



Frequently Asked Questions: Emerald Ash Borer Infestation and Air Curtain Incinerators

Emerald Ash Borer Infestation

Where can I find more information about the emerald ash borer infestation?

You can find up-to-date information about emerald ash borer in Oregon on the: [Oregon Invasive Species Council website](#).

Other EAB information can be found on the following agency websites:

- [Oregon Department of Agriculture](#) - Responsible for quarantines related to EAB
- [Oregon Department of Forestry](#) - Responsible for EAB-related issues for forest harvest and natural areas
- [OSU Extension](#)

If I have an ash, olive or white fringe tree on my property, and I think it might be infested with EAB, what should I do?

Ash trees naturally can have some crown decline and it is not uncommon for our native Oregon ash, or the planted ash trees, to show crown issues like dead branches. You will want to examine the trees closely to determine the cause of the decline.

Learn more about the emerald ash borer through the following:

- [EAB Factsheet from Oregon Department of Forestry](#)

Correct identification and reporting will help state officials determine how far and how fast EAB is spreading in Oregon. The following are additional resources to help with correct identification:

- [EAB look-alikes guide from Oregon Department of Agriculture](#)
- [OSU Extension: Oregon Forest Pest Detector Field Guide](#)

If you feel confident you have EAB, please report sightings the following:

- [Oregon Invasive Species Council Hotline](#).

Reported sightings will assist invasive species experts in determining the extent of the infestation. If your community has an urban forestry program, you may want to contact them or call a local certified arborist to examine your tree.

You can also refer to OSU Extension's information on [tree care](#), and this article, titled "[Why are my trees dying?](#)" to learn more about what affects tree health.

Translation or other formats

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800-452-4011 | TTY: 711 | deqinfo@deq.oregon.gov

Air Curtain Incinerators

What is an air curtain incinerator?

Air curtain incinerators are devices that burn wood waste, like trees and brush. They have an insulated box to burn the wood waste and a fan powered by a diesel engine that blows a curtain of air over the box. Oregon uses ACIs for both wildfire cleanup and fire prevention efforts as an alternative to traditional open burning.

Are there air curtain incinerators operating in Oregon?

Yes, there are several ACIs currently permitted to operate in Oregon. A list of companies, permit status, permits and risk assessment summaries are available on DEQ's [Air Curtain Incinerators in Oregon](#) web page.

How are air curtain incinerators permitted without emission factors?

For ACI permitting, DEQ used stand-in emission factors from a combination of open pile burning and woodfire boilers to complete risk assessments and develop permits.

Emissions Testing

What type of ACI unit is being tested?

The unit being tested is the [BurnBoss T24](#).

For what types of pollutants are you testing?

Testing will be conducted for total particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, metals, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxin and polychlorinated dibenzofurans, acrolein, formaldehyde and benzene. Detection levels are expected to be very low and do not pose a risk to humans or the environment.

Why is testing occurring at Fernhill?

Temporary EAB quarantine rules prohibit the movement of ash, olive and white fringe plant materials from outside Washington County. Fernhill was identified as an ideal testing site because it is located within the quarantine area and had ample space to accommodate testing.

Is the test open to the public?

No, the emissions test is not open to the public. However, results from testing will be shared.

I live near the Fernhill. What can I expect during testing?

Testing will not be disruptive. There will be little to no smoke and no noise or other risks. Testing will occur only during normal business hours and will take about four to five days to complete.

I frequently visit Fernhill. Will it be closed during testing?

No, Fernhill will remain open, but the [Dabblers Marsh Trail](#) will be closed during active testing.

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