

August 24 is Emerald Ash Borer Day at New Hampshire Fisher Cats

Aug 21, 2017

Come to the [New Hampshire Fisher Cats](#) game against the Hartford Yard Goats on Thursday, August 24 at 7:05 p.m., to join in the Emerald Ash Borer Day festivities. The N.H. Division of Forests and Lands, in partnership with N.H. Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food and UNH Cooperative Extension, is hosting the special night to highlight the importance of ash trees in New Hampshire and the threat ash trees face from the invasive insect emerald ash borer.



The emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) is an invasive beetle that attacks and kills North American species of true ash (*Fraxinus* spp.) within three to five years of infestation. The insect has been found in [30 towns in New Hampshire](#) since 2013, and four New Hampshire counties (Belknap, Hillsborough, Merrimack, and Rockingham) are under [quarantine for the movement of ash products](#).

Brad Simpkins, state forester with the N.H. Division of Forests and Lands, says, “We are promoting Emerald Ash Borer Day at the game to increase awareness of the damage this pest is inflicting on our forests and the risks involved with moving infested ash material. The main message is that we all share a role in slowing the spread while science searches for a solution.”

UNH Cooperative Extension Forestry Specialist Karen Bennett added, “Officials are on the lookout for emerald ash borer, but they need the help of all citizens. Signs that everyone can look for include blanding of the bark and lots of woodpecker activity on ash trees.” Learn about how to identify ash trees and what signs to look for at www.NHBugs.org.

During the game, ballpark guests will see announcements on the jumbo-tron, have time to visit an exhibit along the concourse, meet the EAB mascot, and more.