
# EMERALD ASH BORER

*Agrilus planipennis*

## Identification/Origin

Emerald ash borer (EAB) are non-native pests originally from Asia that feed on the inner bark of ash trees in unique, serpentine patterns. These S-shaped galleries become exposed as the damaged outer bark cracks and begins to separate from the tree. Distinctly D-shaped exit holes are visible in the outer bark as beetles emerge from the tree. The telltale galleries and exit holes are the most distinctive and consistent characteristics of an emerald ash borer infested ash tree. Adult beetles are small (8.5 mm in length) and brightly metallic green. If exposed, the adult's abdomen is a metallic red to purple color.

## Montana Status

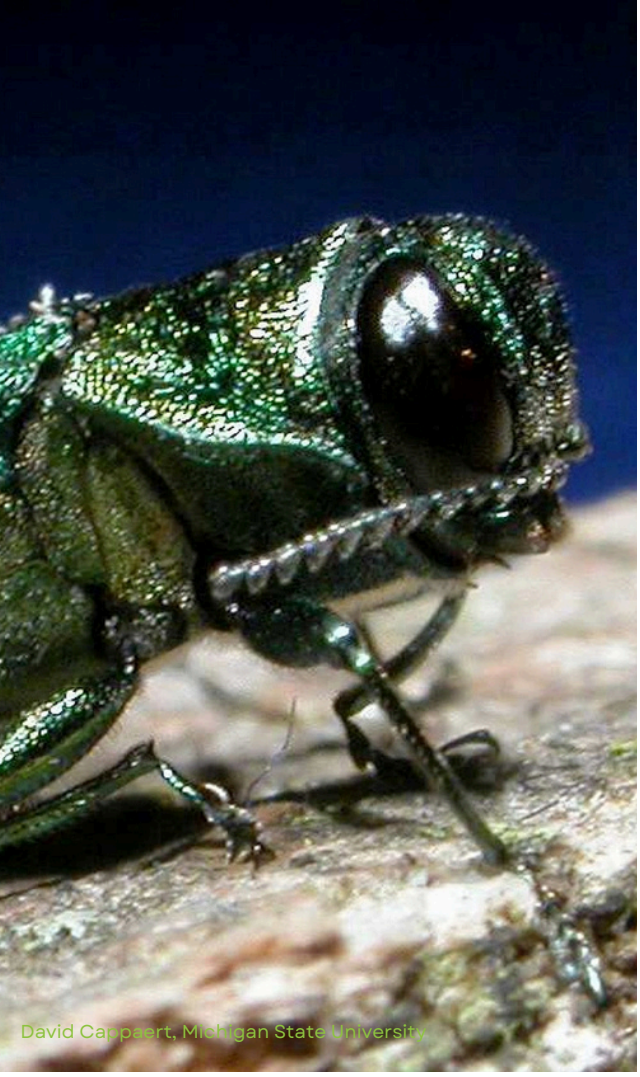
Not yet detected in Montana. Found in nearby states including North Dakota, Oregon, and Colorado. Firewood movement is a pathway of considerable concern.

## Pathways

Forestry / harvesting practices

Firewood & wood products


Troy Kimoto, Canadian Food Inspection Agency



David Cappaert, Michigan State University

Laurie Kerzicnik

## Reporting

To report a suspected emerald ash borer, contact your local extension agent or the Montana Department of Agriculture at agr.mt.gov.

## Impacts

Larvae are capable of surviving cold temperatures to approximately (-22° Fahrenheit), and therefore most of Montana is suitable habitat. Infested trees ultimately die and become brittle, posing hazard to tree care professionals, public, and property.

## Regional Ramifications

Though not currently found in Montana, EAB is readily transported in firewood. Montana's community forests are largely composed of ash and would be drastically impacted by outbreaks of emerald ash borer. Additionally, green ash is the dominant and often only deciduous tree in woody draws of eastern Montana.

## More Information

About emerald ash borer can be found on the Montana State University Extension website:

Emerald Ash Borer Beetle Known Infested Counties