



EMERALD ASH BORER EARLY ALERT

August 25, 2008

We need your help in the early detection of the emerald ash borer on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. Because you hold a firewood permit or are a forest visitor, we ask that you be on the look out for early signs of the presence of this insect.

The emerald ash borer is an exotic pest, native to Asia, currently threatening ash trees (including white, green and black ash) in the Great Lakes region. The emerald ash borer belongs to a group of insects known as metallic wood-boring beetles. Since its discovery in southeastern Michigan during 2002, it has spread to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, Missouri, Ontario and Quebec. Unfortunately, Emerald Ash Borer has now been confirmed in southeastern Wisconsin.

Transmission of this pest is accelerated by the inadvertent transportation of larvae in logs, firewood and nursery stock.

Ash trees are quite abundant in Wisconsin, with estimates as high as 717 million trees total, and are commonly found in both urban and forest settings. Ash is a component of three forest types in Wisconsin including 1) Elm /Ash /Cottonwood, 2) Northern Hardwood and 3) Oak /Hickory. An ash tree is most easily identified by its opposite branching pattern (two branches come off the main stem, one on each side and opposite each other) and compound leaves with 5-11 leaflets. Leaflets are moderately toothed and may be stalked or sessile.

If you come across a potential infestation or have questions, please contact: Mark Theisen, Forest Silviculturalist, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest at 715-362-1346.

For more information on the emerald ash borer, you may call or visit your local Forest Service office or visit the Forest Service emerald ash borer website listed below. Thank you for your help.

<http://na.fs.fed.us/fhp/eab/>

