

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is Here! What Happens Now?

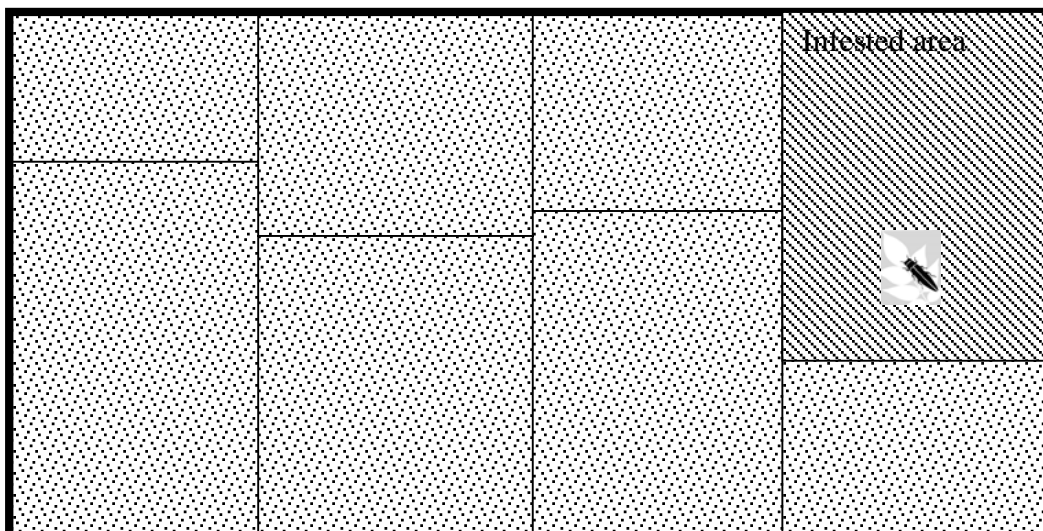
Questions about EAB Quarantine in Indiana



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To better understand what happens in townships and counties quarantined for EAB, please refer to the diagram and definitions below:



The Quarantine-Within-A-Quarantine: This drawing represents a county containing 8 townships. The striped township represents a township in which EAB was detected and is defined as an “infested area”. EAB was not found in the other (dotted) townships. The entire county in this depiction is quarantined for emerald ash borer. Ash products could be moved within the borders of the county but could not be moved outside of the county without a signed compliance agreement. However, the movement of ash products *within the township (infested area) where EAB was actually found* is further restricted in that no ash products can be moved outside of that township without a signed compliance agreement from USDA APHIS or the Indiana DNR.

DEFINITIONS

Quarantined township (infested area): any Indiana township where any living stage of EAB has been found and positively identified. Ash products may not be moved out of townships where infestations have been found, not even into the surrounding quarantined county.

Quarantined county: an Indiana county where any living stage of EAB has been found in one or more townships. Ash products may be moved within the county but cannot be moved outside of the county without a signed compliance agreement.

Compliance agreement: a written agreement between the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and/or USDA APHIS PPQ and a property owner that authorizes the movement of regulated articles under very specific terms and conditions.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. My township is now quarantined after emerald ash borer was found. How will this affect me?

- The EAB quarantine restricts movement of the following items from **quarantined townships (infested areas) and quarantined counties**:
 1. Cut firewood *of any kind* (except pine) that comes from within the quarantined township and/or county
 2. Living emerald ash borer insects (any life stage from immature to adult)
 3. Any ash tree, including nursery trees
 4. Limbs, stumps, branches, or debris from ash trees with a diameter of 1 inch or more
 5. Ash logs, slabs, or untreated ash lumber with the bark attached
 6. Ash chips and ash bark chips (both composted and non-composted) that are 1 inch or more in diameter
 7. Any product made from ash wood that was recently alive and growing that might move the beetle

- Once EAB is confirmed in a township, the *entire county* will be quarantined for the above listed ash products. Movement of ash products may occur *within* the quarantined county with the exception of the township(s) where EAB was actually found. Affected townships will undergo a further level of quarantine in which ash products may not be moved from the townships, not even into the rest of the quarantined county, without a signed *compliance agreement*.

- While the quarantine is in place, the above items cannot legally be moved *outside* of the quarantined township/county without written permission from the Indiana State Entomologist or his designee or by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in the form of a **certificate of inspection**.

- All harvesting and movement of ash trees from within a quarantined township/county may only be done after the landowner has entered into a **compliance agreement**. A compliance agreement is a written agreement between the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) or the USDA and another person that authorizes the movement of regulated articles after they have been processed to remove all living stages of EAB. Landowners or businesses who wish to enter into a compliance agreement must make arrangements with the IDNR, Division of Entomology, at 317-232-4120.

- Violation of EAB quarantines can be punished by large fines, and in extreme cases, jail sentences.

Q. I live in a quarantined township. Do I have to cut down my ash trees?

Property owners in a quarantined township (infested area) make all decisions on what to do with their ash trees. They may choose to:

- Allow nature to take its course, removing ash trees only if they become hazardous after dying.
- Remove/replace dead or dying ash trees with non-susceptible types of trees either before or after the beetle arrives.
- Attempt to chemically protect ash trees from infestation before the beetle arrives.

Q. I live in a quarantined county and have ash trees that I would like to cut up for firewood for use on my property. Is this permitted?

Yes, as long as the firewood in question remains in the quarantined county.

Q. I live within the quarantined township within a quarantined county. Can I use my ash trees for firewood on my own property?

Yes, you can use the ash for firewood as long as the wood does not leave the quarantined township.

Q. I live in a quarantined township or county and have hardwood firewood of mixed types other than ash that I would like to sell. Can I still do this?

It is possible, but you must be under a compliance agreement with the IDNR to move non-coniferous firewood from a quarantined township or county.

Q. Will I have to pay to have my ash trees cut down if I am in a quarantined township or county?

If you decide to remove your ash trees, the financial responsibility will be yours. The financial responsibility for removing, replacing, or chemically treating one's ash trees in quarantined areas and throughout the rest of the state belongs to the property owner.

Q. I have some valuable ash trees that I would like to be cut down. Can I salvage lumber from any of them?

Property owners may salvage lumber from their valuable ash trees. Since EAB only lives immediately under bark, felled ash trees may be milled either onsite or, under certain conditions, at an approved mill within the quarantined township/county to make the ash wood safe to move outside of the quarantined area. The landowner is responsible for the cost of having trees taken down and milled either on site or moved to a compliant mill after entering into a compliance agreement. After milling, the processed trees and resulting wood products must first be inspected and released by an IDNR agent before they can be moved outside of the quarantined area. The slab wood, which might contain living emerald ash borers, must be treated as a quarantined product. The property owner needs to sign a compliance agreement with the IDNR before moving ash logs or other ash products.

Q. I live near a quarantined county. Should I harvest my ash trees now before the beetle spreads and my area becomes quarantined?

If you have high value ash trees that are close to being harvestable and you live in areas adjacent to the quarantined county, it is probably a good idea to harvest the ash as soon as possible. If you have low value ash and ash that are not near being harvestable, you need to consider the overall management needs of your woods and consult with a forester for

advice before you decide to cut the ash trees. In any case, it is always a good idea to consult a reputable forester before harvesting ash in Indiana.

Q. Is there any compensation available for the loss of my ash trees?

At this time, there is no financial compensation available for ash trees lost to EAB in Indiana.

Q. Can I use pesticides to protect my ash trees so they don't have to be cut down?

Before property owners near EAB infestations choose to use pesticides to protect their ash trees, there are many issues to consider:

- There is not enough credible research available to conclude that pesticides will “cure” an ash tree already heavily infested with EAB. Pesticides are best used for prevention of EAB infestation or to treat light (early) infestations.
- Chemically protecting an ash tree from EAB requires a long term commitment of both money and time; each tree will require preventative treatments every year for the rest of its life.
- The costs of preventative treatments range from about \$20 to thousands of dollars each year per tree depending on whether the owner or an arborist does the application and the size of the ash tree. The general rule of thumb is that homeowner applied treatments are appropriate if the ash tree is under 20 inches in diameter; if the tree is larger, a professional applicator should be hired.
- Timing of chemical treatments is critical to their success. If the treatment is not conducted at exactly the right period, it may fail.
- No chemical preventative treatment can always be 100% effective. Their overall success depends on the integrity of the delivery system. For example, if an ash tree's vascular tissue is damaged from ice damage, disease, or native insects, the chemical used in soil drenches or trunk injections may not move evenly through the tree, leaving some parts of the tree vulnerable to attack. If using a foliar spray, the pesticide must be applied evenly throughout the canopy to reach all adult beetles.
- A wisely chosen replacement tree will increase in value as it grows and can exceed the value of an annually protected ash tree in a relatively short period.

If you choose to chemically protect your ash tree, please visit the following website for some basic information on what is available:

www.emeraldashborer.info

Q. Can I bring ash and ash products into Indiana from another state?

Yes, you may bring ash and ash products into Indiana from other states with the following exceptions:

- You may not bring ash into Indiana from anywhere in the Lower Peninsula of Michigan. Doing so violates both state and federal quarantines.
- You may not bring ash into Indiana from any county in any state, including Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois that has EAB quarantined townships or, if necessary in the future, from any EAB-quarantined counties in any other state.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

- Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology: **(317) 232-4120**
- Division of Forestry: **(317) 232-4105**
- Toll-free number for information on invasive species in Indiana:
866-NO EXOTICS (866-663-9684)

Purdue University Department of Entomology

- Exotic Insects Education Coordinator: **(765) 494-0822**
- Purdue Extension: **(888) EXT INFO (888-398-4636)**

Websites for more information on EAB:

- www.emeraldashborer.info
- www.entm.purdue.edu/EAB
- <http://www.in.gov/dnr/entomolo/pestinfo/ashborer.htm>

