Most woodboring beetles such as ambrosia, Buprestidae (metallic woodboring beetle or flathead) and Cerambycidae (longhorned beetle or roundhead) beetles native to Oregon are not pests but instead take advantage of dead or dying trees and aid in the decomposition process. Despite their (often) large size, most are not a major concern as they are not tree killers. However, they may tunnel into wood which can devalue timber. Several features differentiate woodboring beetles from bark beetles, the latter of which can be tree killers. Woodborders usually make holes in wood, leave large round or oval exit holes, create whitish frass (boring dust) and may be large in size. Bark beetles do not enter wood but stay just under the bark, leave tiny round exit holes, create reddish-brown frass and are about the size of a grain of rice. Below are a few of the types of native woodboring beetles commonly encountered in Oregon that may or may not be tree pests, as well as some non-native woodborer pests to look out for.

### Native woodborders: non-pests

#### Golden buprestid (*Buprestis aurulenta*)
Adults are approximately 2.0cm long and metallic yellow, green and red. Larvae attack dead or dying Douglas-fir or pine. Various other beetle species of similar shape and color also occur.

#### Sculptured pine borer (*Chalcophora virginiensis*)
Adults are 1.8-3.0cm long, have defined sculpturing on the back and may be slightly metallic. Larvae attack dead or dying Douglas-fir or pine. Various other beetle species of similar shape and pattern also occur.

#### Wester cedar borer (*Trachykele blondeli*)
Adults are 1.0-1.7cm long and bright metallic green. Larvae most frequently attack dead and dying redcedar and incense cedar but also cypress and juniper.

#### Sawyer beetles (*Monochamus spp.*)
Adults are 1.5-2.7cm long, typically dark in color but may have white mottling or spots. Larvae attack dead and dying Douglas-fir, true fir, spruce and pine depending on the beetle species.

#### Banded alder borer (*Rosalia funebris*)
Adults are 2.5-3.5cm long and have distinct blueish white banding. Larvae attack dead and dying alder, ash, maple, oak, willow, etc. These insects may be confused with non-native Asian longhorned beetle which has spots not bands.

#### Amethyst cedar borer (*Semanotus amethystinus*)
Adults are 2.0-2.8cm long and metallic black and blue/violet. Larvae attack dead and dying redcedar, Port Orford and incense ‘cedars’.

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Roundhead and flathead borer larvae, respectively (left) and woodborer exit hole with whitish frass (right)
**Native woodborers: non-pests**

**Giant root borer (Prionus californicus)**
Adults are 3.0-5.0 cm long, brown with serrated antennae. Larvae attack various dead and dying conifers and hardwoods but may also be orchard pests.

**Ponderous borer (Ergates spiculatus)**
Adults are 4.5-7.0 cm long, brown with non-serrated antennae. Larvae attack dead and dying Douglas-fir or pine. The mandibles and boring action of these larvae inspired the ‘teeth’ on the modern chainsaw chain.

**Ambrosia beetles (various species)**
Adults are often <0.5 cm long and look similar to bark beetles. Ambrosia beetle larvae and adults attack dead and dying conifers or hardwoods. They create tiny holes in wood and vector fungal stains that can discolor wood - each of which may devalue some timber. See ODF Ambrosia fact sheet.

**Native woodborers: pests**

**Flatheaded fir borer (Phaenops drummondi)**
Adults are 0.7-1.0 cm long and have six light-colored spots. Larvae attack stressed or dying Douglas-fir, often attacking trees that are growing outside of their preferred range or exposed to drought conditions. This species does not enter wood. Flaked off bark from woodpeckers is often the first noticeable sign of attack from this insect. See ODF flatheaded fir borer fact sheet.

**Bronze birch borer (Agrilus anxius)**
Adults are 0.8-1.2 cm long, slender and olive to blackish brown. Larvae often target non-native birch species or trees planted in overly warm or dry spots. This species does not enter the wood. See ODF bronze birch borer fact sheet.

**More information:**
Oregon Dept. of Forestry, Forest Health
http://tinyurl.com/odf-foresthealth
2600 State St. Bldg. D, Salem, OR 97310
503-945-7200

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**Non-native woodborer: pests**

**Emerald ash borer (Agrilus planipennis)**
Adults are 1.0-1.3 cm long, slender and olive to metallic green. Larvae attack all species of ash. Many other species may be confused with EAB, notify entomologists at the Oregon Departments of Agriculture or Forestry to confirm identification of specimens.

EAB was found in Oregon July 2022,
more info: https://tinyurl.com/odf-eab

**Asian longhorned beetle (Anoplophora glabripennis)**
Adults are 2.0-3.0 cm long and shiny black with white spots. They may be confused with native banded alder borer which has bands not spots. Larvae attack many hardwood species.

ALB has not been found in Oregon.

**Other references:**
Oregon Department of Agriculture Pest ID:
https://www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/IPPM/InsectsSpiders/Pages/IdentifyInsect.aspx

Oregon State University Insect ID Clinic:
http://www.science.oregonstate.edu/bpp/insect_clinic/index.htm