

CITY OF DAYTON

EAB MANAGEMENT PLAN

Since its discovery in Detroit, Michigan in 2002, the Emerald Ash Borer has spread, killing virtually all ash trees in its path. The City of Dayton must prepare for the arrival of this pest since death of the trees usually occurs within two to four years after being infested. Our primary focus will be on street, park, and public trees.

An inventory conducted in 2007 put the number of ash trees planted in the City's right of ways at approximately 2,000 trees and another 2,000 in City parks. About 33% of the inventoried trees were rated in poor condition with the remaining ash trees in fair to good condition. Similar data on the condition of park trees is not available.

The following elements of the City's EAB management plan have been adopted, and are subject to periodic revision as new information about the borer becomes available. This plan is also subject to change should state or federal policies dictate. The City of Dayton Division of Street Maintenance will be the lead agency responsible for plan implementation.

The City will systematically remove all ash trees growing in its right of ways, in parks and other city properties over a five to six year period. Tree removal will be prioritized with hazardous trees being removed first followed by those that are no longer assets to the Community (dead, dying, diseased, or miss-sited). Trees in good condition will not be removed until the fifth or sixth year of this process. Removals will be dispersed over neighborhoods to lessen the impact on residents, aesthetics, and property values.

Based on a citywide inventory of public ash trees the City Forester will determine which, if any, ash trees will be chemically treated. Because research in this field is currently evolving, the City will monitor all treatment for their effectiveness and future use. Protective pesticide treatments may be applied at the residents' discretion and expense with prior City approval.

Treated trees will be removed if the City determines the treatments have failed and EAB infests the tree.

As the budget permits, all removed public ash trees will be replaced with non-host species that will enhance the planting site, are appropriate for the site, and add to the diversity and general health of the urban forest. Trees will be planted in accordance with the Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association/Ohio Division of Forestry Tree Planting Specifications, be in the 1½” to 2 ½” caliper range, and be obtained from ONLA member firms.

Plantings will be budget based and prioritized by canopy cover goals as identified by the City Forester. Those areas needing the most trees to meet their goals will be planted first. No plantings will be made that cannot be adequately maintained. All new plantings will conform to the “10-20-30” tree species diversity rule – no more than 10% of any species of tree, 20% of any genus of tree, or 30% of any one family of tree.

All wood will be disposed of according to ODA compliance agreements.

By implementing the provisions in this management plan, the City of Dayton is attempting to mitigate the disruption to its urban forest caused by the pending infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer. Taking a proactive approach to this invasion will enable the City to address public and private needs in an efficient and effective manner.

The City of Dayton will endeavor to distribute the costs associated with certain and massive tree death over a manageable time period, as well as lessen the social and economic impact that such an extensive loss will have on the quality of life in our community.