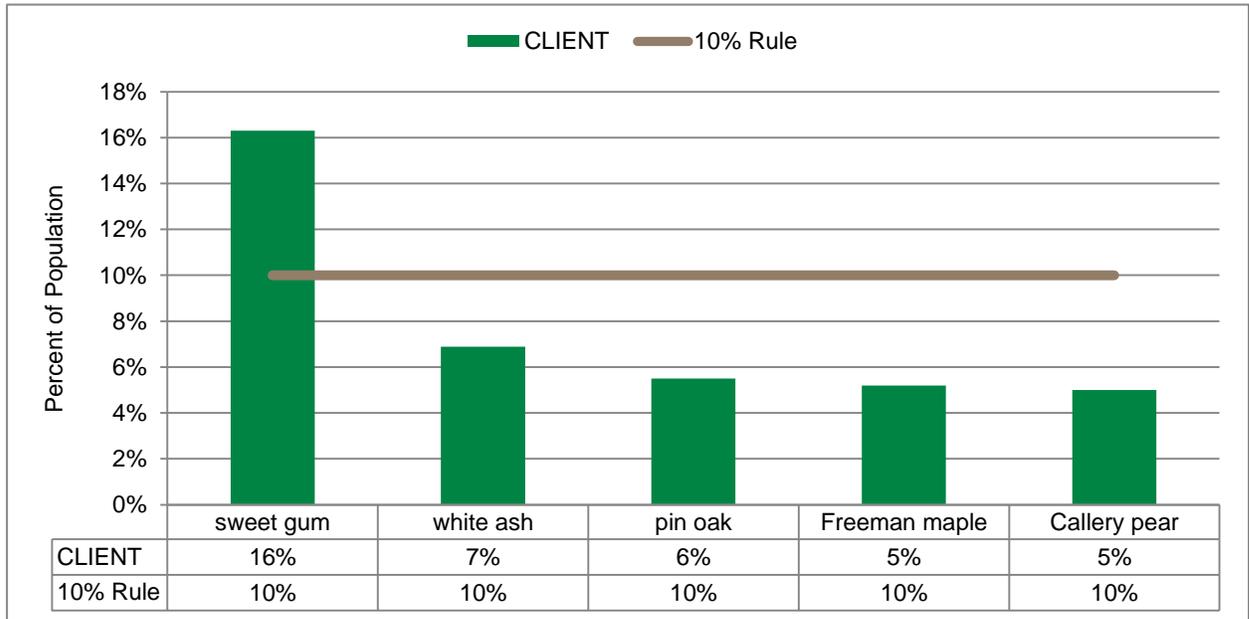
Species diversity affects maintenance costs, planting goals, canopy continuity, and the forestry program's ability to respond to threats from invasive pests or diseases. Low species diversity (large number of trees of the same species) can lead to severe losses in the event of species-specific epidemics such as the devastating results of Dutch elm disease (*Ophiostoma novo-ulmi*) throughout the New England and the Midwest. Because of the introduction and spread of Dutch elm disease in the 1930s and its presence today, massive numbers of *Ulmus americana* (American elm), a popular street tree in Midwestern cities and towns, have perished (Karnosky 1979). Many Midwestern communities were stripped of most of their mature shade trees, creating a drastic void in canopy cover. Many communities replanted to replace the lost elm trees. Ash and maple trees were popular replacements for American elm in the wake of Dutch elm disease. Unfortunately, some of the replacement species for American elm trees are now overabundant and are a concern for biodiversity. EAB and Asian longhorned beetle (ALB, *Anoplophora glabripennis*) are non-native insect pests that attack some of the most prevalent urban shade trees and some agricultural trees throughout the country.

The composition of a tree population should follow the 10-20-30 Rule for species diversity: a single species should represent no more than 10% of the urban forest, a single genera no more than 20%, and a single family no more than 30%.

## Findings

Analysis of Brentwood's tree inventory data indicated that the population had relatively good diversity, with 55 genera and 98 species represented. Along the street ROW, diversity was good with four fewer species present than in the overall inventoried population.

Figure 3 compares the percentages of the most common species identified during the inventory to the 10% Rule. Sweetgum far exceed the recommended 10% maximum for a single species in a population comprising 16% of the inventoried tree population.



**Figure 3. Five most frequently inventoried public tree species in Brentwood.**

Figure 4 compares the percentages of the most common genus identified during the inventory to the 20% Rule. While no genus exceeds the recommended 20% maximum for a single genus in a population, maple (17%) and sweetgum (16%), are approaching the 20% threshold.



**Figure 4. Five most frequently inventoried public tree genera in Brentwood.**

*Discussion/Recommendations*

Sweetgum dominates the streets and parks. Its abundance in the landscape makes it a concern and a limiting species in terms of biodiversity.

While it is not currently the target of aggressive pests or pathogens it is impossible to know if one will be introduced from abroad in the future. Having a diverse population of trees is a noble objective that will ensure that Brentwood’s urban forest is sustainable at the street, neighborhood, and management zone level, as well as citywide.

Considering the large quantity of sweetgum already present in the population and its tendency to cause hardscape damage, the planting of sweetgum should be limited to minimize the potential for loss should a new invasive tree damaging agent threaten Brentwood’s urban tree population. See Appendix B for a recommended tree species list for planting.

*Diameter Size Class Distribution*

Analyzing the diameter size class distribution provides an estimate of the relative age of a tree population and insight into maintenance practices and needs.

The inventoried trees were categorized into the following diameter size classes: young trees (0–8 inches DBH), established (9–17 inches DBH), maturing (18–24 inches DBH), and mature trees (>24 inches DBH). These categories were chosen so that the population could be analyzed following Richards (1983). Richards proposed an ideal diameter size class distribution for street trees based on observations of well-adapted trees in Syracuse, New York. Richards’ ideal distribution suggests that the largest fraction of trees (approximately 40% of the population) should be young (<8 inches DBH) with a smaller fraction (approximately 10%) in the large-diameter size class (>24 inches DBH). A tree population with the ideal distribution would have an abundance of newly planted and young trees, with established, maturing, and mature trees present in lower numbers.

*Findings*

Figure 5 compares Brentwood’s diameter size class distribution of the inventoried ROW tree population (street trees) to the ideal proposed by Richards (1983). While Brentwood’s distribution trends toward the ideal, there is a slight deficit of established trees.



*Figure 5. Comparison of diameter size class distribution for ROW trees to the ideal distribution.*

Figure 6 compares Brentwood’s diameter size class distribution of the inventoried park tree population to the ideal proposed by Richards. There is a deficit in young and maturing trees.



Figure 6. Comparison of diameter size class distribution for park trees to the ideal distribution.

### Discussion/Recommendations

Even though it may appear that Brentwood’s ROW may have too many young trees, this is not the case. Actually, Brentwood’s streets have too few established trees. Thus, the distribution is skewed. It would also appear that the parks have too many 9- to 17-inches DBH trees. This is mostly due to a lack of newly planted trees in public spaces. One of Brentwood’s objectives is to have an uneven-aged distribution of trees citywide. Davey Resource Group recommends that Brentwood support a strong planting and maintenance program to ensure that young, healthy trees are in place to fill in gaps in tree canopy and provide for gradual succession of older trees. The City must promote tree preservation and proactive tree care to ensure older trees survive as long as possible. Tree planting and tree care will allow the distribution to normalize over time.

*Planting trees is necessary to increase canopy cover and to replace trees lost to natural mortality (expected to be 1–3% per year) and other threats (for example, invasive pests or impacts from weather events such as storms, wind, ice, snow, flooding, and drought). Planning for the replacement of existing trees and finding the best places to create new canopy is critical.*

### Condition

Davey Resource Group assessed the condition of individual trees based on methods defined by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). Several factors were considered for each tree, including root characteristics; branch structure; trunk, canopy, and foliage condition; and the presence of pests. The condition of each inventoried tree was rated Excellent, Very Good, Good, Fair, Poor, Critical, or Dead.

In this plan, the general health of the inventoried tree population was characterized by the most prevalent condition assigned during the inventory.

Comparing the condition of the inventoried tree population with relative tree age can provide some insight into the stability of the population. In this plan, relative age was based on DBH. Since tree species have different lifespans and mature at different diameters, heights, and crown spreads, actual tree age cannot be determined from diameter size class alone. However, general classifications of size can be extrapolated into relative age classes. The following categories are used to describe relative age: young (0–8 inches DBH), established (9–17 inches DBH), maturing (18–24 inches DBH), and mature (>24 inches DBH).

Figures 7 and 8 illustrate the general health and percent of young, established, mature, and maturing trees to their condition.

### Findings

Most of the inventoried trees were recorded to be in Fair or Poor condition, 14% and 72%, respectively (Figure 7). Based on these data, the general health of the overall inventoried tree population is rated Fair. Figure 8 illustrates that the proportion of mature and maturing trees rated as Good was much smaller than that of young and established trees. Figure 9 shows that the condition of inventoried street trees is slightly better than that of trees inventoried in parks and other public spaces.

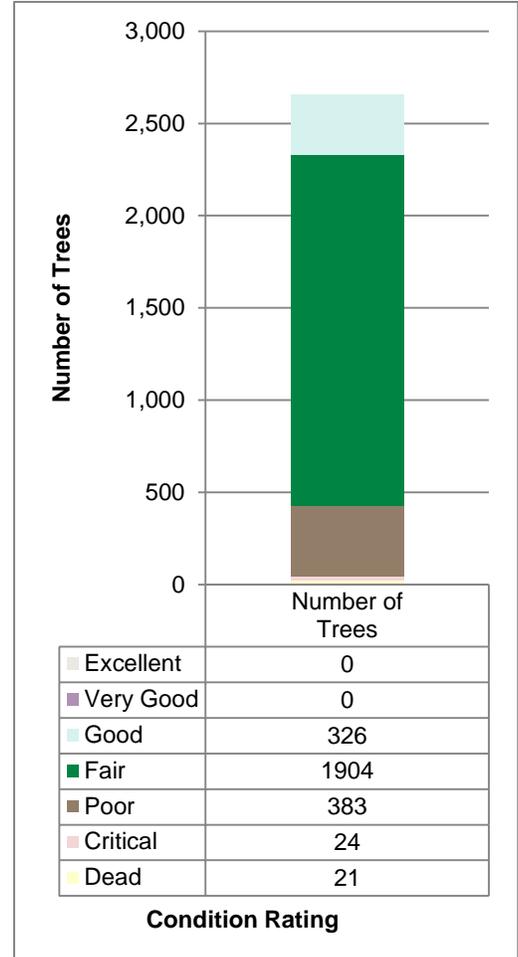


Figure 7. Condition rating of public trees inventoried in Brentwood.

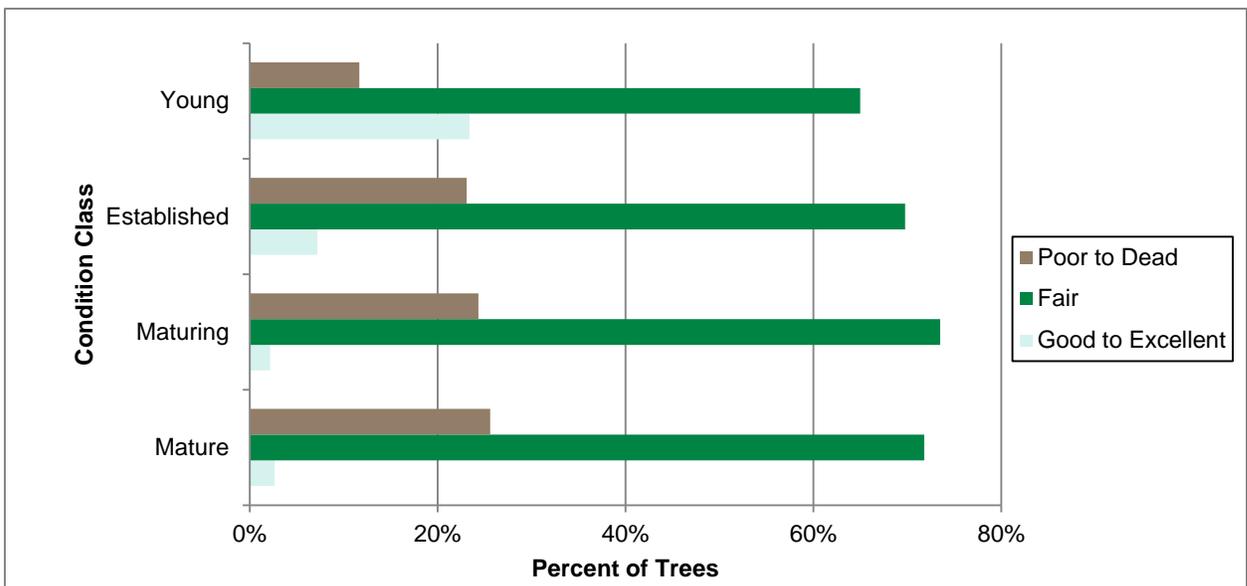


Figure 8. Condition of public trees inventoried in Brentwood in comparison to relative tree age.

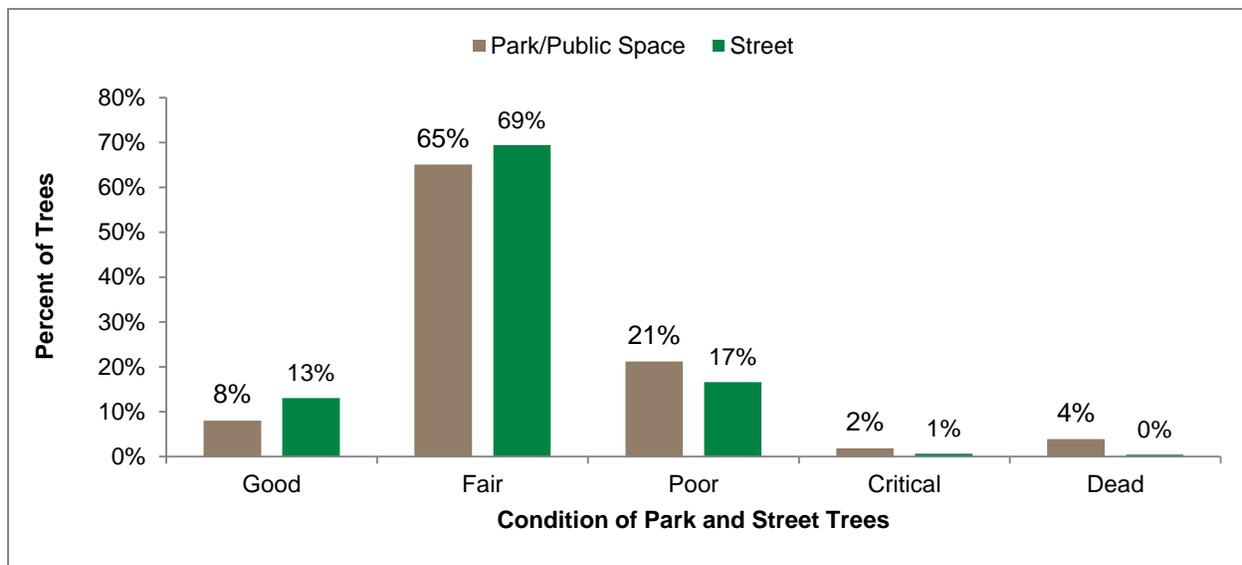


Figure 9. Comparison of tree condition between inventoried street trees and park trees.

### Discussion/Recommendations

Even though the condition of Brentwood’s inventoried tree population is typical, the conditions found lend some insight into maintenance needs and historical maintenance practices:

- The similar trend in tree condition across street ROW and park trees reveals that growing conditions and/or past management of trees were consistent.
- Dead trees and trees in Critical condition should be removed because of their failed health; they most likely will not recover even if care is increased.
- Younger trees rated in Fair or Poor condition may benefit from improvements in structure that in time may improve their health. Pruning should follow *ANSI A300 (Part 1)* (ANSI 2008).
- Poor condition ratings given to mature trees were generally due to visible signs of decline and stress, including decay, dead limbs, sparse branching, or poor structure. These trees will require corrective pruning, regular inspections, and possible intensive plant health care to improve their health.
- Related to the long-term general health of the urban forest is the need for proper tree care practices. Following guidelines developed by the ISA and those recommended by *ANSI A300 (Part 9)* (ANSI 2011) will ensure that tree maintenance practices will improve the general health of the urban forest.

### Street ROW Stocking Level

Stocking is a traditional forestry term used to measure the density and distribution of trees. For an urban/community forest such as Brentwood’s, stocking level is used to estimate the total number of sites along the street ROW that could have trees. Because this is a measure of the capacity of the street ROW to contain trees, park and public property trees are excluded from this measurement.

Stocking level is the ratio of street ROW spaces that are occupied by trees to total street ROW spaces that are suitable for trees. For example, a street ROW tree inventory of 1,000 total sites with 750 existing trees and 250 vacant planting sites would have a stocking level of 75%.

For an urban area, Davey Resource Group recommends that the street ROW stocking level be at least 90% so that no more than 10% of the potential planting sites along the street ROW are vacant.

Street ROW stocking levels may be estimated using information about the community, tree inventory data, and common street tree planting practices. Inventory data that contain the number of existing trees and vacant plantings along the street ROW will increase the accuracy of the projection. However, street ROW stocking levels can be estimated using only the number of trees present and the number of street miles in the community.

Brentwood's inventory data set included vacant planting sites so the stocking level can be accurately be projected and compared to the optimal stocking level.

### *Findings*

The inventory found 2,787 trees and vacant planting spaces in the ROW. Of the inventoried sites, 160 were potential planting sites for large-sized trees (8-foot-wide and greater growing space size); 53 for medium-sized trees (6- to 7-foot-wide growing space sizes); and 292 for small-sized trees (4- to 5-foot-wide growing space sizes and under wires). Based on the data gathered during this inventory, Brentwood's current tree stocking level is 82%.

### *Discussion/Recommendation*

Fully stocking the street ROW with trees is a worthy goal. Inadequate tree planting and maintenance budgets and tree mortality will result in lowered stocking levels. Nevertheless, working to attain a fully stocked street ROW is worthwhile because it will promote canopy continuity and environmental sustainability. The City should consider growing its street ROW population from its current stocking level of 82% towards the ideal of 90% or better. Generally, this entails a planned program of planting, care, and maintenance for the City's street ROW trees.

We recommend that Brentwood plant 103 trees per year. With a current total of 505 vacant planting sites along the street ROW, it will take approximately three years for the City to reach the recommended stocking level of 90%. If budgets allow, Davey Resource Group recommends the City exceed this recommendation to better prepare for impending threats and to increase the urban forest's benefits

### *Other Observations*

Observations were recorded during the inventory to further describe a tree's health, structure, or location when more detail was needed (Table 1).

Table 1. Observations Recorded Regarding Public Trees Inventoried in Brentwood

Observations	Number Inventoried	Percent
Memorial tree	1	0.03%
Nutrient deficiency	1	0.03%
Serious decline	2	0.06%
Pest problem	4	0.13%
Improperly installed	4	0.13%
Mechanical damage	20	0.63%
Improperly pruned	21	0.66%
Improperly mulched	26	0.82%
Poor location	35	1.10%
Remove hardware	35	1.10%
Poor root system	135	4.24%
Cavity or decay	329	10.34%
Poor structure	424	13.32%
None	2,145	67.41%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,182</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Findings**

Poor structure and cavity/decay were observed and recorded most often (13% and 10% of inventoried trees, respectively). Of these 753 trees, 49 were recommended for removal and 152 were rated to be High or Severe Risk trees.



**Photograph 3.** This *Acer platanoides* (Norway maple) has a co-dominant trunk. This creates a weak point in the tree where the bark is included, and a crack has formed. Early training pruning could have prevented this problem from developing.



**Photograph 4.** This *Fagus sylvatica* (European Beech) tree has a very severe cavity. This greatly increases the possibility that the tree will fail.



**Photograph 5.** Proper pruning may have prevented this major limb from failing, saving the tree from the removal that is now necessary.

Poor root system was recorded for 135 trees. The primary species of concern is sweetgum, which accounted for 89 of these trees. Generally, this is a reflection of girdling roots in which the roots circle the trunk eventually strangling the tree. It may also indicate root decay or root growth heavily impacted by hardscape. Secondary observations were recorded concerning hardware removal and poor location. The former is often remnant planting stakes or objects that residents have attached to trees. The latter is either an indication of an exotic invasive or a tree growing in a place that causes problems.

### Discussion/Recommendations

Trees noted as having poor structure (424 trees) or cavity/decay (329 trees) should be inspected regularly, and corrective actions should be taken when warranted. If their condition worsens, removal may be required.

Staking should only be installed when necessary to keep trees from leaning (windy sites) or to prevent damage from pedestrians and/or vandals. Stakes should only be attached to trees with a loose, flexible material. Installed hardware that has been attached to any tree for more than one year and hardware that may no longer be needed for its intended purposes should be inspected and removed as appropriate.

The costs for treating deficient trees must be considered to determine whether removing and replacing the tree is the more viable option.



**Photograph 6. An opportunity to train this *Zelkova serrata* (Japanese zelkova) tree while young was missed. The poor branching structure will now require many large and stress inducing cuts to fix. Left as is, it will likely fail.**

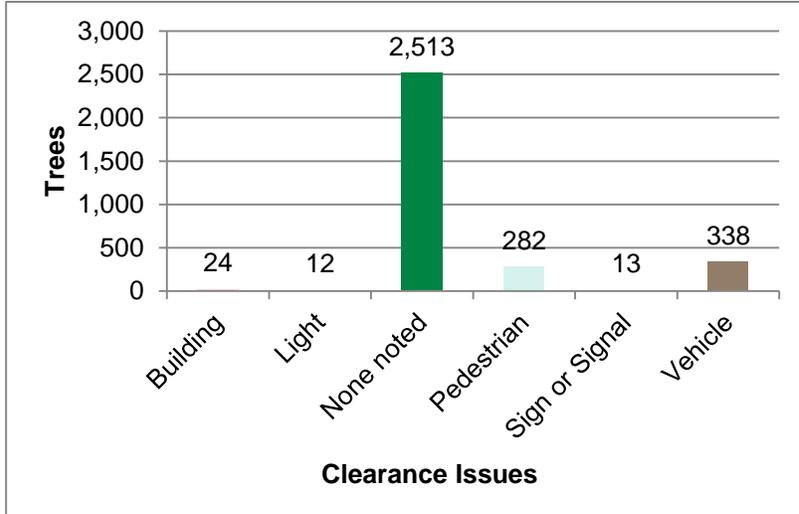
### Infrastructure Conflicts

In an urban setting, space is limited both above and below ground. Trees in this environment may conflict with infrastructure such as buildings, sidewalks, and utility wires, and pipes, which may then create risks to public health and safety. Existing or possible conflicts between trees and infrastructure recorded during the inventory include:

- *Clearance Requirements*—The inventory noted trees blocking the visibility of traffic signs or signals, streetlights, or other safety devices. This information should be used to schedule pruning activities.
- *Overhead Utilities*—The presence of utility lines above a tree or vacant planting site were noted; it is important to consider these data when planning pruning activities and selecting tree species for planting.
- *Hardscape Damage*—Sometimes trees adversely impact hardscape, which may adversely impact trees. The inventory recorded damage related to trees causing curbs, sidewalks, and other hardscape features to lift.

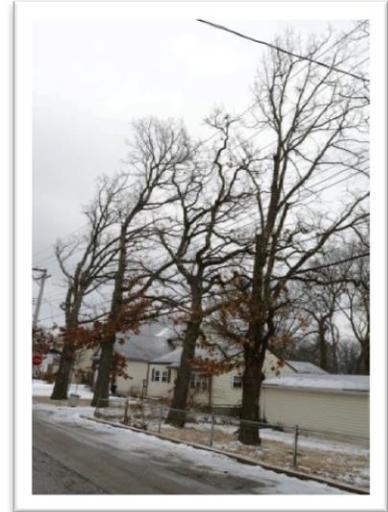
These data should be used to schedule pruning and plan repairs to damaged infrastructure. To limit hardscape damage caused by trees, trees should be planted only in growing spaces where adequate aboveground and belowground space is provided.

*Findings*

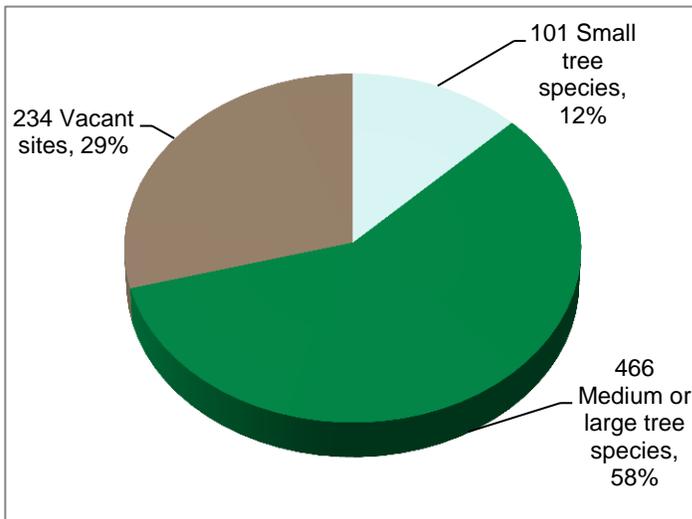


*Figure 10. Clearance issues of public trees inventoried in Brentwood.*

Figure 10 shows the 669 trees recorded with some type of clearance issue. Most of those (51%) were related to conflicts with vehicles. When the bottom of a tree’s canopy over the road was less than 14 feet or rubbing from vehicles was noted, this clearance was recorded.



**Photograph 7. Planting large trees can lead to unattractive side pruning. These *Quercus stellata* (post oak) on Litzinger Road have fared relatively well. Generally, it is better to plant small statured species under utility lines.**



*Figure 11. Trees or vacancies under utility wires.*

Figure 11 shows that there were 801 trees or planting sites with utilities directly over or passing through the tree canopy. Of those trees, 58% were large- or medium-size trees. Trees growing into wires can cause power outages and fires. Quite often, the drastic pruning required to ensure the reliable delivery of electricity and information is damaging to trees in the long-run. Davey Resource Group recommends that only small statured trees be planted under wires.

Hardscape damage was minimal: only 8% of the tree population raised sidewalk slabs or curbs.

Table 2. Trees Noted to be Conflicting with Infrastructure

Tree and Infrastructure Conflict	Number of Trees	Percent of Population
Pedestrian	282	9%
Vehicles	338	11%
Building	24	1%
Signs or Signals	13	>1%
Overhead Utilities	801	25%
Hardscape	261	8%

### Discussion/Recommendations

Tree canopy should not interfere with vehicular or pedestrian traffic; rest on buildings; or block signs, signals, or lights. Pruning to avoid clearance issues and to raise tree crowns should be completed in accordance with *ANSI A300 (Part 9)* (ANSI 2011). Clearance distance guidelines used by Davey Resource Group are: 14 feet over streets; 8 feet over sidewalks; and 5 feet from buildings, signs, signals, or lights.

Planting only small-growing trees within 20 feet of overhead utilities, medium-size trees within 20–40 feet, and large-growing trees outside 40 feet will help lessen future conflicts, improve future tree conditions, and reduce the costs of maintaining trees under utility lines.

When planting around hardscape, it is important to give the tree enough growing room above ground. Guidelines for planting trees among hardscape features are: give small-growing trees 4–5 feet, medium-growing trees 6–7 feet, and large-growing trees 8 feet or more between hardscape features. In most cases, this will allow for the spread of a tree’s trunk taper, root collar, and immediate larger-diameter structural roots.

### Growing Space

Information about the type and size of the growing space was recorded. Growing space size was recorded as the minimum width of the growing space needed for root development. Growing space types are categorized as follows:

- Island—surrounded by pavement or hardscape (for example, parking lot divider)
- Median—located between opposing lanes of traffic
- Open/Restricted—open sites with restricted growing space on two or three sides
- Open/Unrestricted—open sites with unrestricted growing space on at least three sides
- Raised Planter—in an above-grade or elevated planter
- Tree Lawn/Parkway—located between the street curb and the public sidewalk
- Unmaintained/Natural Area—located in areas that do not appear to be regularly maintained
- Well/Pit—at grade level and completely surrounded by sidewalk

### Findings

Most trees were planted either in tree lawns (44%) or open/unrestricted (44%) areas. The tree lawns ranged between 1 foot and 18 feet wide with the greatest percentage (45%) in 7-foot tree lawns. Suggested planting sites are split between tree lawns (40%) and areas that are open/unrestricted (60%).

## Discussion/Recommendations

To prolong the useful life of street trees, small-growing tree species should be planted in tree lawns 4–5 feet wide, medium-size tree species in tree lawns 6–7 feet wide, and large-growing tree species in tree lawns that are at least 8 feet wide. The useful life of a public tree is ended when the cost of maintenance is greater than the value added by the tree; this can be due to increased maintenance needed by a tree in decline or due to the costs of repairing damage caused by the tree's presence in a restricted site.

## Further Inspection

This data field indicates whether a particular tree requires further inspection, such as a Level III risk inspection in accordance with *ANSI A300 (Part 9)* (ANSI, 2011), or periodic inspection due to particular conditions that may cause it to be a safety risk and, therefore, hazardous. If a tree was noted for further inspection, Brentwood staff should investigate as soon as possible to determine corrective actions.

## Findings

Davey Resource Group recommended 11 trees for further inspection. Generally these trees had external evidence of decay, which was difficult to gauge during this Level Two risk assessment.

## Discussion/Recommendations

An ISA Certified Arborist should perform additional inspections of the indicated trees. If it is determined that these trees exceed the threshold for acceptable risk, the defective part(s) of the trees should be corrected or removed or the entire tree may need to be removed.

## Potential Threats from Pests

Insects and diseases pose serious threats to tree health. Awareness and early diagnosis are crucial to ensuring the health and continuity of the street trees. Appendix C provides information about some of the current potential threats to Brentwood's trees and includes websites where more detailed information can be found.

Many pests target a single species or an entire genus. The inventory data were analyzed to provide a general estimate of the percentage of trees susceptible to some of the known pests in Missouri. It is important to note that the figure presents data only from the inventory. Many more trees throughout Brentwood, including those on public and private property, may be susceptible to these invasive pests.



**Photograph 8. The crack in this *Diospyros virginiana* (American persimmon) is not severe enough to warrant removal. However, it should be inspected on a regular basis to ensure that the crack does not grow.**

## *Findings*

Granulate ambrosia beetle (*Xylosandrus crassiusculus*), ALB, and EAB are a known threat to a large percentage of the inventoried street trees (63%, 32%, and 11%, respectively). These pests were not detected in Brentwood, but if they were, the City could see severe losses in its tree population. Efforts should be made to plant resistant species and cultivars.

## *Discussion/Recommendations*

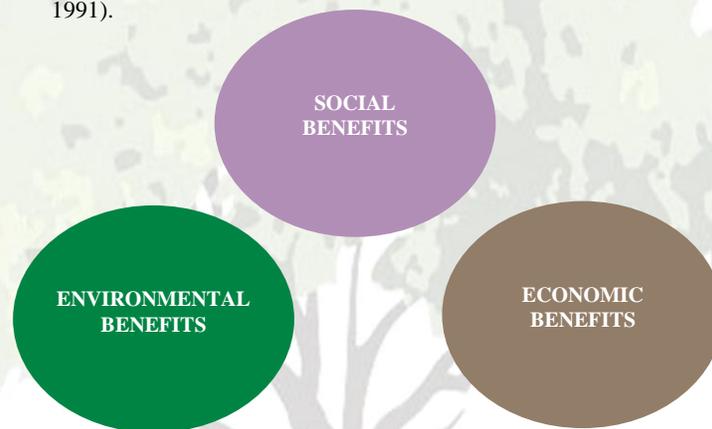
Brentwood should be aware of the signs and symptoms of infestations and should be prepared to act if a significant threat is observed in their tree population or in a community nearby. An integrated pest management plan should be established and include identifying and monitoring threats, understanding the economic threshold, selecting the correct treatment, properly timing management strategies, recordkeeping, and evaluating results.

## Section 2: Benefits of the Urban Forest

The urban forest plays an important role in supporting and improving the quality of life in urban areas. A tree's shade and beauty contributes to the community's quality of life and softens the often hard appearance of urban landscapes and streetscapes. When properly maintained, trees provide abundant environmental, economic, and social benefits to a community far in excess of the time and money invested in their planting, pruning, protection, and removal.

- Tree-lined streets are safer; traffic speeds and the amount of stress drivers feel are reduced, which likely reduces road rage/aggressive driving (Wolf 1998a, Kuo and Sullivan 2001b).
- Chicago apartment buildings with medium amounts of greenery had 42% fewer crimes than those without any trees (Kuo and Sullivan 2001a).
- Chicago apartment buildings with high levels of greenery had 52% fewer crimes than those without any trees (Kuo and Sullivan 2001a).
- Employees who see nature from their desks experience 23% less sick time and report greater job satisfaction than those who do not (Wolf 1998a). Hospital patients recovering from surgery who had a view of a grove of trees through their windows required fewer pain relievers, experienced fewer complications, and left the hospital sooner than similar patients who had a view of a brick wall (Ulrich 1984, 1986).
- When surrounded by trees, physical signs of personal stress, such as muscle tension and pulse rate, were measurably reduced within 3–4 minutes (Ulrich 1991).

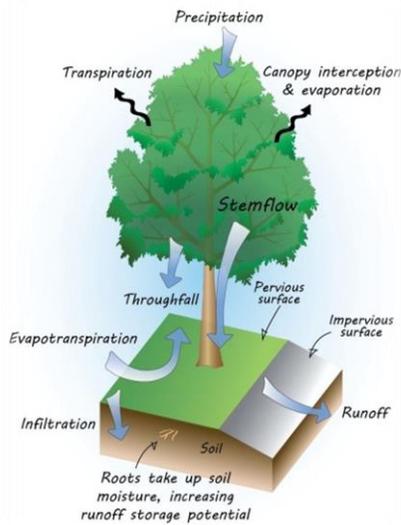
- Trees decrease energy consumption and moderate local climates by providing shade and acting as windbreaks.
- Trees act as mini-reservoirs, helping to slow and reduce the amount of stormwater runoff that reaches storm drains, rivers, and lakes. 100 mature tree crowns intercept ~100,000 gallons of rainfall per year (U.S. Forest Service 2003a)
- Trees help absorb carbon dioxide, cleanse atmospheric pollutants, produce oxygen, and reduce noise levels.
- Trees can reduce street-level air pollution by up to 60% (Coder 1996). Lovasi (2008) suggested that children who live on tree-lined streets have lower rates of asthma.
- Trees provide a habitat for wildlife and stabilize soil.



- Trees increase residential property values an average of 7% when present in the yard or neighborhood. Commercial property rental rates were 7% higher when trees were on the property (Wolf 2007).
- Trees moderate temperatures in the summer and winter, saving on cooling and heating expenses (North Carolina State Univ. 2012, Heisler 1986)
- On average, consumers will pay about 11% more for goods in landscaped areas, with this figure being as high as 50% for convenience goods (Wolf 1998b, Wolf 1999, and Wolf 2003).
- Consumers also feel that the quality of the products is better in business districts having trees than those considered barren (Wolf 1998b).
- The quality of landscaping along the routes leading to the business district had a positive influence on consumers' perceptions of the area (Wolf 2000).

The i-Tree Streets application was used to assess the trees inventoried—this management and analysis tool uses tree inventory data to quantify the dollar value of annual environmental and aesthetic benefits provided by trees, including energy conservation, air quality improvement, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) reduction, stormwater control, and increases in property value. It estimates the costs and benefits of a street tree population and creates annual benefit reports that demonstrate the value street trees have and give to a community.

The inventoried urban forest of Brentwood has recorded benefit savings of \$159,900.00 annually from energy savings, stormwater reduction, increased property values, and overall air quality improvements. Figure 12 provides a breakdown of the annual benefits provided to the City.

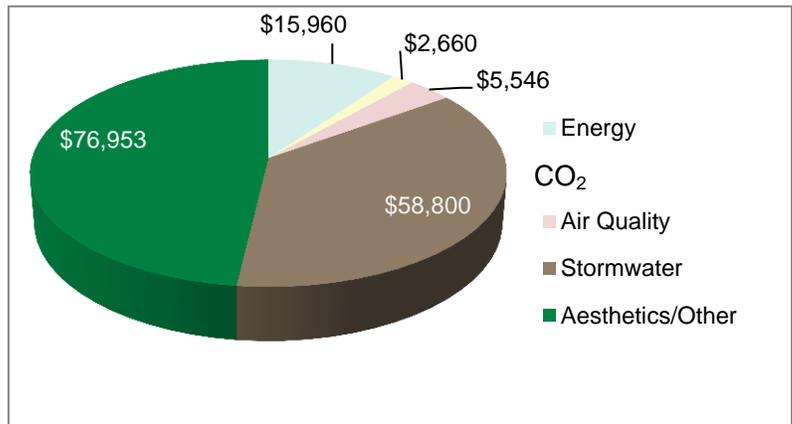


**Photograph 9. Trees provide economic, environmental, and social benefits, including temperature moderation, reduction of air pollutants, energy conservation, and increased property values.**

- Trees reduce stormwater runoff by capturing and storing rainfall in their canopy and releasing water into the atmosphere.
- Tree roots and leaf litter create soil conditions that promote the infiltration of rainwater into the soil.
- Trees help slow down and temporarily store runoff and reduce pollutants by taking up nutrients and other pollutants from soils and water through their roots.
- Trees transform pollutants into less harmful substances.

### Stormwater

Trees intercept rainfall, reducing costs to manage stormwater runoff—Brentwood’s inventoried trees intercept 7,870,000 gallons of rainfall annually. The estimated average savings for the City in the management of stormwater runoff is \$58,800 annually.



**Figure 12. Annual benefits provided by Brentwood’s public trees.**

## Carbon Storage and Carbon Sequestration

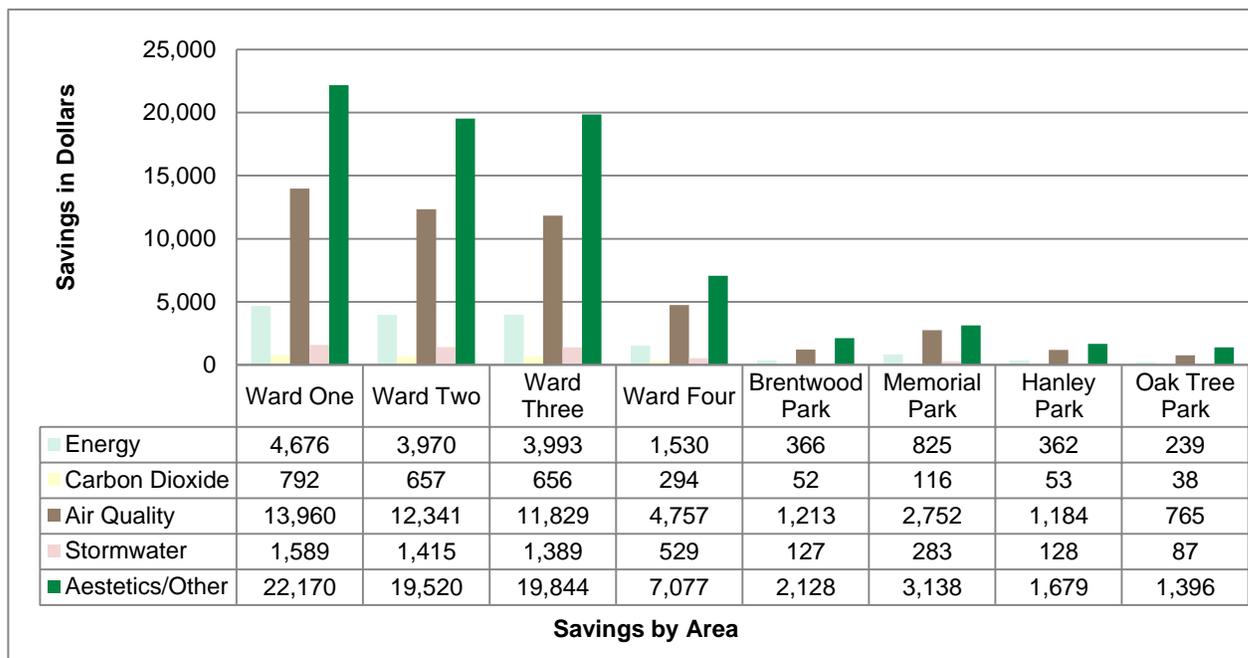
Trees absorb carbon dioxide as a process of photosynthesis. Some of this CO<sub>2</sub> is stored as the woody tree biomass and some is sequestered during growth (Nowak et al. 2013). Both services reduce the total amount of carbon that is in the atmosphere at any given time. Carbon storage is valued at \$43,100 and carbon sequestration is valued at \$2,660.

The i-Tree Streets calculation takes into account the carbon emissions that are *not* released from power stations because of the subsequent heating and cooling effect of trees (buildings and homes use less energy). It also calculates the additional emissions released during tree care and maintenance (like driving to the site and operating equipment).

## Air Quality Improvements

The inventoried tree population removes 2,203 pounds of air pollutants and avoids 2908 pounds annually. The total value of these benefits is estimated to be \$5,546.

## Energy Use



**Figure 13. Breakdown of financial benefits provided by Brentwood's inventoried public trees.**

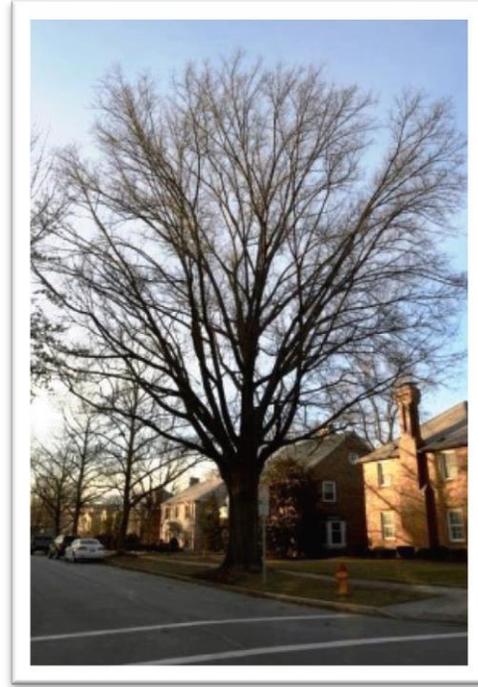
The contribution of the public trees towards conserving energy is reflected in their ability to shade structures and surfaces, reduce electricity use for air conditioning in summer, and divert wind in the winter reducing natural gas use. Based on the inventoried trees, the annual electric and natural gas savings are equivalent to 169 MWh of electricity and 4,624 therms of natural gas. When converted into monetary values using default economic data, this accounts for a savings of \$15,960 in energy consumption each year. These large leafy canopies provide shade, which reduces energy usage and increases their value.

## Aesthetic/Other

Trees provide social benefits in numerous quantifiable ways. These benefits stem, in part, from increases in property and real estate values. Brentwood's trees contribute \$76,953 worth of Aesthetic/Other Benefits.



**Photograph 10.** A well-placed tree can improve the look of a commercial or industrial space while helping reduce air and heat pollution during hot summer days.



**Photograph 11.** Majestic trees like this gorgeous *Quercus phellos* (willow oak) have been shown to increase property values.



**Photograph 12.** Proper species selection and regular maintenance can lead to lower cooling costs on hot summer days.

## Section 3: Tree Management Program

This tree management program was developed to uphold Brentwood’s comprehensive vision for preserving its urban forest. This five-year program is based on the tree inventory data and was designed to reduce risk through prioritized tree removal and pruning and to improve tree health and structure through proactive pruning cycles. Public outreach and tree planting to mitigate removals and increase canopy cover are important parts of the program, as well.

Implementing a tree care program is an ongoing process; however, tree work must always be prioritized to reduce public safety risks. Davey Resource Group recommends completing the work identified during the inventory based on the risk rating assigned; however, it is also essential to routinely monitor the tree population to identify other Severe or High Risk trees so that they may be systematically alleviated. Pruning cycles and tree planting should be completed regularly; however, priority work (especially for trees rated as Severe or High Risk) must at times take precedence to ensure that risk is managed expediently.

### How Risk Was Assessed During the Inventory

Every tree has an inherent risk of tree failure or defective tree part failure. During the inventory, Davey Resource Group performed a risk assessment for each tree and assigned a risk rating following protocol based on the *Urban Tree Risk Management* (Pokorny et al. 2003). The probability of failure, size of defective part, probability of target impact, and other risk factors were evaluated for each tree inventoried. Independent point values were assigned and summed to generate the risk rating.

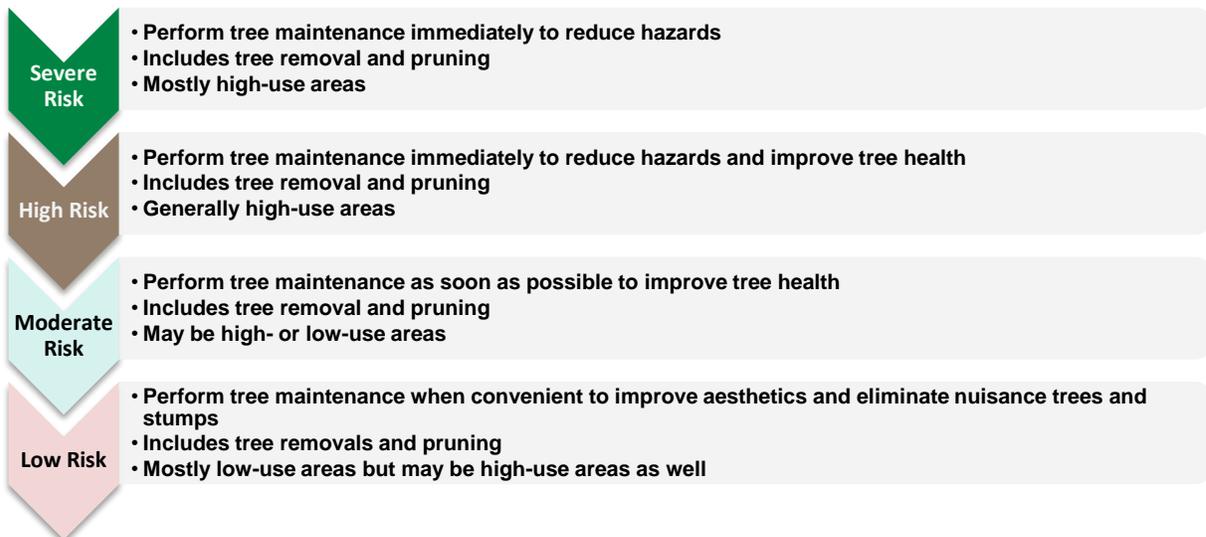
- *Probability of Failure* (1–4 points)—Identifies the most likely failure and rates the likelihood that the structural defect(s) will result in failure based on observed, current conditions.
- *Size of Defective Part* (1–3 points)—Rates the size of the part most likely to fail.
- *Probability of Target Impact* (1–3 points)—Rates the use and occupancy of the area that would be struck by the defective part.
- *Other Risk Factors* (0–2 points)—This category is used if professional judgment suggests the need to increase the risk rating. It is especially helpful when growth characteristics become a factor in risk rating. For example, some tree species have growth patterns that make them more vulnerable to certain defects such as weak branch unions and branching shedding.

Once the risk rating is calculated, a level of risk is assigned to each tree based on its risk rating. The assigned risk rating allows for effective prioritization of tree maintenance work.

- *Severe Risk* (rating of 9 or 10)—Trees described as Severe Risk have defects that cannot be cost-effectively or practically treated. Most of the trees in this category have multiple or significant defects in the trunk, crown, or critical root zone. Defective trees and/or tree parts are generally larger than 20 inches in diameter and are found in areas of frequent occupation, such as a main thoroughfare, a congested street, and/or near a school.
- *High Risk* (rating of 7 or 8)—Trees designated as High Risk have defects that may or may not be cost-effectively or practically treated. Most of the trees in this category have multiple or significant defects affecting more than 40% of the trunk, crown, or critical root zone. Defective trees and/or tree parts are generally 4–20 inches in diameter and are found in areas of frequent occupation, such as a main thoroughfare, a congested street, and/or near a school.

- *Moderate Risk* (rating of 5 or 6)—Trees described as Moderate Risk have defects that may be cost-effectively or practically treated. Most of the trees in this category exhibit several moderate defects affecting less than 40% of a tree’s trunk, crown, or critical root zone. These trees may be in high-, moderate-, or low-use areas.
- *Low Risk* (rating of 3 or 4)—Trees designated as Low Risk have minor visible structural defects or wounds and are typically found in areas with moderate- to low-use areas.
- *None* (rating of 0)—Used for planting sites and stumps.

Trees with elevated (Severe or High) risk levels are usually recommended for removal or for pruning to eliminate the defects that warranted their risk rating. However, in some situations, risk may be reduced by adding support (cabling or bracing) or by moving the target away from the tree. Davey Resource Group recommends only removal or pruning to alleviate risk. But in special situations, such as with a significant or memorial tree or a tree in an historic area, Brentwood may decide that cabling, bracing, or moving the target may be the best option for alleviating risk.



## Priority and Proactive Maintenance

For many communities a proactive tree management program is considered to be unfeasible, and an on-demand response to urgent situations is the norm. Research has shown that a proactive program that includes a routine pruning cycle will improve the overall health of a tree population (Miller and Sylvester 1981) (Figure 14). Proactive tree maintenance has many advantages over priority maintenance; the most significant of which is reduced risk. When trees are assessed and pruned regularly in a proactive program, most defects will be found and eliminated before they escalate to a hazardous situation with an unacceptable level of risk. Other advantages of a proactive program include more predictable budgets and projectable workloads, reduced long-term tree maintenance costs, and increased environmental and economic benefits from trees.

In this plan, the recommended tree maintenance work was divided into either priority or proactive maintenance. Priority maintenance includes tree removals and pruning of trees with an assessed risk rating of seven or greater (High and Severe Risk). Proactive tree maintenance includes pruning of trees with an assessed risk of six or less (Moderate or Low Risk) and trees that are young. Tree planting, inspections, and community outreach are also considered proactive maintenance.

Determination of acceptable risk ultimately lies with Brentwood's Board of Aldermen. Trees often have associated risks; the location of a tree is an important factor in the determination and the acceptability of risk for any given tree. The level of risk associated with a tree increases as the frequency of human occupation increases in the vicinity of the tree. For example, a tree located next to a heavily traveled street will have a higher level of risk than a similar tree in an open field.

#### Why Prune Trees on a Cycle?

Miller and Sylvester (1981) examined the frequency of pruning for 40,000 street and boulevard trees in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. They documented a decline in tree health as the length of the pruning cycle increased. When pruning was not completed for more than 10 years, average tree condition was rated 10% lower than when trees had been pruned within the last several years. Miller and Sylvester suggested that a pruning cycle of five years is optimal for urban trees.

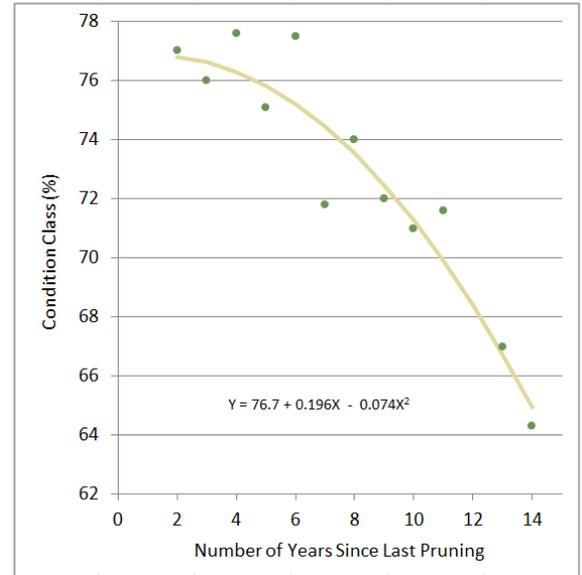


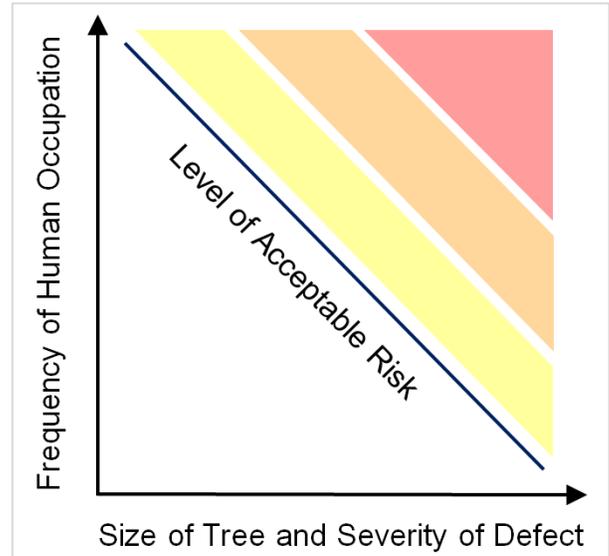
Figure 14. Relationship between average tree condition class and number of years since last pruning (adapted from Miller and Sylvester 1981).

### Priority Maintenance

Identifying and ranking the maintenance needs of a tree population enables tree work to be assigned a priority based on observed risk. Once tree work is prioritized, it can be accomplished systematically to eliminate the greatest risk and liability first (Stamen 2011).

Risk is a graduated scale that measures potential tree-related hazardous conditions. A tree is considered hazardous when the potential risks associated with it exceed an acceptable level. Managing trees for risk reduction provides many benefits, including:

- Lower frequency and severity of accidents, damage, and injury
- Less expenditure for claims and legal expenses
- Healthier, long-lived trees
- Fewer tree removals over time
- Lower tree maintenance costs over time



Regularly inspecting trees and establishing tree maintenance cycles generally reduce the risk of failure as problems can be found and addressed before they escalate.

In this plan, all tree removals and Severe and High Risk pruning are included in the priority maintenance program.

## Priority Tree Removal

Although tree removal is usually considered a last resort and may sometimes create a reaction from the community, there are circumstances when it is necessary. Trees fail from natural causes, such as diseases, insects, and weather conditions, and from physical injury due to vehicles, vandalism, and root disturbances. Davey Resource Group recommends that trees be removed when corrective pruning will not adequately eliminate the hazard or when it is cost-prohibitive to correct problems.

Trees causing obstructions or interfering with power lines or other infrastructure should be removed when their defects cannot be corrected through pruning or other maintenance practices. Nuisance trees and diseased trees also merit removal.

Even though large short-term expenditures may be required, securing the funding required to expediently complete priority tree removals is important to reduce risk and to promote public safety.

Figure 15 presents street tree removals identified during the inventory by risk rating and diameter size class while Figure 16 presents park/public space trees for removal. The following sections briefly summarize the recommended removals.

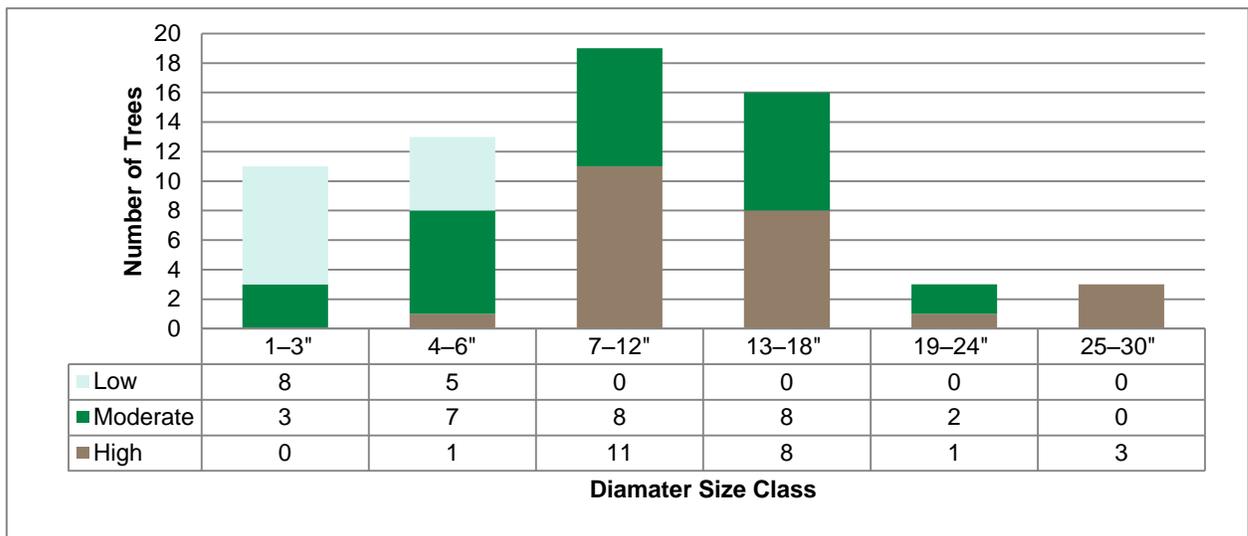


Figure 15. Street tree removals by risk rating and diameter size class.

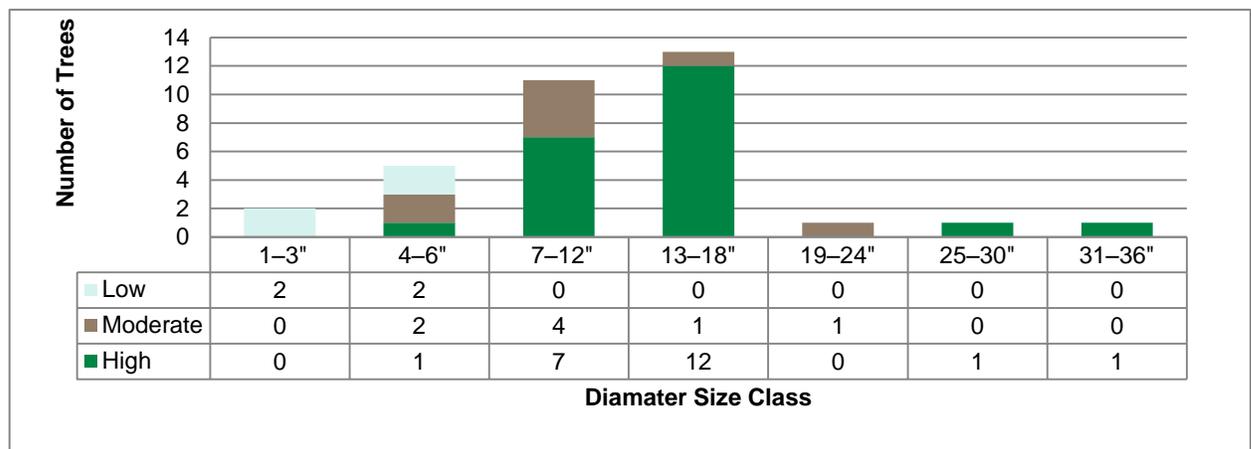


Figure 16. Park and public space tree removals by risk rating and diameter size class.

### **High Risk**

High Risk removals have observable and sizeable defects with elevated probabilities of failure. The location of these trees in relation to their surroundings also increases their risk. The inventory identified 46 High Risk trees both in the ROW and in parks as recommended for removal. The diameter size classes for these trees ranged between 4 and 36 inches DBH. These trees should be removed immediately because of their assigned risk. Severe and High Risk removals and pruning can be performed concurrently.

### **Moderate Risk**

Tree removals in this category still pose some risk, but have a smaller size of defect and/or less potential for target impact. The inventory identified 36 Moderate Risk trees recommended for removal. Most Moderate Risk trees were smaller than 20 inches DBH. These trees should be removed as soon as possible after all Severe and High Risk removals and pruning have been completed.

### **Low Risk**

Low Risk removals pose little threat; these trees are generally small, dead, invasive, or poorly formed trees that need to be removed. Eliminating these trees will reduce breeding site locations for insects and diseases and will increase the aesthetic value of the area. Healthy trees growing in poor locations or undesirable species are also included in this category.

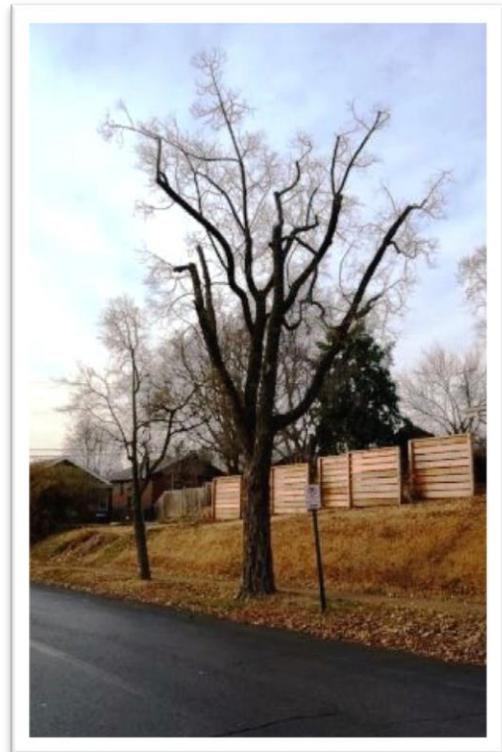
The inventory identified 17 Low Risk trees recommended for removal. Almost all of these trees were smaller than 5 inches DBH. Many of these trees were invasive *Ailanthus altissima* (tree-of-heaven) that may be in Fair or Good condition but still should be eliminated due to negative impact on desirable vegetation. All Low Risk trees should be removed when convenient and after all Severe, High, and Moderate Risk removals and pruning have been completed.

### **Stump Removal**

The inventory identified 11 stumps recommended for removal. Almost all of these stumps were larger than 24 inches DBH. All of these stumps were in street locations.

### **Discussion/Recommendations**

Trees noted having poor structure (424 trees) or cavity/decay (329 trees) should be inspected on a regular basis and corrective actions should be taken when warranted. If their condition worsens, removal may be required. Proactive tree maintenance that actively mitigates elevated-risk situations will promote public safety.



**Photograph 13. This ailing *Diospyros virginiana* (American persimmon) tree is a good example of a tree which would be identified for high priority removal.**

## Priority Pruning

As can be seen in Figures 17 and 18, risk increases with the size of the tree. In general, risk is lower in parks and public areas because many of the trees are far from areas populated by people and structures. Severe and High Risk trees are slated for pruning before others that present less risk.

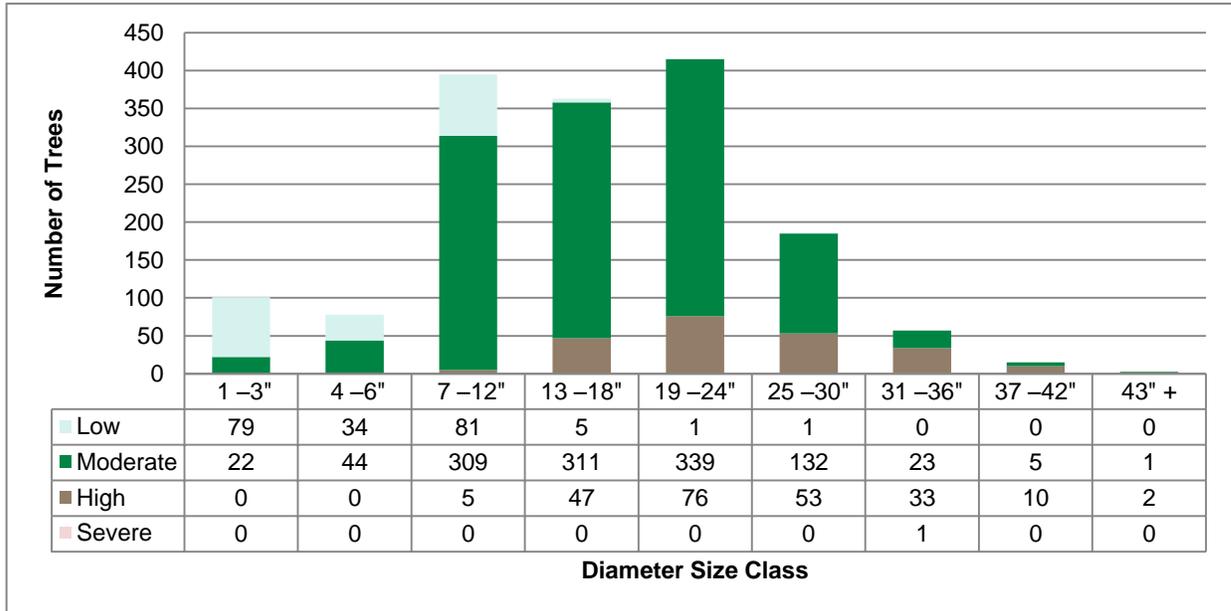


Figure 17. Brentwood inventoried street trees recommended for pruning by risk rating and diameter size class.

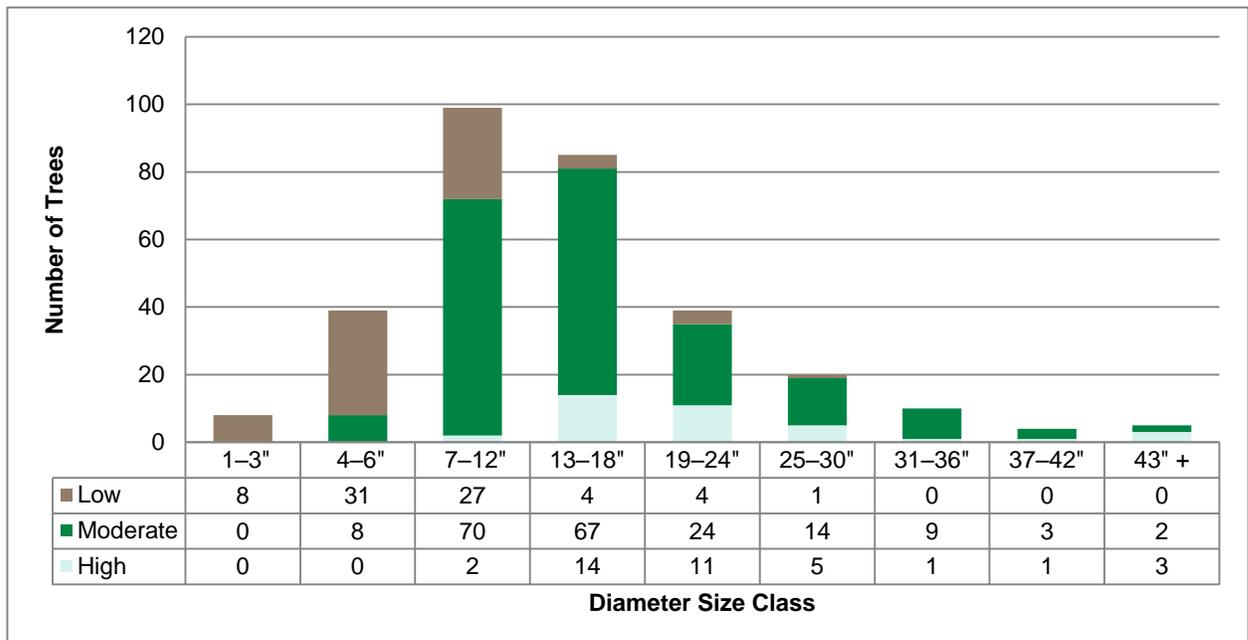


Figure 18. Brentwood's inventoried park trees recommended for pruning by risk rating and diameter size class.

Priority pruning generally requires cleaning the canopy of both small and large trees to remove hazardous defects such as dead and/or broken branches that may be present even when the rest of the tree is sound. In these cases, pruning the branch or branches can correct the problem and alleviate risk associated with the tree. Priority pruning includes trees with Severe and High Risk.

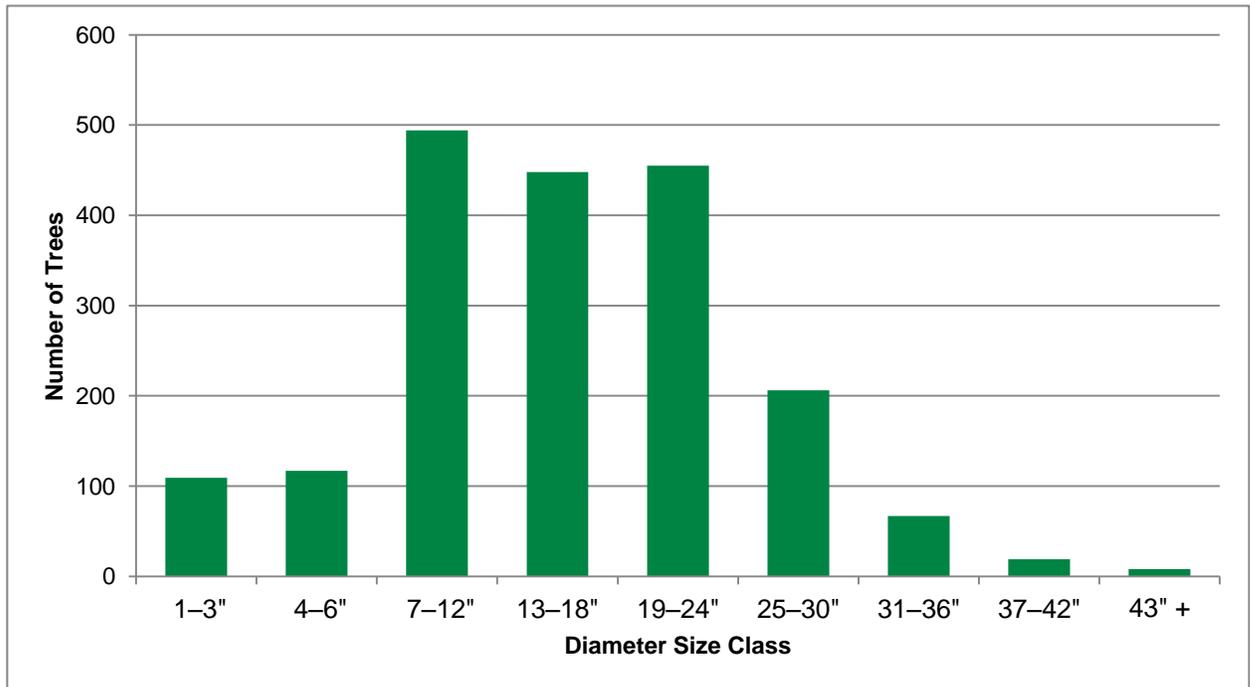
Figure 19 presents the number of trees recommended for pruning by size class and the sections that follow briefly summarize the recommendations.

### **Severe Risk**

The inventory identified only one Severe Risk tree recommended for pruning. The size of the defect, probability of failure, or location of the tree in relation to its surroundings was the reason for its elevated risk ratings. Severe Risk pruning should be performed immediately when the need has been identified. This tree has a DBH of 31 inches. This pruning should be performed at the same time as the High Risk removals.

### **High Risk**

High Risk trees recommended for pruning have observable and sizeable defects with elevated probabilities of failure. The location of these trees in relation to their surroundings also increases their risk. The inventory identified 263 High Risk trees recommended for pruning. The diameter size classes for the majority of these trees ranged between 7 and 36 inches DBH. This pruning should be performed immediately because of assigned risk and may be done at the same time as other Severe and High Risk removals and pruning.



*Figure 19. Trees in need of pruning by diameter size class.*

## Proactive Maintenance

Proactive tree maintenance requires that trees are managed and maintained under the responsibility of an individual, department, or agency. Typically, tree work is performed during a cycle. Individual tree health and form are routinely addressed during the cycle. When trees are planted, they are planted selectively and with purpose. Ultimately, proactive tree maintenance should reduce crisis situations in the urban forest as every tree in the managed population is visited, assessed, and maintained regularly. Davey Resource Group recommends proactive tree maintenance that includes pruning cycles, inspections, and planned tree planting.

## Pruning Cycles

The goals of pruning cycles are to visit, assess, and prune trees on a regular schedule to improve health and reduce risk. Typically, Davey Resource Group recommends that pruning cycles begin after all Severe and High Risk trees are corrected through priority removal or pruning. However, because of the long-term benefit that will come from implementing pruning cycles, Davey Resource Group may recommend it be implemented sooner. To ensure all trees receive the type of pruning they need to mature with better structure and fewer hazards, two pruning cycles are recommended: the young tree training cycle (YTT Cycle) and the routine pruning cycle (RP Cycle). The cycles differ in the type of pruning, the general age of the target tree and the cycle length.

The recommended number of trees in the pruning cycles will need to be modified to reflect changes in the tree population as trees are planted, age, and die. Newly planted trees will enter the YTT Cycle once they become established. As young trees reach maturity, they will be shifted from the YTT Cycle into the RP Cycle. When a tree reaches the end of its useful life, it should be removed and, thus, eliminated from the RP Cycle.



**Photograph 14. This *Chionanthus retusus* (Chinese fringe tree) in Brentwood Park has benefitted from proper training pruning, which will extend the quality and lifespan of this unique tree.**

### YTT Cycle

Trees included in the YTT Cycle are generally less than 7 inches DBH. These younger trees sometimes have branch structures that can lead to potential problems as the tree ages. Potential structural problems include co-dominant leaders, multiple limbs attaching at the same point on the trunk, or crossing/interfering limbs. If these problems are not corrected, they may worsen as the tree grows, increasing risk and creating potential liability.

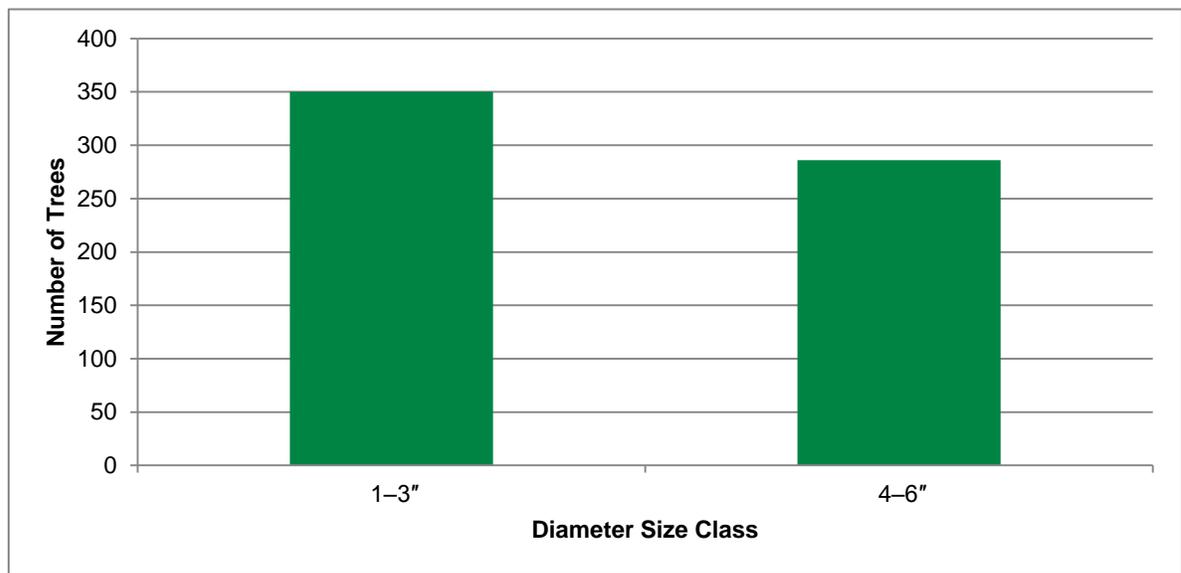
YTT pruning is performed to improve tree form or structure; the recommended length of a YTT Cycle is three years because young trees tend to grow at faster rates (on average) than more mature trees.

The YTT Cycle differs from the RP Cycle in that these trees generally can be pruned from the ground with a pole pruner or pruning shear. The objective is to increase structural integrity by pruning for one dominant leader. Of course, this is species-specific since many trees such as *Betula nigra* (river birch) may naturally have more than one leader. For these and similar trees, YTT pruning is used to develop a strong structural architecture of branches so that future growth will lead to a healthy, structurally sound tree.

### Discussion/Recommendations

Davey Resource Group recommends that Brentwood implement a three-year YTT Cycle to commence in Year One. The YTT Cycle will include existing young trees. The inventory identified 663 trees smaller than 7 inches DBH in need of training pruning. Since the number of young trees present is relatively few and the benefit of beginning the YTT Cycle is great, Davey Resource Group recommends that trees be structurally pruned each year beginning in Year One. If trees are planted, they will need to enter the YTT Cycle after establishment, typically a few years after planting.

In future years, the number of trees in the YTT Cycle will be based on tree planting efforts and growth rates of young trees. The City should strive to prune approximately one-third of its young trees each year. Figure 20 shows the size of trees recommended for the YTT Cycle.

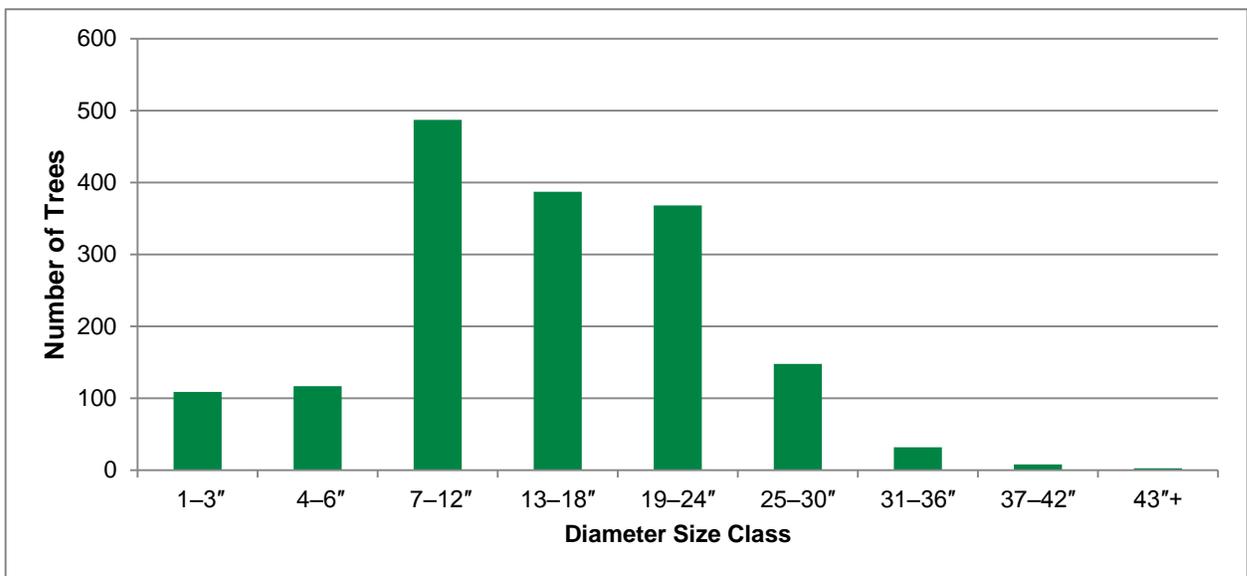


*Figure 20. Trees recommended for the YTT Cycle by diameter size class.*

## Regular Pruning Cycle

The RP Cycle includes established, maturing, and mature trees (mostly greater than eight inches DBH) that need cleaning and crown raising and reducing to remove deadwood and to improve structure. Over time, routine pruning generally improves health and reduces risk as most problems can be corrected before they escalate into more costly priority tree work. Included in this cycle are Moderate and Low Risk trees that require pruning and pose some risk but have a smaller size of defect and/or less potential for target impact. The hazards found within these trees can usually be remediated during the RP Cycle.

The length of the RP Cycle is based on the size of the tree population and what was assumed to be a reasonable number of trees for a program to prune per year. Generally, the RP Cycle recommended for a tree population is five years but may extend to seven years if the population is large.



*Figure 21. Trees recommended for the RP Cycle by diameter size class.*

## Discussion/Recommendations

Davey Resource Group recommends that the City establish a five-year RP Cycle where approximately one-fifth of the tree population is to be pruned each year. The 2014 tree inventory identified approximately 336 trees that should be pruned each year. Davey Resource Group recommends that the RP Cycle begin in Year One of this five-year plan and that it commence after all Severe and High Risk trees are removed or pruned.

The inventory found most trees (72%) on the street ROW needed routine pruning (large tree cleaning). Figure 21 shows that a variety of tree sizes will require pruning; however, most of the trees that require routine pruning were smaller than 24 inches DBH.

## *Inspections*

Inspections are essential to unveiling potential problems with trees. They should be performed by a qualified arborist who is trained in the art and science of planting, caring for, and maintaining individual trees. Arborists are knowledgeable about the needs of trees and are trained and equipped to provide proper care.

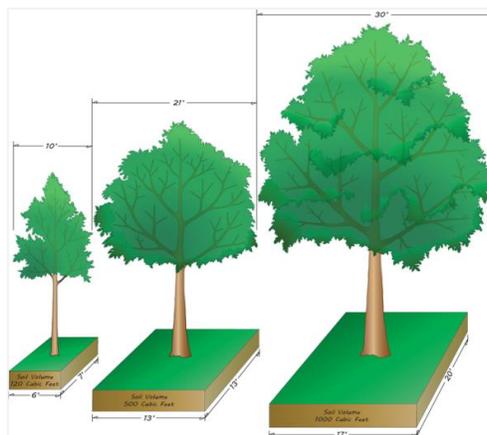
Trees along the street ROW and in parks should be inspected regularly and attended to as needed based on the inspection findings. When trees need additional or new work, they should be added to the maintenance schedule and budgeted for as appropriate. In addition to locating new hazards, inspections are an opportunity to look for signs and symptoms of pests and diseases. Brentwood has a large population of trees susceptible to pests and diseases including maple, a target for ALB, ash which are susceptible to EAB, and species that fall prey to anthracnose and oak wilt. A brief discussion of key pests is found in Appendix C.

## Tree Planting

Planting trees is a worthwhile goal as long as trees species are carefully selected and correctly planted. When trees are planted, they are planted selectively and with purpose. Without upfront planning and follow-up tree care, a newly planted tree may become a future problem instead of a benefit to the community.

When planting trees:

- Consider the specific purpose of the tree planting.
- Assess the site and know its limitations, for example, overhead wires, confined spaces, and/or soil type.
- Select the species or cultivar best suited for the site conditions.
- Examine trees before buying them, and buy for quality.



*Minimum recommended requirements for tree sites based on tree size/dimensions. Illustration based on the work of Casey Trees (2008).*

## Inventoried Street ROW Planting Space

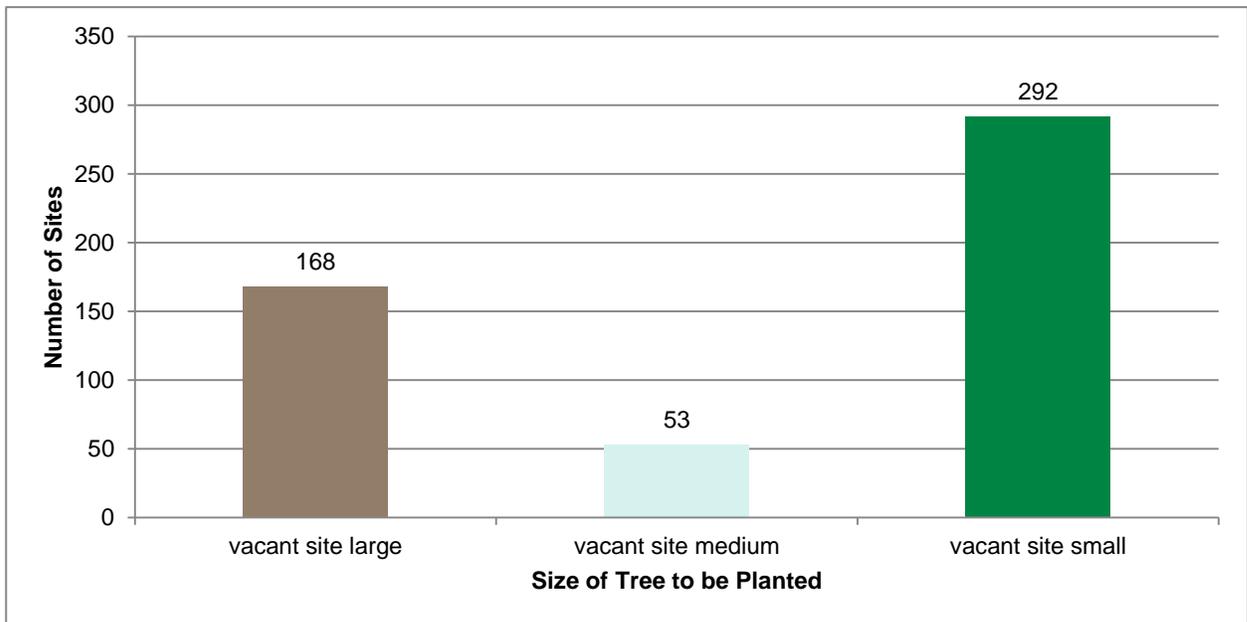
The goal of tree planting is to have a vigorous, healthy tree that lives to the limits of its natural longevity. That can be difficult to achieve in an urban growing environment because the soils can typically be of poor quality and irrigation is limited. However, proper planning, species selection, tree planting techniques, and follow-up tree maintenance will improve the chance of tree planting success.



**Photograph 15. Regular planting on St. Clair Avenue in Brentwood means that this street is well on its way to having a closed canopy.**

**Findings**

The inventory found 513 planting spaces with 57% of those sites being for small-sized mature trees, 10% for medium-sized trees, and 33% for large-sized trees (Figure 22). Plant small-sized trees where the growing space is either too small for a medium- or large-sized species or where overhead utilities are present.



***Figure 22. Vacant planting sites identified by mature tree size.***

## Tree Species Selection

Selecting a limited number of species could simplify decision-making processes; however, careful deliberation and selection of a wide variety of species will be more beneficial and can save money. Planting a variety of species can decrease the impact of species-specific pests and diseases by limiting the number of susceptible trees in a population, which will reduce the time and money spent to mitigate a problem if such an event were to occur. A wide variety of tree species may help to limit the impacts from physical events such as strong storms, wind, ice, flooding, and drought, as different tree species react differently to stress.

Brentwood is located in USDA Hardiness Zone 6b, which is identified as a climatic region with average annual minimum temperatures between  $-5^{\circ}\text{F}$  and  $0^{\circ}\text{F}$ . Tree species selected for planting in Brentwood should be appropriate for this zone.

Tree species should be selected for their durability and low-maintenance characteristics. These attributes are highly dependent on site characteristics below ground (soil texture, soil structure, drainage, soil pH, nutrients, road salt, and root spacing). Matching a species to its favored soil conditions is the most important task when planning for a low-maintenance landscape. Plants that are well matched to their environmental site conditions are much more likely to resist pathogens and insect pests and will, therefore, require less maintenance overall.

The Right Tree in the Right Place is a mantra for tree planting used by the Arbor Day Foundation and many utility companies nationwide. Trees come in many different shapes and sizes and often change dramatically over their lifetimes. Some grow tall, some grow wide, and some have extensive root systems. Before selecting a tree for planting, make sure it is the right tree—know how tall, wide, and deep it will be at maturity. Equally important to selecting the right tree is choosing the right spot to plant it. Blocking an unsightly view or creating some shade may be a priority, but it is important to consider how a tree may impact existing utility lines as it grows taller, wider, and deeper. If at maturity the tree's canopy will reach overhead lines, it is best to choose another tree or a different location. Taking the time to consider location before planting can prevent power disturbances and improper utility pruning practices.

A major consideration for street trees is the amount of litter dropped by mature trees. Trees such as *Acer saccharinum* (silver maple) have weak wood and typically drop many small branches during a growing season. Others, such as sweetgum, drop high volumes of pointed fruit capsules. In certain species, such as *Ginkgo biloba* (ginkgo), female trees produce offensive smelling/large fruit; male ginkgo trees, however, produce no fruit. Furthermore, a few species of trees, including *Crataegus* spp. (hawthorn) and *Gleditsia triacanthos* (honeylocust), may have substantial thorns. These species should be avoided in high-traffic areas.

Seasonal color should also be considered when planning tree plantings. Flowering varieties are particularly welcome in the spring and deciduous trees that display bright colors in autumn can add a great deal of interest to surrounding landscapes.

Appendix B lists tree species recommended for planting based on inventory findings; this list provides expected height at maturity for each species and is designed to promote species diversity.

Davey Resource Group recommends limiting the planting of sweetgum, which already occupies 16% of the street ROW, until the species distribution normalizes. This is well in excess of the recommended maximum for a species (10% of the population).

## Tips for Planting Trees

To ensure a successful tree planting effort:

- Handle trees with care. Trees are living organisms and are perishable. Protect trees from damage during transport and when loading and unloading. Use care not to break branches and do not lift trees by the trunk.
- If trees are stored prior to planting keep the roots moist.
- Dig the planting hole according to the climate. Generally, the planting hole is two to three times wider than and not quite as deep as the root ball. The root flare is at or just above ground level.
- Fill the hole with native soil unless it is undesirable, in which case add soil amendments as appropriate for local conditions. Gently tamp and add water during filling to reduce large air pockets to ensure a consistent medium of soil, oxygen, and water.
- Stake the tree as necessary to prevent it from shifting too much in the wind.
- Add a thin layer (1–2 inches) of mulch to help prevent weeds and keep the soil around the tree moist. Do not allow mulch to touch the trunk.

## Newly Planted and Young Tree Maintenance

Equal in importance to planting trees is caring for them after they are planted. After planting a tree, it must receive maintenance for several years.

### Watering

Initially, watering is the key to survival; new trees typically require at least 60 days of watering to establish. Determine how often to irrigate trees based on time of planting, drought status, species selection, and site condition.

### Mulching

Mulch can be applied to the growspace around a newly planted tree (or even a more mature tree) to ensure that no weeds grow, the tree is protected from mechanical damage, and the growspace is moist. Mulch should be applied in a thin layer, generally one to two inches, and the growing area covered. Mulch should not touch the tree trunk or be piled up around the tree.

## Life-Long Tree Care

After the tree is established it will require routine tree care, which includes inspections, routine pruning, watering, plant health care, and integrated pest management as needed.

The City should employ qualified arborists to provide most of the routine tree care. An arborist can determine the type of pruning necessary to maintain or improve the health, appearance, and safety of trees.



**Photograph 16. Mulch piled too deep and touching the trunk of the tree will harm and may kill the tree. Davey Resource Group suggests that any mulch piled up around a tree should be spread out into a thin layer over the growspace and moved away from the trunk.**

These techniques may include eliminating branches that rub each other; removing limbs that interfere with wires and buildings or that obstruct streets, sidewalks or signage; removing dead, damaged, or weak limbs that pose a hazard or may lead to decay; removing diseased or insect-infested limbs; creating better structure to lessen wind resistance and reduce the potential for storm damage; and removing branches—or thinning—to increase light penetration.

An arborist can help decide whether a tree should be removed and, if so, how urgent the removal is. Additionally, an arborist can provide advice about and perform tree maintenance when disasters, such as storms or droughts, occur. Storm-damaged trees can often be dangerous to remove or trim. An arborist can assist in advising or performing the job in a safe manner while reducing further risk of damage to property.

Plant Health Care, a concept of preventive maintenance to keep trees in good health, will help a tree better defend itself against insects, disease, and site problems. Arborists can help determine proper plant health so the City's tree population will remain healthy, providing benefits to the community for as long as possible.

Integrated Pest Management is a process involving common sense and sound solutions for treating and controlling pests. These solutions incorporate basic steps: identifying the problem, understanding pest biology, monitoring trees, and determining action thresholds. The practice of Integrated Pest Management can differ dramatically site by site, individual tree by individual tree; a qualified arborist will be able to make sure that the Brentwood's trees are properly diagnosed and that a beneficial and realistic action plan is developed.

The arborist can also help with cabling or bracing for added support to branches with weak attachment, aeration to improve root growth, and installation of lightning protection systems.

Educating the community in basic tree care is a good way to promote the Brentwood's urban forestry program and encourage tree planting on private property. The City should encourage citizens to water trees on the ROW adjacent to their homes and to reach out to the City if they notice any changes in the trees such as: signs or symptoms of pests, early fall foliage, or new mechanical or vehicle damage.

## Community Outreach

The data that have been collected and analyzed to develop this plan contribute significant information about the tree population and can be utilized to guide the proactive management of that resource. These data can also be utilized to promote the value of the urban forest and the tree management program in that:

- Tree inventory data can be utilized to justify needed priority and proactive tree maintenance activities as well as tree planting and preservation initiatives.
- Species data can be utilized to guide the development of tree species selection for planting projects with an objective of improving species diversity and limiting the introduction of invasive pests and diseases.
- Information in this plan can be utilized to advise citizens about the presence of threats, such as EAB and ALB to urban trees.

Various avenues for outreach exist. Maps can be created and posted on websites, in parks, or in business areas. Public service announcements can be developed. Articles can be written and programs developed about trees and the benefits they provide. Arbor Day or Earth Day celebrations can be magnified and signs can be hung from trees to show the contributions trees make to the community.

Even contests can be created to make people aware that trees are important. Trees provide oxygen we need to breathe, shade to cool our neighborhoods, and canopies to stand under to get out of the rain.

Brentwood has the data to provide solid, meaningful outreach about the urban forest.



**Photograph 17. These well-maintained trees at the entrance to Hanley Park can be used to show residents the successful efforts of those making decisions regarding the management of Brentwood's urban forest.**

### *Inventory and Plan Updates*

Davey Resource Group recommends that the inventory and management plan be updated so the City can sustain its program and accurately project future program and budget needs:

- Conduct inspections of trees after all severe weather events. Record changes in tree condition, maintenance needs, and risk/risk rating in the inventory database. Update the tree maintenance schedule and acquire the funds needed to promote public safety. Schedule work based on risk.
- Perform routine inspections of public trees as needed. Windshield surveys (inspections performed from a vehicle) in line with *ANSI A300 (Part 9)* (ANSI 2011) will help City staff stay current regarding changing conditions. Update the tree maintenance schedule and the budget as needed so that identified tree work may be performed efficiently. Schedule work based on risk.
- If the recommended work cannot be completed as suggested in this plan, modify maintenance schedules and budgets accordingly.
- Update the inventory database as work is performed. Add new tree work to the schedule when work is identified through inspections or a citizen call process.
- Re-inventory the street ROW and parks in five to seven years updating all data fields.
- Revise the Tree Management Plan after five or seven years when the re-inventory has been completed.



**Photograph 18. This Brentwood home shows how City-owned trees and private trees work to together to create a vibrant urban forest.**

### *Maintenance Schedule*

Utilizing data from the 2014 City of Brentwood tree inventory, an annual maintenance schedule was developed detailing the number and type of tasks recommended for completion each year. Budget projections were made by Davey Resource Group utilizing industry knowledge and public bid tabulations; actual costs were not specified by the City of Brentwood. A summary of the maintenance schedule is presented here and the complete table of estimated costs for Brentwood's five-year tree management program is presented in Appendix D.

The schedule provides a framework for completing the inventory maintenance recommendations over the next five years. Following this schedule can shift tree care activities from an on-demand system to a more proactive tree care program.

To implement the maintenance schedule, the City tree maintenance budget should be no less than \$158,970 for the first year of implementation, \$99,285 for Year Two, and \$89,165 for the following three years. Annual budget funds are needed to ensure that hazard trees are remediated and that critical YTT and RP Cycles can commence. With proper professional tree care, the safety, health, and beauty of the urban forest will improve.

If routing efficiencies and/or contract specifications allow for the accomplishment of more tree work, or if the schedule requires modification to meet budgetary or other needs, then it should be modified accordingly. Unforeseen situations, such as severe weather events, may arise and change the maintenance needs of trees. Should conditions or maintenance needs change, budgets and equipment will need to be adjusted to meet the new demands.

**FY 2014** **\$158,970**

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- 46 Priority Removals
- 264 Priority Pruning
- RP Cycle 1/5 of Public Trees Cleaned
- YTT Cycle 1/3 Young Trees Structurally Pruned
- 103 Trees Recommended for Planting and Follow-Up Care
- Found Priority Tree Work (Removal or Pruning): Costs To Be Determined

**FY 2015** **\$99,285**

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- 53 Moderate or Low Risk Removals
- 11 Stump Removals
- RP Cycle 1/5 of Public Trees Cleaned
- YTT Cycle 1/3 of Young Trees Structurally Pruned
- 103 Trees Recommended for Planting and Follow-Up Care
- Inclusion of Newly Found Priority Tree Work (Removal or Pruning): Costs To Be Determined

**FY 2016** **\$89,165**

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- RP Cycle 1/5 of Public Trees Cleaned
- YTT Cycle 1/3 of Young Trees Structurally Pruned
- 103 Trees Recommended for Planting and Follow-Up Care
- Inclusion of Newly Found Priority Tree Work (Removal or Pruning): Costs To Be Determined

**FY 2016** **\$89,165**

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- YTT Cycle 1/3 of Young Trees Structurally Pruned
- RP Cycle 1/5 of Public Trees Cleaned
- 103 Trees Recommended for Planting and Follow-Up Care
- Inclusion of Newly Found Priority Tree Work (Removal or Pruning): Costs To Be Determined

**FY2017** **\$89,165**

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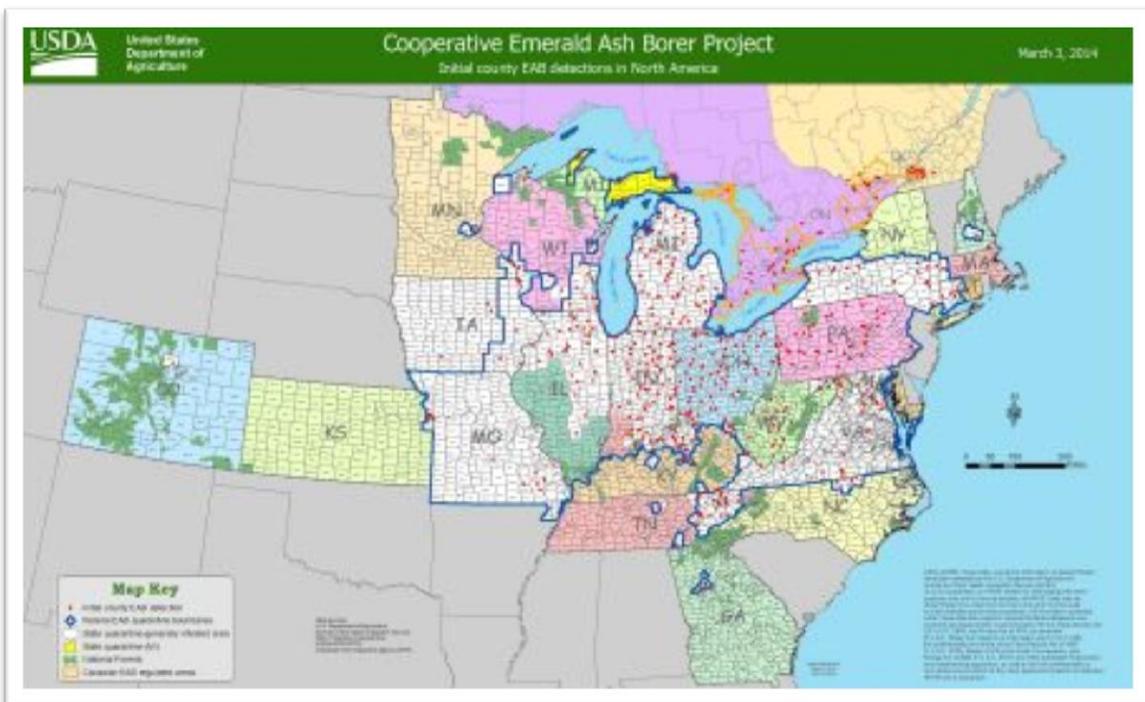
- YTT Cycle 1/3 of Young Trees Structurally Pruned
- RP Cycle 1/5 of Public Trees Cleaned
- 103 Trees Recommended for Planting and Follow-Up Care
- Inclusion of Newly Found Priority Tree Work (Removal or Pruning): Costs To Be Determined

## Section 4. Emerald Ash Borer Strategy

Throughout the United States, urban and community forests are under increased pressure from exotic and invasive insects and diseases. Exotic pests that arrive from overseas typically have no natural predators and become invasive when our native trees and shrubs do not have appropriate defense mechanisms to fight them off. Mortality from these pests can range from two weeks with oak wilt (OW) (*Ceratocystis fagacearum*), to seven years with EAB or more.

An integral part of tree management is being aware of invasive insects and diseases in the area and how to best manage them. Depending on the tree diversity within Brentwood's urban forest, an invasive insect or disease has the potential to negatively impact the tree population.

This chapter provides the different management strategies for dealing with EAB. Included are sections on how to effectively monitor EAB, increase public education, handle ash debris, reforestation, work with stakeholders, and utilize ash wood. Appendix E contains additional EAB reference material.



**Map 1. EAB detections throughout North America as of March 2014.  
Map by United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and  
Plant Health Inspection Service.**

## *Emerald Ash Borer*

Emerald ash borer is a small insect native to Asia. In North America, the borer is an invasive species highly destructive to ash trees in its introduced range. The potential damage of EAB rivals that of chestnut blight and Dutch elm disease. Chestnut blight is a fungus that was introduced in North America around 1900 and, by 1940, it virtually wiped out most of the mature American chestnut population. It is believed that chestnut blight was imported by chestnut lumber or through imported chestnut trees. Dutch elm disease is a fungus spread sexually by the elm bark beetle. It was first reported in the United States in 1928 and was believed to have been introduced by imported timber. Since its discovery in the United States, it has killed millions of elm trees. EAB is thought to have been introduced into the United States and Canada in the 1990s but was not positively identified in North America until 2002 in Canton, Michigan. It has now been confirmed in 14 states and has killed at least 50–100 million ash trees so far and threatens another 7.5 billion ash trees throughout North America. Missouri's EAB infestation was discovered July 2008 in the campground at the Wappapello Lake US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Greenville Recreational Area in Wayne County. The insect has since been found in Reynolds and Madison counties in southeast Missouri and in Platte County near Kansas City. The EAB is a serious pest that threatens the health of all ash tree species in the state. With an estimated 3% of ash trees at risk in Missouri woods—and another 14%–30% in cities and towns—the state is committed to early detection and thoughtful management of this pest (<http://extension.missouri.edu/emeraldashborer/response.aspx>). In the United States, EAB has been known to attack all native ash trees, including white, green, blue, and black ash.

EAB has been identified in Missouri and poses a serious threat to the health and condition of Brentwood's urban forest.



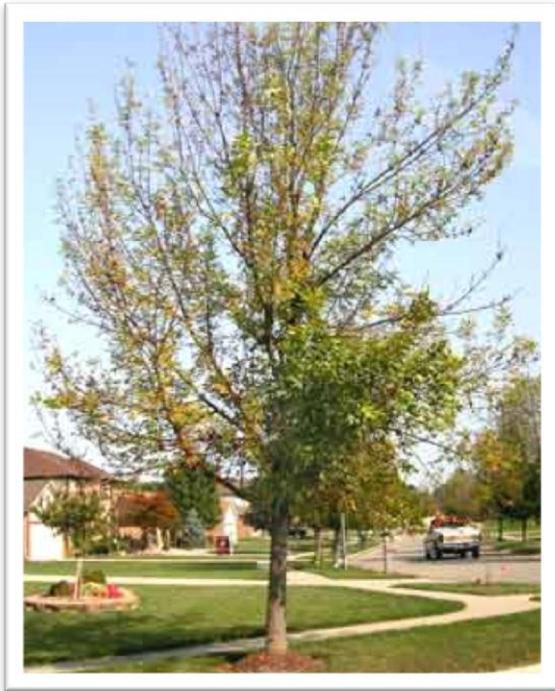
**Photograph 19.** EAB adults grow to 5/8 inch in length. (Photograph courtesy [www.wisconsin.gov](http://www.wisconsin.gov)).



**Photograph 20.** EAB larvae. (Photograph courtesy [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info)).

## Identification

The adult beetle is elongate, metallic green, and 3/8- to 5/8-inch long. The adult beetle emerges from late May until early August feeding on a small amount of foliage. The adult females then lay eggs on the trunk and branches of ash trees and, in about a week, the eggs hatch into larvae, which then bore into the tree. Larvae are creamy white in color and can grow up to an inch long and are found underneath the bark of the trees. The larvae tunnel and feed on the inner bark and phloem, creating winding galleries as they feed. This cuts off the flow of the water and nutrients to the tree, causing dieback and death.



**Photograph 22. This ash tree is declining from EAB infestation. The loss of water and nutrients from the intense larvae tunneling can cause the trees to lose between 30% and 50% of their canopies during the first year of infestation. (Photograph courtesy <http://labs.russell.wisc.edu/eab/signs-and-symptoms/>).**

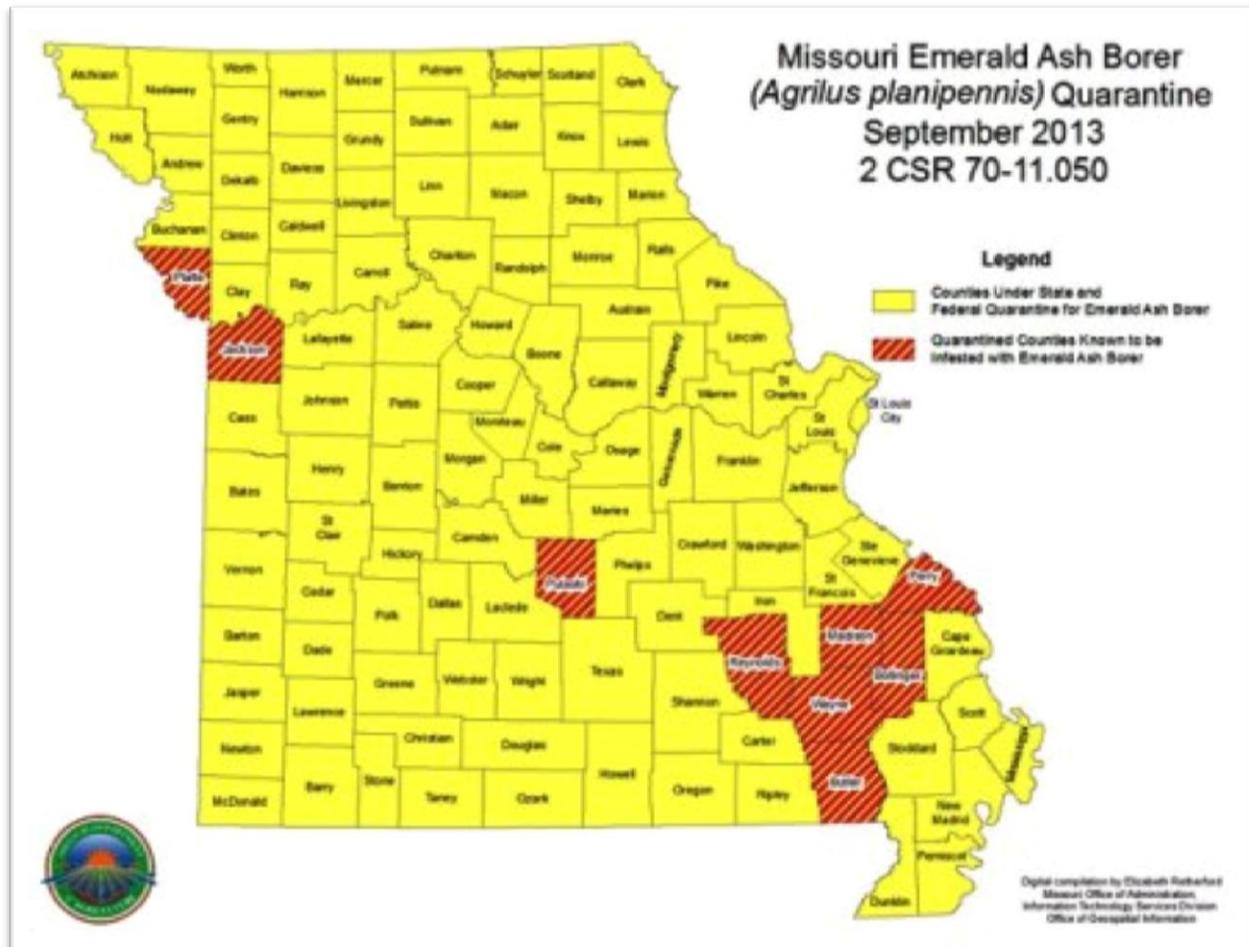


**Photograph 21. Stock Photo. Larvae consume the cambium and phloem, effectively girdling the tree and eventually causing death within a few years.**

EAB can be very difficult to detect. Initial symptoms include yellowing and/or thinning of the foliage and longitudinal bark splitting. The entire canopy may die back, or symptoms may be restricted to certain branches. Declining trees may sprout epicormic shoots at the tree base or on branches. Woodpecker injury is often apparent on branches of infested trees, especially in late winter. Removal of bark reveals tissue callusing and frass-filled serpentine tunneling. The S-shaped larval feeding tunnels are about 1/4 inch in diameter. Tunneling may occur from the upper branches to the trunk and root flare. Adults exit from the trunk and branches in a characteristic D-shaped exit hole that is about 1/8 inch in diameter. The loss of water and nutrients from the intense larvae tunneling can cause trees to lose between 30% and 50% of their canopies during the first year of infestation. Trees often die within two years following infestation.

## Missouri/Federal Response

In Missouri, the Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA) is the lead agency responsible for control of invasive pests. The federal agency USDA-APHIS assists with regulatory and control action of invasive pests. The MDA has declared EAB a public nuisance in Missouri, and enacted a quarantine restricting the movement of ash trees and non-coniferous firewood. In July 2008, it was reported that EAB had been found in the campground at the Wappapello Lake. In July 2008, further infestations were found in Wayne County. The insect has since been found in Reynolds and Madison Counties in southeast Missouri and in Platte County near Kansas City.



**Map 2. Current Quarantine Boundary in Missouri. (Map courtesy <http://extension.missouri.edu/emeraldashborer/quarantines.aspx>)**

Federal agencies have been actively researching control measures, including biological controls, developing resistant species, and testing various insecticides. Since 2003, American scientists in conjunction with the Chinese Academy of Forestry have searched for natural enemies of EAB in the wild. This led to the discovery of several parasitoid wasps, namely *Tetrastichus planipennisi*, a gregarious larval endoparasitoid; *Oobius agrili*, a solitary, parthenogenic egg parasitoid; and *Spathius agrili*, a gregarious larval ectoparasitoid. These parasitoid wasps have been released into the Midwest, United States as a possible biological control of EAB. States that released parasitoid wasps include Indiana, Michigan, and Minnesota.

## Ash Population

With the threat of EAB nearing Brentwood, it is crucial that the City have an action plan. Some of the most important questions to answer will be, “How many ash trees do we have, where are they located, and what actions should we take?” In order to answer these questions, Brentwood needs to maintain an up-to-date inventory, know what resources are available, and understand the City’s priorities.

Based on the current public tree inventory, there are 278 ash trees distributed throughout the City. Most of the ash trees less than 25 inches DBH were rated in Fair condition. Table 3 shows the diameter class of each ash tree by the condition class. Of the 278 ash trees inventoried, none are currently showing signs and symptoms of EAB.

Table 3. Tree Condition Versus Diameter Class Matrix

		Diameter Class (inches)									Total
		1-3	4-6	7-12	13-18	19-24	25-30	31-36	37-42	43+	
Condition Class	Excellent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Very Good	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Good	1	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	6
	Fair	7	11	37	73	65	19	0	0	0	212
	Poor	1	0	10	19	23	3	3	0	0	59
	Critical	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Dead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	9	11	48	95	90	22	3	0	0	278

## Ash Tree Risk Reduction Pruning and Removals

As the infestation of EAB nears Brentwood it becomes the City’s highest priority and it is advisable to refocus budgeted funds and personnel to concentrate more closely on the ash tree population. Davey Resource Group recommends that Brentwood perform both treatment and safety related activities on ash trees. This activity will end up saving the City money and increasing productivity. However, it is only recommended due to the threat of EAB and the eventual removal of infested ash trees.

Davey Resource Group also recommends that Brentwood proactively remove ash trees during road reconstruction projects and other public works associated activities. By proactively removing ash trees during construction, the cost and impacts should be lower.

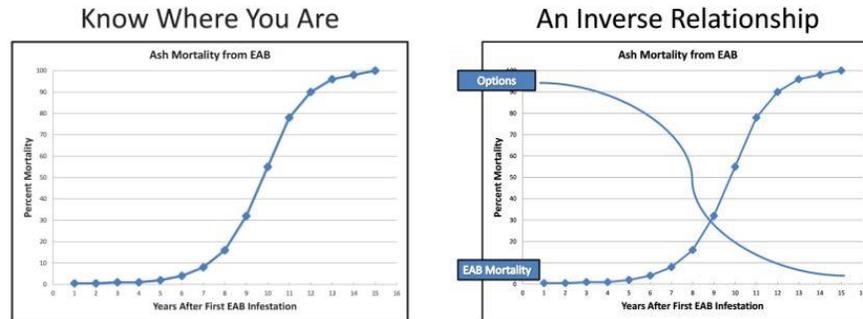
In the event that the Brentwood decides to proactively remove ash trees, Davey Resource Group recommends that the City remove all ash trees less than 7 inches DBH and trees that are rated as Dead, Poor, or Critical condition first. These trees are providing little benefit to the community and the cost for removals should not be significant.



**Photograph 23:** This line of *Fraxinus americana* (white ash) planted on Eulalie will be at risk if EAB arrives in Brentwood. This is a good example of why it is important to plant an array of species both citywide and on each block.

## EAB Management Options

Brentwood should explore different options for managing EAB. With the City striving to be proactive in EAB management before an infestation occurs, Brentwood has provided itself with multiple management strategies. The graphs below are a unique tool that can help a city decide on available options for managing varying levels of EAB infestations. Brentwood can currently be placed at Year Zero on both graphs for year after first EAB infestation. At this position, the City has ample time to prepare as well as select a management option (Figure 23). When infestation occurs, as depicted in the graph, the City's management options decrease.



**Figure 23. Progression of Emerald Ash Borer infestation.**  
(Figure courtesy Emerald Ash University, [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info))

## EAB Management

### EAB Management Options

With no specific strategy or budget in place for the impending infestation of EAB, Brentwood should explore strategies for managing EAB that provide the most economic benefit and increase public safety. These EAB management strategies include Do Nothing, Remove and Replace All Ash, Treat All Ash, or a Combination of the strategies. The following are current strategies for managing EAB and costs associated with these strategies.

#### **EAB Strategy 1: Do Nothing**

This means letting EAB run its course and having no strategy for dealing with EAB. This strategy includes not removing and not treating any ash trees. This strategy is economical in the beginning of an infestation because it costs the City no money, but it would become a severe public safety issue within a few years. Davey Resource Group does not recommend this management strategy.



**Photograph 24. This is an example of a Do Nothing strategy. These ash trees became infested with EAB and eventually died. They have now become a public safety issue.**

### **EAB Strategy 2: Remove and Replace All Ash**

Remove and replace all 278 ash trees by 2015. This strategy would benefit public safety from the EAB infestation but would have an impact on the City's budget. In order to achieve this strategy and remove all of the ash trees by 2015, the City would most likely have to contract work out.

Removing mature ash trees that are in Good and Fair condition would take away all of the valuable benefits that these trees provide to the City. This strategy ultimately benefits the City by increasing public safety but will require a lot of upfront cost. It will be very important to replace all of these ash trees once they have been removed.

The total approximate cost for this strategy would be \$249,145; \$174,445 would be the approximate cost to remove all ash trees, \$13,100 would be the approximate cost to remove all stumps, and \$61,600 would be the approximate cost to replace all ash trees (Table 4).

Table 4. Cost to Remove and Replace All Ash

Management Strategy	Management Action	# of Trees	Cost
Remove and Replace All Ash Trees	Remove All	278	\$114,925
	Replace All	278	\$61,600
	Stump Removal	278	\$13,100
	Total	834	\$189,625

### **EAB Strategy 3: Treat All Ash**

Treating all of the ash trees in Brentwood could reduce the annual mortality rate, stabilize removals, and would be less expensive than removing and replacing all ash trees. Treating all ash would enable these trees to keep providing Brentwood with the monetary benefits that they provide. On the other hand, treating all ash trees is not an ideal practice because some of these ash trees may eventually become infested with EAB and some of these ash trees are less desirable to retain.

If Brentwood wanted to annually treat all of its 271 ash trees that are not recommended for removal, it would cost approximately \$56,977.75 over a five-year period. This means that it would cost the City approximately \$11,395.55 annually to treat all of Brentwood's 271 ash trees. The 7 ash trees recommended for removal would cost approximately \$2645 and approximately \$310 to remove all stumps. After a five-year treatment period and removing the recommended 7 trees, this would cost the City an estimated \$59,932.75. Refer to Table 5.

Table 5. Cost to Treat All Ash

Management Strategy	Management Action	# of Trees	Cost
Treat All Ash Trees	Treat All Ash Trees for Five Years	271	\$56,977.75
	Ash Trees Recommended for Removal	7	\$2,645
	Stump Removal	7	\$310
	Total		\$59,932.75

### **EAB Strategy 4: Combination of Removals and Treatment**

This strategy is intended to give the City options for a combination of removing and treating ash trees to stabilize annual removals, annual budgets, and prolong the life of ash trees that are Good and Fair condition. Table 6 is an EAB matrix table that is intended to organize trees that should be considered for removal and trees that should be considered for treatment.

This EAB matrix table will go into detail about why certain ash trees should be considered for removal and treatment.

Table 6. EAB Matrix Table

		Diameter Class (inches)									
		1-3	4-6	7-12	13-18	19-24	25-30	31-36	37-42	43+	Total
Condition Class	Excellent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Very Good	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Good	1	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	6
	Fair	7	11	37	73	65	19	0	0	0	212
	Poor	1	0	10	19	23	3	3	0	0	59
	Critical	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Dead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	9	11	48	95	90	22	3	0	0	278

Based on these numbers, Davey Resource Group makes the following recommendations:

**79 Trees to Be Removed**

- A total of 79 trees are recommended for removal and replacement.
- 60 trees in the Poor, Critical, and Dead condition class are recommended for removal because they are more susceptible to EAB infestation and if not removed could pose a public safety issue in the future.
- The remaining 19 trees are <7 inches DBH and are recommended for removal and replacement. These trees do not provide as many benefits to the community compared to mature ash trees. It would be in the best interest of the City to remove these trees and replace them with a more diversified mix of trees.

**194 Candidate Trees for Chemical Treatment (Low–Moderate Probability of Treatment)**

- The intent here is to defer removal of a large block of trees within the matrix of Fair condition class greater than 7 inches DBH. These 194 trees are considered to be low–moderate priority for chemical treatment. Eventually a lot of these trees will become infested with EAB and, therefore, have to be removed in a timely manner. However, if these trees are treated, then this could stabilize annual budgets and removals each year. Treating these trees could be economically beneficial and reduce the chance for a public safety issue in the near future.

**5 Candidate Trees for Chemical Treatment (High Probability of Treatment)**

- Candidates for chemical treatment will exhibit Fair condition or better, no more than 30% dieback and located in an appropriate site (i.e., not under overhead utilities). Treating these five ash trees will help to keep these trees around for a long time and the City will profit from the monetary benefits these ash trees provide.

## Private Trees

In addition to ash trees located on public property, EAB will impact trees located on private property. The number of private ash trees is unknown but it could be equal or more than the ash trees located on public property. During the inventory, it was evident to the inventory arborists that there is an abundance of ash trees located on private properties. The cost to remove ash trees will be higher on private property because of the greater inaccessibility to these areas. It is crucial that the City promote public education about EAB so that it can reduce the potential of City involvement with regulating tree removals on private properties. The public education section will explain more on how to minimize anxiety from private homeowners and give examples on how to go about informing the public about managing their ash trees.

Dying and infested ash trees on private property will pose a threat to human and public safety. In the event that City officials have to get involved with private property owners about a potential infested ash tree, the Brentwood should consider utilizing the current City tree and landscape ordinance. Brentwood should consider amending Section 24-16 of the ordinance so that EAB is acknowledged as a public nuisance and treated in similar fashion as Dutch elm disease and other insect pests or plant diseases.

## Public Education

It is crucial for Brentwood property owners to be well informed about EAB. Their assistance and cooperation will be vital in helping detect EAB, managing ash trees on private property, and the reforestation process that will come from the removal of ash trees. Brentwood should inform the public that EAB has been discovered in the City. If the public is well informed, then they are more likely to accept what is happening without panicking and cooperate with the City's requests. The following are examples of how Brentwood should go about informing the public:

- New releases
- City newsletter articles
- Radio programs
- Post information about EAB on the City's website



**Photograph 25. Hangers will help make private homeowners aware of the management options available for EAB.**



**Photograph 26. Posting information about EAB on ash trees around the City could promote private homeowners to become more proactive in managing their ash trees.**

It is vital for Brentwood to enlighten the public on how to detect EAB, become informed about treatment options, and the importance for reforestation. If the public is advised on how to detect for EAB, then they can make proactive choices about managing infested ash trees. This could help put City officials at ease by not having as many private trees becoming a public safety issue. Property owners may want to keep their ash trees because of the benefits they receive from them.

The City should provide information about treatment options so that their trees can last for years to come. It will be important for the City to inform the public on reforestation. Explaining the important benefits that trees provide to neighborhoods and how trees increase real estate value. This can help fund and promote neighborhood tree plantings. The following are examples of ways the City can inform the public about these issues.

- Display information packets at public buildings
- Postcard mailings to ash tree owners
- Door hangers explaining maintenance options
- Presentations to community groups
- Post information about EAB on the City's website
- Tie ribbons around ash trees and place tags on the trees with information about EAB

## *Reforestation*

As the ash tree population is being reduced in Brentwood, the City will need to come up with a plan to replant where ash trees have been removed. The City could potentially lose over 6% of its tree population due to EAB. It will be vital for a prompt reforestation in Brentwood because of the numerous benefits that the ash trees provide the community. Some of the benefits that these ash trees provide to the City include, but are not limited to, removing pollutants from the air, helping improve summer temperatures, reducing storm water runoff, and providing social and psychological benefits.

If the City is to replace all the ash trees, it will cost approximately \$61,600. This would be a huge financial burden on the City, but it will be important that these trees be replaced. The cost of replanting ash trees could be spread out over multiple years by establishing a goal that a certain amount of trees need to be planted each year. If the City was to plant 28 trees a year, then Brentwood could replace all of the ash trees within 10 years. This cost could be reduced if the City comes up with a plan to work with volunteers and private property owners. This could include giving private property owners the option of paying for the tree and getting to pick the tree they want from a list of 10 species. Brentwood should also explore grants for reforestation. Organizing volunteer groups to participate in planting trees could help decrease the cost for planting trees.

It is important to consider diversification when replacing ash trees. Without diversification, a community is much more vulnerable to catastrophic losses that impact budgets and community appearance. Davey Resource Group recommends that no one species represents 10% and that no one genus comprises more than 20% of the total public tree population. Since EAB has hit local communities, there might be a possibility that local nurseries have a shortage of trees. Brentwood might want to consider nurseries in other regions for trees.

# Conclusions

Managing trees in urban areas is often complicated. Dealing with the recommendations of experts, the needs of residents, the pressures of local economics and politics, the concerns for public safety and liability issues, the physical aspects of trees, the forces of nature and severe weather events, and the expectation for all of these issues to be met at the same time is a considerable challenge. The City of Brentwood should prepare an EAB Management Plan.

The City must carefully consider each specific issue and balance these pressures with a knowledgeable understanding of trees and their needs. If balance is achieved, Brentwood's beauty will flourish and the health and safety of its trees and citizens will be maintained.



**Photograph 27. Plantings along the tracks that run along Brentwood Park provide a visual and sonic screen when loud locomotives pass. They also help absorb runoff, which can reduce flooding in low areas of the City.**

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## Glossary

**aboveground utilities (data field):** Shows the presence or absence of overhead utilities at the tree site.

**address number (data field):** The address number was recorded based on the visual observation by the Davey Resource Group arborist at the time of the inventory of the actual address number posted on a building at the inventoried site. In instances where there was no posted address number on a building or sites were located by vacant lots with no GIS parcel addressing data available, the address number assigned was matched as closely as possible to opposite or adjacent addresses by the arborist(s) and an “X” was added to the number in the database to indicate that the address number was assigned.

**Aesthetic/Other Report:** The i-Tree Streets Aesthetic/Other Report presents the tangible and intangible benefits of trees reflected in increases in property values in dollars (\$).

**Air Quality Report:** The i-Tree Streets Air Quality Report quantifies the air pollutants (ozone [O<sub>3</sub>], nitrogen dioxide [NO<sub>2</sub>], sulfur dioxide [SO<sub>2</sub>], coarse particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter [PM<sub>10</sub>]) deposited on tree surfaces and reduced emissions from power plants (NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, Volatile Oxygen Compounds [VOCs], SO<sub>2</sub>) due to reduced electricity use measured in pounds (lbs.). Also reported are the potential negative effects of trees on air quality due to Biogenic Volatile Organic Compounds (BVOC) emissions.

**American National Standards Institute (ANSI):** ANSI is a private, nonprofit organization that facilitates the standardization work of its members in the United States. ANSI’s goals are to promote and facilitate voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment systems, and to maintain their integrity.

**ANSI A300:** Tree care performance parameters established by ANSI that can be used to develop specifications for tree maintenance.

**arboriculture:** The art, science, technology, and business of commercial, public, and utility tree care.

**block side (data field):** Address information for a site that includes the *on street*, *from street*, and *to street*. The *on street* is the street that the site is actually located on. The *from street* is the cross street one is moving away from when moving in the direction of traffic flow. The *to street* is the cross street one is moving toward when moving in the direction of traffic flow.

**Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR):** The i-Tree Streets (BCR) is the ratio of the cumulative benefits provided by the landscape trees, expressed in monetary terms, compared to the costs associated with their management, also expressed in monetary terms.

**canopy assessment:** See urban tree canopy (UTC) assessment.

**canopy cover:** As seen from above, it is the area of land surface that is covered by tree canopy.

**canopy spread (data field):** Estimates the width of a tree’s canopy in 5-foot increments.

**canopy:** Branches and foliage that make up a tree’s crown.

**Carbon Dioxide Report:** The i-Tree Streets Carbon Dioxide Report presents annual reductions in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> due to sequestration by trees and reduced emissions from power plants due to reduced energy use in pounds. The model accounts for CO<sub>2</sub> released as trees die and decompose and CO<sub>2</sub> released during the care and maintenance of trees.

**Carbon Sequestration:** the removal of carbon dioxide from the air by plants through photosynthesis

**Carbon Storage:** The amount of carbon bound up in the above-ground and below-ground parts of the woody vegetation

**clean (primary maintenance need):** Based on *ANSI A300 (Part 1)*, selective removal of dead, dying, broken, and/or diseased wood to minimize potential risk.

**clearance requirements (data field):** Illustrates the need for pruning to meet clearance standards over streets and sidewalks, or where branches are considered to be interfering with the movement of vehicles or pedestrians or where they are obstructing signs and street or traffic lights.

**community forest:** see urban forest.

**condition (data field):** The general condition of each tree rated during the inventory according to the following categories adapted from the International Society of Arboriculture's rating system: Excellent (100%), Very Good (90%), Good (80%), Fair (60%), Poor, (40%), Critical (20%), Dead (0%).

**cycle:** Planned length of time between vegetation maintenance activities.

**diameter at breast height (DBH):** See tree size.

**diameter:** See tree size.

**Energy Report:** The i-Tree Streets Energy Report presents the contribution of the urban forest toward conserving energy in terms of reduced natural gas use in winter measured in therms [th] and reduced electricity use for air conditioning in summer measured in megawatt-hours (MWh).

**failure:** In terms of tree management, failure is the breakage of stem or branches, or loss of mechanical support of the tree's root system.

**further inspection (data field):** Notes that a specific tree may require an annual inspection for several years to make certain of its maintenance needs. A healthy tree obviously impacted by recent construction serves as a prime example. This tree will need annual evaluations to assess the impact of construction on its root system. Another example would be a tree with a defect requiring additional equipment for investigation.

**genus:** A taxonomic category ranking below a family and above a species and generally consisting of a group of species exhibiting similar characteristics. In taxonomic nomenclature, the genus name is used, either alone or followed by a Latin adjective or epithet, to form the name of a species.

**geographic information system (GIS):** A technology that is used to view and analyze data from a geographic perspective. The technology is a piece of an organization's overall information system framework. GIS links location to information (such as people to addresses, buildings to parcels, or streets within a network) and layers that information to give you a better understanding of how it all interrelates.

**global positioning system (GPS):** GPS is a system of earth-orbiting satellites that make it possible for people with ground receivers to pinpoint their geographic location.

**grow space size (data field):** Identifies the minimum width of the tree grow space for root development.

**grow space type (data field):** Best identifies the type of location where a tree is growing. During the inventory, grow space types were categorized as island, median, open/restricted, open/unrestricted, raised planter, tree lawn/parkway, unmaintained/natural area, or well/pit.

**hardscape damage (data field):** Indicates trees damaged by hardscape or hardscape damaged by trees (for example, damage to curbs, cracking, lifting of sidewalk pavement one inch or more).

**High Risk tree:** Tree that cannot be cost-effectively or practically treated. Most High Risk trees have multiple or significant defects affecting less than 40% of the trunk, crown, or critical root zone. Defective trees and/or tree parts are most likely between 4–20 inches in diameter and can be found in areas of frequent occupation, such as a main thoroughfare, congested streets, and/or near schools.

**Importance Values:** A calculation in i-Tree Streets. Importance Values (IV) are displayed in table form for all species that make up more than 1% of the population. The Streets IV is the mean of three relative values (percentage of total trees, percentage of total leaf area, and percentage of canopy cover) and can range from 0 to 100 with an IV of 100 suggesting total reliance on one species. IVs offer valuable information about a community's reliance on certain species to provide functional benefits. For example, a species might represent 10% of a population, but have an IV of 25% because of its great size, indicating that the loss of those trees due to pests or disease would be more significant than their numbers suggest.

**invasive, exotic tree:** A tree species that is out of its original biological community. Its introduction into an area causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm, or harm to human health. An invasive, exotic tree has the ability to thrive and spread aggressively outside its natural range. An invasive species that colonizes a new area may gain an ecological edge since the insects, diseases, and foraging animals that naturally keep its growth in check in its native range are not present in its new habitat.

**inventory:** See tree inventory.

**i-Tree Streets:** i-Tree Streets is a street tree management and analysis tool that uses tree inventory data to quantify the dollar value of annual environmental and aesthetic benefits: energy conservation, air quality improvement, CO<sub>2</sub> reduction, stormwater control, and property value increase.

**i-Tree Tools:** State-of-the-art, peer-reviewed software suite from the USDA Forest Service that provides urban forestry analysis and benefits assessment tools. The i-Tree Tools help communities of all sizes to strengthen their urban forest management and advocacy efforts by quantifying the structure of community trees and the environmental services that trees provide.

**location (data fields):** A collection of data fields collected during the inventory to aid in finding trees, including address number, street name, site number, side, and block side.

**location rating (data field):** Describes/rates the position of a tree based on existing land use of the site, the functional and aesthetic contributions of the tree to the site, and surrounding structures or landscapes. Categories for location value include: Excellent, Good, Fair, and Poor. The location rating, along with species, size, and condition ratings, is used in determining a tree's value.

**Low Risk tree:** Tree with minor visible structural defects or wounds in areas with moderate to low public access.

**Management Costs:** Used in i-Tree Streets, they are the expenditures associated with street tree management presented in total dollars, dollars per tree, and dollars per capita.

**mapping coordinate (data field):** Helps to locate a tree; X and Y coordinates were generated for each tree using GPS.

**Moderate Risk tree:** Tree with defects that may be cost-effectively or practically treated. Most of the trees in this category exhibit several moderate defects affecting more than 40% of a tree's trunk, crown, or critical root zone.

**Monetary Values:** (\$) reported in US dollar throughout report except where noted.

**monoculture:** A population dominated by one single species or very few species.

**Net Annual Benefits:** Specific data field for i-Tree Streets. Citywide benefits and costs are calculated according to category and summed. Net benefits are calculated as benefits minus costs.

**Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>):** Nitrogen dioxide is a compound typically created during the combustion processes and is a major contributor to smog formation and acid deposition.

**none (risk rating):** Equal to zero. It is used only for planting sites and stumps.

**none (secondary maintenance need):** Used to show that no secondary maintenance is recommended for the tree. Usually a vacant planting site or stump will have a secondary maintenance need of *none*.

**notes (data field):** Describes additional pertinent information.

**observations (data field):** When conditions with a specific tree warrant recognition, it was described in this data field. Observations include cavity decay, grate guard, improperly installed, improperly mulched, improperly pruned, mechanical damage, memorial tree, nutrient deficiency, pest problem, poor location, poor root system, poor structure, remove hardware, serious decline, and signs of stress.

**ordinance:** See tree ordinance.

**Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>):** A strong-smelling, pale blue, reactive toxic chemical gas with molecules of three oxygen atoms. It is a product of the photochemical process involving the Sun's energy. Ozone exists in the upper layer of the atmosphere as well as at the Earth's surface. Ozone at the Earth's surface can cause numerous adverse human health effects. It is a major component of smog.

**Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub>):** A major class of air pollutants consisting of tiny solid or liquid particles of soot, dust, smoke, fumes, and mists.

**plant tree (primary maintenance need):** If collected during an inventory, this data field identifies vacant planting sites as small, medium, or large (indicating the ultimate size that the tree will attain), depending on the growspace available and the presence of overhead wires.

**pollard (secondary maintenance need):** Pruning method in which tree branches are initially headed and then reduced on a regular basis without disturbing the callus knob.

**primary maintenance need (data field):** The type of tree work needed to reduce immediate risk.

**pruning:** The selective removal of plant parts to meet specific goals and objectives.

**raise (secondary maintenance need):** Signifies a maintenance need for a tree. Raising the crown is pruning to remove low branches that interfere with sight and/or traffic. It is based on *ANSI A300 (Part 1)*.

**reduce (secondary maintenance need):** Signifies a maintenance need for a tree. Reducing the crown is selective pruning to decrease height and/or spread of the crown in order to provide clearance for electric utilities and lighting.

**removal (primary maintenance need):** Data field collected during the inventory identifying the need to remove a tree. Trees designated for removal have defects that cannot be cost-effectively or practically treated. Most of the trees in this category have a large percentage of dead crown.

**restore (secondary maintenance need):** Signifies a maintenance need for a tree. Restoring is selective pruning to improve the structure, form, and appearance of trees that have been severely headed, vandalized, or damaged.

**right-of-way (ROW):** See street right-of-way.

**risk:** Combination of the probability of an event occurring and its consequence.

**risk assessment (data fields):** The risk assessment is a point-based assessment of each tree by an arborist using a protocol based on the US Forest Service Community Tree Risk Rating System. In the field, the probability of tree or tree part failure is assigned 1–4 points (identifies the most likely failure and rates the likelihood that the structural defect(s) will result in failure based on observed, current conditions), the size of defective tree part is assigned 1–3 points (rates the size of the part most likely to fail), the probability of target impact by the tree or tree part is assigned 1–3 points (rates the use and occupancy of the area that would be struck by the defective part), and other risk factors are assigned 0–2 points (used if professional judgment suggests the need to increase the risk rating). The data from the risk assessment is used to calculate the risk rating that is ultimately assigned to the tree.

**risk rating:** Calculated from the field risk assessment data (see **risk assessment**), this is the sum of total risk assessment values. Risk ratings range from 3–10, with 3 being the lowest risk and 10 being the highest risk. In this Plan, the risk rating was used to identify the severity of risk assigned to a tree and to prioritize tree maintenance needs. The following categories were used:

- risk rating of 9 or 10 = Severe Risk tree
- risk rating of 7 or 8 = High Risk tree
- risk rating of 5 or 6 = Moderate Risk tree
- risk rating of 3 or 4 = Low Risk tree
- risk rating of 0 = no risk (used only for planting sites and stumps)

**secondary maintenance need (data field):** Recommended maintenance for a tree, which may be risk oriented, such as raising the crown for clearance, but generally was geared toward improving the structure of the tree and enhancing aesthetics.

**Severe Risk tree:** Tree rated to be Severe Risk cannot be cost-effectively or practically treated. Most Severe Risk trees have multiple and significant defects present in the trunk, crown, or critical root zone. Defective trees and/or tree parts are most likely larger than 20 inches in diameter and can be found in areas of frequent occupation, such as a main thoroughfare, congested streets, and/or near schools.

**side value (data field):** Each site is assigned a side value to aid in locating the site. Side values include: *front*, *side to*, *side away*, *median* (includes islands), and *rear* based on the site's location in relation the lot's street frontage. The *front* side is the side that faces the address street. *Side to* is the name of the street the arborist is walking towards as data is being collected.

The *side from* is the name of the street the arborist is walking away from while collecting data. *Median* indicates a median or island. The *rear* is the side of the lot opposite the front.

**site number (data field):** All sites at an address are assigned a *site number*. Sites numbers are not unique; they are sequential to the side of the address only (the only unique number is the tree identification number assigned to each site). Site numbers are collected in the direction of vehicular traffic flow. The only exception is a one-way street. Site numbers along a one-way street are collected as if the street were actually a two-way street, so some site numbers will oppose traffic.

**species:** Fundamental category of taxonomic classification, ranking below a genus or subgenus and consisting of related organisms capable of interbreeding.

**stem:** A woody structure bearing buds and foliage, and giving rise to other stems.

**stems (data field):** Identifies the number of stems or trunks splitting less than one foot above ground level.

**Stored Carbon Report:** Whereas, the i-Tree Streets Carbon Dioxide Report quantifies annual CO<sub>2</sub> reductions, the i-Tree Streets Stored Carbon Report tallies all of the Carbon (C) stored in the urban forest over the life of the trees as a result of sequestration measured in pounds as the CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent.

**Stormwater Report:** A report generated by i-Tree Streets that presents the reductions in annual stormwater runoff due to rainfall interception by trees measured in gallons (gals.).

**street name (data field):** The name of a street right-of-way or road identified using posted signage or parcel information.

**street right-of-way (ROW):** A strip of land generally owned by a public entity over which facilities, such as highways, railroads, or power lines, are built.

**street tree:** A street tree is defined as a tree within the right-of-way.

**structural defect:** A feature, condition, or deformity of a tree or tree part that indicates weak structure and contributes to the likelihood of failure.

**stump removal (primary maintenance need):** Indicates a stump that should be removed.

**Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>):** A strong-smelling, colorless gas that is formed by the combustion of fossil fuels. Sulfur oxides contribute to the problem of acid rain.

**Summary Report:** The i-Tree Streets Summary report presents the annual total of energy, stormwater, air quality, carbon dioxide, and aesthetic/other benefits. Values are dollars per tree or total dollars.

**thin (secondary maintenance need):** Signifies a maintenance need for a tree. Thinning the crown is the selective removal of water sprouts, epicormic branches, and live branches to reduce density.

**Ton:** short ton (US) (2,000lbs)

**topping:** Topping, reducing tree size using internodal cuts without regard to tree health or structural integrity, is not an acceptable pruning practice.

**tree benefit:** An economic, environmental, or social improvement that benefits the community and results mainly from the presence of a tree. The benefit received has real or intrinsic value associated with it.

**tree height (data field):** If collected during the inventory, it is the height of the tree estimated by the arborist and recorded in 10-foot increments.

**tree inventory:** Comprehensive database containing information or records about individual trees typically collected by an arborist.

**tree ordinance:** Tree ordinances are policy tools used by communities striving to attain a healthy, vigorous, and well-managed urban forest. Tree ordinances simply provide the authorization and standards for management activities.

**tree size (data field):** A tree's diameter measured to the nearest inch in one-inch size classes at 4.5 feet above ground, also known as diameter at breast height (DBH) or diameter.

**tree:** A tree is defined as a perennial woody plant that may grow more than 20 feet tall. Characteristically, it has one main stem, although many species may grow as multi-stemmed forms.

**urban forest:** All of the trees within a municipality or a community. This can include the trees along streets or rights-of-way, in parks and greenspaces, in forests, and on private property.

**urban tree canopy (UTC) assessment:** A study performed of land cover classes to gain an understanding of the tree canopy coverage, particularly as it relates to the amount of tree canopy that currently exists and the amount of tree canopy that could exist. Typically performed using aerial photographs, GIS data, or Lidar.

**utility (secondary maintenance need):** Selective pruning to prevent the loss of service, comply with mandated clearance laws, prevent damage to equipment, avoid access impairment, and uphold the intended usage of the facility/utility space.

**vista prune (secondary maintenance need):** Pruning to enhance a specific view without jeopardizing the health of the tree.

**Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs):** Hydrocarbon compounds that exist in the ambient air and are by-products of energy used to heat and cool buildings. Volatile organic compounds contribute to the formation of smog and/or are toxic. Examples of VOCs are gasoline, alcohol, and solvents used in paints.

**young tree train (primary maintenance need):** Data field based on *ANSI A300 (Part 1)*, pruning of young trees to correct or eliminate weak, interfering, or objectionable branches to improve structure. These trees, up to 20 feet in height, can be worked with a pole pruner by a person standing on the ground.

# Appendix A

## Site Location Method

### Equipment and Base Maps

Inventory arborists use CF-19 Panasonic Toughbook® unit(s) and Trimble® GPS Pathfinder® ProXH™ receiver(s).

Base map layers were loaded onto these unit(s) to help locate sites during the inventory. The table below lists the base map layers utilized along with source and format information for each layer.

Base Map Layers Utilized for Inventory

Imagery/Data Source	Date	Projection
St Louis County Planning Department	Fall 2012	NAD Missouri East NAD 1983 Ft
Imagery: Missouri Spatial Data Information Service	2012	NAD Missouri East NAD 1983 Ft

### Street ROW Site Location

Individual street ROW sites (trees, stumps, or vacant planting sites) were located using a methodology developed by Davey Resource Group that identifies sites by *address number*, *street name*, *side*, *site number*, and *block side*. This methodology allows for consistent assignment of location.

### Address Number and Street Name

The *address number* was recorded based on visual observation by the arborist at the time of the inventory (the address number posted on a building at the inventoried site). Where there was no posted address number on a building or where the site was located by a vacant lot with no GIS parcel addressing data available, the address number assigned was matched as closely as possible to opposite or adjacent addresses by the arborist and an “X” was added to the number in the database to indicate that it was assigned (for example, “37X Choice Avenue”).

Sites in medians or islands were assigned an address number using the address on the right side of the street in the direction of collection closest to the site. Each segment was numbered with an assigned address that was interpolated from addresses facing that median/island. If there were multiple median/islands between cross streets, each segment was given its own assigned address.

The *street name* assigned to a site was determined by street ROW parcel information and posted street name signage.

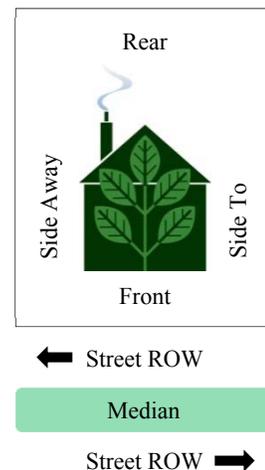


Figure 1. Side values for street ROW sites.

## Side Value and Site Number

Each site was assigned a *side value* and *site number*. Side values include: *front*, *side to*, *side away*, *median* (includes islands), or *rear* based on the site's location in relation to the lot's street frontage (Figure 1). The *front side* is the side that faces the address street. *Side to* is the name of the street the arborist is walking towards as data are being collected. The *side from* is the name of the street the arborist is walking away from while collecting data. *Median* indicates a median or island. The *rear* is the side of the lot opposite of the front.

All sites at an address are assigned a *site number*. Site numbers are not unique; they are sequential to the side of the address only (the only unique number is the tree identification number assigned to each site). Site numbers are collected in the direction of vehicular traffic flow. The only exception is a one-way street. Site numbers along a one-way street are collected as if the street was a two-way street; thus, some site numbers will oppose traffic.

A separate site number sequence is used for each side value of the address (front, side to, side away, median, or rear). For example, trees at the front of an address may have site numbers from 1 through 999 and, if trees are located on the side to, side away, median, or rear of that same address, each side will also be numbered consecutively beginning with the number 1.

## Block Side

Block side information for a site includes the *on street*, *from street*, and *to street*.

- The *on street* is the street that the site is physically located on. (The *on street* may not match the address street. A site may be physically located on a street that is different from its street address, for example, a site located on a side street.)
- The *from street* is the first cross street encountered when proceeding along the street in the direction of traffic flow.
- The *to street* is the second cross street encountered when moving in the direction of traffic flow.

## Park and/or Public Space Site Location

Park and/or public space site locations were collected using the same methodology as street ROW sites; however, the *on street*, *from street*, and *to street* would be the park and/or public space's name (not street names).

## Site Location Examples



**Figure 2. The tree trimming crew in the truck traveling westbound on E Mac Arthur Street is trying to locate an inventoried tree with the following location information:**

Address/Street Name:	226 E. Mac Arthur Street
Side:	Side To
Site Number:	1
On Street:	Davis Street
From Street:	Taft Street
To Street:	E. Mac Arthur Street.

The tree site circled in red is the site the crew is looking for. Because the tree is located on the side of the lot, the on street is Davis Street even though it is addressed as 226 East Mac Arthur Street. Moving with the flow of traffic, the from street is Taft Street, and the to street is East Mac Arthur Street.



**Figure 3. Location information collected for inventoried trees at Corner Lot A and Corner Lot B.**

**Corner Lot A**

- Address/Street Name: 205 Hoover St.
- Side/Site Number: Side To / 1
- On Street: Taft St.
- From Street: E Mac Arthur St.
- To Street: Hoover St.
  
- Address/Street Name: 205 Hoover St.
- Side/Site Number: Side To / 2
- On Street: Taft St.
- From Street: E Mac Arthur St.
- To Street: Hoover St.
  
- Address/Street Name: 205 Hoover St.
- Side/Site Number: Side To / 3
- On Street: Taft St.
- From Street: 19th St.
- To Street: Hoover St.
  
- Address/Street Name: 205 Hoover St.
- Side/Site Number: Front / 1
- On Street: Hoover St.
- From Street: Taft St.
- To Street: Davis St.

**Corner Lot B**

- Address/Street Name: 226 E Mac Arthur St.
- Side/Site Number: Side To / 1
- On Street: Davis St.
- From Street: Hoover St.
- To Street: E Mac Arthur St.
  
- Address/Street Name: 226 E Mac Arthur St.
- Side/Site Number: Front / 1
- On Street: E Mac Arthur St.
- From Street: Davis St.
- To Street: Taft St.
  
- Address/Street Name: 226 E Mac Arthur St.
- Side/Site Number: Front / 2
- On Street: E Mac Arthur St.
- From Street: Davis St.
- To Street: Taft St.

## Appendix B

### Recommended Species for Future Planting

Proper landscaping and tree planting are critical components of the atmosphere, livability, and ecological quality of a community's urban forest. The tree species listed below have been evaluated for factors such as size, disease and pest resistance, seed or fruit set, and availability. The following list is offered to assist all relevant community personnel in selecting appropriate tree species. These trees have been selected because of their aesthetic and functional characteristics and their ability to thrive in the soil and climate (USDA Zones 5 and 6) conditions found throughout Missouri.

#### Deciduous Trees

Large Trees: Greater than 45 Feet in Height at Maturity

Scientific Name	Common Name	Cultivar
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	red maple	Red Sunset <sup>®</sup>
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	sugar maple	'Legacy'
<i>Acer nigrum</i>	black maple	
<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i> *	yellow birch	
<i>Betula lenta</i> *	sweet birch	
<i>Betula nigra</i>	river birch	Heritage <sup>®</sup>
<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	European hornbeam	'Franz Fontaine'
<i>Carya illinoensis</i> *	pecan	
<i>Carya lacinata</i> *	shellbark hickory	
<i>Carya ovata</i> *	shagbark hickory	
<i>Castanea mollissima</i> *	Chinese chestnut	
<i>Celtis laevigata</i>	sugarberry	
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	common hackberry	'Prairie Pride'
<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>	katsuratree	'Aureum'
<i>Diospyros virginiana</i> *	common persimmon	
<i>Fagus grandifolia</i> *	American beech	
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> *	European beech	(Numerous exist)
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	ginkgo	(Choose male trees only)
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos inermis</i>	thornless honeylocust	'Shademaster'
<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>	Kentucky coffeetree	Prairie Titan <sup>®</sup>
<i>Juglans nigra</i> *	black walnut	
<i>Larix decidua</i> *	European larch	
<i>Magnolia acuminata</i> *	cucumbertree magnolia	(Numerous exist)
<i>Magnolia macrophylla</i> *	bigleaf magnolia	
<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	dawn redwood	'Emerald Feathers'
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	blackgum	
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i> *	American sycamore	
<i>Platanus × acerifolia</i>	London planetree	'Yarwood'
<i>Quercus alba</i>	white oak	

Large Trees: Greater than 45 Feet in Height at Maturity (Continued)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Cultivar
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	swamp white oak	
<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	scarlet oak	
<i>Quercus lyrata</i>	overcup oak	
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	bur oak	
<i>Quercus montana</i>	chestnut oak	
<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	chinkapin oak	
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	pin oak	
<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>	shingle oak	
<i>Quercus phellos</i>	willow oak	
<i>Quercus robur</i>	English oak	Heritage®
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	northern red oak	‘Splendens’
<i>Quercus shumardii</i>	Shumard oak	
<i>Styphnolobium japonicum</i>	Japanese pagodatree	‘Regent’
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	common baldcypress	‘Shawnee Brave’
<i>Tilia americana</i>	American linden	‘Redmond’
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	littleleaf linden	‘Greenspire’
<i>Tilia × euchlora</i>	Crimean linden	
<i>Tilia tomentosa</i>	silver linden	‘Sterling’
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Chinese elm	Allée®
<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	Japanese zelkova	‘Green Vase’

Medium Trees: 31–45 Feet in Height at Maturity

Scientific Name	Common Name	Cultivar
<i>Aesculus × carnea</i>	red horsechestnut	
<i>Alnus cordata</i>	Italian alder	
<i>Asimina triloba*</i>	pawpaw	
<i>Cladrastis kentukea</i>	American yellowwood	‘Rosea’
<i>Corylus colurna</i>	Turkish filbert	
<i>Eucommia ulmoides</i>	hardy rubber tree	
<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	goldenraintree	
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	American hophornbeam	
<i>Parrotia persica</i>	Persian parrotia	‘Vanessa’
<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>	Amur corktree	‘Macho’
<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Chinese pistache	
<i>Prunus maackii</i>	Amur chokecherry	‘Amber Beauty’
<i>Prunus sargentii</i>	Sargent cherry	
<i>Pterocarya fraxinifolia*</i>	Caucasian wingnut	
<i>Quercus acutissima</i>	sawtooth oak	
<i>Quercus cerris</i>	European turkey oak	
<i>Sassafras albidum*</i>	sassafras	

Small Trees: 15–30 Feet in Height at Maturity

Scientific Name	Common Name	Cultivar
<i>Acer buergerianum</i>	trident maple	Streetwise <sup>®</sup>
<i>Acer campestre</i>	hedge maple	Queen Elizabeth <sup>™</sup>
<i>Acer cappadocicum</i>	coliseum maple	‘Aureum’
<i>Acer ginnala</i>	Amur maple	Red Rhapsody <sup>™</sup>
<i>Acer griseum</i>	paperbark maple	
<i>Acer oliverianum</i>	Chinese maple	
<i>Acer pensylvanicum</i> *	striped maple	
<i>Acer triflorum</i>	three-flower maple	
<i>Aesculus pavia</i> *	red buckeye	
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	downy serviceberry	(Numerous exist)
<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	Allegheny serviceberry	
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> *	American hornbeam	
<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	eastern redbud	‘Forest Pansy’
<i>Chionanthus virginicus</i>	white fringetree	
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	pagoda dogwood	
<i>Cornus kousa</i>	kousa dogwood	(Numerous exist)
<i>Cornus mas</i>	corneliancherry dogwood	‘Spring Sun’
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	European filbert	‘Contorta’
<i>Cotinus coggygria</i> *	common smoketree	‘Flame’
<i>Cotinus obovata</i> *	American smoketree	
<i>Crataegus phaenopyrum</i> *	Washington hawthorn	Princeton Sentry <sup>™</sup>
<i>Crataegus viridis</i>	green hawthorn	‘Winter King’
<i>Franklinia alatamaha</i> *	Franklinia	
<i>Halesia tetraptera</i> *	Carolina silverbell	‘Arnold Pink’
<i>Laburnum</i> × <i>watereri</i>	goldenchain tree	
<i>Maackia amurensis</i>	Amur maackia	
<i>Magnolia</i> × <i>soulangiana</i> *	saucer magnolia	‘Alexandrina’
<i>Magnolia stellata</i> *	star magnolia	‘Centennial’
<i>Magnolia tripetala</i> *	umbrella magnolia	
<i>Magnolia virginiana</i> *	sweetbay magnolia	Moonglow <sup>®</sup>
<i>Malus</i> spp.	flowering crabapple	(Disease resistant only)
<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>	sourwood	‘Mt. Charm’
<i>Prunus subhirtella</i>	Higan cherry	‘Pendula’
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	common chokecherry	‘Schubert’
<i>Staphylea trifolia</i> *	American bladdernut	
<i>Stewartia ovata</i>	mountain stewartia	
<i>Styrax japonicus</i> *	Japanese snowbell	‘Emerald Pagoda’
<i>Syringa reticulata</i>	Japanese tree lilac	‘Ivory Silk’

\* Denotes species that are **not** recommended for use as street trees.

## Coniferous and Evergreen Trees

### Large Trees: Greater than 45 Feet in Height at Maturity

Scientific Name	Common Name	Cultivar
<i>Abies balsamea</i>	balsam fir	
<i>Abies concolor</i>	white fir	‘Violacea’
<i>Cedrus libani</i>	cedar-of-Lebanon	
<i>Chamaecyparis nootkatensis</i>	Nootka falsecypress	‘Pendula’
<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>	Japanese cryptomeria	‘Sekkan-sugi’
× <i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	Leyland cypress	
<i>Ilex opaca</i>	American holly	
<i>Picea omorika</i>	Serbian spruce	
<i>Picea orientalis</i>	Oriental spruce	
<i>Pinus densiflora</i>	Japanese red pine	
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	eastern white pine	
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scotch pine	
<i>Pinus taeda</i>	loblolly pine	
<i>Pinus virginiana</i>	Virginia pine	
<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Douglas-fir	
<i>Thuja plicata</i>	western arborvitae	(Numerous exist)
<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	eastern hemlock	

### Medium Trees: 31–45 Feet in Height at Maturity

Scientific Name	Common Name	Cultivar
<i>Chamaecyparis thyoides</i>	Atlantic whitecedar	(Numerous exist)
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	eastern redcedar	
<i>Pinus bungeana</i>	lacebark pine	
<i>Pinus flexilis</i>	limber pine	
<i>Pinus parviflora</i>	Japanese white pine	
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	eastern arborvitae	(Numerous exist)

### Small Trees: 15–30 Feet in Height at Maturity

Scientific Name	Common Name	Cultivar
<i>Ilex</i> × <i>attenuata</i>	Foster's holly	
<i>Pinus aristata</i>	bristlecone pine	
<i>Pinus mugo mugo</i>	mugo pine	

This suggested species list was compiled through the use of the excellent references *Dirr's Hardy Trees and Shrubs* (Dirr 2003) and *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants (5th Edition)* (Dirr 1998). Cultivar selections are recommendations only and are based on Davey Resource Group's experience; tree availability will vary by nursery.

## Appendix C

### Invasive Pests and Diseases That Affect Trees

In today's worldwide marketplace, the volume of international trade brings increased potential for pests and diseases to invade our country. Many of these pests and diseases have seriously harmed rural and urban landscapes and have caused billions of dollars in lost revenue and millions of dollars in clean-up costs. Keeping these pests and diseases out of the country is the number one priority of the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Inspection Service (APHIS).

Although some invasive species enter the United States naturally via wind, ocean currents, and other means, most enter with some help from human activities. Their introduction to our country is a byproduct of cultivation, commerce, tourism, and travel. Many species enter the United States each year in cargo, mail, baggage, or contaminants of commodities.

Once here, hungry pests grow and spread rapidly because controls, such as native predators, are lacking. Invasive pests disrupt the landscape by pushing out native species, reducing biological diversity, killing trees, altering wildfire intensity and frequency, and damaging crops. Some pests may even push species to extinction. Following are key pests and diseases that adversely affect trees in America at the time of this plan's development. This list is not comprehensive and may not include all threats.

It is critical to the management of community trees to routinely check APHIS, USDA Forest Service, and other websites for updates about invasive species and diseases in your area and in our country so you can be prepared to combat their attack.



**APHIS, Plant Health, Plant Pest Program Information**

• [www.aphis.usda.gov/plant\\_health/plant\\_pest\\_info](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info)



**The University of Georgia, Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health**

• [www.bugwood.org](http://www.bugwood.org)



**USDA National Agricultural Library**

• [www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/microbes](http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/microbes)



**USDA Northeastern Areas Forest Service, Forest Health Protection**

• [www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp](http://www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp)

## Asian Longhorned Beetle

The Asian longhorned beetle (ALB, *Anoplophora glabripennis*) is an exotic pest threatening a wide variety of hardwood trees in North America. The beetle was introduced in New York City, Chicago, and New Jersey and is believed to have been introduced in the United States from wood pallets and other wood packing material accompanying cargo shipments from Asia. ALB is a serious threat to America's hardwood tree species.

Adults are large (3/4- to 1/2-inch long) with very long, black and white banded antennae. The body is glossy black with irregular white spots. Adults can be seen from late spring to fall depending on the climate. ALB has a long list of host species; however, the beetle prefers hardwoods including several maple species. Examples include *A. negundo* (box elder); *A. platanoides* (Norway maple); *A. saccharinum* (silver maple); *Aesculus glabra* (buckeye); *A. hippocastanum* (horsechestnut); *Betula* (birch); *Platanus × acerifolia* (London planetree); red maple; *Salix* (willow); sugar maple; and *Ulmus* (elm).



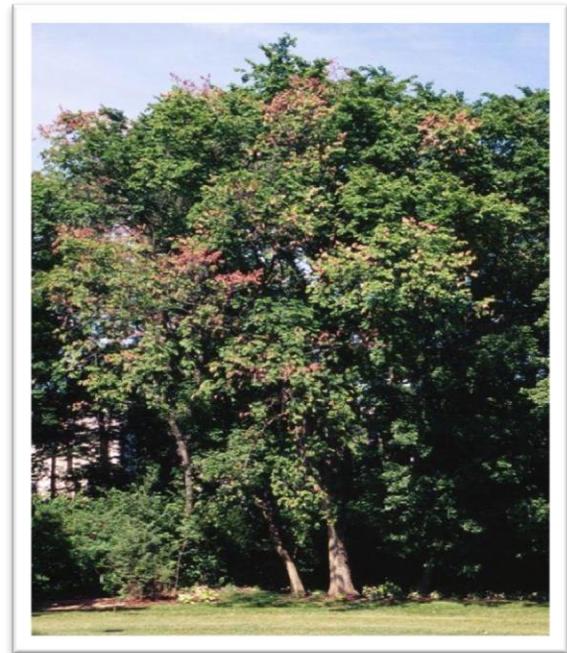
**Adult Asian longhorned beetle.**  
Photograph courtesy of New Bedford Guide 2011.

## Dutch Elm Disease

Considered by many to be one of the most destructive, invasive diseases of shade trees in the United States, Dutch elm disease (DED) was first found in Ohio in 1930 and by 1933 it was in several East Coast cities. By 1959, it had killed thousands of elms. Today, DED covers about two-thirds of the eastern United States, including Illinois, and annually kills many of the remaining and newly planted elms. The disease is caused by a fungus that attacks the vascular system of elm trees blocking the flow of water and nutrients resulting in rapid leaf yellowing, tree decline, and death.

There are two closely related fungi that are collectively referred to as DED. The most common is *Ophiostoma novo-ulmi*, and is thought to be responsible for most of the elm deaths since the 1970s. The fungus is transmitted to healthy elms by elm bark beetles. Two species carry the fungus: the native elm bark beetle (*Hylurgopinus rufipes*) and the European elm bark beetle (*Scolytus multistriatus*).

Trees most affected by DED are the *Ulmus americana* (American elm).



**Branch death, or flagging, at multiple locations in the crown of a diseased elm.**

Photograph courtesy of Steven Katovich,  
USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org (2011).

## Emerald Ash Borer

The emerald ash borer (EAB, *Agrilus planipennis*) is responsible for the death or decline of tens of millions of ash trees in 14 states in the American Midwest and Northeast. Native to Asia, it has been found in China, Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Taiwan, and eastern Russia. It likely arrived in the United States hidden in wood-packing materials commonly used to ship consumer goods, auto parts, and other products. The first official United States identification of EAB was in southeastern Michigan in 2002.

Adult beetles are slender and 1/2-inch long. Males are smaller than females. Color varies but adults are usually bronze or golden green overall with metallic, emerald-green wing covers. The top of the abdomen under the wings is metallic, purplish-red and can be seen when the wings are spread.

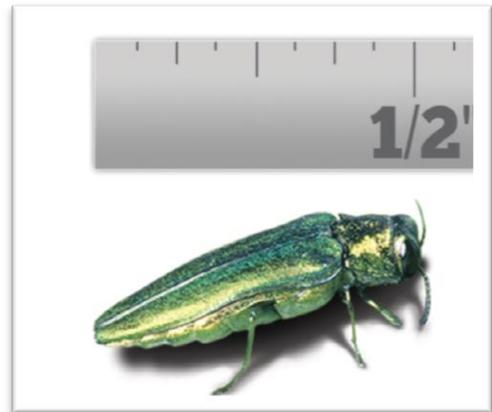
The tree species preferred as hosts by the EAB are in the genus *Fraxinus* (ash).

## Gypsy Moth

The gypsy moth (GM, *Lymantria dispar*) is native to Europe and first arrived in the United States in Massachusetts in 1869. This moth is a significant pest because its caterpillars have voracious appetites for more than 300 species of trees and shrubs. GM caterpillars defoliate trees leaving them vulnerable to diseases and other pests that can eventually kill the tree.

Male GMs are brown with a darker brown pattern on their wings and have a 1/2-inch wingspan. Females are slightly larger with a 2-inch wingspan and are nearly white with dark, saw-toothed patterns on their wings. Although they have wings, the female GM cannot fly.

The GM prefers approximately 150 primary hosts but feeds on more than 300 species of trees and shrubs. Some trees are found in these common genera: *Betula* (birch), *Juniperus* (cedar), *Larix* (larch), *Populus* (aspen, cottonwood, poplar), *Quercus* (oak), and *Salix* (willow).



**Close-up of the emerald ash borer.**  
Photograph courtesy of APHIS (2011).



**Close-up of male (darker brown) and female (whitish color) European Gypsy Moths.** Photograph courtesy of APHIS (2011b).

## Granulate Ambrosia Beetle

The granulate ambrosia beetle (*Xylosandrus crassiusculus*), formerly the Asian ambrosia beetle, was first found in the United States in 1974 on peach trees near Charleston, South Carolina. The native range of the granulate ambrosia beetle is probably tropical and subtropical Asia and it is widely introduced elsewhere. It is currently found

in equatorial Africa, Asia, China, Guinea, Hawaii, India, Japan, New South Pacific, Southeast Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and the United States. In the United States, this species has spread along the lower Piedmont region and coastal plain to North Carolina, Louisiana, Florida, and East Texas. Populations were found in Oregon and Virginia in 1992, and in Indiana in 2002.

Adults are small and have a reddish-brown appearance with a downward facing head. Most individuals have a reddish head region and a dark-brown to black elytra (hard casings protecting the wings). Light-colored forms that appear almost yellow also have been trapped. A granulated (rough) region is located on the front portion of the head and long setae (hairs) can be observed on the back end of the wing covers. Females are 2–2.5mm and males are 1.5mm long. Larvae are C-shaped with a defined head capsule.

The granulate ambrosia beetle is considered an aggressive species and can attack trees that are not highly stressed. It is a potentially serious pest of ornamentals and fruit trees and is reported to be able to infest most trees and some shrubs (azalea, rhododendron) except for conifers. Known hosts in the United States include *Acer* (maple), *Albizia julibrissin* (mimosa), *Carya* (hickory), *Cercis canadensis* (redbud), *Cornus* (dogwood), *Diospyros* (persimmon), *Fagus* (beech), *Gleditsia* or *Robinia* (locust), *Juglans* (walnut), *Koelreuteria* (goldenrain tree), *Lagerstroemia* (crape myrtle), *Liquidambar styraciflua* (sweet gum), *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tulip poplar), *Magnolia* (magnolia), *Populus* (aspen), *Prunus* (cherry), *Quercus* (oak), and *Ulmus parvifolia* (Chinese elm). *Carya illinoensis* (pecan) and *Pyrus calleryana* (Bradford pear) are commonly attacked in Florida and in the southeastern United States.



Adult granulate ambrosia beetle.

Photograph courtesy Paul M. Choate, University of Florida  
(Atkinson et al. 2011).

## Oak Wilt

Oak wilt was first identified in 1944 and is caused by the fungus *Ceratocystis fagacearum*. While considered an invasive and aggressive disease, its status as an exotic pest is debated since the fungus has not been reported in any other part of the world. This disease affects the oak genus, and is most devastating to those in the red oak subgenus, such as *Q. coccinea* (scarlet oak), *Q. imbricaria* (shingle oak), *Q. palustris* (pin oak), *Q. phellos* (willow oak), and *Q. rubra* (red oak). It also attacks trees in the white oak subgenus, although it is not as prevalent and spreads at a much slower pace in these trees.

Just as with DED, oak wilt disease is caused by a fungus that clogs the vascular system of oaks and results in decline and death of the tree. The fungus is carried from tree to tree by several borers common to oaks, but more commonly the disease is spread through root grafts. Oak species within the same subgenus (white or red) will form root colonies with grafted roots that allow the disease to move readily from one tree to another.



**Oak wilt symptoms on red and white oak leaves.**

**Photograph courtesy USDA Forest Service (2011a).**

## Pine Shoot Beetle

The pine shoot beetle (*Tomicus piniperda* L.), a native of Europe, is an introduced pest of *Pinus* (pine) in the United States. It was first discovered in the United States at a Christmas tree farm near Cleveland, Ohio in 1992. Following the first detection in Ohio, the beetle has been detected in parts of 19 states (Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wisconsin).

The beetle attacks new shoots of pine trees, stunting the growth of the trees. The pine shoot beetle may also attack stressed pine trees by breeding under the bark at the base of the trees. The beetles can cause severe decline in the health of the trees and, in some cases, kill the trees when high populations exist.

Adult pine shoot beetles range from 3 to 5mm long, or about the size of a match head. They are brown or black and cylindrical. The legless larvae are about 5mm long with a white body and brown head. Egg galleries are 10–25cm long. From April to June, larvae feed and mature under the pine bark in separate feeding galleries that are 4–9cm long. When mature, the larvae stop feeding, pupate, and then emerge as adults. From July through October, adults tunnel out through the bark and fly to new or 1-year-old pine shoots to begin maturation feeding. The beetles enter the shoot 15cm or less from the shoot tip, and move upwards by hollowing out the center of the shoot for a distance of 2.5–10cm. Affected shoots droop, turn yellow, and eventually fall off during the summer and fall.

*Pinus sylvestris* (Scots pine) is preferred, but other pine species, including *P. banksiana* (jack pine), *P. nigra* (Austrian pine), *P. resinosa* (red pine), and *P. strobus* (eastern white pine) have been infested in the Great Lakes region.



**Mined shoots on Scotch pine.  
Photo courtesy USDA Forest  
Service (1993).**

## Sirex woodwasp

Sirex woodwasp (*Sirex noctilio*) has been the most common species of exotic woodwasp detected at United States ports-of-entry associated with solid wood-packing materials. Recent detections of sirex woodwasp outside of port areas in the United States have raised concerns because this insect has the potential to cause significant mortality of pines. Awareness of the symptoms and signs of a sirex woodwasp infestation increases the chance of early detection and, thus, the rapid response needed to contain and manage this exotic forest pest.



**Close-up of female Sirex Woodwasp.**  
Photograph courtesy of USDA (2005).

Woodwasps (or horntails) are large, robust insects, usually 1.0 to 1.5 inches long. Adults have a spear-shaped plate (cornus) at the tail end; in addition females have a long ovipositor under this plate. Larvae are creamy white, legless, and have a distinctive dark spine at the rear of the abdomen. More than a dozen species of native horntails occur in North America.

Sirex woodwasp can attack living pines, while native woodwasps attack only dead and dying trees. At low populations, sirex woodwasp selects suppressed, stressed, and injured trees for egg laying. Foliage of infested trees initially wilts, and then changes color from dark green to light green, to yellow, and finally to red, during the 3-6 months following attack. Infested trees may have resin beads or dribbles at the egg laying sites which are more common at the mid-bole level. Larval galleries are tightly packed with very fine sawdust. As adults emerge, they chew round exit holes that vary from 1/8 to 3/8 inch in diameter.

## Southern Pine Beetle

The southern pine beetle (SPB, *Dendroctonus frontalis*) is the most destructive insect pest of pine in the southern United States. It attacks and kills all species of southern yellow pines including *P. strobus* (eastern white pine). Trees are killed when beetles construct winding, S-shaped egg galleries underneath the bark. These galleries effectively girdle the tree and destroy the conductive tissues that transport food throughout the tree. Furthermore, the beetles carry blue staining fungi on their bodies that clog the water conductive tissues (wood) that transport water within the tree. Signs of attack on the outside of the tree are pitch tubes and boring dust, known as frass, caused by beetles entering the tree.



**Adult southern pine beetles.** Photograph courtesy of Forest Encyclopedia Network (2012).

Adult SPBs reach an ultimate length of only 1/8 inch, similar in size to a grain of rice. They are short-legged, cylindrical, and brown to black in color. Eggs are small, oval in shape, shiny, opaque, and pearly white.

## Sudden Oak Death

The causal agent of sudden oak death (SOD, also known as *Phytophthora* canker disease), *Phytophthora ramorum*, was first identified in 1993 in Germany and the Netherlands on ornamental rhododendrons. In 2000, the disease was found in California. Since its discovery in North America, SOD has been confirmed in forests in California and Oregon and in nurseries in California, Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. SOD has been potentially introduced into other states through exposed nursery stock. Through ongoing surveys, APHIS continues to define the extent of the pathogen's distribution in the United States and limit its artificial spread beyond infected areas through quarantine and a public education program.



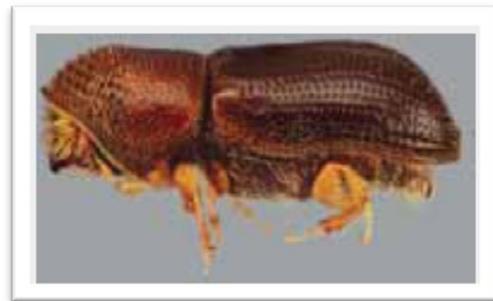
**Drooping tanoak shoot. Photograph courtesy of Indiana Department of Natural Resources (2012.)**

Identification and symptoms of SOD may include large cankers on the trunk or main stem accompanied by browning of leaves. Tree death may occur within several months to several years after initial infection. Infected trees also may be infested with ambrosia beetles (*Monarthrum scutellare* and *M. dentiger*), bark beetles (*Pseudopityophthorus pubipennis*), and sapwood rotting fungus (*Hypoxylon thouarsianum*). These organisms may contribute to the death of the tree. Infection on foliar hosts is indicated by dark grey to brown lesions with indistinct edges. These lesions can occur anywhere on the leaf blade, in vascular tissue, or on the petiole. Petiole lesions are often accompanied by stem lesions. Some hosts with leaf lesions defoliate and eventually show twig dieback.

This pathogen is devastating to *Quercus* (oaks) but also affects several other plant species.

## Thousand Cankers Disease

A disease complex referred to as thousand cankers disease (TCD) was first observed in Colorado in 2008 and is now thought to have been existence in Colorado as early as 2003. TCD is considered to be native to the United States and is attributed to numerous cankers developing in association with insect galleries.



**Walnut twig beetle, side view. Photograph courtesy of USDA Forest Service (2011b).**

TCD results from the combined activity of the *Geosmithia morbida* fungus and the walnut twig beetle (WTB, *Pityophthorus juglandis*). The WTB has expanded both its geographical and host range over the past two decades, and coupled with the *Geosmithia morbida* fungus, *Juglans* (walnut) mortality has resulted in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. In July, 2010, TCD was reported in Knoxville, Tennessee. The infestation is believed to be at least 10 years old and was previously attributed to drought stress. This is the first report east of the 100th meridian, raising concerns that large, native populations of *J. nigra* (black walnut) in the eastern United States may suffer severe decline and mortality.

The tree species preferred as hosts for TCD are walnuts.

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## Appendix D

### Estimated Costs for Brentwood's Five-Year Tree Management Program

Estimated Costs for Each Activity			2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		Five-Year
Activity	Diameter	Cost/Tree	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	Cost
<b>Activity Total(s)</b>													\$0
Severe and High-Risk Removal	1-3"	\$25	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
	4-6"	\$105	2	\$210	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$210
	7-12"	\$220	18	\$3,960	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$3,960
	13-18"	\$355	20	\$7,100	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$7,100
	19-24"	\$525	1	\$525	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$525
	25-30"	\$845	4	\$3,380	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$3,380
	31-36"	\$1,140	1	\$1,140	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$1,140
	37-42"	\$1,470	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
43"+	\$1,850	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	
<b>Activity Total(s)</b>			<b>46</b>	<b>\$16,315</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$16,315</b>
Moderate-Risk Removal	1-3"	\$25	0	\$0	3	\$75	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$75
	4-6"	\$105	0	\$0	9	\$945	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$945
	7-12"	\$220	0	\$0	12	\$2,640	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$2,640
	13-18"	\$355	0	\$0	9	\$3,195	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$3,195
	19-24"	\$525	0	\$0	3	\$1,575	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$1,575
	25-30"	\$845	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
	31-36"	\$1,140	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
	37-42"	\$1,470	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
43"+	\$1,850	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	
<b>Activity Total(s)</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>\$8,430</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$8,430</b>
Low-Risk Removal	1-3"	\$25	0	\$0	10	\$250	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$250
	4-6"	\$105	0	\$0	7	\$735	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$735
	7-12"	\$220	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
	13-18"	\$355	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
	19-24"	\$525	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
	25-30"	\$845	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
	31-36"	\$1,140	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
	37-42"	\$1,470	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
43"+	\$1,850	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	
<b>Activity Total(s)</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>\$985</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$985</b>
Stump Removal	1-3"	\$25	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
	4-6"	\$25	0	\$0	1	\$25	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$25
	7-12"	\$25	0	\$0	3	\$75	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$75
	13-18"	\$40	0	\$0	2	\$80	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$80
	19-24"	\$60	0	\$0	2	\$120	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$120
	25-30"	\$85	0	\$0	1	\$85	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$85
	31-36"	\$110	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
	37-42"	\$130	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
43"+	\$160	0	\$0	2	\$320	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$320	
<b>Activity Total(s)</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>\$705</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$705</b>
Severe and High-Risk Prune	1-3"	\$20	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
	4-6"	\$30	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
	7-12"	\$75	7	\$525	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$525
	13-18"	\$120	61	\$7,320	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$7,320
	19-24"	\$170	87	\$14,790	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$14,790
	25-30"	\$225	58	\$13,050	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$13,050
	31-36"	\$305	35	\$10,675	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$10,675
	37-42"	\$380	11	\$4,180	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$4,180
43"+	\$590	5	\$2,950	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$2,950	
<b>Activity Total(s)</b>			<b>264</b>	<b>\$53,490</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$53,490</b>
Routine Pruning	1-3"	\$20	22	\$440	22	\$440	22	\$440	22	\$440	22	\$440	\$2,200
	4-6"	\$30	24	\$720	24	\$720	24	\$720	24	\$720	24	\$720	\$3,600
	7-12"	\$75	98	\$7,350	98	\$7,350	98	\$7,350	98	\$7,350	98	\$7,350	\$36,750
	13-18"	\$120	78	\$9,360	78	\$9,360	78	\$9,360	78	\$9,360	78	\$9,360	\$46,800
	19-24"	\$170	74	\$12,580	74	\$12,580	74	\$12,580	74	\$12,580	74	\$12,580	\$62,900
	25-30"	\$225	30	\$6,750	30	\$6,750	30	\$6,750	30	\$6,750	30	\$6,750	\$33,750
	31-36"	\$305	7	\$2,135	7	\$2,135	7	\$2,135	7	\$2,135	7	\$2,135	\$10,675
	37-42"	\$380	2	\$760	2	\$760	2	\$760	2	\$760	2	\$760	\$3,800
43"+	\$590	1	\$590	1	\$590	1	\$590	1	\$590	1	\$590	\$2,950	
<b>Activity Total(s)</b>			<b>336</b>	<b>\$40,685</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>\$40,685</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>\$40,685</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>\$40,685</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>\$40,685</b>	<b>\$203,425</b>
Young Tree Training Pruning	1-3"	\$20	117	\$2,340	117	\$2,340	117	\$2,340	117	\$2,340	117	\$2,340	\$11,700
	4-6"	\$30	96	\$2,880	96	\$2,880	96	\$2,880	96	\$2,880	96	\$2,880	\$14,400
	7-12"	\$75	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
<b>Activity Total(s)</b>			<b>213</b>	<b>\$5,220</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>\$5,220</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>\$5,220</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>\$5,220</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>\$5,220</b>	<b>\$26,100</b>
Tree Planting	Purchasing	\$110	103	\$11,330	103	\$11,330	103	\$11,330	103	\$11,330	103	\$11,330	\$56,650
	Planting	\$110	103	\$11,330	103	\$11,330	103	\$11,330	103	\$11,330	103	\$11,330	\$56,650
<b>Activity Total(s)</b>			<b>206</b>	<b>\$22,660</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>\$22,660</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>\$22,660</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>\$22,660</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>\$22,660</b>	<b>\$113,300</b>
Young Tree Maintenance	Mulching	\$100	103	\$10,300	103	\$10,300	103	\$10,300	103	\$10,300	103	\$10,300	\$51,500
	Watering	\$100	103	\$10,300	103	\$10,300	103	\$10,300	103	\$10,300	103	\$10,300	\$51,500
<b>Activity Total(s)</b>			<b>206</b>	<b>\$20,600</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>\$20,600</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>\$20,600</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>\$20,600</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>\$20,600</b>	<b>\$103,000</b>
<b>Activity Grand Total</b>			<b>1065</b>	<b>\$158,970</b>	<b>819</b>	<b>\$99,285</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>\$89,165</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>\$89,165</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>\$89,165</b>	<b>\$4149</b>
<b>Cost Grand Total</b>				<b>\$158,970</b>		<b>\$99,285</b>		<b>\$89,165</b>		<b>\$89,165</b>		<b>\$89,165</b>	<b>\$525,750</b>

***Appendix E***  
***Emerald Ash Borer Information***

# Ash Tree Identification

Ash species attacked by emerald ash borer include green (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), white (*F. americana*), black (*F. nigra*), and blue (*F. quadrangulata*), as well as horticultural cultivars of these species. Green and white ash are the most commonly found ash species in the Midwest with blue ash being rare.

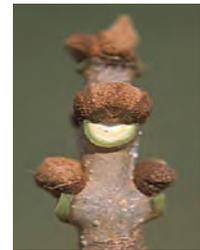
While other woody plants, such as mountainash and pricklyash, have "ash" in their name, they are not true ash, or *Fraxinus* species. Only true ash are susceptible to attack by emerald ash borer.

## To properly identify ash trees, use the following criteria:



### Branch and Bud Arrangement

Branches and buds are directly across from each other and not staggered. When looking for opposite branching in trees, please consider that buds or limbs may die; hence not every single branch will have an opposite mate.



Diane Brown-Rytlewski

### Leaves

Leaves are compound and composed of 5-11 leaflets. Leaflet margins may be smooth or toothed. The only other oppositely branched tree with compound leaves is boxelder (*Acer negundo*), which almost always has three to five leaflets. White ash (on left) and green ash (on right)



\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University

### Bark

On mature trees (left), the bark is tight with a distinct pattern of diamond-shaped ridges. On young trees (right), bark is relatively smooth.



\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University

### Seeds

When present on trees, seeds are dry, oar-shaped samaras. They usually occur in clusters and typically hang on the tree until late fall, early winter.



## Tree Species Resembling Ash

### Boxelder (*Acer negundo*)

Exhibits opposite branching and compound leaves. However, has 3 to 5 leaflets (instead of 5 to 11) and the samaras are always in pairs instead of single like the ash.



\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University

\*Bill Cook, Michigan State University

### European Mountainash (*Sorbus aucuparia*)

Leaves are compound with alternate (staggered) branching. Tree bears clusters of creamy white flowers in May. Fruits are fleshy, red-orange berries.



Diane Brown-Rytlewski

\*Boris Hrasovec, University of Zagreb

### Shagbark Hickory (*Carya ovata*)

Leaves are compound with 5 to 7 leaflets, but the plant has an alternate branching habit. Fruit are hard-shelled nuts in a green husk.



\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University

\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University

### Elm (*Ulmus species*)

Branching is alternate and the leaves are simple with an unequal leaf base.



\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University

\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University



\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University

### Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*)

Leaves are compound with 9 to 15 leaflets, but the plant has an alternate branching habit. Fruit is a large dark brown nut inside a green husk.



\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University

Authors: Kimberly Rebek and Mary Wilson

\*www.forestryimages.org

# Missouri Emerald Ash Borer Action Plan



May 2, 2008

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# Missouri Emerald Ash Borer Action Plan

## I. INTRODUCTION

The emerald ash borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis*, is a new, significant threat to the urban and rural forests of Missouri. This exotic beetle is an invasive species that has the potential to remove ash trees (*Fraxinus* spp.) from North American forests and urban landscapes. First identified in 2002 in southeastern Michigan, EAB has destroyed millions of ash trees across its known distribution in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland and Ontario. With state and federal quarantines in place, significant survey, containment, and clean-up operations are underway in the affected areas. However, EAB populations are well established in the core infestation area.

There are concerns that quarantine and containment efforts will not be adequate to stop the spread of this new pest, and that it will come to Missouri and neighboring states not only by natural spread, but by hitchhiking in infested firewood, logs or nursery stock. Although chemical and biological controls are under investigation, aggressive containment efforts are necessary for new outbreaks outside the core infestation area. Satellite outbreaks in several states have required swift, organized responses by government agencies and cooperation of stakeholder groups.

Details of EAB identification, biology, hosts, symptoms, and distribution are provided in a Pest Alert by the USDA Forest Service ([http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/pest\\_al/eab/eab.pdf](http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/pest_al/eab/eab.pdf)) and on the Cooperative Emerald Ash Borer Project web site (<http://www.emeraldashborer.info/>).

### Missouri Perspective

Information from community tree inventories indicates that ash trees comprise about 14% of street trees in Missouri communities and over 21% of trees in urban parks (data compiled by Missouri Department of Conservation, 2005). The percentages rise to well over 30% in some parks and residential subdivisions. Costs associated with hazard tree removal and replacement tree planting will be high for such a significant component of the urban forest. In Missouri's natural forest stands, ash trees comprise about 3% of total trees (USDA Forest Service, Forest Inventory and Analysis data). Thus the impact of this destructive pest is expected to be less in rural forests in terms of percentages, although ecological impacts could be significant in some areas.

Visual surveys to detect the presence of EAB are conducted annually in Missouri. The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA) began surveying selected state parks, private campgrounds, and urban sites in 2005. The USDA Forest Service (USFS) began in 2004 to survey federal campgrounds and recreation areas managed by the Mark Twain National Forest, US Army Corps of Engineers, and Department of the Interior. Additionally, MDA Plant Protection Specialists have been examining ash nursery stock since 2003 (many thousand trees per year) during routine nursery inspections at all of the state's nursery growers.

MDC, MDA, and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) have been working cooperatively to raise public awareness about EAB through workshop presentations (green industry professionals, Master Gardeners, State Park staff and others), an informational web site (<http://www.mdc.mo.gov/forest/features/firewood.htm>), a *Missouri Conservationist* article (March 2007), a poster on the risk of firewood movement (developed and distributed to campgrounds and recreation sites throughout Missouri), and numerous media releases and media interviews.

## II. PURPOSE

The Missouri Emerald Ash Borer Action Plan<sup>1</sup> has been developed to provide a statewide coordinated response, and to help local communities plan to respond to the potential negative effects of the emerald ash borer. The primary goal of the Plan is to delay introduction of EAB into Missouri, and to detect and contain EAB populations and mitigate impacts if and when EAB does arrive.

## III. GENERAL READINESS

**Objective:** To reduce risk, minimize impact, and respond more effectively to a possible infestation of the EAB, and to partner towards overall health and sustainability of Missouri's forests.

**A. Establish a network of agencies and organizations that may be affected by the EAB as the Emerald Ash Borer Action Team.** The Team will draft an Action Plan and be responsible for advising, advocating, and leading in the implementation of the plan. The Action Team is comprised of a Technical Team and Communications Team. The Technical Team has the leadership role and is responsible for planning, coordination, and prompt evaluation and action. The Communications Team supports the Technical Team by providing uniform and accurate information and education.

The following agencies have, by law, the responsibility and authority to manage an exotic plant pest introduction. See Appendix B for details.

- Missouri Department of Agriculture
- USDA, APHIS, Plant Protection and Quarantine
- Affected local government(s) at sites of infestation.

1. Technical Team – Serves as the lead group in planning and coordinating all EAB readiness and response activities. Committee members are listed in Appendix A. The following serve as Committee Co-chairs:

- Missouri Department of Agriculture (State Entomologist)
- Missouri Department of Conservation (Forest Entomologist)
- Missouri Department of Natural Resources (State Parks representative)

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<sup>1</sup> The Missouri Emerald Ash Borer Action Plan should be considered a dynamic and evolving document that may change as new research and management information becomes available.

2. Communications Team – Supports activities of the Technical Team by communicating accurate information quickly and broadly in a manner that increases the effectiveness of efforts to prevent and control EAB infestations. Committee members are listed in Appendix A. The following persons serve as Committee Co-chairs:

- Missouri Department of Conservation (Community Forestry Coordinator and Public Relations Specialist)

**B. Agency Roles and Responsibilities** for major partners in the Emerald Ash Borer Action Team include but are not limited to the following.

1. **Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA)** is the lead State agency responsible for preventing the introduction and spread of harmful plant pests, such as insects and diseases, into and within Missouri.

- a) Provide surveillance and detection, follow-up inspections on reported suspect invasive species, identification, assessment and monitoring.
- b) Notify and coordinate activities with the appropriate local, state, and federal agencies and other appropriate organizations related to program responsibilities and this Plan.
- c) Confirm identification of samples and suspect organisms.
- d) Cooperate with other members of the EAB Communications Team to develop specific messages and coordinate communication of invasive species information to the public, media, cooperators, and affected industries.
- e) Implement and maintain appropriate state and federal quarantines.
- f) Review and coordinate pest control activities to ensure compliance with federal, state and local laws.
- g) Condemn and seize materials when appropriate.
- h) Oversee destruction of infested or potentially infested materials or vectors when appropriate.
- i) Provide or assist with the procurement of funding for survey, outreach, monitoring, and containment when appropriate.
- j) Provide pest management expertise and advice to all cooperators (including nursery operators) and the public.

2. **USDA, APHIS, Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ)** is the lead Federal agency responding to a harmful plant pest introduction.

- a) Assist in all response activities including quarantine, evaluation, identification, disposal, disinfection, epidemiology, trace-backs and trace-forwards, permitting, inspection, transportation control systems, and survey activities.
- b) Collect, collate, analyze, and disseminate technical and logistical information and distribute to field staff and cooperators.
- c) Cooperate with other members of the EAB Communications Team to develop specific messages and coordinate communication of invasive species information to the public, media, cooperators, and affected industries.

- d) Define training requirements for casual employees or support agencies involved in response operations. Training may consist of survey, sampling, diagnostic, and regulatory procedures.
- e) Cooperate in the declaration of the emergency area and assist in defining the emergency area and control or quarantined zones.
- f) Allocate funding for compensation to the owner of destroyed products, if an “Extraordinary Emergency” is declared by the Secretary of Agriculture.
- g) Acquire necessary funding to support emergency program activities.
- h) Provide investigations and support in cases of federal law violations.
- i) Consult with State and local authorities regarding response operations.
- j) Issue restrictions on interstate commerce.

3. **Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC)** is the lead State agency responsible for providing forest management information and technical forestry assistance to the people of Missouri and protecting and managing Missouri’s forests for long-term resource sustainability.

- a) Provide forest management expertise and advice to private landowners, communities, forest products and tree care industries, consulting foresters, and the general public.
- b) Provide information and assistance to Missouri communities in planning community preparedness and response to EAB and other invasive forest species.
- c) Manage forests on MDC lands to mitigate the impacts of invasive forest pests.
- d) Lead the EAB Communications Team and, in partnership with other agencies, develop specific messages and coordinate communication of invasive species information to the public, media, cooperators, and affected industries.
- e) Provide liaison with the USDA Forest Service, National Association of State Foresters, and Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters through the Missouri State Forester to request further assistance and funding.
- f) Assist in surveillance, detection, follow-up inspections on reported suspect invasive species, identification, assessment and monitoring.
- g) Assist with containment, restoration, and mitigation activities.
- h) Serve as the liaison (Missouri State Forester) to the Missouri Forest Resources Advisory Council.

4. **Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)** is the State agency responsible for environmental quality, waste disposal, energy, emergency response to environmental events, operation and management of State Parks and historic sites, and protecting natural resources in Missouri.

- a) Develop programs to reduce the likelihood of introduction of EAB and other invasive forest pests to State Parks and Historic Sites.
- b) Cooperate with other members of the EAB Communications Team to develop specific messages and coordinate communication of invasive species information to the public, media, cooperators, and affected industries.

5. **USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry (USFS)** assists in the detection, evaluation, monitoring and management of invasive forest pests on all forest ownerships.

- a) Assist other agencies to identify and prioritize which invasive species to control and to effectively implement a management plan to minimize their impact and spread.
- b) Cooperate with other members of the EAB Communications Team to develop specific messages and coordinate communication of invasive species information to the public, media, cooperators, and affected industries.
- c) Provide education and outreach materials to increase public awareness of EAB and other invasive forest pests.

**C. Administrative Readiness** – to ensure that current, relevant, and achievable policies are in place that allow the actions described in this plan to occur quickly and unencumbered.

1. Develop EAB Action Plan. [Technical Team]

- a) Distribute draft plan to stakeholders for review.
- b) MDA, MDC, and MDNR agree to implementation of the Plan.
- c) Educate internal stakeholders within cooperating agencies to promote common approach to Plan implementation.

2. Identify resources and needs. [Technical Team]

- a) Evaluate human and technical resources required to effectively monitor for EAB and respond to introductions.
- b) Assess human and technical resources available among partner agencies (e.g. survey personnel, delimiting personnel, tree climbers) and acquire commitments for their participation.
- c) Identify sources of funding for readiness activities.

3. Educate the media to ensure accuracy of information. [Communications Team]

- a) Identify key contacts (core members) on Communications Team as sources of current information.
- b) Develop a system among core members of the Communications Team for coordinating messages among agencies and providing expedited communications.
- c) Develop a media strategy to publicize the final Action Plan.

4. Explore wood waste utilization opportunities with the forest products industries and other partners to reclaim ash material to its highest possible use in the event a large volume of material suddenly becomes available. [MDC (Lead) and Technical Team]

**D. Technical Readiness** – Ensure that policy decisions, actions, and education initiatives are guided by the best and most current science.

1. Review and distribute to stakeholders recommendations for remedial control actions developed from recent government and university research. [Technical Team]

2. When issued, operate under New Pest Response Guidelines for EAB, or other relevant USDA technical guidelines. [Technical Team]
3. Transfer technology to field foresters, consulting foresters, arborists, and nursery professionals as it becomes available. [Communications Team]

#### **IV. REDUCTION OF INFESTATION RISK**

**Objective:** Identify all major pathways of EAB introduction and ensure actions are taken to reduce infestation risks, as soon as possible.

##### **A. Assess Risk of Infestation**

1. Assess the magnitude of the resource at risk (quantity of ash trees). [MDC]
2. Analyze density of ash populations to identify high-risk areas. [MDC]
3. Establish an EAB Pathways Committee [PPQ].
  - a) Members include MDA, MDC, MDNR, PPQ, Missouri Forest Products Association, and representatives of the nursery industry, utility companies, and camping and recreational vehicle associations.
  - b) Assess pathways and risks of EAB introduction into Missouri.
  - c) Develop recommendations for reducing risk of EAB introduction.
4. Track the spread of EAB in infested states. [Technical Team]

##### **B. Reduce Risk of Infestation**

1. Raise public awareness about risks of firewood importation. [Communications Team]
  - a) Install educational posters at public and private campgrounds and highway rest areas.
  - b) Develop and employ a variety of educational tools (e.g., media releases, billboards, public service announcements).
  - c) Educate firewood dealers and buyers on the benefits of buying and selling locally produced firewood in Missouri.
  - d) Educate the public and implement “burn what you bring and bring only what you need” firewood policy in Missouri’s private and public campgrounds
  - e) Educate state and national camping and recreational vehicle associations and youth scouting organizations about the risks involved with transporting firewood.
2. Educate industries about risks and regulations associated with movement of ash logs and nursery stock. [Communications Team]
  - a) Reach out to primary and secondary wood processors through landowner, industry, and professional associations.
  - b) Educate municipalities, contractors, garden centers, and landscapers about importance of knowing the source of ash nursery stock.

- c) Educate utility companies and others involved in tree management along rights-of-way.
- 3. Educate law enforcement agencies (Missouri State Highway Patrol, Missouri Sheriffs' Association, and local Police Departments and Associations) regarding existing regulations. [PPQ and MDA]
- 4. Maintain an effective nursery inspection program to ensure thorough inspection of ash nursery stock. [MDA]
  - a) Advocate for strong state support of nursery inspection program.
  - b) Ensure thorough inspection of ash nursery stock by providing EAB detection training to state inspectors.
  - c) Encourage landscaping companies to obtain proper nursery license from MDA.
- 5. Promote planting selections that contribute to a diverse and sustainable urban forest.
  - a) Educate municipalities and large property managers about diversity in tree planting and risk transfer (ash removal over time to spread out financial risks). [MDC (Lead) and Communications Team]
  - b) Assist local governments in tree assessments and inventories to analyze diversity and guide planting decisions. [MDC]
- 6. Seek legislative support to reduce risk. [Technical Team]
  - a. Invite active participation by Governor's representative.
  - b. Advocate for readiness funding from stakeholders.

## V. MONITORING PROGRAM

**Objective:** To detect EAB introductions promptly and improve the probability of containing an infestation.

### A. Survey high-risk ash populations to detect the presence of EAB following USFS survey protocols.

- 1. Continue state and federal collaborative surveys of areas with high risk of EAB introduction. [Technical Team]
- 2. Annually review and plan EAB survey activities. [Technical Team]
- 3. Communicate survey results to stakeholders and the media by media releases and/or informational web site. [Communications Team]

### B. Educate the public and professionals to aid in rapid identification of an infestation.

- 1. Provide EAB training and outreach to natural resource professionals including MDC Forestry, Private Lands Services and Nature Center staff, MDNR State Park naturalists,

landscapers, consulting foresters, arborists, nursery personnel, and other green industry workers. [Communications Team]

2. Educate the general public about EAB. [Communications Team]
  - a) Obtain or develop simple educational materials for the general public.
  - b) Pursue broad opportunities for speaking, publishing, and exhibiting educational material.
3. Recruit and enable volunteer scouting. [Communications Team]
  - a) Promote awareness with media releases and public appeals for help in scouting.
  - b) Prepare kits and training to support volunteer scouting by individuals and groups (e.g. Master Gardeners, Master Naturalists, Treekeepers, Missouri Community Forestry Council, Certified Arborists, Missouri Forestkeepers)

**C. Coordinate state and national information** to address professional and public inquiries from Missouri and foster cooperation and communication.

1. Link web sites of Action Team agencies to USFS, PPQ, and Cooperative Emerald Ash Borer Project web sites. [Communications Team]
2. Coordinate with the Cooperative Emerald Ash Borer Project to add Missouri information to their web site (<http://www.emeraldashborer.info/>). [Communications Team]

**D. Facilitate Inquiries and Reporting of Suspect Infestations.**

1. Educate the *general public* to submit inquiries and suspect infestation reports to a natural resource professional (See Appendix C), to allow pre-screening for appropriate tree species and insect group. [Communications Team]
2. Educate natural resource *professionals* (e.g., arborists, municipal foresters, nursery managers) to submit inquiries and suspect infestation reports to MDA, MDC, or PPQ as described below. [Communications Team]
3. Inquiries and reports of suspect EAB infestations are to be submitted to one of the following individuals. Personnel from these agencies will inspect the suspected ash tree(s) and identify the specimen(s).
  - State Entomologist, MDA
  - Forest Entomologist, MDC
  - State Plant Health Director, USDA-APHIS-PPQ
4. Collected specimens will be forwarded by the MDA State Entomologist or the PPQ State Plant Health Director to a PPQ identifier.
5. If a collected specimen is initially confirmed to be EAB by a PPQ Identifier, the specimen will then be sent to the National Systematic Entomology Laboratory for final confirmation.

6. All Technical Team members are to be notified that a suspect EAB is in the system for identification. However, at this point, all information is not for public dissemination. The public will be informed after a positive identification has been made.
7. The identification result from the Systematic Entomology Laboratory, either positive or negative for EAB, will be received by PPQ, who will notify the Technical Team and the Communications Team.

## **VI. RESPONSE TO DETECTION OF AN INFESTATION**

**Objective:** To contain and manage EAB populations, when detected.

The Technical Team, with cooperation of affected local government(s), will implement coordinated efforts to contain the infestation according to current national policies and scientific information.

### **A. Plan and implement containment actions.**

1. Coordinate response with affected local governments and other entities.
  - a) Meet to discuss and determine the preliminary plan of action. [Technical Team]
  - b) Schedule an emergency meeting with cooperators (e.g. regulated industries, city and county governments, utility companies, recreational areas, and others). [MDA (lead) and Technical Team]
  - c) Release accurate information to the media. [Communications Team]
2. Organize and conduct a delimiting survey to determine the infestation boundaries. [MDA (lead) and Technical Team]
  - a) All ash trees within 1/2 mile of a positive find will be identified and assessed for EAB activity within a reasonable time frame.
  - b) If additional EAB-infested trees are detected in any area, an expanded survey will be initiated within 1/2 mile from the new find.
3. Initiate regulatory and control activities as necessary.
  - a) Administer provisional quarantine established by MDA consistent with Missouri Revised Statutes, Chapter 263. Emergency rules will be issued describing the quarantined area and regulated articles. [MDA]
  - b) Determine if removal of potential host trees is appropriate. [MDA (lead) and Technical Team]
  - c) Develop compliance agreements with stakeholders to restrict movement from EAB-infested (regulated) areas. [MDA and PPQ]
4. Dispose of wood debris in cooperation with local governments. [Technical Team]
  - a) Establish processing facilities in the quarantine zones to efficiently handle ash debris and reclaim useable products as practical.
  - b) Market reclaimed wood products.

## **B. Communicate information about response.**

1. Provide accurate information and updates to the media through the core members of the Communications Team. [Communications Team]
2. Provide accurate information to affected residents. [Communications Team]
  - a) Prepare information for customizing and distributing to affected area immediately after infestation is found.
  - b) Cooperate with local governments to host local resident/landowner meetings to share information as soon as possible after finding an infestation.
3. Communicate with public and industry professionals to foster cooperation and maximize effective response. [Communications Team]

## **VII. MITIGATION OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS**

**Objective:** To develop processes and resources for mitigating potential impacts in the event of the establishment of EAB populations.

### **A. Response for urban forests**

1. Assist communities in developing local response plans. [MDC (lead) and Technical Team]
2. Conduct training programs for local governmental staff. [Communications Team]
3. Develop and distribute relevant information (print media, web, public service announcements, etc.) for homeowners. [Communications Team]
4. Provide updated information on EAB management techniques to arborists, landscape professionals, utility companies, and other green industry personnel through publications and periodic workshops. [Communications Team]
5. Explore opportunities for potential reforestation programs. [MDC (lead) and Technical Team]
6. Participate in the National Ash Tree Seed Collection Initiative to secure native ash germplasm (seeds) to be preserved for possible future reforestation efforts. [USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service]

### **B. Response for rural forests**

1. Develop [MDC] and distribute [Communications Team] silvicultural guidelines.
2. Evaluate and encourage local market utilization. [MDC (lead) and Technical Team]

**C. Seek legislative support** to cover costs associated with EAB management. [Technical Team]

1. Invite active participation by Governor's representative.
2. Advocate for matching funds at state and federal levels to assist local government(s) in clean-up efforts.
3. Advocate for readiness funding from stakeholders.

## **Appendix A. Missouri EAB Action Team and Partners**

### **Technical Team**

Missouri Department of Agriculture (Co-chair: State Entomologist)  
Missouri Department of Conservation (Co-chair: Forest Entomologist)  
Missouri Department of Natural Resources (Co-chair: State Parks representative)  
USDA APHIS, Plant Protection & Quarantine  
USDA Forest Service, State & Private Forestry, Forest Health Program  
University of Missouri Extension

### **Communications Team**

Missouri Department of Conservation (Co-Chairs: Community Forestry Coordinator  
and Public Relations Specialist)  
Missouri Department of Agriculture  
Missouri Department of Natural Resources  
USDA APHIS, Plant Protection & Quarantine  
USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area, Office of Communications  
University of Missouri Extension

### **Collaborators**

Forest ReLeaf of Missouri  
Missouri Community Forestry Council  
Missouri Forest Products Association  
Missouri Landscape and Nursery Association  
USDA Forest Service, Mark Twain National Forest  
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

### **Stakeholders**

Conservation Federation of Missouri	Missouri Dept. of Economic Development
Missouri Consulting Foresters Assn.	Missouri Office of Administration
Missouri Municipal League	Missouri State Emergency Management Agency
Missouri Parks & Recreation Assn.	Missouri State University, Dept. of Agriculture
Local Arborist Associations	US Army Corps of Engineers
Missouri Botanical Garden	US Dept. of Interior, National Park Service
Powell Gardens	Univ. of Missouri, Division of Plant Science
Municipalities	Univ. of Missouri, School of Natural Resources
Nurseries	Univ. of Missouri, Plant Diagnostic Clinic
Commercial campgrounds	

## Appendix B. Legal Authorities

The following agencies have, by law, the responsibility and authority to manage an exotic plant pest introduction:

- Missouri Department of Agriculture
  - Missouri Revised Statutes, Chapter 263
  
- USDA, APHIS, Plant Protection and Quarantine.
  - Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-188)
  - Plant Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-224; June 20, 2000)
  - Federal Plant Protection Regulations (Title 7 Code of Federal Regulations 300-399)
  
- Affected local government(s) at sites of infestation.

## **Appendix C. Reporting Suspect Emerald Ash Borer Infestations**

### **Reporting by the General Public:**

1. If a suspect infestation is found, record date and description of location. If possible, collect suspect insects and a tree twig sample with leaves. Photos of suspect trees and insects can also be very helpful in identification.
2. Suspect insects can be placed in a plastic container such as a pill bottle and killed by placing in a freezer overnight. Soft, worm-like insect larvae can be preserved by placing them in rubbing alcohol.
3. Submit inquiries, samples, or suspect infestation reports to one of the following:
  - Missouri Dept. of Conservation
  - MU Extension offices
  - MU Plant Diagnostic Clinic
  - Missouri Dept. of Agriculture
  - City Foresters or Arborists

### **Reporting by Natural Resource Professionals:**

Collect information and insect samples as described above and submit inquiries and reports to one of the following individuals. Personnel from these agencies will inspect the suspected ash tree(s) and identify the specimen(s).

State Entomologist  
Missouri Department of Agriculture  
P.O. Box 630, 1616 Missouri Blvd., Jefferson City, MO 65102  
Ph. 573-751-5505

Forest Entomologist  
Missouri Department of Conservation  
1110 S. College Ave., Columbia, MO 65201  
Ph. 573-882-9909

**Letter of Approval by the  
Missouri Department of Agriculture  
Missouri Department of Conservation  
And the  
Missouri Department of Natural Resources**

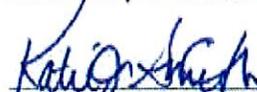
**Subject: Missouri Emerald Ash Borer Action Plan**

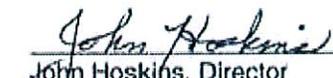
**Executive Summary:** The emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) or EAB is an invasive species that has the potential to completely remove ash trees from North American forests and urban landscapes. First identified in 2002 in southeastern Michigan, EAB has destroyed many millions of ash trees and spread into Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Maryland. There are concerns that quarantine and containment efforts by these states will not stop the spread of this pest. Should an outbreak occur in Missouri, it will require swift, organized responses by government agencies and stakeholder groups. The Missouri Emerald Ash Borer Action Plan has been developed to provide such a coordinated response. The primary goals of this plan are to delay introduction of EAB into Missouri, monitor Missouri's ash trees for the presence of EAB, and mitigate impacts of EAB if and when it arrives in the state. By following this plan, the cooperating agencies will protect Missouri's environmental, economic and social resources within the bounds of federal and state guidelines with programs that are biologically effective, environmentally responsible, economically justifiable and operationally efficient.

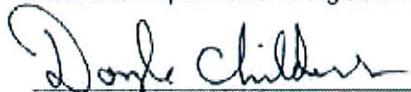
**Approval of the Action Plan:** This letter approves the Missouri Emerald Ash Borer Action Plan. Though this plan provides sound strategies for dealing with EAB, it should be considered a dynamic and evolving document that may change as new research and management information about EAB becomes available.

**Successful Cooperation:** EAB is a serious threat to Missouri's forests and urban landscapes. Overall, ash comprises about 3 percent of total trees in Missouri's forests. It forms an even greater percentage of the trees in Missouri's urban areas, making up 14 percent of street trees and over 21 percent of trees in urban parks. These percentages rise to well over 30 percent in some parks and subdivisions, Forest Park and the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (Gateway Arch) in St. Louis being notable examples. The cooperating agencies have worked closely over the years to detect and eradicate gypsy moth populations in Missouri. It will take similar if not greater efforts to delay introduction of EAB into Missouri and mitigate its impacts when it arrives.

**Appreciation:** A special thanks is given to all the participants and contributors who have worked to make this plan a reality.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Katie Smith, Director  
Missouri Department of Agriculture

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Hoskins, Director  
Missouri Department of Conservation

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Doyle Childers, Director  
Missouri Department of Natural Resources



FROM THE  
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT  
OF CONSERVATION  
FOREST HEALTH LAB

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## Emerald Ash Borer

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), the invasive wood-boring beetle that is killing millions of ash trees across eastern North America, has so far been detected in 22 US states stretching from Colorado to the East Coast and in Ontario and Quebec, Canada. In Missouri, it has been detected in 9 counties (see map). Due to the locations of these counties in widely separate parts of the state, the Missouri Dept. of Agriculture and US Dept. of Agriculture expanded existing EAB quarantines statewide in 2013. See the December 2013 issue of this newsletter for more details (<http://mdc.mo.gov/node/12746>).

Expanded quarantines are needed, because it is difficult to completely detect EAB's spread, especially recently established infestations. But EAB has not yet spread everywhere in Missouri, and there are several things we all can do to respond to this pest threat. First, don't move firewood. Get your wood near where you are going to burn it. EAB and many other invasive insects and diseases hitchhike to new locations in firewood.

Second, watch for signs of an EAB infestation and report it. Familiarize yourself with how to identify an ash tree

**Continued on page 2**



Emerald ash borer adult.





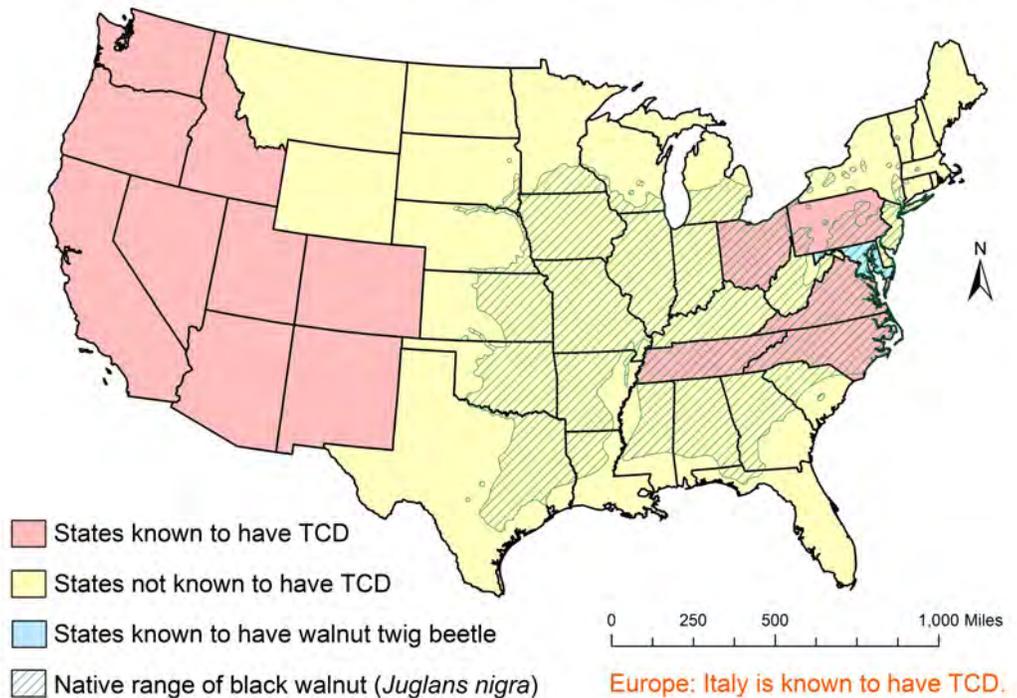
# Thousand Cankers Disease of Walnut

TCD has not been detected in Missouri, however there is concern that undetected TCD infestations could be present or that spread may occur from other states where detections have occurred. In the past year TCD detections have been confirmed in Ohio and Italy, as well as additional areas in states previously known to be infested. The walnut twig beetle, which spreads the fungal disease, has also been found in Maryland. Currently, the list of TCD-positive states includes 5 eastern and 9 western states. The risk of spread of TCD to Missouri on infested walnut wood from these areas of known infestation is high. It is important to follow the Missouri state quarantine rule restricting the movement of all species of walnut and all hardwood firewood from states where TCD has been detected. More information can be found at <http://mda.missouri.gov/plants/pests/TCDEmergencyRule.pdf>

Existing TCD detection technology is not very sensitive, and TCD is unlikely to be detected until several years after introduction. Consequently, it is important to watch for pockets of walnut trees displaying possible symptoms of TCD. More information on symptoms to look for and how to report suspect trees can be found at <http://mdc.mo.gov/thousand-cankers>.

TCD detection surveys are conducted annually by both the Department of Conservation and the Department of Agriculture. In 2014, survey efforts will include pheromone-baited walnut twig beetle traps placed at high-risk locations with declining walnut trees and visual surveys to look for trees displaying symptoms consistent with TCD. Surveys will focus on the Columbia, Rolla, Springfield/Branson, and St Louis metro areas and surrounding counties.

## Native Range of Black Walnut & States Known to Have Thousand Cankers Disease (TCD)



Hanging a walnut twig beetle trap.

# Rapid White Oak Mortality (RWOM)

Reports of white oak dieback and mortality continue from east central and southeast Missouri. A complete description of the phenomenon can be found in the December 2013 Missouri Forest Health Update (see article titled “White Oak Decline”).

[http://mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/resources/2014/01/mo\\_fh\\_update\\_dec13.pdf](http://mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/resources/2014/01/mo_fh_update_dec13.pdf)

A USDA Forest Service Evaluation Monitoring grant with additional funding from the Missouri Department of Conservation will support a RWOM research project this year. The goal of the work is to better understand the mortality and begin to predict where and when it is likely to occur. Investigations will look in greater detail at associated insects and fungal pathogens and site characteristics. Reports of locations with significant numbers of dying white oaks will help with research efforts by indicating where the issue is common and what damage patterns are present. **Please consider filling out the reporting form on the opposite page.**



Simeon Wright, Missouri Dept. of Conservation

**University of Missouri researchers evaluating roots near a dying white oak tree.**



Simeon Wright, Missouri Dept. of Conservation

**Rapid White Oak Mortality**

## Rapid White Oak Mortality Survey

OBSERVER NAME AND PHONE / EMAIL

DATE

### LOCATION OF DECLINING AND DEAD TREES

Location Name

ADDRESS OF LOCATION OR NEAREST INTERSECTION

MO CITY OR TOWN

Mo COUNTY

### DESCRIBE DECLINING AND DEAD TREES

TYPE OF TREES DECLINING AND DYING (ALL THAT APPLY):  WHITE OAKS  RED OAKS  OTHER SPECIES(see <http://forestkeepers.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/Missouris-Oaks-and-Hickories.pdf> )NUMBER OF WHITE OAK TREES DECLINING AND DEAD:  FEW  MANY  ALLNUMBER OF OTHER TREES DECLINING AND DEAD:  FEW  MANY  ALL

DESCRIBE THE SYMPTOMS YOU ARE SEEING (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

- NUMEROUS DEAD BRANCHES IN TOP OF TREE CROWN  SMOOTH SLICK GREY OR BLACK PATCHES ON THE TRUNK  
 PATCHES/SPOTS WHERE BARK HAS FALLEN FROM THE TREE OR BARK AT TREE BASE  
 MOST DEAD LEAVES ON TREE  MOST DEAD LEAVES FALLEN  BLEEDING OR WET AREAS ON TRUNK

### DESCRIBE LOCATION

SITE DESCRIPTION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):  STEEP HILLS  GENTLY ROLLING HILLS  FLAT  BOTTOMLAND UPLAND PLATEAU  NEAR STREAM  URBAN  RURALWHERE ARE MOST DECLINING AND DEAD TREES (ALL THAT APPLY):  TOP HALF OF HILL  BOTTOM HALF OF HILL EVERYWHERE  NEAR STREAM  OTHER, DESCRIBE: \_\_\_\_\_AFFECTED AREA SIZE:  SMALLER THAN FOOTBALL FIELD  LARGER THAN FOOTBALL FIELDRECENT SITE DISTURBANCE (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):  CONSTRUCTION  WIND DAMAGE  TREE HARVEST OTHER MANAGEMENT, DESCRIBE: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS:

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:

DR. REED  
 UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI  
 PLANT SCIENCES DIVISION  
 110 WATERS HALL  
 COLUMBIA, MO 65211

OR EMAIL FORM TO REEDSH@MISSOURI.EDU

# Weather Impacts on Insects

There have been many conflicting news stories around the country in recent weeks about whether the unusually cold weather this past winter will have a silver lining and kill many insect pests. Our general take on it is that for the emerald ash borer and many other insects, the cold will probably have little effect. But the story is complex and not very predictable. Like many temperate climate insects, EAB produce a type of “anti-freeze” that helps them withstand very cold temperatures. EAB larvae overwinter under ash tree bark, which provides insulation, raising temperatures a bit further for the insects.



**Overwintering EAB larva within ash bark.**

Rob Lawrence, Missouri Dept. of Conservation

A few EAB larvae might be killed if temperatures fall below minus 10 degrees and remained there for a few days. But temperatures would need to remain below minus 20 or colder for an extended period for significant EAB mortality to occur. Air temperatures in most Missouri locations did not go below minus 15 during the polar vortex event this winter, and even then those lowest temperatures only existed for a few hours.

Many insects overwinter in the soil, under leaves and organic matter, or other sheltered places close to the ground. They are well-insulated from the cold. Snow cover provides additional insulation for insects overwintering beneath. Temperatures two inches deep in soil remained close to 30 degrees on the coldest nights and for most of the winter, according to University of Missouri weather data (Sanborn

Field, Columbia, MO). We might expect insects that overwinter in more exposed locations, such as bagworms on tree branches, would be more at risk for winter mortality. But even then, the old bags provide insulation for bagworm eggs overwintering within.

There can be a greater impact on insect survival when we have a warm spell lasting for a few days in late winter followed by severe cold temperatures again. An extended warm spell may cause some insects to lose their cold hardiness. In much of Missouri, we did have daily high temperatures ranging from the 50s to low 70s during February 17-22, followed by sub-zero lows in early March. It's a guessing game when trying to predict how much that pattern might affect spring pest populations. We will just have to wait until later this spring to see what develops.

# Weather Impacts on Trees

Preliminary data suggests this past winter may have been the coldest in 35 years and 9<sup>th</sup> coldest on record in Missouri (Pat Guinan, State Climatologist, [www.climate.missouri.edu](http://www.climate.missouri.edu)). However, most native plants on appropriate sites may not have been affected significantly. Because cold temperatures were fairly constant for several weeks prior to extreme low temperatures in January and February, most plants were near their maximum cold hardiness when the extremes occurred. Had temperatures fluctuated more widely, with several days of above normal temperatures prior to periods of extreme cold, we would expect more extensive damage. It is still possible that fluctuating temperatures this spring could cause damage.

Some non-native ornamental and fruit trees may have experienced low temperature damage to floral buds or even dieback of twigs and branches. Flowering may be poor this spring or growth may begin and then collapse due to tissue damage. Disease-causing fungi may infect winter-damaged tissues and lead to an increase in cankers (infections that can girdle and kill plant stems) resulting in more dieback later on.

Browning of evergreens may become apparent due to desiccation injury. Desiccation injury occurs on sunny, windy days when foliage continues to lose moisture but roots are unable to absorb moisture from dry or frozen soils. Evergreens in northern areas of the state where drought conditions were present during 2013 may be more susceptible to injury.

However, desiccation injury is also

more severe with rapidly fluctuating temperatures that occur in some years.

The bottom line is that the extreme winter cold is another stressor for species that are not well adapted to these temperatures. Across Missouri, trees are beginning 2014 severely stressed due to past weather extremes. As reported in the December 2013 Forest Health Update, some recent extremes include excessively wet weather in 2008-2009, the exceptionally severe drought in 2012, excessively wet weather in southern Missouri and drought in northern Missouri during 2013. Other events in recent years include multiple storm events, and spring frost damage. We anticipate the impacts of the past weather-related stresses to continue in 2014 and for the next several years. Damage from wood boring insects, canker diseases, root diseases, and general tree dieback and mortality may be apparent.



Robbie Doerhoff, Missouri Dept. of Conservation

**Most Missouri trees are well adapted to cold temperatures.**

# Diagnosing Tree Diseases

As the trees begin to grow, the diseases are not far behind. The warm weather also brings homeowners and landowners outside where tree problems begin to be noticed.

When diagnosing tree disease problems, the smallest clues and background information can make all the difference in obtaining a quality diagnosis. The following website has some useful pointers and great photos:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/SUL3.pdf>

When a decision is made to submit a sample to a plant diagnostic lab, it is critical that the lab receive the proper sample fully representing the problem. An old dead branch tells no stories! Remember to:

- ⇒ Completely fill out lab submission forms with detailed background information.
- ⇒ When possible, take some digital photos showing the tree, surrounding landscape and close-up photos of the symptoms observed.
- ⇒ When you are unsure about what sample to send, you can call or email photos to the diagnostic lab and staff can provide more specific submission instructions.
- ⇒ Keep your sample cool and send early in the week to ensure your sample arrives at the lab in good condition.

The University of Missouri Plant Diagnostic Clinic is a resource providing a wide variety of services anyone can use. Services provided by the MU lab include tree health diagnosis, diagnosis of issues affecting other plant species, as well as identification of insects, arachnids, and plants. Additional information about the MU lab including fees, submission instructions and forms can be obtained at <http://plantclinic.missouri.edu/>, by contacting the lab at [plantclinic@missouri.edu](mailto:plantclinic@missouri.edu) or by calling (573) 882-3019.

## Forest Health News— sign up today!

The MDC Forest Health Lab periodically sends email updates on insects, diseases, phenology, weather, and much more. Emails are also sent when new forest health alerts and *Forest Health Update* newsletters are available. To receive these emails, please subscribe to the MO Forest Health electronic mailing list at:

[http://mdc.mo.gov/user\\_mailman\\_register](http://mdc.mo.gov/user_mailman_register)

**Questions?** Contact your local Resource Forester or Urban Forester with the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Find contact information for your county at:

[www.mdc.mo.gov](http://www.mdc.mo.gov)

An electronic copy of this document can be found at:

<http://mdc.mo.gov/node/12746>

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# Insecticide Options for Protecting Ash Trees From Emerald Ash Borer

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**Emerald ash borer** (*Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire), an invasive insect native to Asia, has killed tens of millions of ash trees in urban, rural and forested settings. This beetle was first discovered in 2002 in southeast Michigan and Windsor, Ontario. As of May 2009, emerald ash borer (EAB) infestations were known to be present in 11 states and two Canadian provinces. Many homeowners, arborists and tree care professionals want to protect valuable ash trees from EAB. Scientists have learned much about this insect and methods to protect ash trees since 2002. This bulletin is designed to answer frequently asked questions and provide the most current information on insecticide options for controlling EAB.



EAB larvae damage the vascular system of the tree as they feed, which interferes with movement of systemic insecticides in the tree.



EAB adults must feed on foliage before they become reproductively mature.

## Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

### What options do I have for treating my ash trees?

If you elect to treat your ash trees, there are several insecticide options available and research has shown that treatments can be effective. Keep in mind, however, that controlling insects that feed under the bark with insecticides has always been difficult. This is especially true with EAB because our native North American ash trees have little natural resistance to this pest. In university trials, some insecticide treatments were effective in some sites, but the same treatments failed in other sites. Furthermore, in some studies conducted over multiple years, EAB densities continued to increase in individual trees despite annual treatment. Some arborists have combined treatments to increase the odds of success (e.g., combining a cover spray with a systemic treatment).



Healthy ash trees that have been protected with insecticides growing next to untreated ash trees killed by EAB.

Our understanding of how EAB can be managed successfully with insecticides has increased substantially in recent years. The current state of this understanding is detailed in the bulletin. It is important to note that research on management of EAB remains a work in progress. Scientists from universities, government agencies and companies continue to conduct intensive studies to understand how and when insecticide treatments will be most effective.

### **I know my tree is already infested with EAB. Will insecticides still be effective?**

If a tree has lost more than 50 percent of its canopy, it is probably too late to save the tree. Studies have shown that it is best to begin using insecticides while ash trees are still relatively healthy. This is because most of the insecticides used for EAB control act systemically — the insecticide must be transported within the tree. In other words, a tree must be healthy enough to carry a systemic insecticide up the trunk and into the branches and canopy. When EAB larvae feed, their galleries injure the phloem and xylem that make up the plant's circulatory system. This interferes with the ability of the tree to transport nutrients and water, as well as insecticides. As a tree becomes more and more infested, the injury becomes more severe. Large branches or even the trunk can be girdled by the larval galleries.

Studies have also shown that if the canopy of a tree is already declining when insecticide treatments are initiated, the condition of the tree may continue to deteriorate during the first year of treatment. In many cases, the tree canopy will begin to improve in the second year of treatment. This lag in the reversal of canopy decline probably reflects the time needed for the tree to repair its vascular system after the EAB infestation has been reduced.

### **My ash tree looks fine but my county is quarantined for EAB. Should I start treating my tree?**

Scientists have learned that ash trees with low densities of EAB often have few or no external symptoms of infestation. Therefore, if your property is within a county that has been quarantined for EAB, your ash trees are probably at risk. Similarly, if your trees are outside a quarantined county but are still within 10-15 miles of a known EAB infestation, they may be at risk. If your ash trees are more than 15 miles beyond this range, it is probably too early to begin insecticide treatments. Treatment programs that begin too early are a waste of money. Remember, however, that new EAB infestations have been discovered every year since 2002 and existing EAB populations will build and spread over time. Stay up to date with current EAB quarantine maps and related information at [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info). You can use the links in this Web site to access specific information for individual states. When an EAB infestation is detected in a state or county for the first time, it will be added to these maps. Note, however, that once an area has been quarantined, EAB surveys generally stop, and further spread of EAB in that area will not be reflected on future maps.

### **I realize that I will have to protect my ash trees from EAB for several years. Is it worth it?**

The economics of treating ash trees with insecticides for EAB protection are complicated. Factors that can be considered include the cost of the insecticide and expense of application, the size of the trees, the likelihood of success, and potential costs of removing and replacing the trees. Until recently, insecticide products had to be applied every year. A new product that is effective for two years or even longer (emamectin benzoate) has altered the economics of treating ash trees. As research progresses, costs and methods of treating trees will continue to change and it will be important to stay up to date on treatment options.

Benefits of treating trees can be more difficult to quantify than costs. Landscape trees typically increase property values, provide shade and cooling, and contribute to the quality of life in a neighborhood. Many people are sentimental about their trees. These intangible qualities are important and should be part of any decision to invest in an EAB management program.

It is also worth noting that the size of EAB populations in a specific area will change over time. Populations initially build very slowly, but later increase rapidly as more trees become infested. As EAB populations reach their peak, many trees will decline and die within one or two years. As untreated ash trees in the area succumb, however, the local EAB population will decrease substantially. Scientists do not yet have enough experience with EAB to know what will happen over time to trees that survive the initial wave of EAB. Ash seedlings and saplings are common in forests, woodlots, and right-of-ways, however, and it is unlikely that

EAB will ever completely disappear from an area. That means that ash trees may always be at some risk of being attacked by EAB, but it seems reasonable to expect that treatment costs could eventually decrease as pest pressure declines after the EAB wave has passed.

## Insecticide Options for Controlling EAB

Insecticides that can effectively control EAB fall into four categories: (1) systemic insecticides that are applied as soil injections or drenches; (2) systemic insecticides applied as trunk injections; (3) systemic insecticides applied as lower trunk sprays; and (4) protective cover sprays that are applied to the trunk, main branches, and (depending on the label) foliage.

Insecticide formulations and application methods that have been evaluated for control of EAB are listed in Table 1. Some are marketed for use by homeowners while others are intended for use only by professional applicators. The “active ingredient” refers to the compound in the product that is actually toxic to the insect.

Formulations included in Table 1 have been evaluated in multiple field trials conducted by the authors. Inclusion of a product in Table 1 does not imply that it is endorsed by the authors or has been consistently effective for EAB control. Please see the following sections for specific information about results from these trials. Results of some tests have also been posted on [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info).

Strategies for the most effective use of these insecticide products are described below. It is important to note that pesticide labels and registrations change constantly and vary from state to state. It is the legal responsibility of the pesticide applicator to read, understand and follow all current label directions for the specific pesticide product being used.

**Table 1.** Insecticide options for professionals and homeowners for controlling EAB that have been tested in multiple university trials. Some products may not be labeled for use in all states. Some of the listed products failed to protect ash trees when they were applied at labeled rates. Inclusion of a product in this table does not imply that it is endorsed by the authors or has been consistently effective for EAB control. See text for details regarding effectiveness.

Insecticide Formulation	Active Ingredient	Application Method	Recommended Timing
<i>Professional Use Products</i>			
Merit® (75WP, 75WSP, 2F)	Imidacloprid	Soil injection or drench	Mid-fall and/or mid- to late spring
Xytect™ (2F, 75WSP)	Imidacloprid	Soil injection or drench	Mid-fall and/or mid- to late spring
IMA-jet®	Imidacloprid	Trunk injection	Early May to mid-June
Imicide®	Imidacloprid	Trunk injection	Early May to mid-June
Pointer™	Imidacloprid	Trunk injection	Early May to mid-June
TREE-äge™	Emamectin benzoate	Trunk injection	Early May to mid-June
Inject-A-Cide B®	Bidrin®	Trunk injection	Early May to mid-June
Safari™ (20 SG)	Dinotefuran	Systemic bark spray	Early May to mid-June
Astro®	Permethrin	Preventive bark and foliage cover sprays	2 applications at 4-week intervals; first spray should occur when black locust is blooming (early May in southern Ohio to early June in mid-Michigan)
Onyx™	Bifenthrin		
Tempo®	Cyfluthrin		
Sevin® SL	Carbaryl		
<i>Homeowner Formulation</i>			
Bayer Advanced™ Tree & Shrub Insect Control	Imidacloprid	Soil drench	Mid-fall or mid- to late spring

## Using Insecticides to Control EAB

### Soil-Applied Systemic Insecticides

Systemic insecticides applied to the soil are taken up by the roots and translocated throughout the tree. The most widely tested soil-applied systemic insecticide for control of EAB is imidacloprid, which is available under several brand names for use by professional applicators and homeowners (see Table 1). All imidacloprid formulations can be applied as a drench by mixing the product with water, then pouring the solution directly on the soil around the base of the trunk. Dinotefuran is also labeled for use as a soil treatment, but to date it has been tested only as a basal trunk spray (discussed below). Studies to test its effectiveness as a soil treatment are currently underway.

Imidacloprid soil applications should be made when the soil is moist but not saturated. Application to water-logged soil can result in poor uptake if the insecticide becomes excessively diluted and can also result in puddles of insecticide that could wash away, potentially contaminating surface waters and storm sewers. Insecticide uptake will also be limited when soil is excessively dry. Irrigating the soil surrounding the base of the tree before the insecticide application can improve uptake.

The application rates for the homeowner product (Bayer Advanced™ Tree & Shrub Insect Control) and professional formulations of imidacloprid are very similar. Homeowners apply the same amount of active ingredient that professionals apply. However, there are certain restrictions on the use of homeowner formulations that do not apply to professional formulations. Homeowner formulations of imidacloprid can be applied only as a drench. It is not legal to inject these products into the soil, although some companies have marketed devices to homeowners specifically for this purpose. Homeowners are also restricted to making only one application per year. Several generic products containing imidacloprid are available to homeowners, but the formulations vary and the effectiveness of these products has not yet been evaluated in university tests.

Soil drenches offer the advantage of requiring no special equipment for application other than a bucket or watering can. However, imidacloprid can bind to surface layers of organic matter, such as mulch or leaf litter, which can reduce uptake by the tree. Before applying soil drenches, it is important to remove, rake or pull away any mulch or dead leaves so the insecticide solution is poured directly on the mineral soil.

Imidacloprid formulations labeled for use by professionals can be applied as a soil drench or as soil injections. Soil injections require specialized equipment, but offer the advantage of placing the insecticide under mulch or turf and directly into the root zone. This also can help to prevent runoff on sloped surfaces. Injections should be made just deep enough to place the insecticide beneath the soil surface (2-4 inches). Soil injections should be made within 18 inches of the trunk where the density of fine roots is highest. As you move away from the tree, large radial roots diverge like spokes on a wheel and studies have shown that uptake is higher when the product is applied at the base of the trunk. There are no studies that show that applying fertilizer with imidacloprid enhances uptake or effectiveness of the insecticide.

Optimal timing for imidacloprid soil injections and drenches is mid-April to mid-May, depending on your region. Allow four to six weeks for uptake and distribution of the insecticide within the tree. In southern Ohio, for example, you would apply the product by mid-April; in southern Michigan, you should apply the product by early to mid-May. When treating larger trees (e.g., with trunks larger than 12 inches in diameter), treat on the earlier side of the recommended timing. Large trees will require more time for uptake and transportation of the insecticide than will small trees. Recent tests show that imidacloprid soil treatments can also be successful when applied in the fall.

### Trunk-Injected Systemic Insecticides

Several systemic insecticide products can be injected directly into the trunk of the tree including formulations of imidacloprid and emamectin benzoate (see Table 1). An advantage of trunk injections is that they can be used on sites where soil treatments may not be practical or effective, including trees growing on excessively wet, compacted or restricted soil environments. However, trunk injections do wound the trunk, which may cause long-term damage, especially if treatments are applied annually.

Products applied as trunk injections are typically absorbed and transported within the tree more quickly than soil applications. Allow three to four weeks for most trunk-injected products to move through the tree. Optimal timing of trunk injections occurs after trees have leafed out in spring but before EAB eggs have hatched, or generally between mid-May and mid-June. Uptake of trunk-injected insecticides will be most efficient when trees are actively transpiring. Best results are usually obtained by injecting trees in the morning when soil is moist but not saturated. Uptake will be slowed by hot afternoon temperatures and dry soil conditions.

### **Noninvasive, Systemic Basal Trunk Sprays**

Dinotefuran is labeled for application as a noninvasive, systemic bark spray for EAB control. It belongs to the same chemical class as imidacloprid (neonicotinoids) but is much more soluble. The formulated insecticide is sprayed on the lower five to six feet of the trunk using a common garden sprayer and low pressure. Research has shown that the insecticide penetrates the bark and moves systemically throughout the rest of the tree. Dinotefuran can be mixed with surfactants that may facilitate its movement into the tree, particularly on large trees with thick bark. However, in field trials, adding a surfactant did not consistently increase the amount of insecticide recovered from the leaves of treated trees.

The basal trunk spray offers the advantage of being quick and easy to apply and requires no special equipment other than a garden sprayer. This application technique does not wound the tree, and when applied correctly, the insecticide does not enter the soil.

### **Protective Cover Sprays**

Insecticides can be sprayed on the trunk, branches and (depending on the label) foliage to kill adult EAB beetles as they feed on ash leaves, and newly hatched larvae as they chew through the bark. Thorough coverage is essential for best results. Products that have been evaluated as cover sprays for control of EAB include some specific formulations of permethrin, bifenthrin, cyfluthrin and carbaryl (see Table 1).

Protective cover sprays are designed to prevent EAB from entering the tree and will have no effect on larvae feeding under the bark. Cover sprays should be timed to occur when most adult beetles are feeding and beginning to lay eggs. Adult activity can be difficult to monitor because there are no effective pheromone traps for EAB. However, first emergence of EAB adults generally occurs between 450-550 degree days (starting date of January 1, base temperature of 50°F), which corresponds closely with full bloom of black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*). For best results, consider two applications, one at 500 DD<sub>50</sub> (as black locust approaches full bloom) and a second spray four weeks later.

## **How Effective Are Insecticides for Control of EAB?**

Extensive testing of insecticides for control of EAB has been conducted by researchers at Michigan State University (MSU) and The Ohio State University (OSU). Results of some of the MSU trials are available at [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info).

### **Soil-Applied Systemic Insecticides**

Efficacy of imidacloprid soil injections for controlling EAB has been inconsistent; in some trials EAB control was excellent, while others yielded poor results. Differences in application protocols and conditions of the trials have varied considerably, making it difficult to reach firm conclusions about sources of variation in efficacy. For example, an MSU study found that low-volume soil injections of imidacloprid applied to small trees averaging 4 inches in DBH (diameter of the trunk at breast height) using the Kioritz applicator (a hand-held device for making low-volume injections) provided good control at one site. However, control was poor at another site where the same application protocols were used to treat larger trees (13-inch DBH). Imidacloprid levels may have been too low in the larger trees to provide adequate control. Higher pest pressure at the second site also may have contributed to poor control in the large trees.

In the same trials, high-pressure soil injections of imidacloprid (applied in two concentric rings, with one at the base of the tree and the other halfway to the drip line of the canopy) provided excellent control at one

site. At another site, however, soil injections applied using the same rate, timing and application method were completely ineffective, even though tree size and infestation pressure were very similar. It should be noted that recent studies have shown that imidacloprid soil injections made at the base of the trunk result in more effective uptake than applications made on grid or circular patterns under the canopy.

Imidacloprid soil drenches have also generated mixed results. In some studies conducted by MSU and OSU researchers, imidacloprid soil drenches have provided excellent control of EAB. However, in other studies, control has been inconsistent. Experience and research indicate that imidacloprid soil drenches are most effective on smaller trees and control of EAB on trees with a DBH that exceeds 15 inches is less consistent.

This inconsistency may be due to the fact that application rates for systemic insecticides are based on amount of product per inch of trunk diameter or circumference. As the DBH of a tree increases, the amount of vascular tissue, leaf area and biomass that must be protected by the insecticide increases exponentially. Consequently, for a particular application rate, the amount of insecticide applied as a function of tree size is proportionally decreased as trunk diameter increases. Hence, the DBH-based application rates that effectively protect relatively small trees can be too low to effectively protect large trees. Some systemic insecticide products address this issue by increasing the application rate for large trees.

In an OSU study with larger trees (15- to 22-inch DBH), Xytect™ (imidacloprid) soil drenches provided most consistent control of EAB when applied experimentally at twice the rate that was allowed at that time. Recently, the Xytect™ label was modified to allow the use of this higher rate, which we now recommend when treating trees larger than 15-inch DBH. Merit® imidacloprid formulations, however, are not labeled for application at this high rate. Therefore, when treating trees greater than 15-inch DBH with Merit® soil treatments, two applications are recommended, either in the fall and again in the spring, or twice in the spring, about four weeks apart (for example in late April and again in late May). This is not an option for Bayer Advanced™ Tree and Shrub Insect Control and other homeowner formulations of imidacloprid, which are limited by the label to one application per year. Homeowners wishing to protect trees larger than 15-inch DBH should consider having their trees professionally treated.

All treatment programs must comply with the limits specified on the label regarding the maximum amount of insecticide that can be applied per acre during a given year.

## Trunk-Injected Systemic Insecticides

### Emamectin benzoate

In several intensive studies conducted by MSU and OSU researchers, a single injection of emamectin benzoate in mid-May or early June provided excellent control of EAB for at least two years, even under high pest pressure. For example, in a highly-replicated study conducted on trees ranging in size from 5- to 20-inch DBH at three sites in Michigan, untreated trees had an average of 68 to 132 EAB larvae per m<sup>2</sup> of bark surface, which represents high pest pressure. In contrast, trees treated with emamectin benzoate had, on average, only 0.2 larvae per m<sup>2</sup>, a reduction of > 99 percent. When additional trees were felled and debarked two years after the emamectin benzoate injection, there were still virtually no larvae in the treated trees, while adjacent, untreated trees at the same sites had hundreds of larvae.

In two OSU studies conducted in Toledo with street trees ranging in size from 15- to 25-inch DBH, a single application of emamectin benzoate also provided excellent control for two years. There was no sign of canopy decline in treated trees and very few emergence holes, while the canopies of adjacent, untreated trees exhibited severe decline and extremely high numbers of emergence holes.

One study suggests that a single injection of emamectin benzoate may even control EAB for three years. Additional studies to further evaluate the long-term effectiveness of emamectin benzoate are underway. To date, this is the only product that controls EAB for more than one year with a single application. In addition, in side-by-side comparisons with other systemic products (neonicotinoids), emamectin benzoate was more effective.

## Imidacloprid

Trunk injections with imidacloprid products have provided varying degrees of EAB control in trials conducted at different sites in Ohio and Michigan. In an MSU study, larval density in trees treated with Imicide® injections were reduced by 60 percent to 96 percent, compared to untreated controls. There was no apparent relationship between efficacy and trunk diameter or infestation pressure. In another MSU trial, imidacloprid trunk injections made in late May were more effective than those made in mid-July, and IMA-jet® injections provided higher levels of control than did Imicide®, perhaps because the IMA-jet® label calls for a greater amount of active ingredient to be applied on large trees. In an OSU study in Toledo, IMA-jet® provided excellent control of EAB on 15- to 25-inch trees under high pest pressure when trees were injected annually. However, trees that were injected every other year were not consistently protected.

In a discouraging study conducted in Michigan, ash trees continued to decline from one year to the next despite being treated in both years with either imidacloprid (Imicide®, Pointer™) or Bidrin (Inject-A-Cide B®) trunk injections. Imicide®, Pointer™ and Inject-A-Cide B® trunk injections all suppressed EAB infestation levels in both years, with Imicide® generally providing best control under high pest pressure in both small (six-inch DBH) and larger (16-inch DBH) caliper trees. However, larval density increased in treated and untreated trees from one year to the next. Furthermore, canopy dieback increased by at least 67 percent in all treated trees (although this was substantially less than the amount of dieback observed in untreated trees). Although untreated trees were more severely impacted, these results indicate that even consecutive years of treatment with these trunk-injection treatments may only slow or delay ash decline when pest pressure is severe.

In three other side-by-side comparisons, Imicide® consistently provided higher levels of control than did Pointer™. In another MSU study, ACECAP® trunk implants (active ingredient is acephate) were not effective under high pest pressure.

## Noninvasive Basal Trunk Sprays with Dinotefuran

Studies to date indicate that systemic basal trunk sprays with dinotefuran are about as effective as imidacloprid treatments. MSU and OSU studies have evaluated residues in leaves from trees treated with the basal trunk spray. Results show that the dinotefuran effectively moved into the trees and was translocated to the canopy at rates similar to those of other trunk-injected insecticides, and faster than other soil-applied neonicotinoid products.

As with imidacloprid treatments, control of EAB with dinotefuran has been variable in research trials. In an MSU study conducted in 2007 and 2008, dinotefuran trunk sprays reduced EAB larval density by approximately 30 percent to 60 percent compared to the heavily infested untreated trees. The treatment was effective for only one year and would have to be applied annually. In general, control is better and more consistent in smaller trees than in large trees, but more research is needed with larger trees. Studies to address the long-term effectiveness of annual dinotefuran applications for control of EAB are underway.

## Protective Cover Sprays

MSU studies have shown that applications of Onyx™, Tempo® and Sevin® SL provided good control of EAB, especially when the insecticides were applied in late May and again in early July. Acephate sprays were less effective. BotaniGard® (*Beauveria bassiana*) was also ineffective under high pest pressure. Astro® (permethrin) was not evaluated against EAB in these tests, but has been effective for controlling other species of wood borers and bark beetles.

In another MSU study, spraying Tempo® just on the foliage and upper branches or spraying the entire tree were more effective than simply spraying just the trunk and large branches. This suggests that some cover sprays may be especially effective for controlling EAB adults as they feed on leaves in the canopy. A single, well-timed spray was also found to provide good control of EAB, although two sprays may provide extra assurance given the long period of adult EAB activity.

It should be noted that spraying large trees is likely to result in a considerable amount of insecticide drift, even when conditions are ideal. Drift and potential effects of insecticides on non-target organisms should be considered when selecting options for EAB control.

## Key Points and Summary Recommendations

- Insecticides can effectively protect ash trees from EAB.
- Unnecessary insecticide applications waste money. If EAB has not been detected within 10-15 miles, your trees are at low risk. Be aware of the status of EAB in your location. Current maps of known EAB populations can be found at [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info). Remember, however, that once a county is quarantined, maps for that county are no longer updated.
- Trees that are already infested and showing signs of canopy decline when treatments are initiated may continue to decline in the first year after treatment, and then begin to show improvement in the second year due to time lag associated with vascular healing. Trees exhibiting more than 50 percent canopy decline are unlikely to recover even if treated.
- Emamectin benzoate is the only product tested to date that controls EAB for more than one year with a single application. It also provided a higher level of control than other products in side-by-side studies.
- Soil drenches and injections are most effective when made at the base of the trunk. Imidacloprid applications made in the spring or the fall have been shown to be equally effective.
- Soil injections should be no more than 2-4 inches deep, to avoid placing the insecticide beneath feeder roots.
- To facilitate uptake, systemic trunk and soil insecticides should be applied when the soil is moist but not saturated or excessively dry.
- Research and experience suggest that effectiveness of insecticides has been less consistent on larger trees. Research has not been conducted on trees larger than 25-inch DBH. When treating very large trees under high pest pressure, it may be necessary to consider combining two treatment strategies.
- Xytect™ soil treatments are labeled for application at a higher maximum rate than other imidacloprid formulations, and we recommend that trees larger than 15-inch DBH be treated using the highest labeled rate. Merit® imidacloprid formulations are not labeled for use at this higher rate. When treating larger trees with Merit® soil treatments, best results will be obtained with two applications per year. Imidacloprid formulations for homeowners (Bayer Advanced™ Tree & Shrub Insect Control and other generic formulations) can be applied only once per year.
- Homeowners wishing to protect trees larger than 15-inch DBH should consider having their trees professionally treated.
- All treatment programs must comply with label restrictions on the amount of insecticide that can be applied per acre in a given year.

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# BEFORE THE BUG COMES TO TOWN

Developing a State or Regional Readiness and Response Plan for Exotic Invasive Insects

## PLAN DEVELOPMENT

An invasive pest can be a huge threat to the balance of the urban ecosystem. Managing an infestation – all the essential education, administration, information, communication, and regulation issues that need to be coordinated – is a staggering task for any agency. The main purpose for undertaking readiness planning *before* the bug comes to town is to learn as much as possible ahead of time, collaborate to share resources and information, and create a network to strengthen a coordinated response. **The primary goal is to protect the resource** to the extent possible.

### **1. BUILDING A TEAM - Bringing together stakeholders**

A team approach is essential to tackle the imposing threat of an exotic species invasion. A strong and diverse team can be much more effective through collaboration, than any one organization can be alone. Members of the team should bring useful and important knowledge and experience to the planning effort. The team itself creates a critical network for information sharing and dissemination and supports and energizes individual member organizations in preparedness activities. A team working to plan for protection of the urban and community forest should include the following partners:

#### Regulatory agencies

- USDA APHIS-PPQ\*
- State Department of Agriculture

#### Supporting agencies

- USDA\* Forest Service – State and Private Forestry
- State Department of Natural Resources

#### Researchers

- Universities/Colleges
- USDA Forest Service – Research
- State Natural History Survey

#### Educators

- Arboreta and Botanic Gardens
- Non-profit organizations related to tree/forest issues

#### Resource managers

- Municipal Foresters Associations
- Local, County, Regional, and State Park Agencies
- Parks and Recreation Associations
- Forest Preserves
- Consulting Foresters Associations

#### Industry

- Arborist Associations
- Landscape Contractors Associations
- Nursery/Growers Associations
- Wood Products Associations
- Forestry Councils
- Golf Course Superintendent Associations

#### Municipalities

- Regional Councils of Governments
- Mayors & Managers Associations
- Individual Municipalities
- County and Township Agencies

Organizations/Agencies involved in outbreaks in other states

## **2. WHAT IS AT RISK? - Calculating consequences of infestation**

In order to garner support, interest, and collaboration for readiness planning, it is important to determine the following:

- What is the extent of the resource at risk?  
(e.g. 6% of the forest cover is ash, 19% of all public trees are ash, and 35% of the public canopy cover is ash)
  - Research FIA\* data for rural forests
  - State natural resources department
  - Survey of city foresters for urban forest data
- What consequences could arise from the infestation?  
(e.g. loss of canopy and resulting economic and environmental impacts such as increase in stormwater runoff; expenses associated with removal and replanting; visual/aesthetic impacts; property loss, hazardous conditions with dead standing trees; private homeowner assistance needs – be specific!)
  - Readiness planning team members can contribute from various perspectives
  - Research consequences of infestation in other states

## **3. WHAT IS ALREADY BEING DONE? – Coordinate with existing plans**

APHIS\* is directing all states to develop “Plant Resource Emergency Response Guidelines.” These guidelines outline the legal authority, roles and responsibilities of various agencies and organizations, and a system for rapid response to an insect, disease, or weed that impacts plants. These general guidelines may be useful in developing a species-specific preparedness/response plan. For information about the status of your state’s guidelines, contact your State Plant Health Director or State Plant Regulatory Official (visit the following websites for directories by state):

- State Plant Regulatory Officials  
<http://nationalplantboard.org/member/index.html>
- State Plant Health Directors  
<http://ceris.purdue.edu/napis/names/sphdXstate.html>

Look to management plans from other state. APHIS PPQ develops manuals and guidelines for all kinds of introduced pests. Review relevant manuals (e.g. New Pest Response Guidelines Asian Longhorned Beetle) to glean ideas for regional readiness.

- APHIS manuals for introduced pests  
[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/manuals/online\\_manuals.html](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/manuals/online_manuals.html)

Utilize the resources of the National Invasive Species Information Center, an interdepartmental coordinating council of federal agencies that compiles numerous model management and control plans into a Manager’s Toolkit.

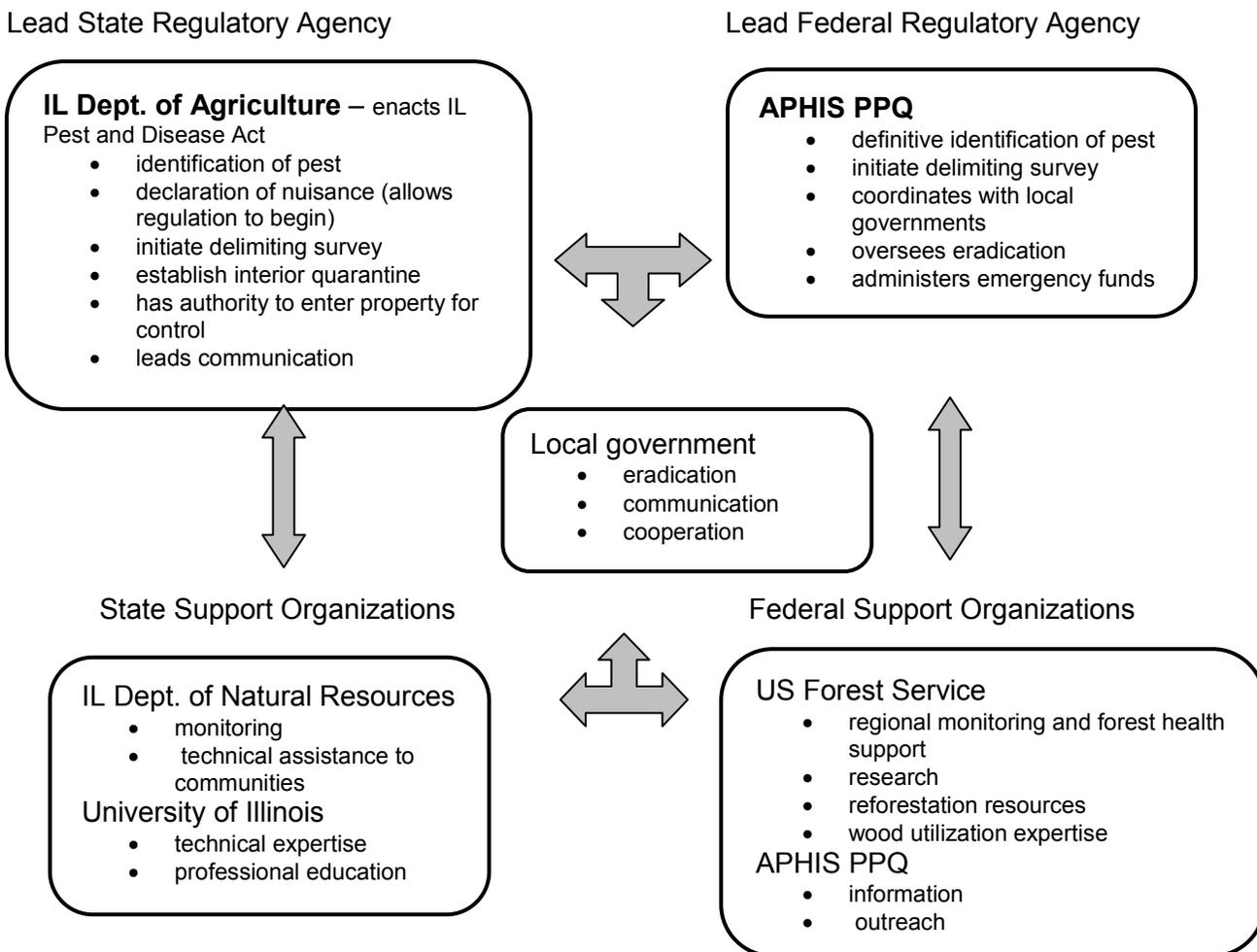
- Invasive Species Manager’s Toolkit  
<http://www.invasivespecies.gov/toolkit/main.shtml>

## **4. WHAT HAVE YOU GOT? Identifying strengths, capacity, resources, and programs**

- Determine who has authority and responsibility
- Inventory existing programs and efforts to educate, monitor and reduce risk

- **Identify strengths**  
(e.g. strong green industry professional networks to educate and disseminate information, previous ALB experience had success with public awareness and support)
- **Find mechanisms to distribute information**
- **Locate expertise in team organizations**  
(e.g. where are the entomologists, foresters, communications specialists, and lobbyists? )
- **Look for sources of funds**  
(e.g. US Forest Service Forest Health Program, APHIS, State Department of Agriculture, professional organizations, State Urban Forestry Grants, Councils of Governments, state and federal legislature)

**Example: Illinois Authorities and Resources**



**5. WHERE ARE THE GAPS? - Identifying needs, shortages, and hindrances**

- Are the public agencies adequately staffed and supported?
- Are all at-risk land managers engaged?
- What information do we need to know before we can plan?
- Are there any policies, attitudes or programs that would be obstacles to readiness?  
(e.g. Do state regulatory statutes allow for rapid response? Is there political support?)

**6. WILL IT HAPPEN TO YOU? - Determining vulnerability**

- What geographic area is at highest risk?

- (e.g. most of the ash forests are in the Northeast part of the state--Windham, Olmsted, Orleans, and Lawrence Counties, most of the public ash trees are located in the highly populous areas of the Chicago metro)
- Where is the most probable source of an infestation?  
(e.g. human movement such as nursery stock, wood products and firewood transfer from out-of-state infested site)
- Where is the most probable port of entry into the state?  
(e.g. 1. urban areas with newly planted ash (from nursery stock),  
2. recreation areas like campgrounds from firewood transfer,  
3. Chicago due to its large population and proximity to Michigan and Indiana; because it is a major port for foreign shipments; there is a high concentration of industry and because there are multiple ports of entry via train, auto, and ship)

**7. DRAFT A PLAN. - With consensus from major stakeholders draft a plan to guide planning and prioritize action.**

**8. MAINTAIN READINESS.**

- Share evolving issues, actions, information and technology with team members.
- Collaborate with team member to act on key steps in the readiness plan.  
(e.g. Collaborate with land owners and universities to conduct a detection survey.)
- Inform stakeholders and constituents of plan and state of readiness.
- Communicate with the media about the plan and achievements to foster public cooperation and confidence.

## PLAN COMPONENTS

This is an example of a plan developed in Illinois to prepare for the emerald ash borer (EAB):

1. **Readiness-** reduce risk, minimize impact, and respond more effectively to a possible infestation and work towards overall health and sustainability of the urban forest in Illinois and northeast Indiana
  - A. Administrative Readiness
    - 1) Establish a network of agencies and organizations to be affected by EAB
      - a. Statutory Administrative Team – lead regulatory agencies
      - b. Technical and Administrative Team
      - b. Education and Communication Team
    - 2) Finalize Develop an EAB Readiness Plan
    - 3) Identify resources and needs
    - 4) Take proactive steps to speed administrative processes i.e., shorten time required to establish quarantine
    - 5) Educate the media and assure accuracy of information
  - B. Technical Readiness
    - 1) Review and distribute federal scientific guidelines to advise actions
    - 2) Advocate for continued research for greater understanding of EAB and management options
    - 3) Transfer technology

2. **Prevention infestation** – to assure that all means of introduction are known and blocked, whenever possible
  - A. Assess Risk
    - 1) Identify possible sources of EAB importation (i.e., firewood and nursery stock from Michigan)
    - 2) Assess the scope of the resource at risk (number of ash trees)
    - 3) Track spread of EAB and distribute to Readiness Team
  - B. Reduce Risk
    - 1) Advocate for appointment of vital vacant positions
    - 2) Raise public awareness about risk from firewood importation
    - 3) Track nursery stock, ash lumber and ash firewood importation in recent past
    - 4) Educate industries about risk of ash importation
    - 5) Assure plantings selections contribute to a diverse and sustainable urban forest
    - 6) Seek legislative support to reduce risk
- 3) **Identification** – minimize the spread and improve odds of containing an infestation
  - A. Survey urban ash populations to quickly find, or rule out the presence of EAB
  - B. Offer training and outreach to landscapers, arborists, nurserymen and other green industry workers to accurately identify EAB
  - C. Educate general public about ash health and EAB
  - D. Establish a hotline and a website
  - E. Support full staffing of IDA Inspectors to respond quickly to possible sightings
- 4) **Response** - contain infestation and manage the EAB population
  - A. Implement coordinated effort to contain the infestation
  - B. Provide accurate information to the media through EAB Teams
  - C. Communicate with public and industry professionals to foster cooperation to maximize effective response
  - D. Reforest

## \*ACRONYMS

### Federal Organizations:

APHIS – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
PPQ – Plant Protection and Quarantine (Under APHIS)  
FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency  
USDA – United States Department of Agriculture  
FS – Forest Service

### State Organizations:

DNR – State Department of Natural Resources  
DA – State Department of Agriculture  
EMA – State Emergency Management Agency  
FHP – Forest Health Program

### Other:

FIA – Forest Inventory and Analysis (program of the USDA Forest Service)  
ALB – Asian longhorned beetle  
EAB - emerald ash borer



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