

# Does My Ash Tree Have Emerald Ash Borer? A Diagnostic Aid

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If your ash tree is dying or showing signs of decline or is recently dead, the following questions will help you determine if the emerald ash borer (EAB) was the likely cause.

- Is (or did) the ash tree die from the top down? Are branches dying or dead only at the top? *Figure 1*
- Are there numerous 'water' sprouts on the trunk just below the dead branches? *Figure 1*
- Have you noticed lots of woodpecker activity on the tree trunk? *Figure 2*
- Do the ash leaflets have portions that have been eaten along the edge? *Figure 3*



- Do you find 1/8 inch wide "D-shaped" holes in the bark? *Figure 4* (measure size carefully)
- Do you find winding/ S-shaped tunnels underneath loose bark on the trunk or major branches? *Figure 5*
- Have you found bright metallic green beetles 1/2 inch long on the tree in June and July? *Figure 6*

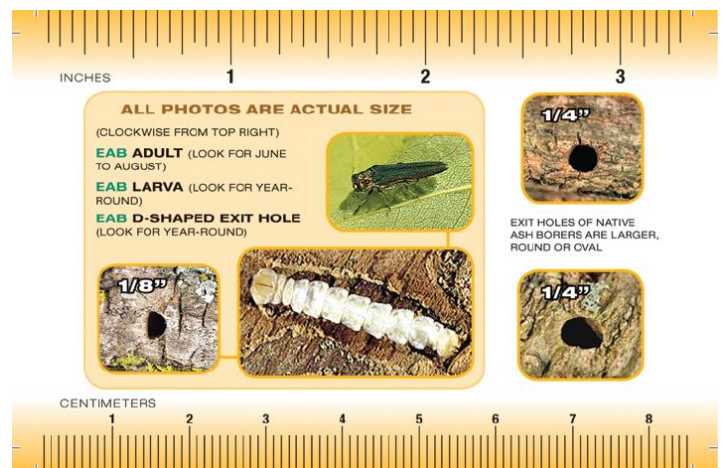
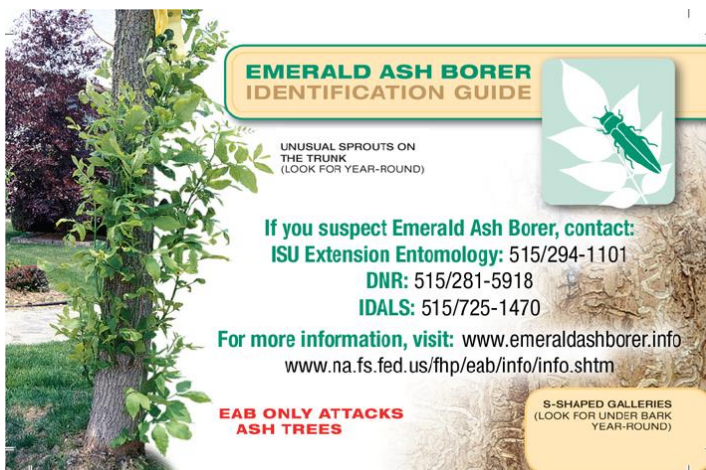


If you answered "yes" to one or more of the questions you may be dealing with EAB. Further assistance in diagnosis is available as follows:

EAB diagnostic services from ISU Extension & Outreach:

- Email 4 digital photos of your tree to [insects@iastate.edu](mailto:insects@iastate.edu). Include (1) the entire tree; (2) the trunk from the ground to head high; (3) close up of wounds or loose bark; (4) close up of any tunneling or damage you find under loose bark.
- Or mail several foot-long branch samples to the Plant and Insect Diagnostic Clinic, 2445 ATRB, 2213 Pammel Drive, Ames, IA 50011-1020. DO NOT SEND PAYMENT with your sample. **In-state fee:** \$20 (plant problem diagnosis); \$10 (identification- insect, plant, mushroom). **Out-of-state sample:** Contact the clinic before submitting. Samples will be charged double the in-state rate. By submitting a sample or image along with the clinic's form, you signify that you have read and agree to our Terms and Conditions found at: [https://hortnews.extension.iastate.edu/pidc/terms\\_and\\_conditions](https://hortnews.extension.iastate.edu/pidc/terms_and_conditions). See our website ([clinic.ipm.iastate.edu](http://clinic.ipm.iastate.edu)) for sampling instructions (fees are assessed for insufficient samples), fill out all required fields (\*) or processing of your sample will be delayed/refused. ISU Accounts Receivable Office will issue a monthly billing statement. Late fees may be assessed on charges greater than 60 days delinquent and customer shall be responsible for collection costs if account is referred to collection. Fees are subject to change.

Contact your local certified arborist [<http://www.treesaregood.org/findanarborist>] or tree care professional to schedule a site visit.



*Emerald Ash Borer credit card-sized pamphlet created by the USDA – Forest Service*

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