

## Notice to Buyer- Emerald Ash Borer

Property Address \_\_\_\_\_

The presence of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), which poses a threat to the ash tree population in Iowa and nearby areas, could lead to significant costs and affect the visual appeal of a property. Trees contribute substantial value to a property, and any loss of trees may significantly impact property values. Considerations for preventive treatments (ranging from \$100 to \$5000) as well as the potential costs for removing an EAB-infected or dying tree (ranging from \$200 to \$4000, depending on the size and location) should be factored in. Potential buyers of properties with ash trees may need to assess these considerations.

The Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) is a small green invasive beetle that bores into ash trees, causing their death. The adult beetles feed on the leaves of ash trees during the summer months. The larvae, which resemble white grubs, burrow beneath the tree's bark, consuming the living tissue (phloem and cambium). This tunneling process disrupts the tree's vascular system, ultimately leading to the tree's demise.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has issued a statewide quarantine for Iowa. It is recommended that ash trees within a 15-mile radius of any known Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) cases receive preventative treatment. Although the entire state is under quarantine, residents are urged not to move firewood across county or state borders, as transporting firewood is the most significant way to rapidly spread EAB and potentially other pests.

The metallic green beetle, native to East Asia, was brought to the United States in the wood used for shipping crates from China. EAB was initially identified in North America near Detroit, Michigan, in 2002. Since its discovery, the pest has been found in 18 U.S. states and parts of Canada.

EAB can infest ash trees of any size, age, or condition, and millions of ash trees have already been destroyed in affected regions. A significant portion of Iowa and neighboring states' forest areas are densely populated with ash trees, and many urban streets in Iowa are lined with ash varieties. Early surveys show that Iowa has 52 million ash trees in woodlands and 3.1 million in urban areas. Ash trees are present in yards, neighborhoods, communities, and forests. Picture those areas without ash trees. Trees affected by EAB can die within as little as two years.

Urban trees provide several advantages, such as improving air quality, reducing storm water runoff, increasing property values, capturing carbon, and lowering energy expenses.

We are not experts in tree identification. Sellers and buyers are encouraged to identify the tree species on their property and in nearby areas, paying special attention to any ash trees. **Please consult with a professional, such as a local arborist, tree service provider, or tree specialist, to accurately determine the types of trees on your property.**

Much more information can be found at

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/environment/forestry/foresthealth/emeraldashborer.aspx>. The property contains confirmed Ash

trees: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

I acknowledge receipt of this disclosure

Seller  Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Buyer  Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Seller  Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Buyer  Date: \_\_\_\_\_