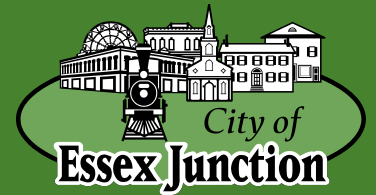


Emerald Ash Borer In Essex Junction



What is an Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)?

The emerald ash borer (EAB) is a 1/2-inch long, metallic green beetle originally from Asia that feeds on and burrows in all species of North American ash trees. It was first identified in the Midwest in 2002 and has since killed millions of ash trees in over 35 US states and 5 Canadian provinces. EAB was discovered in Vermont in 2018 and poses a serious threat to Vermont's ash trees, both in forests and in urban and residential areas. In December 2023, EAB was found in trees on Hayden St. and Wilkinson Dr. in Essex Junction.

Where is EAB located in the City?

Fortunately, Essex Junction does not have a large population of public Ash trees. However, the loss of these trees will dramatically impact several streets. These streets comprise Hayden, Wilkinson, Tyler, and Lavoie. Ash trees were the only species planted on both sides of the street.

What is the City Doing About EAB?

The City of Essex Junction Tree Committee has been anticipating the arrival of EAB. We developed an EAB management plan, and for the past five years, they have been interplanting trees as well as selectively removing trees.

This month, the City received a 2024 Growing Urban Forests in the Face of Emerald Ash Borer grant from the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program. With this funding, the City will be removing Ash trees and planting replacement trees on municipal land in accordance with the City's Emerald Ash Borer plan. The Tree Advisory Committee will discuss the plan with residents on the affected streets, and the City's Public Works Department will take down Ash trees on Hayden, Wilkinson, Tyler, and Lavoie streets as weather permits.

Where Can I Find More Information on EAB?

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Tree Advisory Committee, at Tree.Committee@essexjunction.org.

For more information on the Emerald Ash Borer, visit:

- <https://www.essexjunction.org/boards/tree-advisory-committee>
- <https://vtcommunityforestry.org/municipal-assistance/emerald-ash-borer-management>
- <https://vtinvasives.org/land/emerald-ash-borer-vermont>