

# Help Track the Emerald Ash Borer!



Blonding with pecked holes on ash trees is a sign of EAB infestation.



Blonding on an infested ash tree.

Look for signs of EAB and report suspicious trees at **NHBugs.org** or call **1-800-444-8978**.

Emerald ash borer (EAB) is an invasive beetle responsible for the death of millions of ash trees in the United States. This destructive beetle was found in New Hampshire in 2013. We need your help tracking the spread of this insect.

Woodpeckers often feed on EAB-infested trees, scratching away the outer bark to access the EAB larvae below. This manner of feeding creates a characteristic “blonding” effect where patches of light-colored bark are exposed.

EAB attacks only ash trees. Finding blonding on ash trees is the best way to identify an EAB infestation—and it’s easy to look for.

Learn to identify ash trees in your area and keep your eyes peeled for heavy woodpecker feeding.

Watch for woodpeckers in ash trees during the late winter and early spring when they most actively search for EAB larvae to eat.

Woodpecker activity in EAB-infested trees often begins in the upper canopy of the tree, but may be present anywhere along the trunk or branches.

Woodpecker feeding on ash trees is especially suspicious when blonding develops quickly or becomes much more visible over a single season.

EAB won't attack dead trees. Also, very deep excavation-pecking isn't a sign of EAB.



Deep excavation pecking is NOT a sign of EAB.

Source: Joseph O'Brien, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org

Please report any suspect trees at **NHBugs.org** for review by a forestry professional. When a suspected infestation is found, a forester or entomologist may peel some bark from a tree to look for the tell-tale serpentine galleries where EAB larvae tunneled beneath the bark.

For more information about emerald ash borer and identifying ash trees, visit **NHBugs.org**.



**University of New Hampshire**  
Cooperative Extension



EAB infestation is confirmed when serpentine larval galleries are found beneath the bark.