

**November 2024**

**Square miles known to be infested with EAB:**

**Forest Grove – 10.4 Butte Creek/Pudding River – 23.6**

*NOTE: The full extent of the Butte Creek/Pudding River infestation is likely to become clearer over the next few weeks as more surveys are completed. This will likely increase the area known to be infested.*

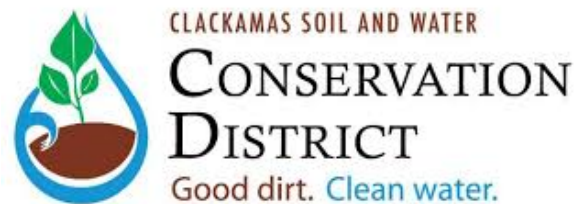
***This monthly newsletter gives updates and resources on emerging threats to the health of Oregon's trees in natural and managed landscapes. It is published by the Oregon Department of Forestry in collaboration with other state, regional, federal, Tribal, and local agencies and organizations. To subscribe, email [jim.gersbach@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:jim.gersbach@odf.oregon.gov)***

**In this issue:**

- *Local committee forms to respond to EAB infestation in Marion, Clackamas and Yamhill counties*
- *Staff in Clackamas and Marion county agencies learn how to use electronic EAB detection tools*
- *EAB biocontrol releases continue in Washington County*
- *Girdled trap and sentry trees are coming down around Forest Grove and will be checked for EAB larvae*
- *Fall marks end of EAB trapping season*
- *OISC urges public to attach a clear photo when reporting suspected invasive species to its hotline*
- *WSU publishes guide to EAB ahead of its arrival in Washington State*
- *OSU has an online guide for identifying non-EAB problems affecting Oregon ash health*
- *ODF staff speak at annual meeting of Pacific NW Chapter of International Society of Arborists*

## **Local subcommittee is forming to plan EAB response in Yamhill, Marion and Clackamas counties**

The Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District is taking the lead in forming a local subcommittee in partnership with the Oregon Department of Forestry for those in Yamhill, Marion, and Clackamas counties. The YMC Subcommittee will discuss emerald ash borer (EAB) and what can be done about it.



The YMC Subcommittee plans to establish a collaborative framework among key partners in these counties to develop effective response and communication strategies to:

- 1) slow the spread of the EAB infestation in Yamhill, Marion, and Clackamas counties;
- 2) provide partners with appropriate and timely information that can support their understanding of EAB and decision-making process for ash tree management, and;
- 3) coordinate public outreach and education as a cohesive group around EAB and its management.

The YMC Subcommittee will have its first meeting on November 21st from 1:30-2:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Please contact Drew Donahue, [ddonahue@conservationdistrict.org](mailto:ddonahue@conservationdistrict.org) to sign up!

## **Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District staff learn how to enter data into the Survey 123 tool**

Survey 123 is a tool used by the State to enter survey data on invasive species of priority concern, particularly emerald ash borer and Mediterranean oak borer. Survey 123 has an electronic field data collection form that enables users to choose from standardized answers and upload photographs to document their observations. The information, including spatial data, is uploaded so it can be shared widely and displayed on a comprehensive map in real time.

Several staff from the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District recently took a workshop put on by the Dept. of Agriculture to learn to use the tool so they could enter their own data into the system.

Just this past summer EAB was confirmed in the District, which serves the 1,883 square miles of Clackamas County. The county is Oregon's third most populous, with more than 420,000 residents.

## **More EAB biocontrol agents were released in Washington County in 2024**

In cooperation with local landowners and the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture, the USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA APHIS) earlier this year made available for release in Washington County three beneficial wasps in an attempt to dent the population of emerald ash borer.

Three different species of tiny wasps that specialize in parasitizing EAB or its eggs were chosen. In all, a total of 14,500 of the wasps were released at various sites infested with EAB. The parasitoids were produced and supplied from USDA APHIS's Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) EAB Parasitoid Rearing Facility in Brighton, Michigan. For parasitoid information please call 866-322-4512.



“The stingless wasps are harmless to people, pets and other wildlife but deadly to EAB,” says Oregon Dept. of Agriculture Entomologist Max Ragozzino. “Once they establish a population, the wasps may be able to bring down EAB populations. While they won't be able to eradicate EAB, it's hoped they can slow down the

explosive growth in numbers seen in areas where there are no biological controls.”

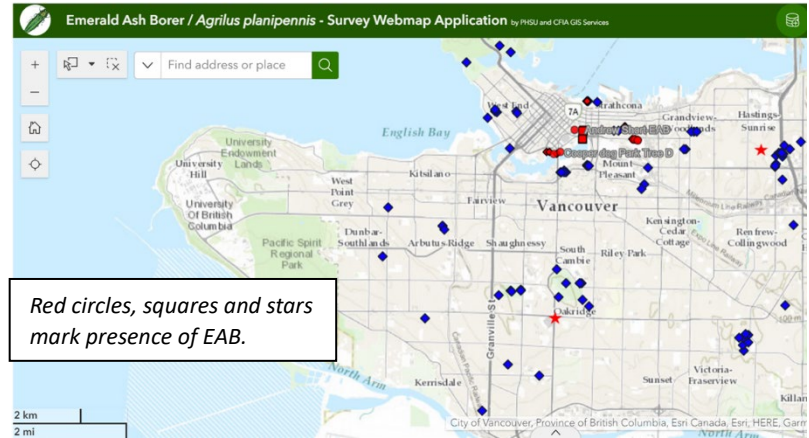
Ragozzino says, “In North America EAB has no specialized natural predators. Woodpeckers will feed on them, and probably help to some degree, but by themselves are not an effective check on EAB populations or spread. These wasps represent a safe, non-chemical way of slowing the growth of EAB numbers.”

Ragozzino adds that, depending on funding, ODA would like to find favorable sites in the infested areas of Yamhill, Marion and Clackamas counties to release wasps from USDA APHIS. Read more about the federal [EAB biocontrol program](#).

## Canada confirms EAB found at more sites in Vancouver, B.C. this summer

Last May the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) announced that EAB had been found at five locations in Vancouver, a city about 30 miles north of the U.S. border with Washington State. Vancouver, which has a population of 2.6 million in its metropolitan area, was the first city on the Canadian west coast to report finding emerald ash borer.

Over the summer Canadian officials sampled branches from 120 of some 7,500 ash trees in Vancouver. Troy Kimoto of CFIA reports that EAB was found in 10 sites, double the number discovered in the spring.



“Andy Livingstone Park seems to be the heart of the outbreak as there are four infested ash trees there, all with exit holes from ground level to about 20 feet above. The bark on these ashes are intact yet riddled with characteristic EAB exit holes,” says Kimoto.

## Girdled trap and sentry trees are being felled and checked for EAB larvae

Last spring some 220 ash trees in a ring around Forest Grove were girdled by the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture in hopes of attracting female emerald ash borers to lay their eggs on the distressed trees. This fall those trees are being felled and taken to a Metro-owned indoor location in Forest Grove where they will be checked for EAB larvae.

Three trap-tree strategies were undertaken as part of the state’s Slow Ash Mortality (SLAM) effort. Close to Forest Grove and Cornelius, a number of ash trees already heavily infested were targeted by ODA to create a population sink, where it is hoped large numbers of EAB would lay eggs on trees that would be removed in the fall and destroyed before the offspring could hatch.

Further out, a ring of ash trees was girdled to catch females flying out from the main areas of infestation and lure them to trees where their offspring would be killed when the girdled trees come down this fall.

Lastly, sentry trees were selected some distance from the infested areas to see if any female EAB had made it past the first two sets of girdled trees. The Oregon Dept. of Forestry, ODA, Metro and Clean Water Services are all providing funding for the trap-tree effort.

## Fall marks end of trapping season for EAB

Some 170 sticky purple traps and funnel traps for detecting EAB have come down all over western Oregon as the adult beetles die with the onset of cooler weather. This year a single adult emerald ash borer turned up on one trap in northern Yamhill County and five were found on a trap near the Pudding River in Marion County, confirming the presence of this pest in those two new counties.

## Include a photo if reporting a pest to the OISC hotline

Five reports made to the Oregon Invasive Species Council (OISC) this year were verified as positive for EAB. About 40 were something other than EAB. However, more than 30 reports were inconclusive or unidentified, primarily because no photo was attached.

“Natural resource agencies, such as the departments of Forestry and Agriculture, communicate and coordinate through the Oregon Invasive Species Council. All member agencies greatly appreciate people reporting invasive species, such as emerald ash borer, to the state hotline,” says ODF Invasive Species Specialist Wyatt Williams. “However, it’s essential to attach a clear photo of whatever insect or other invasive species you’ve encountered. This makes it possible for OISC experts to identify what you’ve found.”

No login or account is required to submit a report to the hotline through a mobile device.

Suspected invasive species can be reported at <https://oregoninvasiveshotline.org/reports/create> or by calling 1-866-INVADER.

## Washington State University publishes new guide to EAB in that state

Washington State University Extension has just come out with a new in-depth review of the current state of knowledge about emerald ash borer, the potential damage it might do in

Washington, the implications of that damage, and mitigation strategies land managers and others can take in response.

Download the publication at [WSU Extension Publications|Emerald Ash Borer and Its Implications for Washington State](#)



EAB has not yet been reported in Washington, but the state is sandwiched between two jurisdictions known to have the pest - Oregon to the south and British Columbia to the north.

This publication is intended for Extension professionals, master gardeners, public agency personnel, tree care professionals, and anyone else interested in this invasive pest.

## OSU guide helps landowners identify non-EAB pests and diseases of ash

Oregon ash trees are subject to a wide variety of pests and pathogens other than emerald ash borer. This can make it difficult to know if a particular site is actually infested with EAB or something else. To help landowners identify when a problem with a declining ash tree is non-EAB related, OSU has created this online guide [Oregon Ash: Insects, Pathogens and Tree Health | OSU Extension Service \(oregonstate.edu\)](https://oregonstate.edu).

Oregon State University Extension Service

## Oregon Ash: Insects, Pathogens and Tree Health

David C. Shaw, Jay W. Pscheidt and Alexander Gorman

### CONTENTS

[Insects and mites](#)

[Pathogens](#)

[Animal damage](#)

[Abiotic factors](#)

[Resources](#)



A stand of Oregon ash in the Willamette Valley. This riparian tree provides important habitat for wildlife.

Credit: David Shaw, © Oregon State University

## ODF staff present EAB information at PNW ISA regional meeting

ODF's Matt Mills and Jennifer Killian presented information about municipal responses to EAB to attendees at the annual training conference of the Pacific Northwest chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture. Oregon is the first state on the West Coast known to be infested by EAB. About 225 arborists and other forestry professionals attended the conference in Penticton, British Columbia in early October. Next year's conference is planned for Sept. 29-Oct. 2 in Portland, Ore.

## Publications

*Modelling impacts to water quality in salmonid-bearing waterways following the introduction of emerald ash borer in the Pacific Northwest, USA.* Maze, D., Bond, J. & Mattsson, M. *Biol Invasions* (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-024-03340-3>

*Alternatives to Ash in Western Oregon: With a Critical Tree Under Threat, These Options Can Help Fill Habitat Niche.* G. Kral, and D.C. Shaw. 2023. OSU Extension EM 9396. <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9396>

*Oregon Ash: Insects, Pathogens and Tree Health* by Oregon State University Extension (also available in Spanish at this same website) <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/pub/em-9380>

*Wood Decay Fungi Associated with Galleries of the Emerald Ash Borer* by the University of Minnesota and Uruguay's *Instituto Nacional de Investigación Agropecuaria* [Forests | Free Full-Text | Wood Decay Fungi Associated with Galleries of the Emerald Ash Borer \(mdpi.com\)](https://www.mdpi.com)

## Useful links for more information

Mediterranean oak borer fact sheet

<https://www.oregon.gov/odf/Documents/forestbenefits/fact-sheet-mediterranean-oak-borer.pdf>

EAB monitoring guidance

<https://www.oregon.gov/odf/forestbenefits/Documents/eab-monitoring-guidance.pdf>

Oregon Dept. of Agriculture

<https://www.oda.direct/EAB>

Oregon Dept. of Forestry

<https://www.oregon.gov/odf/forestbenefits/pages/foresthealth.aspx>

OSU Extension

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/collection/emerald-ash-borer-resources>

Emerald Ash Borer Information Network, a collaborative effort by the USDA Forest Service and Michigan State University

[www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info)

USFS Forest Health Protection

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/foresthealth/index.shtml>