

Update on the Strategy for the Management of **Emerald Ash Borer**

Parks and Environment Committee, February 2012

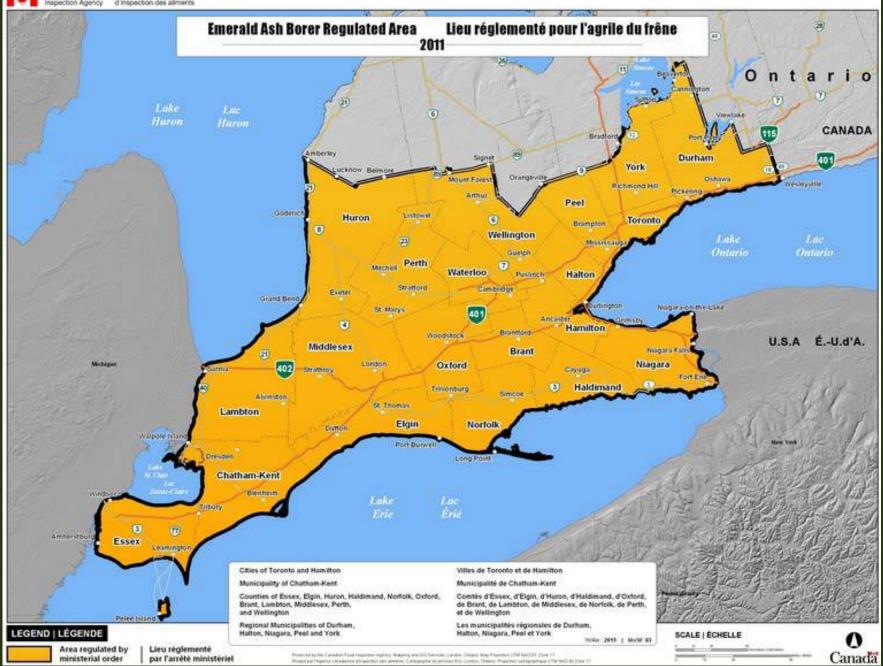
Emerald Ash Borer Management Strategy

- Monitoring (Survey)
- Education (Communication)
- Pesticide Treatment
- Removal of Infested Trees, and
- Tree Canopy Replacement

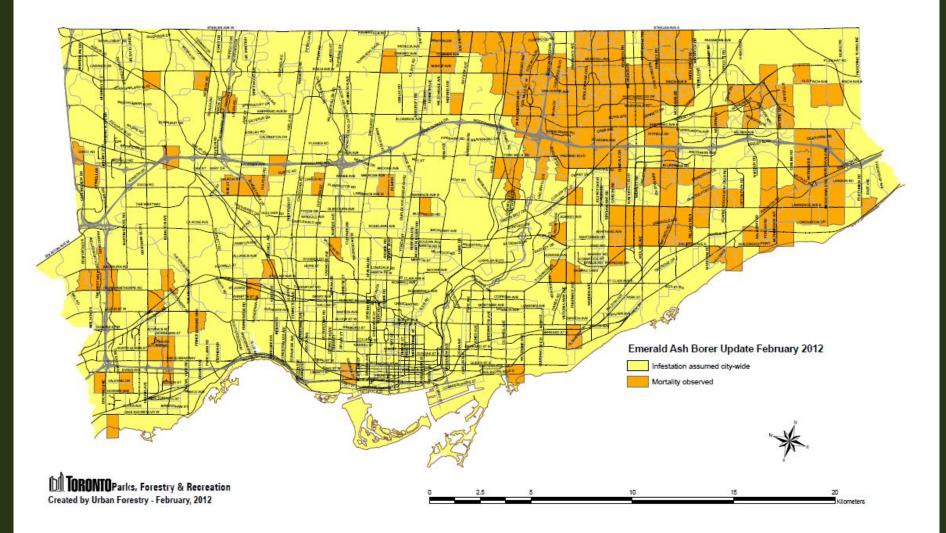




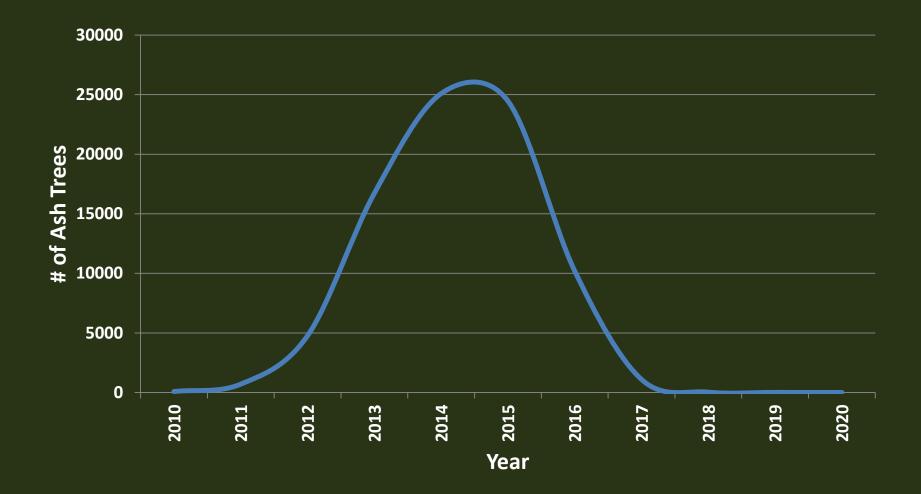
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City of Toronto Emerald Ash Borer Infestation - February 2012



Projected Ash Tree Mortality (Street and Park Trees)



Financial Plan in 2012

EAB Management Plan - 2012 Implementation	Cost Estimate
Removal of city-owned ash trees	\$ 3,426,864
Wood Waste Disposal	\$ 27,991
Pesticide Treatment Program	\$ 370,000
Budget for temporary staff requirements	\$ 521,276
Replacement of ash trees	\$ 706,000
Total Financial Impact	\$ 5,052,131

*Given the uncertainty of the rate of spread and death of trees, the financials listed are cost estimates

Communications Outreach

- ✓ Website updates
- ✓ Local news stories
- ✓ Public meetings
- Poster displays
- Radio/television news







Agincourt residents warned of tree devastation due to ash borer

MIKE ADLER

The emerald ash borer is probably under the bark of every ash tree in Agincourt, chewing away.

But most residents with an ash at the foot of their driveway may not realize what is happening until the tree is dying, and a card hangs on their door announcing it will be cut down and taken away.



Then there are the ash on homeowners' properties, trees that are their responsibility and like 860,000 across Toronto, probably all marked for death during the next five summers

"People aren't necessarily understanding that this is coming." Beth McEwen, one of the city's urban forestry managers said at a community meeting on the fast-spreading green beetle Wednesday, Sept. 14, night.

Looking at a crowd with fewer than 10 residents at L'Amoreaux Community Recreation Centre, McEwen said It's been hard to get people interested in the tiny ash borer until it affects them personally.

She asked the audience to tell their neighbours about the pest

It won't be long, however, before devastation caused by the beetle, which eats only ash, strips away tree cover in local subdivisions. Some Scarborough roads are lined with ash, MCEven said, because developers planned them that way.

Purple dots on a map at the back of the room represented pending tree removals: if it hasn't happened already. Agincourt streets such as Chestergrove, Groomsport and Longford crescents, and Glen Springs and Fort Dearborn drives will soon look much emptier.

Rows of red dots, standing in for ash trees that still look healthy, suggest other local streets will share this experience in a few years.

Toronto is now surrounded by trees harbouring the insect, which this summer was found in traps near the city's downtown core for the first time.

In Scarborough-Agincourt Councillor Norm Kelly's ward, close to where the infestation was spotted near Sheppard Avenue and Hwy. 404 in 2007, the city has removed 650 street

The **Emerald Ash Borer** will destroy an estimated 860,000 ash trees in Toronto by 2017. Will your Ash tree be one of them? Find out more at: toronto.ca/eab





Information Brochure

Where can I find an arborist?

An information brochure is being created about EAB to inform property owners of available resources for management.

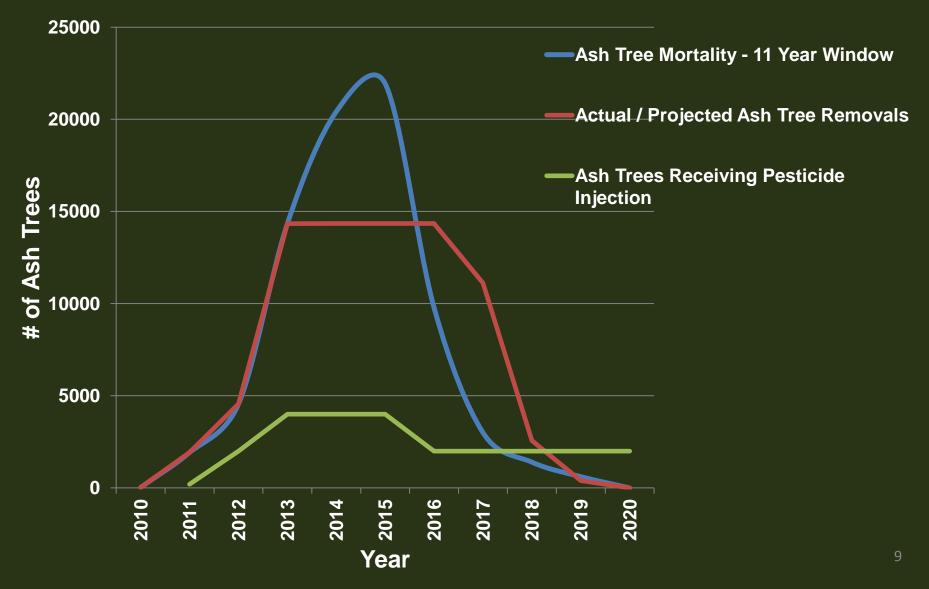
> Why are some trees more expensive to maintain, treat or remove?



How do I know if someone is qualified to work on my trees?

> Why should I plant a replacement tree?

Ash Tree Removal and Injection Plan (Street and Park Trees)



Pesticide Treatment

 Cost of treatment varies with tree size: average cost in 2011 was \$185/tree

Treatment must be repeated every 2 years

 Treated trees must be healthy to recover from infestation





Rationale for Pesticide Injection Plan

- Need to manage public risk
- Existing ash trees provide *environmental* benefits that will take years to replace with newly planted trees
- Preservation of prominent, landmark trees
- Limits on staff, contracted and financial resources restrict the total number of trees that can be injected per year
- Strategic timing of treatment Inject trees when threat is imminent, not before
- Expect injection to be necessary for the life of the tree (cannot stop after 6-8 years and expect the beetle to be gone)
- Defer the cost of tree removal for years

Tree Removal



Tree Planting Plan

Priorities

- Residential street tree replacement
- Arterial road and commercial street tree replacement
- Park tree replacement





Summary of EAB Management: 2011-2017

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total
Street tree mortality	1773	3332	8000	9400	7300	2195	0	32000
Park tree mortality Trees injected with	155	1225	6343	11018	14632	7581	2046	43000
pesticide	203	2000	4000	4000	4000	2000	2000	8000*
Tree mortality after pesticide injection	1928	4557			21932	9776	2046	75000
Trees affected by a 12 month backlog			0		13650		0	28794
Tree removal in parks and on streets	1928	4557			14350			75000
Trees to be tub ground	1889	4251	12757	17664	18274	7881	1535	64251
Street tree planting	285	2824	3234	6700	6700	6700	5557	32000
Cost (\$ millions)	1.57	5.05	13.58		14.46	14.03		74.16

*total of 8000 trees will be injected – some trees will be injected up to 3 times over the course of infestation in Toronto